



KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ON THE INTERNET

THE INTERNET

The internet has changed all our lives, particularly our children. For parents and carers this opens up a whole new world of things we need to be aware of. Sometimes this can lead to you worrying about how best to protect your children against cyber bullying, inappropriate websites, children's online reputation and grooming.

WHAT CHILDREN DO ONLINE

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- Visit virtual worlds, Minecraft, Pokemongo, xbox
 - Text or instant message one another
 - Post profiles and interact with others on social networking sites
 - View and post videos
 - Download music, movies, and more
 - Create and upload art
 - Do research

- **SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**
- **TEXTING & INSTANT MESSAGING**
- **VIDEO-SHARING SITES**
- **ONLINE GAMES**

MAIN ONLINE CONCERNS

- Cyberbullying
- Inappropriate Websites
- Stranger Danger

CYBERBULLYING

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- Posting or forwarding a private text or embarrassing images to others.
 - Tricking someone into revealing embarrassing information and forwarding it to others.
 - Spreading malicious rumours.
 - Stealing passwords.

PROTECTING AGAINST CYBERBULLYING

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- Never respond to unkind remarks.
 - Don't participate in cyberbullying.
 - Block the cyberbully.
 - Tell a trusted adult.
 - Save the posts.
 - Notify the police, if appropriate.
 - Notify your child's school, if appropriate.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

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- Shield your child with:
 - parental control software- filter out websites and content.
 - child-friendly search engines (google- safe search on)
 - bookmarks to favourite sites
 - Teach your child what to do if he/she accidentally views disturbing content.

STRANGER DANGER

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- Masquerade as other children or friendly adults.
 - Trick children into revealing personal information.
 - Trick children into meeting them in person.

IF A STRANGER CONTACTS YOUR CHILD

Make sure your child knows:

- Don't respond
- Contact an adult right away
- Save post, information.
- Block the offender

Notify your internet service provider, if warranted.

PRACTICAL EVERYDAY TIPS



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- Talk to your child about what they are up to online.
 - Watch Thinkyouknow films.
 - Encourage your child to go online and explore!
 - Keep up-to-date with your child's developments online.
 - Set boundaries in the online world as you would in the real world.
 - Keep equipment that connects to the internet in a family space.
 - Use parental controls on laptops, computers, mobiles.

RESOURCES

East Ren Website

<http://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/>
Community-and-Online-Safety

School Website



Internet Rules

- Never reveal :
 - » Name
 - » Address
 - » Phone number
 - » School name
- Don't post or send photographs of yourself.
- Never write or post anything you wouldn't be comfortable with the whole world seeing.
- Treat others online as you would treat them in person.
- Never share your password.
- Never open an email or click on a link from someone you don't know.
- Never download or click on anything without checking with me or another trusted adult first.



Everyday Internet Tips for Parents/Carers

- Talk to your child about what they are up to online.
- Watch Thinkyouknow films with your child and discuss.
- Encourage your child to go online and explore!
- Keep up-to-date with your child's developments online.
- Set boundaries in the online world as you would in the real world.
- Keep equipment that connects to the internet in a family space.
- Use parental controls on laptops, computers, mobiles.