

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

<http://www.webwise.ie/parents/advice-top-10-tips-for-parents/>

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 web sites 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

1. **Agree with your child rules for Internet use in your home.**

Try to reach an agreement with your child on the guidelines which apply to Internet use in your household.

1. **Encourage your child to be careful when disclosing personal information.**
2. **Talk about the risks associated with meeting online “friends” in person.**
3. **Teach your child about evaluating information and being critically aware of information found online.**

Children should be aware that not all information found online is correct, accurate or relevant.

1. Don’t be too critical towards your child’s exploration of the Internet.

Children may come across adult material by accident on the Web.

1. Report online material you may consider illegal to the appropriate authorities.
2. Encourage Respect for others; stamp out cyberbullying.

As in everyday life, there are informal ethical rules for how to behave when relating to other people on the Internet.

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

Let your child show you which websites they like visiting and what they do there. Acquiring technical knowledge could also make it easier to make the right decisions regarding your child’s Internet use.

1. Remember that the positive aspects of the Internet outweigh the

negatives.

The Internet is an excellent educational and recreational resource for children. There are millions of age appropriate sites for younger children. Encourage your children to use such sites and to avoid registering for sites and services with adult content and behaviours.