

Q = Main interviewer (Cath)

Q2 = Second interviewer (Beth)

A = Mum (Halima)

C = Child 1 (Ahmad, boy, 14 years)

D = Child 2 (Samir, boy, 12 years)

E = Child 3 (Hanif, boy, 8)

F = Child 4 (Kamal, boy, 2)

Q So I'll just check that that's recording. OK that's fab. I'll just put that there, it should pick it up.

A Yeah, yeah. So initially it was a bribe for the summer, £100 each, they're free to spend it on whatever they want. Usually I'll give them money but kind of like guide them, but I thought 'you're free about having a say in what you do with it'. So the eldest and the third child was like they were into it, but the middle child – no way, he wasn't having it at all. Initially they did something, I think they had a fight with each other and I did take it away and I gave it to my friend's house as a punishment. Because what they do is, they are terrible, I say 'that's it, you're not having iPads' and they're very good, they're very, very good. I mean I feel sorry for whoever they're going to get married to, they're very cunning, they will come and make me breakfast in bed, they'll act all nice, and I just feel so sorry for them and then just give it back. So I'm not consistent with my punishments – and they know that.

Q Because they've done such a nice thing and so you go 'oh you can have it back'.

A Like 'I will not do it' because of this, and 'yes you are'. And you know I've got breakfast in bed, I've had the whole house cleaned, you know they've gone out to the garden and it smells nice, they've put incense and stuff like that. They know how to get their Play Station back. So they had a fight and I didn't like their behaviour, and then it was probably too much screen time. So I took it and I goes 'you know what, it's not going to stay in the house because I want you to definitely think about what you've done and ??? your actions'. So I took it to my friend's house. And I didn't tell them where it was because I didn't want them to go and knock and ask for it.

Q OK.

A So it was at my friend's house for about a week. So for a week they haven't played their Fortnite, but because like at my sister's house and her eldest son is at uni, he's got a Play Station 4, they kind of like convinced her to let them play with it. So that kind of went out of the window. And then I thought there's no point compensating my nephew if his was broken or if they were damaged, having my own it makes sense, and most of the time my mum were there, so instead of restricting them, allow them to play. So we brought the Play Station back and they were playing and they were fine, and then they became – when [unclear name] had too much screen time you can tell, they're not....they're not as friendly, they'll fight ??? they're not as cooperative as they are without the gaming. So I went 'that's it, it's going to go away'. And it's been away for the past 3 days. But, they've got a Smart TV at my mum's house so they're watching people play Fortnite.

Q Ah yeah, sort of watching player videos.

A Yeah. And so they're watch people, so they'll watch Face Clan? they'll watch whatever they're watching. They're into....kids on.... my kids in particular and other kids, they're not into TV, so we had like.....growing up I had you know CBeebies, not CBeebies it was CITV and BBC1 from 3 til 5 and that was your cartoon time, and you valued that. And then it was like Home and Away or Neighbours, and Hollyoaks, and then if you were lucky to watch Eastenders you could. And it were like 'no, nine o'clock, seven o'clock' no' and your parents knew when things were becoming more adult related comedy or whatever there was. You Tube, if you haven't got parental lock you know your kids are free to watch whatever they want to watch, and there have been times where my kids have wanted to do....I think they play icing and salt and then it gives you a burn?

Q Oh yes.

Q2 Like ??? edges that are....yeah.

A Yeah. And I'm like 'if you do it ???' 'OK you can do it but you're going to burn yourself' and it's going to hurt you some more because I'm going to take all that away so you're never going to be able to see anything again'. 'Oh can we hide in IKEA', I'm like 'why', why would you want to hide in IKEA, you can hide during the ??? Like I were doing that. It's like 'so we've got to record it because so and so's done it and they've got so much views'.

Q2 I remember there was a news story wasn't there about a child that went missing, and it was a Hide in IKEA challenge wasn't it, or something like that.

A Yeah. We're still talking. Give us another 5 more minutes, practice your recording skills, it's all good for your You Tube channel. Try and get different angles and stuff like that.

Q So these sort of challenges and things like that, do they learn about them from friends, are friends talking about them as well?

A Yeah.

Q Do they all sort of watch the same thing?

A They all watch the same thing. So it's almost like we'd talk about, back in the days, about a TV personality on TV and then you'd be discussing about Fresh Prince of Bel air or ??? and you know it's a Tuesday and 'did you see that'. They will tell each other 'have you seen so and so' and it will be a famous like You Tuber who has done this, and the craze will go through, it will stay with them for a week and everyone's talking about it. And it's almost like a copycat dream where if one You Tuber does it, another You Tuber will do it. And then because not necessarily each You Tuber had the same subscribers, but because everybody wants to pop? and everybody wants to do something creative, they follow each other.

