

1. Discover the Internet together

Be the one to introduce your child to the Internet. For both parent and child it is an advantage to discover the Internet together.



2. Agree with your child on a framework for Internet use in your home

Try to reach an agreement with your child on the guidelines, which apply to Internet use in your household. Here are some tips to get started:

- How to treat your personal information (name, address, telephone, e-mail)
- How to behave towards others on the net (chat, e-mailing, messaging)
- What type of sites and activities are OK or not OK in our family

3. Encourage your child to be careful when disclosing personal information

It is important that adults are aware that many web pages made for children require giving out personal information to access content. Being conscious of when and where it is all right to reveal personal information is vital.

4. Talk about the risks associated with meeting an e-pal face to face

Adults should understand that the Internet could be a positive meeting place for children, where they can get to know other children and make new friends. However, to avoid unpleasant experiences, it is important that children do not meet strangers they have met on the net without being accompanied by an adult, friends or others they trust. In any case, the child should always have their parents' approval first.

5. Teach your child about source criticism on the net

Most children use the Internet to improve and develop knowledge in relation to schoolwork and personal interests. Net users should be aware that not all information found online is correct.

6. Don't be too critical towards your child's exploration of the Internet

Children may come across adult material by accident on the Web. If a child intentionally searches for such web sites, remember that it is natural for children to be curious about off-limits material. Try to use this as an opening to discuss the content with them, and perhaps make rules for this kind of activity. Be realistic in your assessment of how your child uses the Internet.



7. Report online material you may consider illegal to the appropriate authorities



It is vital that we all take responsibility for the Web and report matters, which we believe could be illegal. By doing this we can help to prevent illegal activities online, such as child-pornography or attempts to lure children via chat, mail or messaging.

8. Encourage good Netiquette

Netiquette is the informal code of conduct for the Internet. As in everyday life, there are informal ethical rules for how to behave when relating to other people on the Internet. These include being polite, using correct language and not yell at (write in capital letters) or harass others.

9. Know your child's net use To be able to guide your child with regard to Internet use, it is important to understand how children use the Internet and know what they like to do online. .

10. Remember that the positive aspects of the Internet outweigh the negatives

The Internet is an excellent educational and recreational resource for children. Encourage your child to be conscious and explore the Internet to its full potential.



What Does the School Do To Keep our Students Safe

- No student is allowed in the computer room without a teacher.
- All students have their own individual desktop account.
- Students are assigned particular seats in the computer room.
- Certain Sites are blocked through the Department of Education server.
- Students are informed of the dangers and advantages of the internet and advised to use it wisely.

What parents can do if their child is being bullied:

- Assure the child the problem lies with the bully.
- Listen in a supportive way.
- Build self esteem- encourage the child to get involved in activities.
- Keep a record of incidencies of bullying behaviour and make contact with the school.

What parents can do if your child is engaged in bullying behaviour:

- Talk to your child in a calm manner.
- Find out why your child is bullying.
- Stress the importance of respecting and tolerating individualism.

Web sites which may be of some interest:

- <http://www.netlingo.com/statistics.cfm> (Internet and Text Lingo explained)
- http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/publications/bulletins/internet_2_2001/internet_2_01_6.html (Youth Internet Usage survey)
- <http://www.netsmartz.org/safety/statistics.htm> (Educational Web Site)
- www.iab.ie (Internet Advisory board)
- <http://www.ncte.ie/InternetSafety/> (information on safe internet usage)
- www.webwise.ie (Internet Safety)
- www.Skool.ie (Educational Website)
- www.scoilnet.ie (Educational Website)
- www.bebo.com (Social Networking Website)
- <http://www.education.ie> (Department Website)
- <http://youtube.com/adcouncil> (Ads from Ad council)
- <http://www.adcouncil.org> (Ad council home page)
- <http://www.ncca.ie> (National Council for Curriculum and Assessment)



MOATE COMMUNITY SCHOOL 2010



INTERNET SAFETY AND CYBER BULLYING

www.moateces.com



Practical Steps:

1. Keep your internet connection/usage in a Public place in your home.
2. Embrace what is good about the internet.
3. Keep up to date with developments and lingo.
4. If you feel your son/daughter is in danger act immediately.
5. If you feel your son/daughter is being bullied the school can help.

