DIGITAL SAFETY TIPS

Victoria Della Cioppa, School Climate & Violence Prevention Consultant, Student Services Department Jamie Quinn, Sexuality Education Consultant, Educational Services Department



Privacy Risks

Kids are friendly strangers online like it's a new trend!

Parents, be aware: This can expose your children to various risks, including **cyberbullying**, **privacy breaches**, and potential online **predators**. It's crucial to open conversations about online safety and monitor your child's social media activity.

🥚 Legal Consequences

Possession, creation, or distribution of explicit images of minors may be considered **child pornography**.

This includes showing it to people on your phone, forwarding the content, saving the content to your device or the Cloud, and posting it on the internet.

Consent does not necessarily protect individuals from **legal** consequences.

Consent

It's all about respect and boundaries. It means you are agreeing to something because you truly want to, NOT because you feel pressured or unsure. Consent can be taken away at any time.



Sextortion

Online blackmail: demands are met.





Emotional and Mental Health Impact

Sexting can shatter young hearts. Emotional distress, anxiety, shame, and embarrassment often follow when content is shared without consent.

Click here to view The Story of Amanda Todd

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Tips to practice at home

Create an environment for **open communication** where children feel safe to express themselves without judgement.

Discuss the concept of **enthusiastic consent:** Actively saying "yes" and giving non-verbal cues that they want to be a part of whatever's going on.







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Quality of a healthy relationship

Part of your discussion can focus on the qualities of healthy relationship. You can ask your teen what a healthy relationship looks-like; sounds-like; and feels-like?

- Respect
- Trust
- Boundaries
- Communication
 Compromise
 Support

Once sent; it's hard to prevent

Remind your teen that once they send an image, they loose control over it. Their private information is accessible to anyone.





Often, teens don't realize that what they're doing is illegal. Make sure your child understands that sending, sharing, or storing a sext is against the law-even if it was consensual.

🕨 🧉 Keep an eye out

Having their passwords does not guarantee your child will be safer online, but having passwords to use in times of emergencies is important.

You can "follow" your child on social media while respecting their privacy.

The goal is to be involved without being overbearing.

How to remove content

There are websites that help parents and children remove sexually explicit content online by offering support, reporting tools, and access to professionals to minimize harm and protect digital safety.

www.needhelpnow.ca

www.cybertip.ca

💊 🧉 Additional Resouces

nglish Parents

Click here to view: Canadian Centre of Child Protection. Helping families. Protecting children Click here to view: Common Sense media Click here to view: Child mind Institute Click here to view: Media Smarts Click here to view: Kids Help Phone



S tay Informed on the latest online trends

A sk Questions about their online activities

F oster trust in your relationships where they feel comfortable sharing

E ducate them about the risks and responsabilities on being online



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