How to keep a child safe online

If a child spends time online, service providers and parents should understand the risks that could put them in danger. Online dangers include:

➤ **Loss of privacy:** Sharing information in public that should be kept private (after information is posted online, it is outside the child's control)

➤ **Inappropriate content:** Adult material, hate speech, violence, dangerous dares or challenges

➤ **Cyberbullying:** Bullying in the form of abusive and threatening texts or emails, messages on social media and chat rooms, or the posting of photos or video clips

➤ **Online grooming:** Individuals targeting children through sexual coercion or extortion, usually on social media or gaming platforms

The most important thing is to communicate with your children about what they are doing online.

Familiarise yourself with the apps and websites they are using.

Children should be supported and encouraged to develop safe and responsible online behaviours by their parents, guardians and centre staff.

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