



Internet Safety Top Tips



Depending on the age and maturity of your child, keep computer devices in a communal area.

You could also set boundaries on 'screen time' (how much time they spend watching TV, on the computer, playing consoles, etc)

Teach your child not to give information away about themselves
This includes name address, phone number and school.

Encourage your child to report any accidental sexual images, including pop-ups, and praise them if they do.
Help them learn that we all make mistakes when growing up and that you can help and you understand that it might be embarrassing for them to come and talk to you.

Seek advice from your service provider to block inappropriate content.

Your provider can offer you additional software to help you monitor your child's access/use on the Internet. e.g. Virgin Media, Talk Talk, Sky, BT, etc.

Talk to your child about the need to be careful when making friends online.

Discuss with your child to speak to friends online the way you would speak to your offline friends - sometimes they aren't always who they say they are.

Remind your child that once an image is sent, they cannot get it back.

Stress that once an image is posted online or sent over a phone, they no longer have control over it. Ask them to think how they would feel if their teacher or whole school saw that picture before they send it.

Ensure your child understands the danger of meeting with someone they have met online.

No matter who the person says they are, they should never meet with them.

Be open.

Take an interest in their online activities just as you would their offline ones. Ask them questions and have a friendly discussion about what they're exploring.

Useful websites for additional information

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.parentsprotect.co.uk

www.lucyfaithfull.org.uk

www.nspcc.org.uk - online safety

www.childnet.com