Supplementary guidelines for communication with children’s groups.

* These are in addition to the guidelines for contact with older children and youth which apply equally with younger children.
* All normal children’s group rules and safeguarding and recruitment guidelines apply e.g. DBS checks, 2 adults in the meeting.
* Avoid the use of social media platforms such as skype, facetime or WhatsApp. These share contact details across all the users inadvertently linking them.
* Stick to a video conferencing platform such as Zoom. A free account will allow a meeting of up to 40 minutes and users only need an email address to sign up.
* If you are considering the purchase of more than one account have a look at this site for a discount. [https://www.charitydigitalexchange.org/category/donor-partner/zoom](https://dioceseofyork.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=975ba10dfea3bbb80973e38db&id=f577ede05b&e=999e4adac9)
* You need to make your presbyter and Church Council aware that you are doing this as it is beyond the usual operation of your group and online contact with under 13’s is not usually best practice.
* You need parental consent that explicitly allows online contact with their child
* A parent or carer must be present throughout the meeting. You must see them on camera at the start of the meeting.
* Children should be in the family area of the house, if they appear to be in a bedroom they should be excluded until they move to a more public space.
* Children should be in daytime clothing. If they appear to be in pyjamas ask them to go and change before re-joining the meeting.