

Social Media

Most people have a social media account whether it be Facebook, Instagram, Twitter etc. and it's important to know how to use these sites safely.

Being online doesn't provide anonymity so you should avoid doing anything online that you wouldn't do face-to-face. Think would you want your parents, Grandparent or other family to see this?

Sharing of information, photos, videos etc. which may have inappropriate content may constitute a criminal offence. To find out more visit: www.nspcc.org.uk/preventingabuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse/

Think Links

Most links on the internet are genuine and safe, but there are some links which once clicked on can infect your device with a virus. The links can be for videos, bank accounts, photos etc.

If a website is secure it will start with <https://> or have a padlock in the tool bar. Hover the pointer over the link before clicking to see where the link directs to



Clicking download on images/email attachments etc. can add viruses to your computer/device and infect those used by your parent/carer or other family members using your WiFi. For example your parents computers or a family members tablet as well as your own devices. Criminals leave traps where they think victims will not report attacks, video/music streaming, explicit websites, offers too good to be true, 'what happened next? pictures' and all forms of social networking have become the cyber criminals playground so think before you click!



Useful Links

Get Safe Online:
www.getsafeonline.org/safeguardingchildren

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP):
www.ceop.police.uk

To report a crime to Action Fraud:
03001 232 040
www.actionfraud.police.uk

NWG is a charity that co-ordinates a large network of practitioners working to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE) and trafficking:
www.nwgnetwork.org

To report a crime to the Police contact:
In an emergency: 999
Non emergency: 101



Safety Online

A Guide for Teens and Young Adults

Safety Online

The internet is a wonderful resource providing a variety of information and communication facilities. It is important to be aware of what information you access and who you communicate with to ensure that you are safe online.

Public WiFi should not be seen as safe and you could be sending information automatically when you connect as your device will want to update social media or email accounts. Set strong passwords, they should be at least 8 characters and include upper and lower case, numbers and a special character such as %&# or @.

Future Proof

The information you put online such as photos, status updates and Tweets etc. can be found using search engines like Google. Schools, colleges and employers can search for your information online and this could affect your future.

Do you know what is appropriate and safe to share and post online? This includes comments, blogs, photos and videos. Images on the internet are there forever! Think before you post.

Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying is when a person or a group of people uses the internet, email, online games or any other kind of digital technology to threaten, tease, upset or humiliate someone else. For more information visit: www.childline.org.uk

Stranger Danger

Websites such as Facebook and YouTube have a minimum age limit of 13-years-old. Be careful speaking to strangers online, accepting friend requests and meeting people in person who you have spoken to online etc. 'Stranger Danger' is the same online as it is in person. Think 'Do you really know who this person is?'

Location, Location, Location

Geotagging is data added to media such as photos, websites or text messages. Geotags contain coordinates which can be used to find your location. This can be prevented by turning off the location services on your mobile phone/device.

Devices can provide your personal information without your knowledge. Ensure ad tracking, location services and geo tagging are all turned off. Limit the information that apps can obtain and what apps can be downloaded.

Sexting

Sexting is the sending of sexually explicit message/photo/video using a mobile phone/ device. Once these images have been sent they cannot be retrieved. Do you trust the person you have been sexting with not to send the images to anyone else? You could be committing a crime by sending sexually explicit messages/photos/ videos etc.

Criminals from all over the world may try to obtain explicit photos/videos of you via webcams/Skype in order to try to blackmail you into giving them money.

Real Life...

“ Sarah* became friends with a boy on KIK on her mobile phone called Dave*.

He seemed to be a nice boy until he began to continually pester her to send naked pictures of herself to him.

Sarah sent him a picture of herself in her bra, which included showing her face. Dave wanted more photos and when Sarah refused, he threatened to upload the pictures to Facebook for her friends and family to see.

She was so scared, so she informed her parents and the Police were contacted to deal with Dave who had already put the photo on the internet for all to see. Dave was arrested and sent to prison, but the photos still remained online. ”

For lots more information visit:

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) is dedicated to tackling sexual abuse and exploitation of children/young people who have been forced/tricked into taking part in sexual activity with anyone online/in the real world

www.ceop.police.uk/

THINK BEFORE YOU POST!