Time 5:00

Q Yeah.

A And they still get the same views. So it's creative but it's also copycat. And it's gone to the extreme where I think somebody in America got an ice cream tub, opened it and licked it.

Q2 I saw that, yeah.

A All just for You Tube. So people are just....because they're still kids and because they're still in a ??? because people are just being, I don't know, fame seeking or fame wanting, they're actually doing things that are illegal. And [unclear name] like 'you can't', you know there's an extent where the mind and the barrier, you have to be....you know you have to have kind of like the producer, the director, you have to sit down, you have to think about it, they don't do all of this out of you know spontaneous incidents where the camera had to be up and....it's all click bait, they call it click bait where, you know they're wasting your time in order for them to gain. It's a business. Whether you're going to a shop or whether you're watching You Tube, you are making somebody rich, OK. The content might be good, it might be crap, but it's still there so you need to be really, really careful. So I'm trying my best to kind of like talk to them but after a while you know you're just an old woman that doesn't know anything.

Q Yeah, yeah.

A And they roll their eyes and they'll say things like....I'm like....it sounds like 'oh mum can I buy ??? t-shirt' and I goes 'how much is it' and he was like £30. I think it was £30. I goes 'I'm not making a You Tuber rich'. And he was like 'mum, it's with my money'. I'm like 'I don't care if it's with your money, I'm still not ordering it for you because it's a phase ??? and ??? it's a phase. You're going to buy it, OK, but you're not necessarily wanting it, it's just you know you just want to be cool, and I'm not going to support that. And thankfully my kids have understood that we're not going to be chasing any merchandise, because that's what You Tubers do now, they've got their channel but as a back up they're like mini entrepreneurs, so they get their ??? they're making their own merch and everybody's like selling. And everybody's making money. It's fantastic but not at my expense and my children's expense. OK, watch, learn, develop, but there has to be a limit to what you can and can't do.

Q Do they have their own You Tube channels at all? Do they do their own filming?

A They did, they did one and I'll bring it up for you. They did one a couple of years ago and it was a phase. They went 'oh we can do that, we can do that'. And ??? I knew my kids weren't going to be into it 100% and I wasn't going to support them because of all the ill and side effects. They have got a clip they did about 3 years ago and I'll show it you in a minute, but now my son, the eldest, he's 14, he created his own You Tube channel without my help or without his cousin's help. And it's good because it's allowed him to explore technology and learning, and you know put the background music and select, so that aspect I like. But the aspect where he's going to be consumed by fame, or by doing anything just for the sake of views, is something that I am dead against. So there are things that I allow them to do because it's for their own development instead of you know sitting in a boring lesson where the teacher's showing you how to develop and how to design, he's actually learning for himself, and that's fantastic. But I'm slightly worried about how extreme or to what extent he will go to try and do something just to rake in the views. So that part is scary, because we've

seen You Tubers that started off really nice and innocent and, you know they're fantastic role models, and then all of a sudden you know they've switched, they've become....OK they're talking about mental health and stuff like that but you think 'you got to that because of your self-destruction, because of the thing, because of the money, because of the wealth, and because you didn't have the training or the therapy or whatever you needed....

Q2 The support networks in place.

A The support networks, that's it, that's exactly the word I wanted, to allow you to continue in a....not a natural but in a good state of mind manner. So you've got loads of You Tubers, like there was one You Tuber that, thank God my kids weren't watching him, but they knew about him and that he'd commit suicide. And he'd been saying 'I'm going to commit suicide' and 'I'm going to do this and I'm going to do that'. For a while you felt it was click baiting because, I mean I don't want him to go off and commit suicide but....

Q2 I know who it was.

A And then he ended up committing suicide.

Q2 He did a lot of gaming videos didn't he I think.

A He did, and the police were coming to his house and you know he's 'I can do this, I can do that'.

Q2 I heard about that, it is, yeah.

A So it's scary.

Q2 It's scary and it's really sad and it's really hard to have that kind of support. People go out on their own and kind of think 'I can do this', because it looks so easy when you watch it doesn't it? It's like you're sat in front of the camera and it's fine. But actually all the things that come at you, comments, subscriber numbers all of that.

Time 10:00

A It is time consuming as well.

Q2 Yeah, time consuming, like it's not there. Yeah that's really interesting.

A So we do have lots of discussion in terms of they'll talk and I'll listen, and then I can give my input. But I don't want to always be lecturing because they'll start rolling their eyes, and they just ???

Q So do you have lots of conversations about technology, do you think.....

