

Westerville Division of Police is committed to protecting your children while on the Internet and educating the community of the potential dangers that may be attempting to influence their behavior and actions. Because this medium seems to provide anonymity, children may behave differently and be less cautious than they are in real life. They may send or receive inappropriate messages, visit unsuitable web sites, reveal personal information, or, in the worst case, expose themselves to danger by arranging meetings with people who are not what they seem to be online.



WESTERVILLE



C
TEAM

Internet **C**rime
Enforcement Team



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Internet Safety for Children

*Westerville
Division of
Police*

29 S. State Street
Westerville, OH 43081

Safety Tips for Parents

- **NEVER** allow a computer with Internet access in your child's bedroom
- Never allow your child to have a web cam
- Talk to your child about their online activities
- Know your child's profile name and password
- Older teens need supervision too
- Be alert to changes in your child's behavior
- Respect your child's privacy but review computer files and monitor what chat rooms are visited and who they are chatting with
- Research filters and monitoring software
 - Spector Pro & ComputerCop

Safety Tips for Children

- Make username & online profile generic and anonymous
- Don't give/list identifying information
 - name, sex, age, address, school, teams
- Never send a photo to anyone on the Internet
- Never meet a person one-on-one
- Responsible adults do not pursue relationships with kids and teens
- If a person makes you uncomfortable, do not log off and tell an adult
- **PEOPLE ON THE INTERNET ARE RARELY WHO THEY SAY THEY ARE**

Resources for Online Safety

- Netsmartz.org
- Isafe.org
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (Missingkids.com)
- Protectkids.com
- Safekids.com

"Parental vigilance is key in the first and most important line of defense"

