



Top Ten Tips



1. Place the PC in an open view: It is an excellent idea to keep it in a family room instead of behind closed doors. You should also ensure that the room is not kept locked when the PC is in use.

2. Be Interested: Talk to your child about their Internet use and take an interest. Your involvement is the best way of keeping them safe and letting them know that they can talk to you if they face any problems.



3. Learn about the Internet: If your child knows more than you do, let them be your guide. Be positive, the Internet is a fantastic resource for learning, entertainment and communication.

4. Make sure your child is aware of Internet dangers: You cannot guard your child all the time, instead educate them by making them aware of online dangers and give them examples of what harm they can lead to.



5. Set limits like you would on the time they spend in front of the television:

Too much of something is never a good thing. By limiting the use of the Internet your child is more likely to use it to complete their task, rather than take their time and wander around sites.



6. Work out the limits: It is a good idea to discuss with your child before they go online, what they need to use the internet for and then together decide on the length of usage.



7. Block inappropriate websites: Installing filtering software can control content, contacts, shopping and privacy, help time management and most importantly monitor and record activity.

8. Close access to questionable resources: It is sensible to take precautions and block inappropriate sites, newsgroups and chat rooms.



9. Keep logs available: If you find site history erased investigate why but do not overreact. If you do find your child on inappropriate sites, it may be because they were rerouted by rogue sites and by overreacting, you could cause your child to become secretive about their Internet use and close down lines of communication between you.

10. Apply the usual rules: Remember that all the safety advice also applies to going online with a mobile phone. The most important messages to get across to your child is; never talk to strangers, call your parents when they are in trouble and never give out personal details.

