

# Online Safety

## Device – Social Media App & Gaming

### 'Mantra'

#### 1. Technology is a privilege not a right

Children and young users must be allowed to use devices but only when they are ready for the device, there are no age restrictions for devices but there are for Apps & Games, so when a child is ready, resilient and can act appropriately, the privilege can be rewarded, explained and monitored.



#### 3. Your digital tattoo begins at birth

Today's children grow up in world saturated with technology and advertising. Pictures of mothers' bellies on Social Media begin a child's social media profile. More than 90% of children under two have a digital tattoo – an online presence such as photos and other personal identifiable information. This may begin before they are even born



#### 5. The delete key should be renamed 'archive'

No data is deleted as data to a company is money and profit, therefore, once the data has been grabbed and placed on a server it will be kept and used until no longer required and written over. Users are made aware of this via Terms & Conditions, but these are very very seldom read.



#### 7. Don't share passwords or personal information

Passwords should always be treated like 'tooth brushes' ....never shared..... Children and young adults can and should be encouraged to share their passwords with parents / trusted adults but not brother, sisters or best friends, as this could lead to online harm or exploitation



#### 9. Limit technology. Create tech-free family

Whilst all technology can be distracting, it is the mobile phone that remains the most distracting of all devices. Limiting or preventing access to mobile phones and other devices in bedrooms will allow for more better sleep, preventing of online addiction and eliminating the possibility of young users making errors of judgement due to tiredness that may lead to online exploitation.



## Top Ten – 'Explained'

#### 2. Technology is a tool not and end point

Fortnite is just a game, Xbox 1 PS4 just consoles, iPhones & Androids are just Smartphones - Social Media, Apps & Online games that allow Random Play & Interaction with other Gamers Users have potential to exploit young users:-Adults must 'Be Involved & Stay Involved' as Exploitation is as a result of Poor Choices & Decisions & Inappropriate Behaviour - 'Stay & Play Together'



#### 4. Privacy doesn't exist on the Internet

Online privacy has never existed, all data is kept, whether on a server as a result of device & email (Google), device (Apple) and or social media (Facebook). Or as a result of technology, selfies, voice and data being automatically kept as a result of internet connectivity and availability, GPS and cameras.



#### 6. Be kind online- be an upstander, not a bystander

It is too easy for someone to see and ignore an online comment when it does not concern them. With nearly all social media and messaging services allowing and providing 'closed' groups for users to create then moderation, reporting and dealing with an inappropriate comment is the responsibility of all group members. So, don't ignore, do act and be an upstander not a bystander and help each other.



#### 8. Get permission to join or download games / social media

Children & young adults should always get permission and ask before downloading and playing new games and apps. Technology can help, Apple allows for Family Sharing and Android has a Google Link App where both allow adults to monitor all apps a child may try to install. Encouraging verbal permission allows for similar protection, but better still, it allows for positive dialogue, interests and understandina between child and adult.



#### 10. Your digital identity should = your true identity

Users, young and old should strive to be proud of their online brand, just as individuals want to succeed and be recognised in life, people must be aware that their online brand can be scrutinised at any stage of their life which could result in being correctly selected or receiving the deserved recognition – So always be proud of your online brand.

