

# ONLINE SAFETY TOOLKIT



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# WELCOME

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With all that is happening in the world, schools going partially or fully virtual, and kids having more time than ever to spend online, parents and caregivers alike can feel lost when it comes to internet safety. Knowing how to **keep your kids safe while online** – whether for school or for leisure – might seem like an overwhelming task.

But it doesn't have to be! This Toolkit will show you how.

We understand the importance of having **the knowledge and information you need to be proactive** and engaged. This Online Safety Toolkit covers specific topics you will want to know more about. These resources, collected from leaders in the field, are organized by category with specific links to each topic. In this Toolkit, you will find current definitions, terminology, and trends. You will be able to further understand the connections and intersections between online activity and the dangers that seemingly innocent actions can have. These resources will **unpack each topic one-by-one**, share the dangers you may not know about, and help you understand how online safety connects with your kids' daily lives.

This Toolkit brings you the information you need so you can **move from awareness to action**. We understand the dangers facing kids today, and we believe that as parents and caregivers, you are uniquely positioned to protect your kids - and every kid in your community.

**GET EQUIPPED, AND SHARE THIS WITH EVERYONE YOU KNOW!**



A stylized, handwritten signature of Ashleigh Chapman in black ink.

**Ashleigh Chapman**  
Founder of Justice U™



A stylized, handwritten signature of Alana Flora in black ink.

**Alana Flora**  
Co-Founder of Engage  
Together®

# ONLINE SAFETY CHECKLIST

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**PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS CAN BE PROACTIVE IN KEEPING THEIR KIDS SAFE WHILE ACCESSING THE INTERNET, WHETHER FOR SCHOOL, AT HOME, OR ON THEIR OWN. USE THIS CHECKLIST TO CREATE A SAFETY PLAN THAT WILL EMPOWER YOUR KIDS TO BE SAFE.**

- ☐ Identify where and how your child has internet access (school, friends' houses, personal computer).
- ☐ Keep all screens in the common areas of the home, with no screens in bedrooms or behind closed doors.
- ☐ Have access and passwords to all devices and accounts your child uses.
- ☐ Set up parental controls and appropriate blocking software.
- ☐ Understand and share with your kids the importance of privacy settings on devices, apps, and browsers.
- ☐ Communicate what information is appropriate to share online
  - Never share passwords with anyone but parents
  - Never share your location, age, or other personal information in an online setting
- ☐ Teach kids how to safely search online by talking about what browsers are permitted and what search terms are not allowed.
- ☐ Set boundaries for online activity, including declining invitations from people your kids don't personally know, and never meeting someone in person you don't already know.
- ☐ Discuss with your child the risks of accessing the internet at friends' homes.
- ☐ Explain that when you send a text or a photo, all control is lost over those photos and messages. Help children understand photos can be tagged with their location and edited without their permission to be harmful or used against them.
- ☐ Create a safety plan for kids and teach them what to do if they are contacted online or if they see explicit materials while online.
- ☐ Report suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, extra-familial child sexual molestation, child sexual abuse materials, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking, unsolicited obscene materials sent to a child, misleading domain names, and misleading words or digital images on the internet to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children CyberTipline (online or by phone).

# ONLINE SAFETY RESOURCE GUIDE

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THIS TOOLKIT IS FILLED WITH THE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES YOU NEED TO CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT, EMPOWER YOUR KIDS, AND PROTECT THEM FROM UNKNOWN DANGERS. BELOW YOU WILL FIND TOPICS WITH LINKS TO SPECIFIC RESOURCES FOR FURTHER LEARNING THAT WILL EQUIP YOU TO KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE.



## GAMING

Gaming can initially appear harmless, but there are dangers. Learn how exploitation happens, what you can do, what resources exist, and how to talk to youth about the risks associated with gaming.



## YOUTUBE

Kids are using YouTube every day and are in danger of accessing inappropriate material. Do you know how to set YouTube parental controls? Even if your kids are accessing YouTube Kids, there is still a need to know how it works, how filters are set-up, and how it can be used safely.



