Parents’ Guide to Internet Use

Like the real world the cyber world will never be perfect but parents have the power to reduce the issues significantly

Please Remember…

- The cyber world is a great and safe world; it’s how people use it that creates issues
- My child needs my life skills and adult instincts to help them make sound choices and identify problems
- No program my child will want to use is essential to their development, treat all programs as an added extra, a privilege
- No online decision I make in good faith regarding my children and their safety is a bad one, trust my instincts
- Technology will forever change but our household rules and my protective practices will never change
- Online dangers and responsibilities are real
- Always weigh up the positives and potential risks when deciding what programs my kids can use
- Encourage the use of technology in a public environment; issues are more likely to happen in private
- Everybody in the house knows I am the one who has the final say regarding technology
  - I don’t have to be an internet expert only a diligent, loving and sometimes strict parent
  - Rules and boundaries I put in place will not stop my child using technology, it will help them use it and avoid the bad stuff
  - By being an involved parent I reduce the risk of potential issues
  - Using programs that can monitor and filter online content is my right as a parent, I’m not spying on my kids, I’m spying on everybody else
  - Online issues aren’t about technology; it’s ALWAYS about people
  - Online education should start the second my child types a key

Every time my child logs on they have access to everything the adult world has to offer - I have to be involved - I may be the only line of defence

1. Always keep lines of communication open
2. Consider monitoring and filtering software
3. Take interest and have active involvement with kid’s internet use
4. Take control of the internet and mobile phone
5. Have firm guidelines rules and consequences
6. Keep the internet in a public area of the home

This Parents’ Guide to Internet Use is provided with compliments of Brett Lee from Iness and Netbox Blue