

## Safe Media - Top Tips for Parents

- Talk to children about online privacy issues, making sure they know to never to identify personal information such as their full name, address, age, school and don't ever post photos in school uniform.
- Teach your children to respect people's privacy and don't share anyone else's personal information online without permission.
- Don't tag photos of your children at their school if your accounts are not set to completely private. This is a child safety issue as anyone driving past can search the school on Instagram and see all of the photos that have been tagged at the school, often by parents who have not set their account to private on Instagram. If your account is not completely private, anyone can see your photos of your child, their name, the name of the cat, where you go on holiday, what your family does on weekends, when birthdays were and other information about your family and your life. Therefore a complete stranger could make up a story that could be very convincing to your child by using the information you have shared in a public forum of more than 500million users.
- If you are going to post anything with a significant fact, check it first.
- Teach your children to understand the importance of passwords, keeping them private and changing regularly.
- Learn how to recognise a scam. If it is too good to be true, it probably is.
- Make sure the apps you allow your kids to use are age appropriate.
- Don't be patronising or insulting to anyone. This kind of behaviour validates bad behaviour in children as they often see it if you are connected to young people on social media.