## TIKTOK

When an app like TikTok is downloaded, do you know what privacy settings are the default? Many apps, once downloaded, are public, meaning anything you post or share is available for anyone to see. Predators look for these public profiles to connect with youth. Find out how it works, what you need to know, what the dangers are, what parental controls you can set, and how to keep your kids safe.



## SOCIAL MEDIA APPS

Social media apps can appear harmless, but what do you really know about them? From red flags and protections to their impact on mental health, to the latest social media stars, trends, and apps, there is a lot to know. Find out how apps are rated and the reality of what they offer so you can best protect your kids. Learning safeguards with social media can help protect your kids from human trafficking recruitment as traffickers use many of these popular apps to build intimate relationships or advertise for false jobs.

# ONLINE SAFETY RESOURCE GUIDE, CONT.

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## SEXTING & SEXTORTION

Sexting is becoming more pervasive among teens, but do you know what it is? Do you know how sexting and photo sharing can lead to sextortion? Learning the red flags and risk factors is the first step. Educating your child about what they share and post online can help to keep your child safe from these dangers. Find out what you as a parent and caregiver can do to help support your kids.



## SCHOOLS & ONLINE LEARNING

While many schools are starting virtually and have built in firewalls and software to protect students, what about the devices that aren't equipped? Do you know your options for parental controls based on device or security settings for Zoom and Google Classroom? Get the information you need to start the school year safely.



## FAMILY MEDIA AGREEMENT

Consider starting this year with a Family Media Agreement to communicate expectations for what your kids are able to do, set up an allotted amount of screen time, and discuss ways to make safe choices online. Youth may have a specific pledge while parents may have a checklist. You may also consider creating a digital learning agreement to help set goals for balancing screen time and school work.



## CYBER BULLYING

Virtual school can bring concerns for cyberbullying to both educators and parents. Cyberbullying occurs via text, apps, social media, and on any device. Get the tips, statistics, and tools you need to talk with your kids and help protect them this school year.



## SEARCHES

Even basic and innocent searches on the internet can result in the viewing of inappropriate material. Help the kids in your life stay safe when searching with Safe Search Kids, powered by Google. Review the resources, guides, and articles for both kids and parents.

# ONLINE SAFETY RESOURCE GUIDE, CONT.

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## REPORTS & WEBINARS

Reports highlighting Human Trafficking and Social Media share how social media may be used in recruitment and how posts of youth online draw the attention of traffickers. Webinars for professionals and for those working with children feature experts in the field sharing how to keep youth safe and how to create a safe environment with more youth at home and online due to COVID-19.



## INTERNET SAFETY, EXPLOITATION, & YOUTH RESOURCES

What do you know about internet safety, how predators identify, groom and exploit, and how youth are at-risk every day when accessing the internet, posting to social media, and sending photos? Knowing the signs of online grooming and exploitation, as well as how it happens, is critical. It is important for parents and caregivers to be equipped with texting acronyms used, warning signs and action steps. Educating children and teens with relatable videos, games, and peer-to-peer resources is easy. Resources for specific age groups that are interactive, engaging, and informative can help youth understand the realities of internet risks and the importance of online safety.



## GUIDES

Online safety begins with parents and caregivers understanding kids and the use of technology. Specific information about grooming, sexting, and device monitoring is available. Guides to help parents understand what they can do to protect their kids, know the indicators and tips, educate their kids and teens on what to do to stay safe, and learn what ways parents and caregivers can respond are helpful resources.

COVID-19 has brought a significant increase in youth spending more time online, raising warnings from law enforcement. Learn the impact, risks and threats, exploiters' tactics, and ways you can protect the youth in your life, along with online safety tips for parents and youth.



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Justice U™ is a learning platform that quickly delivers knowledge from experts in the anti-trafficking movement to audiences who need it, with the tools every modern learner needs today.

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Engage Together® provides both individuals and organizations the ideas, tools, insights, connections, and resources they need to end and prevent human trafficking in their local community.

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