

Protecting your child's online safety

Internet users are responsible for the amount of information they reveal online. Most information published online is available for anyone to view and may be difficult to remove. It can also be used for purposes that may not have been intended. If you are supervising children using the internet, you can help them stay safe online by reminding them of the following simple steps:

- Never share passwords, no matter how much they trust their friends.
- Use strong passwords with a combination of punctuation, letters and numbers, not something that is easy to guess, like a pet's name or a favourite singer e.g. H01id@y\$
- Don't publish their personal details or those of their friends, such as names, ages, school details, email addresses or phone numbers on social networking sites (including profiles).
- Don't publish inappropriate photos of themselves or anyone else and ask permission before writing about other people or publishing their photo.
- Don't reply to nasty messages that may constitute cyber bullying (but keep a copy of the evidence in case they're needed if trouble arises).
- Block senders of inappropriate or unpleasant messages or delete the person if they are in their contact list.
- Contact the telecommunications company to service block problem numbers on your mobile service.
- **To report and remove unwanted content contact [The Australian Government Social Media Safety Centre](#)**



For more detailed information on helping children stay safe online visit [The Australian Communications and Media Authority](#)

A comprehensive Guide to online safety for parents can be downloaded [here](#)



Common sense Media website: An interesting article about [5 myths and truths behind internet safety](#)