# CYBER SAFETY AT HOME

## Information for parents

Remember, you already possess the skills to supervise. Apply these skills to technology and the online world.

To help keep your child safe when they are online, you can:

- put computers in open spaces within your home

- remind your child that content can be posted instantaneously, the downfall is that they can potentially post something without thinking about the ramifications.

- educate your child about protecting themselves online and the need for respectful communication with other internet users.

- keep an eye on what your child is doing online (both in the home and on any mobile devices they may have access to e.g. phones, music devices and tablets).

- set clear rules about what sites and activities they are allowed to access.

- install software to limit their use and monitor/restrict the sites they visit.

- discuss a plan with your child about how to address any cyber-safety issues that may arise (make sure they know you will be supportive if they mention anything and that they will not get in trouble).

- encourage them to find someone they feel safe talking to, such as yourself, a relative, a teacher or a trusted adult.

## Social media tips

Social media applications (such as Facebook) are extremely popular with young people and the usage of these sites is only likely to increase.

Some tips to help your child stay safe while using social media include:

- make sure they never reveal their home address, phone number, email address and passwords

- review the age suitability for any sites and apps your child joins or installs

- look at who their contacts and followers are—this will help reduce the risk of them encountering inappropriate people and content

- educate yourself on the issues that children face (https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent)

- establish an open relationship with your child so they trust you to view their profiles

- reinforce the need for them to keep passwords private and to update them regularly

- ensure your child understands the [implications of posting images and content](https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent/staying-safe/digital-reputation) (https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent/staying-safe/digital-reputation) on the internet.

You may also want to consider creating an account on the social media application your child uses and request to become friends or follow their account. Your child may resist this but it may still be a good idea to open an account to increase your understanding of the site or app they are using.

# Reporting inappropriate content

Social media providers may remove content that breaches their terms of service or acceptable use policies. Most websites and apps have a 'report/block this person' or 'report/flag content' function.

If you don't know who the person responsible is or if they refuse to delete it, you can report the content to the social media administrators for review and possible removal.

Common links for reporting inappropriate social media content:

- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/safety/tools/) (https://www.facebook.com/safety/tools/)

- [Instagram](http://help.instagram.com/165828726894770) (http://help.instagram.com/165828726894770)

- [Google (including YouTube)](https://support.google.com/legal/troubleshooter/1114905?rd=2) (https://support.google.com/legal/troubleshooter/1114905?rd=2)

- [Twitter](http://support.twitter.com/articles/15789) (http://support.twitter.com/articles/15789)

- [Snapchat](https://support.snapchat.com/en-US) (https://support.snapchat.com/en-US)

# Additional resources

- [iParent](https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent) (https://esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent) learn about what children do online and how you can encourage them to be positive digital citizens at different ages.

- [Australian Cyber Sercurity Centre](https://www.cyber.gov.au/) (https://www.cyber.gov.au/) read about how to protect personal and financial information.

- [ThinkUKnow](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au) (http://www.thinkuknow.org.au) contains information about technologies that are popular with kids and advice about app safety.

- [Computers and your child](https://www.qld.gov.au/families/education/media/pages/computers) (https://www.qld.gov.au/families/education/media/pages/computers) learnhow you can help your children to stay safe online, and set boundaries for how to use technology.

- [Who's chatting to your kids?](https://www.police.qld.gov.au/safety-and-preventing-crime/personal-safety/childrens-safety/whos-chatting-to-your-kids) (https://www.police.qld.gov.au/safety-and-preventing-crime/ personal-safety/childrens-safety/whos-chatting-to-your-kids) provides tips to help you keep your childrensafe from online predators.

- [Bullying. No way!](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/) (http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/) information about bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence in schools.

  (Information Sourced From : https://www.qld.gov.au/education/schools/health/cybersafety)