Common Parenting Skills Apply

Internet basics can be as straightforward as pushing buttons or clicking a mouse. Understanding how youth use the Internet, however, can be an overwhelming task, especially for adults who don't spend much time online.

- **Encourage young people to act safely and respectfully toward themselves and others, even online.**

- **Be aware of:**

⇒ **Cyberbullying**
⇒ **Games - many adult orientated games now contain an online chatting or social media component.**

- **Understand the law!**

For more information see:
http://bc.cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=87&languageId=1&contentId=21690

Sources:
http://bc.cb.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/ViewPage.action?siteNodeId=87&languageId=1&contentId=21690

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sco/resourcedocs/internet_safe/internet_safe.pdf

School District
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DUFFERIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

School District No. 73

Internet Safety
A Guide for Parents

DUFFERIN
ELEMENTARY

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Internet Safety

General rules for ensuring Internet Safety:

◊ Educate yourself about the Internet

◊ It's important to be knowledgeable about the Internet, because even if you don't have a computer at home, your child can access it at school, at a friend's house, or at your public library.

◊ Create a family agreement for Internet use, including hours of use, which sites can be accessed, and which sites shouldn't be.

◊ Place your computer in a central, open location, like the living room, so Internet use can be supervised.

Guiding your child online

◊ Look at the sites your child visits.

◊ Look into software or online services that filter out offensive material. Check with your Internet Service Provider (ISP) for any blocking services they might provide.

◊ Consider installing a children's search engine, like Yahooligans.

◊ Create a special folder of "bookmarks' or "favourites" for your child on your computer's browser.

Preserving your family's privacy

◊ If you have a website, avoid putting your children's pictures on it.

◊ Teach your children not never give out identifying information about any family member. This includes: names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, passwords, or credit card numbers.

◊ Encourage them to tell you if anyone is pressing for personal information.

◊ Teach your children that talking to a stranger on the Internet is no different than talking to a stranger on the street.

Minimizing Possible Risks

◊ Talk to your children about potential online dangers such as giving out personal information. Chat room aquantances are strangers and your child should never make arrangements to meet them in person.

◊ Better yet, if your children are young, steer them away from chat rooms—including those on games.

◊ If your child starts receiving phone calls from strangers, or place calls to people you don't know, get to the bottom of it immediately.

◊ Tell your children that if someone harasses them online, says something inappropriate, or makes them feel uncomfortable in any way, they should tell you, their teacher, or a trusted adult.

◊ Contact the police immediately if your child receives child pornography, has been sexually solicited or has received sexually explicit images from an adult.