

How can you help your child stay safe online?

The school Primary Learning Cloud, DB Primary, provides pupils with a safe area on the internet to learn and collaborate online. DB Primary enables staff to monitor online activity and help educate children about online safety.

When pupils are not using DB Primary however, online activity is not always easy to monitor. Here we have provided some useful pointers to help keep children safe online at home.

Agree boundaries

Set out clear boundaries for what your child can and cannot do online. Agree on where they can use the internet, the sites they can visit, and how much time they can spend online.

Be involved

Have computers and devices in communal areas of your home, like a lounge or dining room, so that your child's online activity is more visible.

Set parental controls

Use parental controls on your computers and internet browsers to filter out unsuitable websites and specify set time limits. Parental controls are also offered by internet service providers.

Spot signs of cyberbullying

Victims of cyberbullying can suffer serious emotional distress. Be aware of uncharacteristic personality changes when your child is online, or using mobile devices, as this could be a sign that your child is experiencing cyberbullying or harassing another child.

Understand online habits

Show interest in your child's online activity; for example get to know the common online games and websites they visit. This will help you to understand their online habits and the type of content that appeals to them.

Understand the risks

The internet can be a social meeting place for children to interact and make friends. Be aware of new friendships established online and how they develop. Children should never arrange to meet strangers they have met online for their own safety.

Personal information

Express the importance of protecting personal information online, such as full names, gender, age, school, or address. Teach your child to keep their identities safe.

Identify suspicious emails

Suspicious emails, and their contents, can request personal information and also release malware (malicious software) such as viruses and spyware that can immediately damage your computer and invade your privacy.

Age requirements

Be conscious of the age guidelines enforced by some websites, as these exist to protect children... If we take social media as an example, children under 13 are not permitted to have accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or YouTube.