

## IGNITE'S SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPT.

### INTERNET SAFETY



### Internet Safety Tips

“Children are using smart devices from a much younger age than ever before. It’s why it’s essential we talk to our children about how to use them safely. There are so many positive benefits Title related to pic to the new technology at our disposal these days - however there are plenty of downsides too. As a parent, it’s important you understand these risks and how you can take steps to protect your family against them.”

For more information, please visit the Four Corners Child Advocacy Center at <http://necac.org>.

#### MAKE SEARCHING MUCH SAFER

Most search engines, such as Google, Bing or Yahoo, have a ‘safe search’ setting. You should activate this. Otherwise, it’s extremely easy for a seemingly harmless search on the Internet to return unexpected and inappropriate results. Depending on the browser you’re using, go to the settings and search for ‘safe search’. Make sure you save the change so it defaults each time you open the browser. This will seriously reduce the chances of your child being exposed to something they shouldn’t be.

#### REGULARLY CHECK SOCIAL MEDIA SETTINGS

Before you allow your child to use social media, you should discuss the dangers with them. You should also make sure you’re able to access their profile and privacy settings and check them regularly. The companies behind social media platforms often make privacy changes without making it very obvious to the user, such as Facebook’s introduction of facial recognition software.

#### KEEP A CHECK ON SCREEN TIME







Managing how much time we spend on screens is a new challenge for us all. It’s critically important when it comes to children, especially younger children who are still developing. It’s not just a case of setting arbitrary time limits. It is helpful to put limits on devices using ‘Guided Access’ functions, which you can find in the settings of certain devices.

#### PUT YOURSELF IN CONTROL

Make use of the parental control settings available to you. With most devices, you’re able to change the settings to control the content your child has access to. This isn’t difficult to do, as you’ll often find guidance in the instructions that come with the device. By setting a private pin code on certain devices, you can make sure your child can only access it when you allow it.

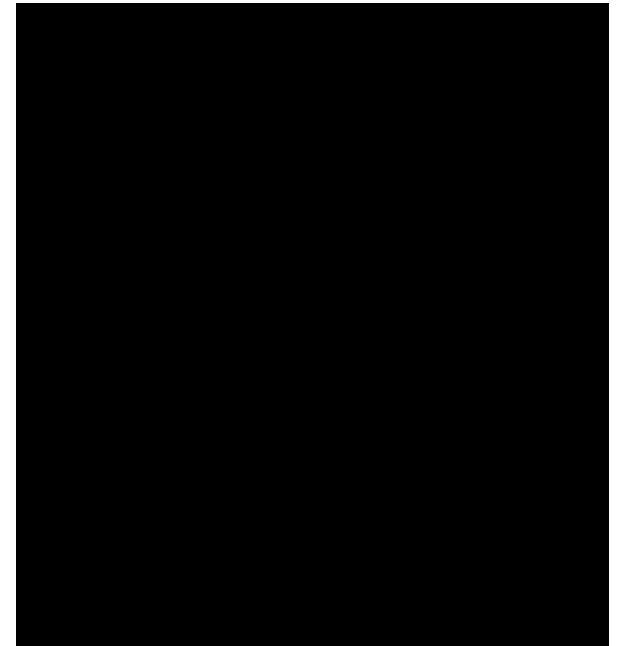
## Resources

**6 DANGEROUS APPS FOR KIDS**  
**FACTS FOR PARENTS**

 <p><b>Omegle</b> Anonymous Chat Room where strangers meet and often ask for and share personal information.</p>	 <p><b>Kik Messenger</b> Often used instead of texting. Easy to connect with strangers. Features videos, bots &amp; sketch.</p>
 <p><b>House Party</b> Video Focused. Live video &amp; Texts. Possible inappropriate content. Pictures &amp; screenshots being shared around.</p>	 <p><b>YOLO</b> An add on to Snapchat used to ask for anonymous feedback. Keeps a record of the questions and answers.</p>
 <p><b>Whisper</b> Social App where users post 'whatever is on their mind' along with images. Contains a high level of sexual images and language.</p>	 <p><b>Calculator Apps</b> The app that is designed to look like an innocent calculator, secretly stores images and videos that can only be accessed with a code.</p>

www.thetechmum.com

#### Internet Safety Short Clip



### A wonderful world of friends? Safety risks children face online

Open communication, really simple online safety tips parents, guardians need to know.

<https://gulfnews.com/uae/a-wonderful-world-of-friends-safety-risks-children-face-online-1.1600778939383>

### Let's Talk

Do you have ideas for Issue #6? Want to be more involved with Ignite’s School Counseling Department? Have questions, comments and/or concerns?

Please contact me [C.Dixon@igniteschool.ae](mailto:C.Dixon@igniteschool.ae)  
Crystal Dixon  
School Counselor



