

Introduction

The internet is a global computer network providing a variety of information and communication facilities, consisting of interconnected networks using standardized communication protocols. E-Safety is a term which means not only the internet but other ways in which young people communicate using electronic media, e.g. mobile phones.

Video Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hK5OeGeudBM>



Online Gaming

When playing online, you should be aware there are lots of potential risks.

1. Take regular breaks when playing.
2. Never meet up alone.
3. Report bullying.
4. Keep personal info private.



Digital Footprints

A digital footprint is everything people can find out about you from the websites you visit. When you share something publicly online or leave comments on things others have posted, you're adding to your footprint.

It's important to think about what can be found and whether this could cause you any problems. Remember that you can control a lot of what people see. You can do this by making sure that everything you post online has the right audience.

The online world is a public place. If you share something online you may not have full control over who sees it or what happens to it. If people search for your name or a nickname you use, a lot of what you post online could be found. People could copy, share or discuss things you've posted.

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is when the use of electronic communication to bully a person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature.

If you are concerned that someone is cyberbullying you, you should report abuse to the people who run the system, or tell a trusted adult.

Sexting

Sexting is when you or somebody else sends a dirty, or inappropriate picture or text.

James' Story

"My first experience of sexting was with a girlfriend when I was 16. She suggested it as a way to keep in touch when we were apart for a few weeks.

"We started by sending sexual texts by Blackberry Messenger, then it progressed to pictures, voice notes and short videos. There are definitely risks involved. Someone saw a video message I had sent to a previous girlfriend took a screen shot and posted it online. They called me a pervert and lots of people I knew saw it – it was clearly me pictured.

"I was completely devastated and, to be honest, almost suicidal. I got the picture taken down eventually, but by that stage people had 'unfriended' me and the damage was done.

Useful Websites

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Protecting your Computer

A Firewall is a part of a computer system or network which is designed to block unauthorized access while permitting outward communication.

An antivirus software is a program to detect and destroy computer viruses.

Make sure you have safe and secure passwords so you cannot be hacked.

Scams

Scams are another word for frauds. This is a common example. The scammer calls you, and asks for you by name. They say they are a computer security expert from Microsoft (or another legitimate tech company or a Microsoft 'partner'). The 'security expert' is plausible and polite, but officious. They say that your PC or laptop has been infected with malware, and that they can help you solve the problem. What happens now depends on the particular strain of scam with which you have been targeted.

Some crooks will ask you to give them remote access to your PC or laptop, and then use that access to get hold of your personal data. Others get you to download a tool which they say is the "fix" for your problem, but is actually malware. A more straightforward scam is to simply ask for money in return for a lifetime of 'protection' from the malware they pretend is on your machine.

E-Safety Booklet

A simple guide to staying safe online and on social media.

