



- Banning your child from accessing the internet or using smartphones is not a good long term option - this will ostracise your child and they will likely access the internet without your knowledge via other means.
- Be open and honest about the risks and benefits of internet access and sharing personal information. As a parent you can help your child by:
 - Showing them how to configure privacy settings, and ensuring that they are set to the highest privacy option on all apps and devices.
 - Know who your child is talking to online – it is easy for people to create false identities and lure children into dangerous situations. Ask whether a parent or trusted adult can “Friend” your child.
 - Sharing information is NOT anonymous, explain to your child that anything that he or she uploads may be visible for decades or longer.
 - Explain why we always keep our personal information private – never provide names, addresses, inappropriate images, passwords, etc.
 - Be wary of phishing emails – Show your child how to determine if a message or email asking for private information or money is fake.
 - Explain that they should talk to their parents if they see or experience anyone asking to meet them in person, any cyber-bullying or abuse, or any content that makes them feel worried or uncomfortable.
 - Set family rules for usage – When they go online, what sites they visit, what to share, and how to treat others politely and with respect.
 - If possible make sure content is age-appropriate before use by reviewing government classifications (PG, G, etc) or online ratings.
- Use software to block inappropriate content. Common Sense Media (www.commonsensemedia.org) has a good guide on different software.



Document Number			
TSE-	TYK-	FSH-	001
By	Checker	Revision	Date
SS	MH	1	2 Oct 2015

Copyright © The Safety Educator, 2015

For Sources see permalink:

<http://www.thesafetyeducator.com/2015/10/02/child-safety-on-the-internet/>