

Make online safety a priority in your home

Technology has changed how students learn and how they socialize. Millions of kids in all age groups are online every day—at home, at school, at friends' homes, at the library—and many are creating online content.

To keep your child safe when he's online:

- Discuss rules and expectations. Use software that helps protect children, but supervise carefully, too. Allow your child to communicate online only with people you both know.
- Set guidelines. Establish times when technology is not allowed, such as during meals. Set a time when all devices must be turned off for the evening.
- Remind your child not to reveal personal information online, such as his name, phone number, school, passwords or location.
- Keep internet access out of your child's room. Let him go online only when you can see what he's doing.
- Learn about the websites your child wants to visit and the apps he wants to download. Make sure you approve of the content.
- Encourage your child to tell you if something inappropriate occurs while he's online. Report your concerns to the authorities.
- Stay informed about online safety. For more safety tips, visit fosi.org (Family Online Safety Institute) and netismartz.org (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children).

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