

Posting pictures on the Internet

What can happen?

Once pictures of you are posted on the internet, they can stay there forever. Many employers and post-secondary institutions will check out candidates on social networking sites. It is important to remember that content posted online may be amusing to you and your friends, but may not be seen the same way by an admissions officer, school official, or potential employer.

Try to limit the number of pictures you post online, and be careful how you label, title, or caption pictures. Remember, what is put on the web, stays on the web!

Cyber-Bullying

Cyber-bullying or bullying by electronic means includes, (a) creating a web page or blog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person; (b) impersonating another person as the author of content or messages posted on the internet; and (c) communicating negative, threatening, or discriminatory information about another person electronically to more than one individual or posting material on a website that may be accessed by one or more individuals. Cyber-bullying can include text messages, blogs, or messages posted on social media (Twitter, Facebook, Formspring, MSN, etc...). Students can receive school and/or police consequences when cyber-bullying occurs outside of school hours.

For more information please go to the following websites:

<http://www.opp.ca/ecms/files/250363925.pdf> <http://www.cyber-safety.com>

Recommended Reading: "Staying Safe in a Wired World"

by Rob Nickel



Facebook's Policy: No information from children under age 13. If you are under age 13, please do not attempt to register for Facebook or provide any personal information about yourself to us. If we learn that we have collected personal information from a child under age 13, we will delete that information as quickly as possible.

Helpful hints for making your passwords secure.

- Always use letters AND numbers,
- Don't have it relate too much to your personal information (i.e. birthday-address etc.)
- Avoid creating passwords with consecutive numbers or letters (i.e. 123456, abcdef) or together on the keyboard (i.e. qwerty) that someone watching you type can easily see.
- Try to avoid writing your passwords down, but if you must, keep it in a safe and secure place and remember....Don't tell anyone your passwords!!!!!!



Staying Safe on Social Networks:
Identifying and avoiding the dangers
of online activity



Tips for students and their parents/guardians

It is not solely our children's responsibility to be safe and responsible while online. There are many ways that parents can make it safer for their children to be online. Here are just a few things to keep in mind:

- **Make sure children don't spend all their time on the computer**
- **Keep the computer in an open area, such as the living room, rather than in the child's bedroom**
- **Monitor what the child does while online**
- **At night, recharge their electronic devices in your room**
- **Learn more about computers so you can enjoy them together**
- **Make sure your children are comfortable coming to you with questions**
- **Discourage the use of open chat rooms**
- **Talk to them about what information they can post and what they shouldn't**
- **Get to know their online friends, just like all their other friends & ask questions**
- **Set rules for computer use**



THE GOLDEN RULES ON HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE ONLINE CITIZEN

- **Do set your privacy settings so only select people can access your information**
- **DON'T post an address or phone number or other personal information like you SIN#**
- **DON'T post your friends contact info either!**
- **DO be kind and courteous to other users**
- **Don't post pictures that you don't want everyone to see for the rest of your life**
- **DO tell your parents if something happens that makes you feel uncomfortable**
- **DON'T talk to someone you don't know!**



Beware...

Although the vast majority of people online are harmless, children and teens in particular are easy targets for online criminals and predators. They can be pretty smart and may be able to hack into private information or even get access to things like a web cam connected to your computer. Some may even want to meet with you, even though they say they are just another kid. You can never be sure that they are who they say they are.

To stay safe, don't ever agree to meet with someone you only know from chatting on the internet, and have your parents update or install reliable antivirus programs.



Remember it is okay to use social networking websites. They are a great way to keep in touch with friends and family on a regular basis, and share ideas.

It is also a great way to keep up with your favourite TV show, video games, athletes or sports teams, etc.

But always keep in mind that the things you post and comment can be seen by the rest of the world, too.

One way of deciding whether or not to post something online is to see if it passes the "Grandmother Test": if it is something you wouldn't want your grandmother to see, you probably shouldn't post it!