

# WCS Online Safety at Home

A guide to keeping your children  
safe when using the internet.

# Introduction

Protecting your children from predators is a top priority for all parents. Parents often spend time teaching their children to not talk to strangers, get into a car with someone they don't know and to always tell an adult about suspicious activity. It is important for parents to be aware that predators have access to our children via the internet. The following pages are full of information to protect you and your family from online dangers.

# Did You Know?

- ▶ 25% of children will freely give personal information online when asked.
- ▶ 60% of students online receive email and instant messaging from strangers and more than half write back.
- ▶ 64% of teens and pre-teens say they know more about the internet than their parents.
- ▶ 96% of youth access the internet with 74% accessing from home.

# Internet Safety Tips

- ▶ Create clear simple ground rules for children to follow.
- ▶ Place a computer and other devices with Internet access in a location that is visible to other members of the family (not in a child's bedroom).
- ▶ Explain to your child that they should never give out identifying information- name, address, school name, or telephone number- in a public chat room or bulletin board or people they do not know.
- ▶ Discuss the importance of telling you or a trusted adult if something ever makes your child or teen feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused while online.
- ▶ Get to know the Internet and any services your children use.

# Internet Safety Tips

- ▶ Become familiar with blocking and monitoring programs.
- ▶ Never allow a child arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission or accompaniment.
- ▶ Tell your children never to respond to messages or bulletin board items that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening, or make them feel uncomfortable.
- ▶ Report messages that present a danger to local law enforcement.
- ▶ Remind your children that people online may not (and likely are not) who they seem; and that everything people say online may not be true.

# Cyberbullying

- Cyberbullying is the use of the Internet and related technologies to harm other people, in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner.

# Did you Know?

- ▶ 1 in 3 teens and 1 in 6 preteens have been victims of cyberbullying.
- ▶ Unlike physical bullying, electronic bullies can remain virtually anonymous using temporary email accounts, pseudonyms in chat rooms, instant messaging programs, cell-phone text messaging, and other Internet venues to mask their identity.
- ▶ When teenagers know more about computers and cellular phones than their parents, they are then able to operate technologies without concern that a parent will discover their experience with bullying.

# Warning Signs Your Child May Be a Bully

1. Frequently becomes violent with others.
2. Gets into physical or verbal fights with others.
3. Gets sent to the principal's office or detention a lot.
4. Has extra money or new belongings that cannot be explained.
5. Is quick to blame others.
6. Will not accept responsibility for his or her actions.
7. Has friends who bully others.
8. Needs to win or be best at everything.



# Tips to Prevent Cyber-bullying

Teach your kids to:

- Refuse to pass along cyber-bullying messages.
- Tell their friends to stop cyber-bullying.
- Block communication with cyber-bullies, and delete messages without reading them.
- Never post or share their personal information online (including full name, address, telephone number, school name, parents' names, credit card number, or Social Security number) or their friends' personal information.
- Never share their internet passwords with anyone, except you.
- Talk to you about their life online.
- Not to put anything online that they wouldn't want their classmate to see.
- Not to send messages when they are angry.
- Always be as polite online as they are in person.

# Top 20 Internet Acronyms

1. ADR – Address
2. ASL – Age/Sex/Location
3. GYPO - Get Your Pants Off
4. IWSN – I Want Sex Now
5. KFY – Kiss For You
6. KPC – Keep Parents Clueless
7. LMIRL – Let's Meet In Real Life
8. MorF – Male or Female
9. MOOS – Member Of The Opposite Sex.
10. MOSS – Member Of The Same Sex.

# Top 20 Internet Acronyms

11. NALOPKT – Not A Lot Of People Know That.
12. NIFOC – Nude In Front Of Computer
13. P911 – Parent Alert
14. PAL – Parents are Listening
15. PAW – Parents Are Watching
16. PIR – Parent In Room
17. POS – Parent Over Shoulder
18. SorG – Straight or Gay
19. TDTM – Talk Dirty To Me
20. WYCM – Will You Call Me

# Warning Signs

- ▶ 1. Your child spends large amounts of time on-line, especially at night.
- ▶ 2. You find pornography on your child's computer.
- ▶ 3. Your child receives phone calls from people you don't know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don't recognize.
- ▶ 4. Your child receives mail, gifts, or packages from someone you don't know.
- ▶ 5. Your child turns the computer monitor off quickly changes the screen monitor when you come into the room.
- ▶ 6. Your child becomes withdrawn from the family.
- ▶ 7. Your child is using an online account belonging to someone else.
- ▶ 8. While online, your child is using a microphone or webcam you didn't know he/she had.

# Facebook Video Tutorial

- Facebook Security Settings
- Search for a User's Profile

# Internet History Search Video Tutorial

- Internet Explorer
- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox

# Changing Safe Search Filter Setting Video Tutorial

◦ [Google](#)

◦ [Yahoo](#)