






Online Safety Tips for Parents

- Regularly check the apps on all technology used by your children. Try out the apps and see how they work. Learn the access, privacy, and messaging policy of each app, and read the fine print.
- Enable parental controls which give you the ability to restrict access and monitor messaging.
- Directly supervise children under 8 in any technology use.
- Make sure that location services are turned off on all devices.
- Ensure that your child uses YOUR name and email, not their own, for all games and apps that ask them to create an ID or give any information.
- Talk to your child regularly, in an age-appropriate way, about potential consequences of interacting with people online, especially sending pictures and messages of a sexual nature.
- Reassure children that they should not be afraid to tell you if they made a mistake (i.e. accepted a request from someone they didn't know, or sent an inappropriate picture) and that you will work it out together.
- Let children know that they should ALWAYS tell you if someone online makes them uncomfortable.
- **Any behavior that looks like an attempt to exploit children, such as asking for naked photos or using sexual language, should be reported to the Cybertip Line, 1-800-The-Lost (1-800-843-5678).**

Online Safety: Red Flags

-  Secrecy about online activities
-  Obsessiveness about being online
-  Changing screens or turning off the computer when an adult enters the room
-  Getting angry when unable to go online
-  Receiving phone calls, messages or gifts (real or virtual) from unknown sources

If you notice any of these red flags, talk openly with your child about their online activities and the importance of being safe online.

Any behavior that looks like an attempt to exploit children, such as asking for naked photos, asking to meet, or using sexual language, should be reported to the Cybertip Line, 1-800-The-Lost (1-800-843-5678).

