



ICS E-safety Guide for Parents

March 2020

The thoughts of what your child might come across online can be worrying. Check out our top internet safety advice to make sure going online is a positive experience for you and your child:

1. Discover the Internet together

Be the one to introduce your child to the internet. For both parent and child, it is an advantage to discover the internet together. Try to find websites that are exciting and fun so that together you achieve a positive attitude to internet exploration. This could make it easier to share both positive and negative experiences in the future.

2. Agree with your child rules for Internet

Try to reach an agreement with your child on the guidelines which apply to Internet use in your household. Here are some tips to get started:

- Discuss when and for how long it is acceptable for your child to use the Internet
- Agree how to treat personal information (name, address, telephone, e-mail)
- Discuss how to behave towards others when gaming, chatting, e-mailing or messaging
- Agree what type of sites and activities are OK or not OK in our family
- Follow the rules yourself! Or at least explain why the rules are different for adults.

3. Encourage your child to be careful when disclosing personal information

A simple rule for younger children should be that the child should not give out their name, phone number or photo without your approval. Older children using social networking sites like Facebook should be encouraged to be selective about what personal information and photos they post to online spaces. Regardless of privacy settings, once material is online you can no longer control who sees it or how it is used.

4. Talk about the risks associated with meeting online “friends” in person

Adults should understand that the internet can be a positive meeting place for children, where they can get to know other young people and make new friends. However, for safety and to avoid unpleasant experiences, it is important that children do not meet strangers they have met online without being accompanied by an adult you trust. In any case, the child should always have their parents approval first. In addition, it is also a good idea to have a fail-safe plan in place such as calling them shortly after the meeting begins so that they can ‘bail out’ if they feel uncomfortable.



5. Teach your child about evaluating information and being critically aware of information found online.

Most children use the internet to improve and develop their knowledge in relation to schoolwork and personal interests. Children should be aware that not all information found online is correct, accurate or relevant. Show your child how to check information they find by comparing it to alternative sources on the same topic. Show them trusted sites they can use to compare information.

6. Don't be too critical towards your child's exploration of the Internet

Children may come across adult material by accident on the web. Also, a child may intentionally search for such websites; remember that it is natural for children to be curious about off-limits material. Try to use this as an opening to discuss the content with them, and perhaps make rules for this kind of activity. Be realistic in your assessment of how your child uses the internet. We have included a list of 'Kid safe search engines' further down this document.

7. Let your children show you what they like to do online

To be able to guide your child with regard to Internet use, it is important to understand how children use the Internet and know what they like to do online. Let your child show you which websites they like visiting and what they do there. Do not be forceful so as not to jeopardize the mutual trust you want to keep between you and your child.

8. Remember that the positive aspects of the Internet outweigh the negatives.

The Internet is an excellent educational and recreational resource for children. Encourage your child to make the most of it and explore the internet to its full potential.

See our website for some Online Safety Video Clips that you can watch as parents, and some you can watch with your children.

We also have e-safety agreements on our Admissions Page, under Supporting Admissions Forms. These are for use from Foundation Stage/Pre-KG upwards. These can be used to start a conversation with your child.



Online E Safety resources and information for parents

UK

Internet Matters

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

- Online issues
- Advice by age groups - 0-14+years
- Device setting controls
- Guides and resources

UK Safer Internet

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

- Tips
- Advice
- Guides
- Resources
- Activities to do with your children

USA

Internet Safety 101

<https://internetsafety101.org/parentsguidetosocialmedia>

- Provides a number of helpful parental guides

Department of Justice

<https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ceos/children-internet-safety>

- Hints and tips for parents on all aspects of e-safety

Child Safe Search Engines

Ads-free

1. [Kidtopia](#)

‘Kidtopia is a Google custom student safe search engine for preschool and elementary students, indexing only educator approved websites.’

2. [Kid's Search Engine](#)

‘KidsSearch.com is a Safe Search Engine for children. We use Google's Safe Search technology and advanced filtering tools on web content. We offer kid friendly links through our directory, each site is peer reviewed for appropriate content, usefulness and fun.’



3. [Teach the Children Well](#)

'Teach the Children Well is a collection of links to sites carefully selected by a teacher for students as well as their parents and teachers. The site was designed for elementary grades but many of the sites will also be of interest to older students.'

4. [Kiddle](#)

'Kiddle is a visual search engine for kids powered by Google, offering safe kids web, image, and video search. Results are vetted by editors.'

5. [DuckDuckGo](#)

DuckDuckGo is not necessarily designed for kids but it does however offer features that allow users to search the net without compromising their private and personal information. DuckDuckGo does not store search history, doesn't run ads, and does not track users.

6. [GoGooligans](#)

GoGooligans is another kid search engine that provides a number of important features including: use Google index to retrieve results, apply different kinds of filtering features, exclude inappropriate sites and keywords, offer search in over 30 languages and many more.

7. [KidRex](#)

'KidRex is a fun and safe search for kids, by kids! KidRex searches emphasize kid-related web pages from across the entire web and are powered by Google Custom Search™ and use Google SafeSearch™ technology.'

Sites that support ads

1. [Safe Search Kids](#)

Safe Search Kids uses Google Safe Search to provide search results. It also provides other features for safely searching for images, videos and wikis.

2. [Fact Monster](#)

'Fact Monster is a free reference site for students, teachers, and parents. Get homework help and find facts on thousands of subjects, including sports, entertainment, geography, history, biography, education, and health.'

3. [Cybersleuth Kids](#)

'A comprehensive educational search engine, directory and homework helper for the K-12 student. Includes Subject specific videos, activities, printables, games and more'

4. [KidzSearch](#)

'Family-friendly safe search engine for children. KidzSearch safe search technology is always on and cannot be turned off by clearing cookies or using a different computer. Results are always Strict Filtered. Nothing to install. Free public service.'



Sources for Search Engines:

- <https://www.common sensemedia.org/lists/kid-safe-browsers-and-search-sites#>
- <http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2013/01/5-safe-search-engines-for-kids.html>
- <http://ivyjoy.com/rayne/kidssearch.html>
- <https://www.onlinesafetysite.com/best-search-engine-for-kids>
- <https://www.familyeducation.com/life/internet-safety/6-safe-search-engines-kids>
- http://www.bluecoatprimaryschool.com/media/E%20Safety/Child-Friendly_Seach_Engine_s.pdf