A I try and play the cool mum, and I think I'm not cool any more. I was cool for a while but I don't think I am, I just try hard now. So I'll listen to them. I'll sometimes read about them. So I read the news and I'll go to the technology side, and if there's something about Ninja or something, again he's another popular player, gamer in there, and I'll go 'oh you know this happened with Ninja' just to spark a conversation, or just to allow them to talk to

me. And you know we'll talk. Or they'll come and tell me, and sometimes I have to play the role that I'm really interested about it you know. But you think 'OK, my kids', you know it's an age where I have to, and I'm going to be interested.....I'm sorry.

Q No it's alright.

*Pause in conversation*

Q So what kind of....we're just going to be looking at some of the questions that we've got, because we've got quite a lot of questions that we're going to go through during the various weeks. So we talked about kind of like computers, and you just mentioned the trampoline and stuff like that, so what kind of play would you say your children usually....what's their sort of like go-to, what do they usually do? If they're given free time to play what do they do?

A If they're given free time you play you've got the eldest will just go on the Play Station. ??? would go on a laptop and just watch You Tube; he likes to watch ??? play, and I could leave them all day and they will not fight, there will be no conflict. If each one had a Play Station or if each one had an iPad I could just leave the house – but I don't – I could leave the house, come back in 10 minutes time and they'd still be there, playing. That's how consumed they will become if given the time. But what I do at school term is, Monday to Friday ??? and it becomes quite family orientated. So they will come home and the boys, they'll be starving, 'what did you cook', I'm like you know and they will eat together. And then it's time for homework, they'll quite obviously there'll be a tantrum of some sort, and by that time it's bedtime. I've trialed it where we would learn and then do Play Station, but that didn't go down quick, it didn't go quite well because 'he played 10 minutes extra', 'he played 5 minutes extra', 'he went in, filled the towers in and go through quickly', 'he did this and he did that', so there was too much of a headache in order for me to kind of like balance it out.

Q2 Fortnite games obviously take differnt amounts of time don't they?

A They do, depending on what they put it on as well.

Q2 Yeah. And if you're the first to be out then your game's a lot shorter than someone who's got to like the final five like.

A Yeah, depending on how good you are as well.

Q2 So I imagine that's a bit tricky.

A So I tried and then thought 'no, that's not going to happen'. I tried with watch, then eat, and then learn and then sleep, that didn't work well. So I try to be fair. But I thought if they play they get their dosage of Play Station they'll not let me drop it. I feel that their focus is completely out of the mirror – out of the window sorry. So when I'm on it there will be no Play Station Monday to Friday. Friday evening, because I'm teaching and they don't go to the same school they'll probably play and they go on ??? So Saturday and Sunday they will play, but again very restricted, I just allow them maybe an hour, two maximum if I'm lucky, if I've got lots of cleaning to do or if I'm, you know distracted by something. Play Station I'm not a fan of, I think it does more harm than good. But, because all their friends have Play Station it's something that you can't deprive them because you have adverse effect. So as a

parent you try to be a good cop and a bad cop, and they're into Play Station. If it was up to me I would have no TV or Play Station at all. They had a Play Station 3 and when their father got them the Play Station 4 the first....this will click for ever....my ??? were like 'yes, the moment we're like everyone else'.

Q Really.

Time 15:00

A And they were just, you know upgrading from a Play Station 3 to a Play Station 4. Play Station 4 was recently new then, it was only because two of their nephews, three of their nephews, had it, like nephews/cousins had it, yeah my nephews, and they felt they were left out. And when they had bought it the house is....they're like standing, waiting, you know almost like beggars waiting for their turn. So their father got them a Play Station and it was like 'yeah' you know. I'm dreading what it's going to be like when it's the Play Station 5 that's coming out, that's when I ???

Q But are you aware of what other people have got?

A Yes definitely, there's been lots of conversations where I'd say to them, you know in terms of materialistically you are comparing yourself to others, OK, but you don't want to go down the route when I say to you 'oh someone's well behaved', you know 'someone's achieving or doing things', they don't want to know. But compared to 'they've got their trainers they need'. I was 'we're not going to do the comparison, you did your best to getting on the team whatever things you do but don't come saying to me 'so and so's got this', because so and so's got this but he probably doesn't have what you have, and vice versa, so not comparing.

Q It's hard though isn't it.

A It is, and the boys as well.

Q Oh right. So they play Fortnite. What else do they like? Have they ever played any kind of....because this project's sort of like looking at Lego, I just wondered whether they'd got....have they ever played any Lego games?

A They have. They had lots of games for Play Station so they were into playing Connect 4, they had lots of ??? blocks; they had the marble construction thing – I've forgot what it's called.

