

Keeping Your Child Safe on the Internet

Children are never too young for regular chats about keeping safe online. Many young children are using computers, tablets and their parent's smart phones. The Internet can be a fun and educational tool to explore together but it is important to make informed choices to keep your child safe.

- Set parental controls on your home broadband. Most Internet enabled devices will allow you to set parent controls, allowing you to manage what your child sees and who they can communicate with.
- Remember that children can gain access to the Internet through laptops, PCs, tablets, smart phones and TVs. It is important to ensure parental controls are set on all of the devices your child may access.
- Set passwords on all of your Internet-enabled devices and make sure that you do not share these with your child. This way you can be in control of when and where they can use the Internet.
- Only allow children access to the Internet in family areas. This way you can keep an eye on what your child is doing and it allows you to enjoy the Internet together.
- Set the home screen of the web browser to a child friendly site that your child enjoys.
- Allow your child to use only child-safe search engines. These will allow your child to search the Internet without the worry that they will come across something inappropriate or scary.

Remember that the Internet is an amazing tool that will be a huge part of your child's life. Encourage your child to ask if they are unsure and never talk to people they don't know. Educating your child on how to stay safe online will keep them safe now and in the future.

