

# keeping up with children on the internet...



...an internet safety guide for Parents,  
Carers, and Teachers

Keeping up to date with children's use of technology is challenging for us all. It can be hard to supervise what young people are viewing and creating online, who they are chatting to and texting, and what they are downloading.

Many children may have better technical skills than you; however they still need advice and protection when using the internet.

The risks for children when using the internet include **inappropriate**:

**Contact:** Potential contact from someone online who may wish to bully or abuse them. It is important for children to remember that online friends may not be who they say they are, no matter how long they have been talking to them or how friendly they seem. Children must keep personal details private and agree not to meet with anyone they have only contacted via the internet.

One way to help avoid this situation is to site the family computer in an area of the house which will facilitate informal adult supervision.

**Content:** Inappropriate material is available to children online. Consider using filtering software and agree ground rules about what websites you are happy for your children to use. Give them strategies for dealing with any content they are not comfortable—such as alerting someone when this happens.

There can be legal consequences of copying copyrighted content. Encourage discussion about the type of material young people download and the need to be aware that downloading copyrighted material without the author's permission is illegal.

**How are our schools meeting this challenge in East Dunbartonshire**

- Our schools use a range of professionally produced teaching materials to ensure that all of our pupils have the necessary skills to keep themselves safe on-line. In partnership with local police officers, our pupils work through a series of lessons provided by CEOP's (Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Agency) via the "Thinkuknow" website [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

This series of Internet safety lessons is repeated periodically throughout your child's school career, addressing the issues in more depth as your child becomes more mature.

- In our secondary schools there is the opportunity to access an on-line course in Internet safety, certificated by the Scottish Qualifications Agency (further details can be found at <http://www.sqa.org.uk/>)

- We endeavour to ensure that our school computer networks are as secure as possible and that policies and procedures are in place to encourage sensible and appropriate use of the Internet.

With the advent of Glow as a safe and secure on-line environment which our children can use at school or at home, you can be assured that your child is using the most secure on-line teaching tool available.

Ultimately, safety on-line depends on each person following the rules which are there to protect them.

**Please remind your child that they should never tell anyone the password they use for Glow, the school network or any other password protected area that they access.**

### **Further Information**

For more information on Internet Safety in East Dunbartonshire Schools, please contact:  
Enterprise Teaching and Learning Centre  
Twechar Primary School  
Main Street, Twechar G65 9TA  
Tel: 01236 829 974

### **Other Formats**

This document can be provided in large print, Braille or on audio cassette and can be translated into different community languages.  
Contact the Public Affairs Unit at:  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Tom Johnston House, Civic Way  
Kirkintilloch, G66 4TJ

本文件可按要求翻譯成中文，如有此需要，請電 0141 578 8152。

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