Q Oh Marble Run type thing?

A I don't know if it's a marble run, but it's fixed and then they connected....they've got marble balls and then you can create things. I've forgot what it is.

Q2 Oh yeah, it's like a building thing wasn't it?

A It's a building thing, there was lots of that. Snakes and Ladders. What else did we have? Playing snaps and stuff like that. They weren't really into playing games unless I play with them. Or if we had a no electricity day then, you know they discover that they have

brothers and you know they're playing, they're communicating; the furniture will be turned differently and they're playing their Nerf games and stuff like that. And I've got neighbours that are psychologists next door, or psychiatrists, and it's 'how are they playing ??? or something' and this is not really going that well. So yeah, if there is a no technology day, or a no gadgets day, they will play together and you will see a different side to them. It's really nice because they're being quite creative. And sometimes creativity is good, sometimes creativity can lead to you know things breaking and things getting missing and stuff like that.

Q Do they do much in the way of like outdoor play? I mean they're outdoors at the moment.

Q2 I'm going outside if that's alright?

A Yeah that's fine. If there's no technology they will beg you to play football with them. Or even if there's technology but you know they're restricted to how much, they will go outside and we will play football. It will be two a side, OK, and we'll usually play up to 8 goals and that will determine the winner. Or I'll play against one. And they get really upset when I win them.

Q Oh do they?

A It's like 'how can you win me'. And I'm like 'I've won you'. And they're like 'no, let's start again' and we'll start again and then I still win them. I'm like 'I'm not doing it again, I've won you, you need to face it, I am better than you. I am an old woman and I'm better than you'. What else do we play? I bought them from Decathlon a badminton set. That was nice for a while but the wind isn't great, so I'm trying to you know get a racquet – I've forgot what it's called, that shuttlecock....

Q Oh the shuttlecock thing, yeah.

A And it's landing in the trees of the neighbours and stuff like that. So it wasn't one of those games that they like. They'll take me to the park on the condition that I have to play with them.

Q OK yeah.

A So I play basketball, I play football. But thank God I think I'm becoming not as cool as I used to be, and because the kids are getting older it's like 'my friends are there, are you going to play football', I go 'do you want me to', 'no way'. And that's fine, you know, I can sit down and I can be an ordinary mum, you know just sit down and watch you play. So yeah. They go swimming. Hanif has swimming lessons that he goes once a week, the eldest have done it as well. During the summer holidays last year and this year I bought the summer initiative that's done by the Sheffield Institution of Sports or whatever it is, Venues or whatever it is, and it entitles you to swimming and ice skating unlimited. And they quite enjoy that, so they'll invite friends, or last year they were inviting their friends because their cousins were abroad. And this year, with three of their cousins, I take them to either Ponds Forge or Hillsborough and they swim for a good hour or two. Ice skating, I try taking them ice skating but the timing is quite awkward, they've got certain times that they can go.

Q Right.

Time 20:17

A What else do they like to do? Yeah it's just boys kind of, boy stuff they would do. Last of all football, and I'm not being sexist but I'm just referring to the things that they would like.

Q Things that they like.

A They'll play trampoline, they would play on the trampoline but the trampoline will end up turning into WWE, you know.

Q Right, yeah.

A So anything that's kind of a bit boisterous. Place mats, I introduced them to dot to dot, not dot to dot, you know when you have a page full of dots and then you see how many boxes you can connect and you have one game each?

Q Oh yeah.

A The eldest 'oh this is so boring', they've got ??? do you want to play it a lot. You know they quite liked it, so everyone played that again. I think a couple of years ago I introduced them to conkers. 'Is this what you played, you are so sad', I was like 'you don't know how....' you know you couldn't find a conker back in the days, you were lucky to find a shiny conker. And it was like there were so many conkers on the floor and I picked them up and I goes 'you have to do this', and they're like 'yeah whatever' and I'm like 'OK'.

Q I get a bit upset by conker waste, because I see so many conkers on the floor now and I'm like we'd have been jamming string through them and all sorts. But I suppose it's like a different....

A That's all they play, they're not....well I don't think they're into toys that much, unless it's....oh yeah they've got, Hanif I think it was last year or the year before he bought a drone.

Q Oh right.

A It was a £30 drone that he....you know I just saw my money go straight into a tree and, you know, still there. So he flew it up – he didn't actually his father flew it up, and then as soon as it went up it came back down crashing, and then something broke. Samir [?] got a big heavy remote-control car.

Q Oh yeah.

A Where the car's not working but the remote control you know is working, so he's a bit disappointed and he wants to fix it.

Q Yeah.

A That's it. Oh they've got iPads.



Q Yeah.

