

Good Social Media Practice (*Parents*)

Do's

Engage in Social Media and demonstrate to your child how it can be used in a positive, enjoyable and responsible way.

Ensure you have the passwords for your child's accounts – make this a condition of them having an account.

Keep an eye on their online activity and discuss anything that you consider inappropriate with them immediately.

Set clear rules on the use of tablets, phones and computers in the house. Specify where and when they can be used.

Talk with your children about online activity; it's important your child feels they can talk to you openly if there are issues.

Don'ts

Allow your child to have Social Media accounts until they are old enough, all Social Media services have age limits for a reason.

Allow children to access Social Media late at night or when they are on their own – in their bedroom, bathroom etc.

Engage directly with your child on Social Media – it's not 'cool' for them and they are likely to find ways to ensure you don't see what they are posting or liking.

Violate your child's privacy by constantly checking their accounts, but do periodically monitor their online activity to keep them safe.

For more advice visit:

<http://www.childnet.com/> & www.ceop.police.uk