E-Safety Top Tips

Set up an account for each user on the PC at home and only give yourself administrator access. This will allow you to keep control of the settings and the installation of software. Each user account can be password protected. You can do this in the 'Control Panel'.

Add a screen saver protected by a password to your account so that if you leave the PC for 5 minutes you will have to enter your password. You can do this in the 'Control Panel'.

Involve your children in writing your own family code of 'Acceptable Computer & Internet Use'. Remember that what's acceptable for a teenager isn't necessarily ok for a primary school-aged child, so get their input. See the 'Activities for use at home' section.

Encourage your family to use technology in a public part of the house, and not in the bedroom, where it's easier to monitor what your children are doing. This applies not just to PCs but also to laptops and games consoles. If a predator sees a living room/kitchen in the background on the webcam rather than a child's bedroom, they will be less likely to embark on attempting to groom your child.

Remember that many games consoles come with family settings. For example if you want to disable or limit 'Xbox Live' on the Xbox 360 you can do so by going to 'Settings, Parental controls'. There is also the option to add a mask to voices so that a youngster's voice sounds like that of an adult or even a robot. See the 'Online Gaming and Games Consoles' section for further information.

Encourage your child not to open emails from unfamiliar email addresses and to avoid opening suspicious attachments. As far as possible you should encourage your child to use the school's email system and Learning Platform as this provides a safer environment.

E-Safety Top Tips

Tell children not to give out their personal details whilst online. If they want to subscribe to any online services or websites make up a family email address to receive filtering is enabled.

The internet is a great resource for homework, but remember to use more than one site in research to get broad, balanced information and always reference your research sources.

Surf together and engage in their world. Go online with your child and become part of their online life-add them as friend on a social networking site (once they're old enough), text them and discover what their game consoles can do. Keep up… today's technology is tomorrow's antique!

Set your favourite search engine to do 'safe searches'. This will make sure that a search returns content suitable for all ages. For example, to set Google to do safe searches click on search settings on the homepage and then ensure that moderate or strict filtering is enabled.