



E SAFETY TIPS

Positive aspects of the Internet and Apps:

- Great for research and creativity- e.g for school work, projects
- Cheap or free communication and collaboration e.g to contact friends
- Great for children to develop future job skills as fun hobbies
- Introduces children to the world of business
- Encourages creativity and individualism- art, movie making etc
- Children feel they have 'ownership' of the Internet

Negative aspects of the Internet and Apps:

- Cyber bullying – e.g online chat apps like Facebook
- Online privacy and personal information and the increasing likelihood of being hacked- e.g children don't use privacy settings
- Reputation management and 'digital footprint'- children don't realise that once they put information on the internet it leaves a footprint
- Sexting, grooming, pornography and inappropriate material
- Illegal downloads and copyright infringement
- Children lying about their age to get onto social networking platforms with a 13+ age limit
- Pressure to respond to comments 24/7- children spend a lot of time on the internet at home

Key tips: for parents/carers and students

- Know what your children are doing online.
- As they get older, ensure that they become more resilient to the pressures associated with the Internet
- Be aware who your children are talking to online. Make it clear that people that they don't know are strangers



- Explain why your children should not give out personal details online.
- Emphasise that having many different 'followers' or 'likes' does not necessarily make them popular
- Explain to your child that nothing is private on the Internet – anything can be copied, whether it be private pictures, comments or messages.
- Point out that your child should always consider what an employer or partner might be able to find about them on Google in 5 to 10 years' time.
- Make sure that children become better critical thinkers and can evaluate content on the Internet such as propaganda.
- Ensure your child does not meet up with online friends.
- Creating a positive environment where your child can be open and inquisitive and feel confident discussing their online experiences, whether positive or negative.
- Teach your children how to block and report any behaviour or content which makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Investigate ways in which you can set parental controls on devices and home broadband

Useful links:

- www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- www.internetmatters.org/
- www.common sensemedia.org/
- www.childnet.com/
- www.e-safetysupport.com