

STAY SAFE ONLINE...

'Young people are now citizens born into a digital world, growing up surrounded by and immersed in the technology and tools of the digital age. While it is clear that technology offers you unprecedented opportunities to learn, communicate, create, discover and be entertained in a virtual environment, there are some risks. And while your confidence and skill in using the technologies is often high, your knowledge and understanding of the risks may be low'. (Becta (2008) 'Safeguarding Children in a Digital World') The information in this leaflet is designed to help you understand the potential risks and give you tips on how to keep safe when using technology.

Personal information



- *Be careful and think about how much you share online- is it all needed?
- *Never give your full address or phone number to people you don't know.
- *Never reveal what school you go to or anything that gives away your location, including images.

Social networking

- *Think before you post, whatever goes online can be shared and you could lose control of who sees it.
- *Every time you post, you add to your digital footprint, once it is online you can never really delete it.
- *Think about the photos you share- do they give away lots of information about you?



Privacy Settings



- *Make sure your social network profiles are private- if not anyone can see your information and posts.
- *Ensure you have included the correct age as the adverts and videos on social network are shown related to this.
- *Treat your password like your toothbrush, don't share it and change it regularly.
- *Password tip- use upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols to ensure you have a super strong password.

Online gaming

- *Keep personal information safe, make sure you know how to report problems or block people.
- *Don't get stung with a huge bill, be aware on 'in-app purchasing'.
- *Downloading game cheats, may not be legal and you could end up with a virus.



People you don't know

- *Consider who you become 'friends' with online, not everyone is who they say they are.
- *Never meet up with anyone you meet online if you don't know them in real life without a parent or carer.
- *If someone is aggressive or inappropriate, make sure you know how to report it and block them.

Remember

- *If something doesn't feel right, tell someone you trust.
- *All social networking sites and YouTube have 'report' buttons, use them!

