



Keeping Your Child Safe Online

With schools closed due to COVID-19, your child is likely to be accessing the internet more often than usual, especially when doing remote learning. This guide has been put together to provide you with information and support on how to keep your child safe whilst using smart devices.

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1. General Guidance

By following the general tips below, you will promote an environment where your child can be safe and honest when using the internet:

- **Explore together.** Ask your child to show you their favourite websites and apps. Listen, show interest and encourage them to teach you how to use it;
- **Supervise their online activity**. Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas such as the kitchen and living room. Young children should not access the internet unsupervised.
- Use 'Safe Search' and Parental Controls. Most search engines and broadband providers offer a level of filtering which will prevent your child from accessing inappropriate or explicit material. Research what your broadband provider offers and how you can activate it.
- **Talk to them about their worries and concerns.** The internet can sometimes scare children or make them feel lonely. Remind children that if they are worried about something that they have seen online, they should talk to a trusted adult about it.

2. Our Internet Pledge

Children at Hallam Fields are Internet Legends because they have pledged to stay **sharp**, **alert**, **secure**, **kind** and **brave** whilst using the internet. Read the guidance below with your child to remind them about the five pillars of online safety.



Think Before You Share

I will thoughtfully consider what I share and with whom, and keep extra-sensitive information to myself (i.e., home address, current location, other people's business).



Check it's For Real

I will watch out for phishing and scams, and report questionable activity every time.



Protect Your Stuff

I will take responsibility for protecting important information by crafting strong and unique passwords with characters, numbers, and symbols.



Respect Each Other

I will spread positivity and use the skills I have learned to block and report negative behaviours.

When in Doubt, Discuss

I will use my voice when I notice inappropriate behavior and seek out a trusted adult to discuss situations that make me uncomfortable. Because that's what it takes to be a safe and fearless explorer of the online world.

3. Parent Guides

There are **many** wesbites and apps that children are familiar with and each brings its own risks. National Online Safety

(https://nationalonlinesafety.com/) publishes generic guides on internet safety, as well as guides on specific websites and apps. You will have to create an account to access these guides but it is free to do so.





4. Mental Health and Well-being

The internet allows us to explore the world around us and communicate with those outside of our homes. However, too much screen time can have negative effects. Follow the steps below to ensure your child maintains a healthy realtionship with the internet and their devices:

- Limit your child's screen time. Come to an agreement with your child on how many hours of screen time they should be having each day. Then, create a timetable so your child knows when they can use their device. Discourage your child from using their device before going to bed. Most devices can be setup to limit use during certain times of the day.
- Set a good example. Show your child what a healthy relationship to electronics looks like by limiting your own screen time.

- **Plan off-screen activities.** Keep your child active by ensuring they get plenty of exericse. They could take part in Joe Wicks' daily PE lessons or you could go on a family walk or bike ride. In the evenings, turn off the television and play a board game instead!

5. Home Learning Activities

Here you will find a list of suggested activites that you can do at home to promote internet safety.

Focus	Activity
Generic	Interland is a website that most children will be familiar with. It allows children to play games whilst also learning about how to stay safe online. Children can access it here: <u>https://beinternetawesome.withgoogle.com/en_uk/interland</u>
Online Reputation	 Share the three scenarios below with your child. Discuss the impact of what was shared and how this will leave a negative digital footprint. 1. A child at your school has a bad haircut and isn't happy about it. Someone takes a picture and shares it online. 2. Somone writes in their diary. Another person copies what they wrote and posts it online. 3. A group of friends decide to meet at a friend's house after school to play video games. One person in the group posts the house address and mobile number of the friend they are going to. Disucss with your child why passwords are important. Practise
Strong Passwords	generating different passwords and test how effective each one is at https://howsecureismypassword.net/
Showing Kindness	Ask your child to draw somone who treats others kindly when they are online. Around the outside, ask your child to draw or write what this person is thinking, saying and doing to demonstrate kindess.
Online Reputation	Ask your child to draw a character or write a character's name in the middle of a piece of paper. Around the outside, your child should write 'personal' information about this person such as favourite foods or colours, names of teddies or toys, silly nicknames, number of siblings, school they go to etc. When they have finished, look at each piece of 'personal' information and discuss whether it is okay to share that information online. What effect might sharing have on the character's online reputation?

Stayling Alert	 Ask your child to compose a tweet for the school website, informing parents of the meaning of 'Internet Alert'. Examples of what to include could be: What the key words mean; Clues to look out for that something online may not be all it appears; How and where to get support if someone is worried about anything they see online.
Online Security	Ask your child to make a poster with top tips on how to stay secure online. This may include tips on how to create a strong password, what to do if they receive messages from people they don't know and how to manage their privacy settings.
Tolerance and Respect	Ask your child to make a word cloud of emotions and thoughts for a bystander who has witnessed or read unkind behaviour online. Then, discuss what practical steps the bystander could take to deal with the situation.
Text Messaging	Generate text messages with your child and take turns reading them in different tones of voice e.g. angry, sarcastic, friendly. Discuss how text messages can be interpreted differently and what the consequences of this are.

6. Useful Websites

There are many trusted internet safety wesbites available for both children and adults. You could explore the wesbites below with your child so that they are aware of where they can find trustworthy information about keeping safe online.



We are still here for you!

Please get in touch with school if you have any specific concerns about your child's safety online. We will endeavor to help you in whatever way we can whilst your child is learning at home.

