



## E- SAFETY- HELPING YOUR CHILD TO STAY SAFE

The best way to help your child to be safe when using the internet and new technologies is to make sure they understand these simple rules.

1. You should never give out personal details to online "friends."
2. Use a nickname when you log on and never share your full name, email address, mobile or home phone number, or school name.
3. Don't post or share any photos or videos online, including photos of friends, family or school because these can be changed and shared by other people without your permission and may be used to help identify you or where you live.

Facebook is a social networking site for adults and teens (**minimum age is 13 years**), but if your child is using Facebook ensure their safety by **making the timeline private**.

1. The first step to Facebook privacy is making your profile, or Timeline, private. To do this, go to Privacy Settings > How You Connect and change the settings for "Who can post on your timeline?" and "Who can see posts by others on your timeline?" from "Public" to "Friends."
2. Go to Privacy Settings > How Tags Work and change the settings for "Maximum Timeline Visibility" from "Public" to "Friends."
3. To be super safe you can change those settings to "Custom" and choose "Only Me" -- then the account holder will be the only one who can see the posts.
4. Finally, limit your past posts -- which may have been made public at the time -- to Friends only. To do this, go to "Limit the Audience for Past Posts" and click "Manage Past Post Visibility," then "Limit Old Posts." This will change all past posts to Friends-only, even if you initially made them public.



## OTHER TOP TIPS FROM THE THINKYOU KNOW WEBSITE:



- Talk to your child about what they are doing online and who they are talking to. Get them to show you how to use things you are not familiar with.
- Know what connects to the internet and how. Make sure you're aware of which devices that your child uses connect to the internet, such as their tv, phone or games console. Find out how they are accessing the internet - is it your connection, or a neighbour's wifi or elsewhere when they are at friend's house or even McDonalds? This will affect whether the safety setting you set are being applied.
- Keeping the computer and other devices in a family room means that you can share your child's online experience, they are less likely to act inappropriately (i.e. via webcam) and their online 'friends' will see they are in a family room.
- Surf together. Go online with your children and become part of their online life. The key to safe surfing is communication.
- Use internet filtering software and child-friendly search engines. Use your browser's controls as some offer differing degrees of security for each family member.
- If your child receives a message that upsets them, remind them not to reply, they should save the message and show you.
- Spam and junk emails and texts are not true, don't reply or send them to anyone else, just delete them.
- Don't open files sent from people you don't know. They could contain a virus, or worse - an inappropriate image or film.
- An online 'friend' is anyone you have not met in real life; no matter how long you have been friends with them.
- Help your child to understand that some people lie online and that it's better to keep online 'mates' online. They should never meet up with any online 'friends' without an adult they trust.
- Make sure they know how to block someone online and report them if they feel uncomfortable.
- Reassure your child that it's never too late to tell someone if something makes them feel uncomfortable.



## SOCIAL NETWORKING



With the increased use of social networking sites we would encourage our pupils to follow the good examples set by adults both in school and out of school by:

Demonstrating courtesy and respect for each other when comments are placed on social networking web sites.

Ensuring appropriate language is used in any comments placed on social networking sites.

Ensuring that any comments and/or images could not be deemed as defamatory or in breach of any relevant legislation.

### **Useful websites:**

[www.ceop.gov.uk](http://www.ceop.gov.uk) and sister site [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

[www.childnet-int.org](http://www.childnet-int.org)

<http://www.childnet-int.org/kia/parents/>

[www.getnetwise.org](http://www.getnetwise.org)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/safesurfing>

<http://www.netsmartzkids.org/indexfl.htm>

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/>

<http://www.digizen.org/>

For information on Facebook privacy settings

<http://www.facebook.com/help/?safety=parents>

<http://www.connectsafely.org/>