

Computers, games consoles, mobile phones etc are the doorway to the online world.

Think before you post online



Home and Family guidelines

- ☺ Talk together and have fun learning together.
- ☺ Keep virus and firewall software up to-date.
- ☺ Remember that passwords should be kept private and not shared with others. Many eSafety incidents relate back to the sharing of passwords
- ☺ Involve everyone and agree your family guidelines and rules. Remember that sometimes what is acceptable for a Year 10 child is not necessarily acceptable for a Year 4 child.
- ☺ Regularly discuss online safety and go online with your children. **Communication** is the key to 'staying safe' online.
- ☺ Enable your 'browser safe' search option and/ or consider using internet filtering software, walled gardens and child-friendly search engines. Critically view all content as some websites are not what they appear.
- ☺ Keep the computer in a communal area of the house, where it's easier to monitor what your children are viewing. Do not let children have webcams, or similar, in their bedroom. **Remember any image, sound or text can be copied and viewed by everyone.**
- ☺ Talk to your children about why they should not to give out their personal details. If they want to subscribe to any online service then make up a family email address to receive the mail.
- ☺ We all love to chat and children are no different. Encourage your children to use moderated chat rooms and never to meet up with an online 'friend' without first telling you.
- ☺ Time spent online should be monitored to help prevent obsessive use of the internet. Children need to follow a range of activities many of which will be offline.
- ☺ Encourage your children, and in fact all family members, to tell you if they feel uncomfortable, upset or threatened by anything they see online.
- ☺ Have proportionate responses if the family guidelines are not followed.

See <http://kids.getnetwise.org/tools/toolscontracts> for further suggestions