



Parents/careers

Top Tips to help your child stay safe online



Tip # 1 - Encourage your child to keep their device secure by using a password or PIN. Where appropriate, you can know what this is, but remind them not to share these details with anyone else.



Tip # 2 - While it is important to give your child privacy, you should check messages, browser history and social media accounts periodically - particularly if you feel something is wrong.

Tip # 3 - Emphasize the importance of online privacy. Teach your child that they should not share identifying information such as their name, location, age or school.



Tip # 4 - Talk to your children about online dangers. While you do not want to scare your children, you do want them to know that there are people out there who may have malicious intent.

Tip # 5 - Discuss with your child the dangers of sharing photos online. Once images have been taken and sent to others, they have lost control of who sees them. Explain that if they receive any indecent images, they should not respond or share - report it!

Tip # 6 - Does your child really know their online friends? Ask your child about why and how they know people and if they are not friends in real life they shouldn't be online either.



Tip # 7 - Teach your child to think before they post! Comments, photos and videos they post or share, make up their digital footprint, even if deleted. Ask if they would be happy to see these posts in 10 or 20 years time.



Tip # 8 - Install parental controls on your home broadband so you can monitor access and usage. Your child should understand that visiting inappropriate areas can put them at risk. Ensure they use their device responsibly and know that their usage can be tracked.

Tip # 9 - Encourage your child to use their devices in communal areas. Do not allow internet enabled devices in bedrooms at night, return them to a common area for recharging. This helps to promote healthy sleep habits and reduces risks when you are not around.



Tip # 10 - Emphasise the importance of speaking to you or another trusted adult if they ever feel uncomfortable about anything that is happening online. The most important thing that parents can do is keep the lines of communication open. Let your child know that they will not be in trouble and there is always someone who can help.

Together for a safer surf!