

A guide for parents

# Are your kids safe on the internet?

Social networking websites such as Facebook and Twitter and the ease of internet access through smartphones such as iPhones have changed the ways that young people communicate and interact with others.

Kids now share many details of their lives online. While this is a part of their everyday lives, as a parent, you can help them behave in safe and smart ways to minimise the risks of their online activity.

To ensure that your kids are protected from online risks such as cyber bullying, unwanted attention or privacy breaches, you can:

- Remind them not to share their usernames and passwords with anyone
- Go through the privacy settings of social networking sites with them to make sure they are only sharing their personal information with their friends

- Educate them on the security risks associated for them and your family by exposing too much detail online
- Get them thinking about long term effects of their online behaviour such as how a potential employer may see them and how this may affect their future job prospects
- Encourage them to think about what they are posting online because once it's out there, it's there forever and they may have no control over it.



For more information, visit our website [www.ipc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au) or to make an enquiry call **1800 IPC NSW (1800 472 679)**



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