



***E-safety Awareness
for
Parents and Carers***



“many parents feel that their children know more about the internet than they do”



‘What do you think are the main benefits for children from using the internet?’

- learning,
- communicating with people,
- developing new skills – coding, creativity, etc.



World Wide Web

Discover

Connect

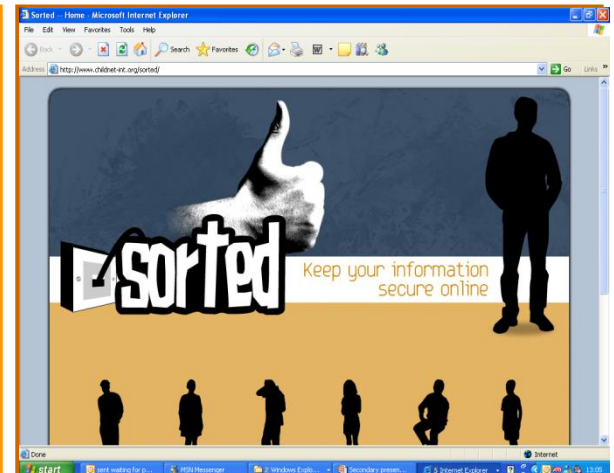
Create



The biggest library in the world



Brings people together



Anyone can become a publisher

Children Online

Potential Risks

- Cyber bullying
- Grooming
- Inappropriate websites
- Losing control over pictures and video / Giving out too much information online
- Viruses, hacking and security



REMEMBER THE BENEFITS
OUTWEIGH THE RISKS!



Risks of Gaming

- Many online games have communication features which allow their users to interact anonymously e.g. Minecraft
- Cyberbullies may harass fellow gamers and online scam artists may promise virtual goods in an effort to get credit card information
- Some game consoles allow internet access as well, so it is important to be aware of their communication features.

Tips

- Keep the computer in a high-traffic area of your home.
- Establish limits for which online sites children may visit and for how long.
- Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, so make sure to monitor mobile phones, gaming devices, and laptops.
- Surf the Internet with your children and let them show you what they like to do online.
- Know who is connecting with your children online and set rules for social networking, instant messaging, e-mailing, online gaming, and using webcams.
- Check the browser search history on a regular basis.



Communication

- Be a part of their online life; involve the whole family and show an interest. Find out what sites they visit and what they love about them.
- Ensure you have parental controls on - but no filter or parental control tool is 100% effective, and many of the risks that young people face online are because of their own and other's behaviour.



Parental Controls

Internet Providers

- The big internet providers in NI – **BT, Sky, TalkTalk** and **Virgin Media** - provide their customers with free parental controls.
- These providers offer filter levels e.g. BT provides 'light', 'moderate' or 'strict' filter levels.
- Parents can :
 - **customise their parental controls.**
 - **allow and block specific sites.**
 - **set filter times.**
 - **set limits for time online.**





Parental Controls

Gaming Devices

- Parental controls can also be set up on games consoles, such as Playstation, Xbox and Nintendo Wii.
- Restrict games based on age rating.
- Restrict time spent e.g. On the Xbox 360 activate the “Family Timer” to limit the total amount.
- Control your child’s friend requests so you know who they’re playing with online.
- Restrict online user-to-user communication and the exchange of user-generated content.

Parental Controls

Smartphones

- Capable of a range of internet functions: social networking, listening to music, playing games, browsing the internet, checking emails, taking photos and videos and watching TV.
- Out and about, users access the internet via 3G connection which is provided by the data allowance in their mobile contract.
- All mobile network providers provide parental controls.
- Some will have these on as default, but others you will need to request to be turned on.

e.g. Tesco Mobile and O2 have a parental control option to ensure that only websites they have classified as suitable for children under 12 can be accessed. Contact your service provider to find out about filtering options.



Parental Controls Smartphones

- Internet on smartphones can be accessed by Wi-Fi from home, therefore home internet controls apply.
- Some apps can help filter out age-inappropriate content or help restrict some of the smartphone functions, so have a look in the app store.
- Check what parental controls are available for the specific smartphone; some devices may have options for switching off the internet browser.



Parental Controls

iPads

- Look at age ratings and customer reviews before your child downloads an app.
- There are tools available which can block some communication apps. For example there are parental control settings on the iPad to disable the following functions:
 - FaceTime: a video calling app
- Multiplayer gaming: You can choose settings to prevent multiplayer games and adding friends. Find the parental control settings and in the Game Centre section select 'Off' for 'Multiplayer Games' and 'Adding Friends'.



Agree on what to do when things go wrong

- We recommend that you speak to your child about what to do if they come across something on the internet that bothers them. This could be closing the laptop lid, or turning off the screen, and coming to get you.
- Report abusive or inappropriate behaviour to the website and if serious, to the PSNI.





SMART rules



SAFE - Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information - including full name and email address - to people who you don't trust online.



MEETING - Meeting up with someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parent's/carer's permission and even then only when they can be present.



ACCEPTING - Accepting e-mails, IM messages or opening files from people you don't know can be dangerous - they may contain viruses or nasty messages!



RELIABLE - Someone online may be lying about who they are, and information you find on the internet may not be true. Check information and advice on other websites, in books or ask someone who may know.



TELL - Tell your parent/carer or teacher if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or you or someone you know is being cyberbullied.

Useful Websites

- <http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/beingsmart>
- <http://www.childnet.com/resources/parental-controls>
- <http://www.netsmartz.org/Parents>