A Two of which I disabled and I'm really, really happy.

Q Oh right OK. So how many iPads do they have? Do they have one each or do they have one between two?

A They had one each and that was....when was it...they've had it for a while. They're the old iPads, they're not the new ??? whatever, this ??? but two of them are disabled and I haven't done anything with it because my MAC book....my MAC book's iTunes, I haven't got the latest and each time I download it there's something wrong with it, so I need to sort my laptop out. But it hasn't been a priority for me because.....I didn't put passwords on them, and when I did put passwords, because I'm changing each one, I'd forgotten, and it was only to try to restrict them from doing it. As soon as I disabled them I was like 'yeah', I felt, you know 'you couldn't control yourself, that's fine'.

Q Yeah.

A I mean they did have lots of games on them, they've got Clash of Clans and my son's love for Clash of Clans you know come back as he's downloaded it on my phone. I'm not into iPads. I was into iPads when they first came out in terms of the lots of educational aspect they can achieve and stuff like that and how it bridged technology and, you know the gap, and the fact that I was intrigued by it. But then when I saw all the effects of how much time it consumes and just my kids' faces in it....

Q Right.

A Yeah, I didn't want it, OK, and I knew it was a mistake. Both my elder boys have phones, but again I don't allow them to use them as much, so I would confiscate the phone, I would only give it them if they had a school trip or if they went out. Because they'd be out in the park, everyone's playing, and they'll be on their phones. And I've seen lots of kids where, you know there's a group of them and instead of playing football they're on their phones. At school, instead of like playing basketball, it's like 'oh what did you do', it's like 'oh we just hang around on our phones'. And I'm like 'no'.

Q Are they able to take their phones to school, or....?

Time 24:30

A They're able to take phones to school by the school's policy but they're not allowed to take them out of their bags, and if they are taken out of their bags they get confiscated. And if they get confiscated twice the parents have to go and collect them. But I don't see why my kids should have a phone now because they only go to school and back. I don't see the great use of a mobile phone now because they don't need it. And when they do have it all my son does is watch You Tube. I was at the hospital and I accidentally forgot to take it off him because he went to Bridlington, so he says 'mum, can you charge my phone' and I thought 'yes he's going to want to take pictures of his friends' so yeah you know that's the right thing to do. And then I forgot to take it off him, and my sister who is looking after him while I'm in hospital with my mother, she's like 'are you not going to take his phone off him, he's just completely by himself'. You know he's in his own world, and then as soon as somebody does

something to him he's like are mardy and you know he'll throw a tantrum. So I took it off him and he's not going to see it until we go to London, which is I think next Wednesday, we've got a day trip to London. So in terms of usage, while I have power then I'll have their phones. I know by the time my son, my eldest, is going to reach 17 I won't be able to have that grip on him as much, he'll probably have his own data allowances or whatever they do – and I've seen it with my nephews. But while I have the ability to restrict and control how much they will use, I will use that to my advantage.

Q Yeah. Do you do things like password protection then and things like that?

A I did but I forgot. So this is how I've disabled some of the iPads is, I would use a date of birth OK, and then on one occasion like that I thought I'm not going to use a date of birth because they know everybody's date of birth now ??? So I used something random and I completely forgot what it was until I disabled it, and then after I disabled it I was like 'oh I knew it was that'. So I don't want to....I can't be bothered to change the passwords all the time. And they're very clever you know, one would stand behind me or one will stand in front of me, or they'd get me in a position where you know I'm behind them but not knowing they can see it. They're very sophisticated when it comes to that, they will....if I have to set up a new password they will use so much sophistication to either guess or....

A So yeah they're very clever, they will crack the code of the password. I have every confidence if I set up a password they will know it. And this is not my kids, but my sister's kids, they set up on the iPad mirroring, Apple TV, and they did mirroring, OK, on the TV.

Q OK.

A So their mum ??? their mum would go into her room, close the door and do a password, and the kids would be watching her do the password. And she didn't clock on. And my sister was going crazy, like 'they weren't behind me, they weren't in the room, how did they find out what the password was?' It was only later I think when she knew, like really strict and says 'they're going to go, they're going to do this, what is it, how are you finding the password, are you reading my mind'. That's why you always have to be like one step ahead of them, they'll be relatively informative or have experience on the latest gadgets. It was only later that, after months and months, that they said, you know 'we actually mirrored everything that you do and we can see it. So whatever you press we can see'. So they're quite intelligent.

Q So one thing that I suppose I want to know is, kind of like do you think that these kind of like toys and apps and things like that, do they help your kids play, or do you find that they sort of restrict what they play, do they sort of limit what they do do you think?

