



HELPFUL RESOURCES



For more information about staying safe online and getting the most from your digital experiences visit telstra.com.au/cyber-safety



Visit the Parents' page on the Cybersmart website at cybersmart.gov.au/parents.aspx



Play Zippep's Astro Circus, with kids aged 5 to 7, to reinforce the importance of protecting personal information, cybersmart.gov.au/young%20kids.aspx



View the Cybersafety Help and Advice page or download the Cybersafety Help Button onto your kids' devices from cybersafetyhelp.gov.au



Use the 'Easy Guide to Socialising Online' to learn about safer ways to use social networks, search engines and online games at communications.gov.au/easyguide



Keep the family safe online with BigPond® Security's Parental Controls and Telstra Safe Social™, to help protect your kids on social networks, bigpond.com/security

PROTECTING PERSONAL INFORMATION

CYBER SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS



IT'S HOW WE CONNECT



CONNECTED BUT NOT EXPOSED

Digital technology connects our children to the world and gives them countless opportunities for education, inclusion, expression and sharing with others.

This culture of sharing is an enormously positive thing, but it's also important that our young people understand the potential risks in an environment where anything created electronically can be copied, pasted and shared with thousands of people in a moment.

While it is an instant, fun and exciting way to share, children need to know when they enter information on a device and send it across the internet, this information can also leave them exposed.

IDENTITY THEFT

Personal details posted online can be a target for criminals who may use the information for identity theft. Using fake IDs created with the child's personal details, criminals can get involved in a range of crimes such as creating false lines of credit and accounts with banks, or using credit card or bank details to make unauthorised purchases online.

UNWELCOME ATTENTION

Generally when a child completes a profile, comments on a published article, posts a video or uploads a picture of themselves for friends, it has no adverse repercussions. However, occasionally it can expose them to the risk of unwanted attention. This may come via uninvited marketers, scammers or, more seriously, people who target children.



Q. WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AT RISK?

A. Personal information is any information that allows someone to be identified. For example:

- full name
- address
- phone numbers
- school
- date of birth
- email address
- username and password
- bank details.



YOUR PASSWORD IS YOUR PROTECTOR

- ✓ use a password with eight or more characters – the longer the better
- ✓ mix upper and lowercase letters with symbols and numbers
- ✓ change your password regularly
- ✗ don't choose obvious passwords like your name, nickname, family names, birthdates or pet names
- ✗ never share your password with others, even with close friends
- ✗ don't store them on the device you're using

PRACTICAL SAFETY STEPS



Talk to your children about personal information – what it is and why it's important to be careful about sharing information. Explain why it is safer to only give first names instead of full names and the importance of opting-out of providing location details, such as when checking in on social media.



Stress the importance of not giving away personal information to strangers online or posting information where strangers can view it, such as social media sites.



Ask them to tell you before they enter personal information at a website, so you can check it out yourself first.



Make sure you install software that stops hackers from stealing personal information – and keep the software up-to-date. Apply the relevant privacy settings on social networking sites, and install and use spam filtering software. Use parental control settings and turn off geo-location software.



Make sure your children are aware of phishing email techniques.



Ask your children to look for the “locked” symbol on any web page where they're buying with a credit card.

SET FAMILY RULES

Make sure you're seen as a positive example. Demonstrate how you're careful about what you do online and how you look after your own digital footprint. Children are happier following rules if everyone in the family plays by them.