



- Technology is constantly changing and young people are continually learning – keep up to date on latest developments so you know about the risks.
- Online safety applies to all types of devices – PCs, laptops, tablets, smartphones, e-readers and online gaming.
- Treat online safety in the same way that you would treat offline safety, such as stranger danger or crossing the road.
- Make sure you set up your internet security so children cannot access websites with adult and/or inappropriate content.
- Cyber bullying should be treated in the same way as other forms of bullying. Contact your child's school to agree a plan for dealing with it.
- Be aware that 'sexting' increasingly involves younger children – some as young as 10.
- Encourage your child to talk to you about anything they feel uncomfortable about online

**For further support or additional information, feel free to contact reception to make an appointment with a member of the Safeguarding team**



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# Online Safety

Parents Information  
Oyster Park Primary Academy

Do you know how to keep your children safe on the internet?



## Useful Links



<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

<https://www.safeinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre>



## Online Safety Guide

Children's use of the internet is becoming more mobile and interactive offering young people more opportunities to interact and meet new people, so it's never been more important to make sure you are helping your child stay safe in the digital world.

As a parent you'll know how important the Internet is to children - they use it to learn, play, socialise and express themselves. It's a highly creative place of amazing opportunities. But the technology children use every day can seem a bit daunting and you might worry about the risks your child can face online - such as bullying, contact from strangers or the possibility of them seeing illegal or inappropriate content.

Latest Ofcom research has shown that 91% of 5-15 year olds live in a household with internet access and over a third of all 3-4 year olds are now accessing the internet in their homes. We know that children need support in these environments, to get the best out of using the internet, and there are real advantages in making sure that children are supported in their internet use right from the start.

## How can I help my child stay safe online?



You can help keep your children safe online by working as a team.

**T**alk about staying safe online

**E**xplore their online world together

**A**gree rules for what is ok and what is not ok online

**M**anage your families settings and controls



## Risks your child might face online



The Internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your child has better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes

to managing their lives online. Issues that your child may encounter on the internet will vary depending on their age and online activities. Online risks can be grouped into four categories.

### 1. Conduct



Children need to be aware of the impact that their online activity can have on both themselves and other people. It's important that children are aware of who is able to view,

and potentially share, the information that they may have posted. When using the internet, it's important to keep personal information safe and not share it with strangers. Encourage your child to be respectful and responsible when communicating with others online. Discuss with your child the importance of reporting inappropriate conversations, messages, images and behaviours and how this can be done.

### 2. Content



Some online content is not suitable for children and may be hurtful or harmful. It's important for children to consider the

reliability of online material and be aware that it might not be true or written with a bias. Children may need your help as they begin to assess content in this way.

## 3. Contact



It is important for children to realise that new friends made online may not be who they say they are. Regularly reviewing friend's lists and removing unwanted contacts is a useful step.

Privacy settings online may also allow you to customise the information that each friend is able to access. If you have concerns that your child is, or has been, the subject of inappropriate sexual contact or approach by another person, it's vital that you report it to the police via the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre ([www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)). If your child is bullied online, this can also be reported online and offline. Reinforce with your child the importance of telling a trusted adult straight away if someone is bullying them or making them feel uncomfortable, or if one of their friends is being bullied online.

## 4. Commercialism



Children's privacy and enjoyment online can sometimes be affected by advertising and marketing schemes, which can also mean inadvertently

spending money online, for example within apps. Encourage your child to keep their personal information private, learn how to block both pop ups and spam emails and turn off in-app purchasing on devices where possible.

## Online Safety



3 tips to start a conversation about online safety

1. Explore sites and apps together and talk about any concerns.
2. Ask your child if they know how to stay safe online.
3. Talk about personal information and what to share online.