A I think if my kids were to choose the right apps, and I mean like educational apps or things that....that are really boring that they would not use but something that's repetitive that's like the times table or something that's...for example if I was to teach my kids phonics he'd probably pick it up. I have a nephew who has picked up so much from iPad or his mum's phone in terms of phonics, the colours, the shapes, OK, and I know that's been drilled by him watching. But I don't want a zombie, I don't want a zombie for a kid. I don't want as soon as I take it off them he's going to have a tantrum and, you know he needs to have his dosage of the iPad time – not to that extent, I don't want that. I'd rather them go outside, explore, play, be a bit late in some of the developments, but not be ahead of the game but yet

be lacking in the emotional well-being and what they can and can't do and how they interact with other kids.

Time 30:00

Q Yeah. That's really interesting, because it's like....just thinking about sort of like when kids first sort of like get introduced to technology and things like that. Have you noticed if it's affected or influenced your children's play sort of over time, how their play sort of developed?

A When we first came into this house my kids were outside in the garden all the time.

Q Right.

A So they'd be playing. And it was hands-on because thankfully my kids want me to play with them, so they would want me to play football, sometimes they were like 'mum, let's go wrestle'. I was not going to wrestle them outside, they'd probably call the cops on me, I'm not going to wrestle outside, we can wrestle inside, you know. What we do is, we have this wrestling where you know we try and, with their legs, try and get the person down, OK?

Q Yeah.

A And they ask me to play with them this game. It's not like 'come on I'll teach you to fight'. So they're like 'mum, wrestle with us', 'you know I'm going to win you, you know I'm stronger, you know I'm harder', you know. And they were like 'mum, let's go and wrestle outside', I was like 'I'm not going there, I've got a neighbour that's always looking out of her window, I'm not doing that'. But yeah as soon as the iPads came they didn't want to play outside. So when the iPads were relatively new everybody was like saying 'oh this is smart, this is good, it's got all the benefits', but after trying them out and not having, you know my kids kind of like losing interest in play and being hands-on outside, it's like 'no'. It's not as good as it is. They tell us, want us to think it is. And it's quite ironic if the people that are making them aren't allowing their kids to play with them that, you know, it's good but it's bad.

Q Is that something that.....there was something in the news about that I think.

A Yeah, it's like Mark Zuckerberg...is it Mark Zuckerberg – no not Mark Zuckerberg, it was Bill Gates, saying that he doesn't like his kids to have smart phones until they're 13. Then Steve Jobs was the same. And then I read lots of articles where even the people that have created them ??? When they created it they didn't know it was going to be that addictive. So a person that's created something, made millions out of it, has actually hired somebody to restrict when they can download apps and what they can do. So somebody actually monitoring them because of how addictive it is. And how there is so many research and so many findings that it causes lots of mental stress and stuff like that, especially with social media, it's something that I try and keep away as much as possible. Because I have an iPhone X and it can be so addictive. Because I think I'm being good and sensible, I'm reading the News and you know I'm on Pinterest maybe reading different well-being stories and stuff like that, but if you look at your battery usage you'll be alarmed to how much has been consumed by a small gadget. And you think 'actually I could have done this, and I could

have done this, and I could have done that'. And loads of people are trying to go on a fast where they're not using the smart phones, or they're actually buying the old bricks, you know the Nokia and stuff like that.

Q Ah, yeah.

A So you know people are realising the bad effects. But I think one of the things is to try and teach the children, especially...in particular I want to....what's the word....I want to give my kids the know-how of its benefits and its drawbacks so when they do have the old gadget? they can use it wisely without it affecting their social and physical health as well, some children are on it all the time that, you know they're not getting the fresh air or the movement that they need in order to maintain a healthy weight. It's disheartening sometimes when you go to a park and you see a kid on a gadget rather than playing. And on one occasion there was this woman, her son, you know to control him because he was all over the place, I'm not sure if he's got some type of....not disability but learning need, he's running around. And I'm like, mum goes 'he runs around, I can't stop' and so she'll give him the phone while she's talking to her friend. I'm like 'are you going to take your phone off him' and she's like 'no, he's only been on a little bit'. And I'm like 'yeah, for 5 minutes' and she's like not 5 minutes, like half an hour. And she took the phone off him and thingy.... not unplugged it but took the thing, as soon as ??? he's run off. ??? after. I can do with that, she's a close friend, but you can't do it with everybody. And it's disheartening to know that you're going to town, you're going to Meadowhall, and there's a kid on a phone, instead of watching people socialising, watching what people are doing, or taking note on the mum paying and there's transactions and stuff like that. They're just on the phone or the iPad. It's nice that you're able to provide them with this luxury and give it them, but there's a drawback.

