

Staying Safe Online

It is increasingly common for children to use the internet to access their learning. Although the internet can be a wonderful medium there are also some dangers. We have put together a list of top tips which you can use in your household to ensure children are staying safe online.

Create a family media agreement

Create your own internet/device rules for your household and have your child agree to adhere to them.

This example from [Common Sense Media](#) is a useful starting point. A media agreement can have more impact when children contribute their own ideas.

This agreement might include designated tech-free zones such as cars, meals, and bedrooms. Many experts recommend these three areas as key places to avoid using devices.

Keeping devices “in view” in common household areas is an essential internet safety strategy for many families.

Help your child to think critically when they’re online

Remind your child that not everything you read or see on the web is true, and not everyone online tells the truth.

More than ever, internet users are required to wade through a lot of noise, distractions, and opinions that flow freely online. Children need guidance to learn this skill.

Be aware of age restrictions

Many popular sites (YouTube, Instagram, TikTok etc.) have age restrictions, and these are in place for a reason: to keep young people safe.

Don’t allow your child to sign up for sites if they’re underage or not ready.

When they are old enough to register, make sure your child sets their online accounts to private to limit access to people they know well.

