Linewize

Creating Cyber Safety **Partnerships** with Families

SIX TIPS FOR SCHOOLS

The recent shift to remote learning demonstrated the importance for schools to create and nurture strong, collaborative partnerships with families when it comes to cyber safety.

This guide offers six tips to help schools prepare for making powerful partnerships that will help drive cyber safety success.

01 CONNECT

When it comes to online safety & wellbeing, powerful partnerships with parents & families are key. Try to find time before the summer holidays to connect with your wider school community to surface any pressing concerns, questions or pain points. The insights you gather will help identify priorities and inform planning for next year.

INCREASING CYBER SAFETY RISKS

86%

increase in image-based abuse online.

21%

increase in cyberbullying.

200%

increase in posts to known online child sexual abuse forums.

Reference:

We Protect Global Alliance, 2020. Increases During the month of March 2020.

02 IDENTIFY

Identify what your next steps are and who needs to be involved. Some questions you can ask are:

- What are your key priorities around wellbeing and online safety?
- How can your actions around online safety and wellbeing support your school's strategic focus?
- What trends are you as a school noticing and how does this align with what your wider community is saying?

03 PLAN

Sometimes it's easy to forget about online safety until an incident occurs. By then, often the damage has been done and schools and families are left to pick up the pieces. We need to be on the front foot and proactive.

Student use of digital spaces and devices is not confined to a few days in the year, but rather has become a vital part of the learning and teaching process. Weave your online safety & wellbeing plans and initiatives into your strategic plan - making it an integrated part of your approach to learning and teaching.

Add an online safety parent information evening into your calendar early too, this will allow it to be a highlight of your 'back to school' orientation programme.

04 EMPOWER

Empower your families with tools, resources and information.

Linewize can provide your school with cyber safety tools and materials, plus advice from world-renowned cyber experts, to educate, support and engage your school community - parents, students and teachers alike. This will position your school as a leader and your parents as partners in providing a cyber-safe community.

Designed specifically to drive parental engagement, Linewize Community helps ensure parents are involved in their child's online activity, and empowers them to effectively manage cyber safety, including social media use and screen time.

Linewize Community features include:
- Custom Cyber Safety Hub for your parent community
- Digital parenting guides covering key online trends
- Family Zone parental control apps, to providing monitoring of children's use of the internet and apps
- App reviews and updates from leading cyber experts
- Parent education sessions

05 SHARE

The holiday period, undoubtedly, means many young people will be receiving new or hand-me-down devices. While the opportunities available online are amazing, the more time young people spend online, the more chance they have of encountering possible risk and challenge.

Check out some of the tips and tricks our cyber safety experts suggest and share these with your parent community via newsletters or your social media channels. We also have a number of webinars and events to support parents, so take the opportunity to highlight these for your community.

INCREASING CYBER SAFETY RISKS

53%

of teenagers believe that what they see online is a realistic depiction of real life.

122 mill

more children have come online. It is estimated that 1 in 3 internet users is a child.

Reference:

We Protect Global Alliance, 2020. Increases During the month of March 2020.

06 REVIEW

Term 4 is always a good time to review your school's existing policies and agreements. Update them to reflect any changes that have happened during the year - this will ensure everything is up to date and everyone is on the same page around expectations and responsibilities.

If you have deployed Linewize Community packages to families, make sure that your school documentation reflects any changes.

Got questions or need help?

If you would like to chat with the team about creating powerful cyber safety partnerships with your school community, please contact the team - we would love the opportunity to chat.

If you have any other questions or need support you can contact us via email at **help@linewize.io** or contact us here.

Acknowledgements

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Pauline has spent the last 20 years within the education sector, spending time both inside and outside the classroom.

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by Family Zone