Time 35:00

Q Mmm. Do you....I think you mentioned you do teaching as well, are you a teacher?

A Guys, because she's asking me lots of questions she's recording, I need you to go outside and play. OK thank you. I teach on a Friday and Saturday and I teach Arabic, so it's like a supplementary school. Hanif still goes but the two eldest don't go because they don't have a class for them. So the headteacher initially said 'oh we've got projectors downstairs' and you know we've got things, use it. I don't ??? First of all you've given me a curriculum that I need to complete you know within a set timeframe, I am not going to go and look for You Tube clips the kids can watch. If they want to do that they can do it outside, they're on it all the time. I didn't say that to him but I thought I'm not doing it.

Q So you try and keep tech out of the classroom?

A I would love....I mean the kids use teachers now because it's a small school so they don't have that finance to have like smart phones and stuff like that, but because I'm only there two hours and a half each day I haven't got the time. And the only thing that I could do with them is for them to watch a clip.

Q Yeah.

A I don't want to incorporate that in my time, because I know that the kids that I'm teaching are already getting too much screen time. And that's the reason.

Q Right, I think that's really interesting. Right, I think we've talked quite a lot so...

A Sorry, have I talked.....

Q No, no it's fantastic, it's really, really nice, I just don't want to be like holding you up or like....

A No that's fine.

Q So what I've just got to do on this bit, we've got a lot of questions as you can see but we can sort of save them for the other visits. But if I could just have a little bit of background about your family as well, would that be OK?

A Yes.

Q So who is in your immediate family?

A So my immediate family is 4 children, I've got a 14 year old, he's called Ahmad. Then I've got a 12 year old, he is called Samir, he's amazing, he's so thoughtful. If I am ill he will clean the whole house. He will make me breakfast in bed. He is just the nicest son you can have, he's very caring. I've got Hanif, he's the third, how old is he, he's 8 going on 9. He's OK, he loves TV a lot, he loves to watch TV.

Q What does he like to sort of watch?

A He likes....it varies. He'll watch Grizzly and the Lemmings, which is a bear and small creatures, it's almost like Tom and Jerry but different, so it's not Tom and Jerry, they're trying to take something off him and the bear will take things back. It's almost based on Tom and Jerry but a different one, more kind of newish. He'll watch cartoons, he'll watch people playing. And what's interesting, once he was like 'mum can you make this cake', and I don't like to bake, everything goes wrong when I bake, I can cook but I just can't bake. I can't be restricted by a weighing scale and doing everything right, you know. I made the million bars, I could have bought them from Tesco for a £1 and I spent £5 on the Kitchen Direct and I was like I'm going to do this, I know how to do this. There's lots of bad things about sugar so I give myself that reason that, you know, it's actually bad. But he says to me 'mum can you make this' and I went 'oh that looks amazing, I'll buy it you, I don't think I can make it, I don't know how to'. ??? goes 'well it's easy, just go on You Tube, they'll show you how'. And I'm like 'yeah OK that's a really good idea, I'll do that'. So he made me make something from You Tube.

Q Did it work?

A Yeah it did work. You Tube is....

Q Because I sometimes think 'oh I should try these recipes' and then I thought 'no, I'll mess them up' so....

A Yeah. He was like 'no it's easy mum, just go on You Tube'. OK, so it's good that there isn't a limitation to what you can and can't do in that respect. And then I've got Kamal.

So I'm trying to not give him my phone, OK. We do sometimes put You Tube on to a Channel called ???

Q Oh yeah.

A OK, but ideally I'd want him to be playing, exploring and doing things. OK.

Q Yeah.

A Their dad doesn't live with us, he lives abroad, so it's just me and the kids most of the time, so they're really close to me and we do quite....you know we do a lot of things together.

Q Yeah, OK. And so you say that you're a teacher, is that your job?

A Yes. I am an ESOL specialist but because of the kids still being fairly young I'm not committing myself to lots of hours of teaching. I really want to go back to teaching part time or full time but for now I'm just doing odd hours here and there so it doesn't really affect....you know it doesn't really affect the kids. Because I don't want to be working to have childcare, if you know what I mean?

Time 40:14

Q Yeah, OK. And what does your partner do?

A He works abroad. I don't know, it's almost like a site manager at this place, so he just sees if everyone is OK and stuff like that and oversees the other workers doing the right things.

Q OK. And does anybody in your family have a disability or anything like that?

A There's no-one with disabilities.

Q Just sort of immediate family.

A No, no, no-one with disabilities.

Q OK. And what would you.....

A Learning problems, Ahmad's got dyslexia.

Q Oh right, OK.

A But that's about it.

