Safe Surfing

Top Tips for Children

Safe Surfing – Top Tips for Children

There's some great stuff on the internet but some bad stuff too. Here are some simple rules to follow to keep you safe:

1. Keep your personal details secret. Never give away your name, address, age, friend's details, photos, or passwords - it's like handing out the keys to your home - and never ever use your parents' credit card without their permission.

2. Keep your privacy settings up-to-date on any social networks you use.

3. If you visit a chat room, sign on using a nickname and when you're chatting don't give out your real name or any other personal details.

4. If you do need to give out personal details to enter a web site or you wish to download a particular document or file, ask your parent or carer's permission first.

5. Never meet someone you've contacted online without your parent/carer's permission. If you do get permission to meet, only do so when your parent/carer can be present.

6. Remember that someone online may not be who they say they are. If you feel uncomfortable or worried in a chat room simply get out of there!

Netintelligence
Safe Surfing!

7. Never respond to messages or bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make you feel uncomfortable. Inform a parent or carer if you receive such messages.

8. Remember that everything you read online may not be true. Any offer that's "too good to be true" probably is.

9. Steer clear of "over 18" sites. (The warnings are there to protect you. Adult sites can sometimes cost a lot more on your phone bill too due to 'invisible' downloads of premium rate diallers.)

10. Do not accept e-mails, open attachments or download files from people or organisations you don't really know or trust - they may contain viruses or nasty messages.

11. Don't spend too much time at the computer. Take regular breaks. Prolonged use of computers, over a period of time, can potentially lead to eye damage and repetitive strain. If you play games - always use the approved controllers which are designed for comfort and ease of use.

12. Never download Peer 2 Peer software (*it's an open invitation for strangers to access to your computer and it's also a guaranteed way of filling your computer up with unwanted ad-ware and spy- ware*). If you do chose to file share, remember the two important rules:

Netintelligence
Safe Surfing!

a. Only share files with someone you know and trust
b. Always use authorised online download music and movie websites - downloading copyrighted music, movies and software without the copyright owner's permission could put you in serious legal trouble.

13. When searching for a particular subject using a search engine, try to ensure that the 'search term' you use is as specific as possible and spelt correctly. It is common practise for purveyors of inappropriate material such as pornography sites, to deliberately set up sites which have similar web addresses to legitimate and popular sites.

14. If there is a panic button like the clickCEOP button on the social networking site you use, make sure you use if it if you are concerned about anything that happens to you on that site.

15. The Golden rule is: If you come across anything at all that is suspicious or makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, LOG OFF and tell your parent or carer immediately.

Netintelligence