Q Yeah. So how old is he?

A He's 14.

Q When did he get diagnosed?

A The school, at primary school he had like, they said 'extra help' but it wasn't that much of extra. But as soon as he went to secondary school he was labelled as 'the naughty child'.

Q OK.

A And because you've got so many different teachers teaching different subjects you're not immediately with one teacher that can spot 'this is not normal behaviour'. So I went to the Learning Mentor and I says 'my son's....' and I had a paper from school saying that there were complex learning needs, it didn't pinpoint what it was exactly. And she was, how can I class, she was rubbish. So I'd go and she'd say 'yeah we do this, and we do first....' what was it, there was first class teaching or first something teaching, whatever it was, but clearly they weren't doing it because when my son was asking for help the teacher was like 'you should have been listening'. But it was a genuine ask, you know asking for help. He does have a tendency to daydream but it's only because when he's lost his concentration and somebody has to like tap him, you know to get him back on focus. So Year 7 wasn't brilliant. Year 8, I went back and I said 'what are you doing for my son'. And the same thing, it was like 'yeah, no' it was in Year 7/Year 8. I said to her 'my son has got needs' and she goes 'oh we'll do a reading test, I'll do a test with him'. So she did a reading test, and my son can read. She goes 'yeah he's good, OK he's good', above something, which doesn't indicate that he's lacking, it's still within the normal range. And I'm like 'I read with my kids so I know he can read', but can he process and comprehend, that's a different issue.

Q Right, OK.

A So she wasn't being helpful. And then I felt really guilty as a parent thinking 'I know there's ???' And I went to the GP and I says to him 'my son', he was really nice you know, can you transfer....not transfer, what's the word where doctors.....

Q Refer?

A Refer, that's the word. Refer. So they referred him to [NHS children's centre]. But [NHS children's centre] is for complex needs and stuff like that, and they did tests where they were just you know hitting his knee with something and they're like 'can you walk straight', 'yeah he can do all that, there's an underlying effect and he needs....' Then they do a reading test and he could read some of the words, some of the words were a bit difficult and he couldn't read them. And he goes 'yeah there's nothing wrong with him but if you want you can do....' I think it's an educational psychologist or something, like a person that....you know whatever it was, whatever the name was. So I knew Zest, I read an advertisement that Zest had a dyslexia person that does tutoring and gets somebody externally to assess if you're dyslexic or if you've got other learning needs. So I took the matter into my own hands, I knew the school wasn't doing it, so I paid for his testing and it proved that he was dyslexic. I gave it to school and her initial response was 'yeah we get loads of these'. And I went 'OK, that's fine'.

So this year I chased her up....no this year, in Year 9, so it's been from Year 7, I went to the head of Year 9 and I said to her 'this is what's happening, my son is asking for help in maths, and she's saying that you should have listened', OK. He is asking for help, genuinely asking for help, and they said 'you should have got it, I've already explained it once'. 'I don't care what teaching you're doing but your teachers aren't doing it properly'. When I went to

parents evening they'd say 'yeah he's such a good student' blah, blah, blah. He says things, you know I think a Business teacher said to me 'oh we discuss things that my A level students don't know about'. And it's sometimes basically I'd get him to read something for me from the newspaper and that would help him kind of like develop his general understanding and skills. But sometimes he's lacking, he's daydreaming, and I'm like 'do you know he's dyslexic?' 'ah, that explains it'.

Time 45:22

So I'm actually telling the teachers that my son is dyslexic, because the Learning Mentor that's supposed to be telling everybody what the needs are of the children, hasn't done it. OK. So I went and complained to the head of Year 9 and she said 'would you like the lady in a meeting'. I'm like 'no, I don't want to speak to her'. I know she's probably going to say something that's going to, you know just....she will do the talk but she's not going to do the walk if you know what I mean, she'll get herself out of it, and I just wasn't interested in listening to her, I've been listening to her for 2 years. I went and did my own test, I paid £500 for it, my son is still not getting the help that he deserves. They did some tests, I think it was in May/June to determine.... because I rang because I was quite worried that in Year 10 and 11 you probably won't get the time and help that he needs. So I rang and they said they were going to test him or something and that will determine what help he will get. So he's already being allowed extra time, but extra time for a person that doesn't concentrate isn't going to really help, if you know what I mean. So I think he needs extra help. But the budget and stuff like that, I don't think he can get to a standard where they are helping or doing much for those that are special....not special needs but need help.

Q Like extra support.

A Extra support. I know that [school name] is quite good, I've helped a parent translate and I'm like 'wow, my son's going to the wrong school', this isn't my choice but it's too late now.

Q OK. I feel that's probably everything for today.