

# Safety Tips on Digital Parenting





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### **PARENTING TIPS:**

# ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR ADULTS TO BE RESPONSIBLE DIGITAL GUARDIANS:

- Educate yourself about cyber-crimes, to protect your children online
- Understand and communicate about internet usage - its advantages, disadvantages and threats
- Communicate openly with your children, about their online activities
- Monitor children below 13 years, on your secured devices
- Keep the device in shared rooms, be alert and observant
- Introduce gadgets, social media and gaming platforms according to their age and level of understanding
- Verifying online game ratings on www.esrb.org and www.pegi.info

- Introduce online games related to sports, strategy and quest games
- Channelize your child's Technical Quotient (TQ), provide them with constructive and creative alternatives by engaging them in outdoor, reading and nature related activities, against screen time
- Frequently take "GADGET BREAKS"
- Be a positive role model for children
- Identify red flags of behavioural changes and gadget dependency in children, report early and seek external help

Internet is a great tool of information, learning and development, use wisely

# **PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING:**

- Do not spread fake news and misinformation, they attract unnecessary attention and encourage children to explore high risk behavior
- Pick up the following signs of distress, your child may face:
  - Withdrawal from social interaction, loss of interest in any activity
  - Loneliness, sadness, cranky and extreme unexplained mood swings
  - Attempts of self-harm, marks on the body, talking about worthlessness, death and giving up
  - Disturbed food and sleep patterns, extreme anger and violence
  - If your child is being bullied, harassed, threatened, or if your child is the bully
  - Hiding phones or devices from you
  - High dependency on phones, devices and games, unable to divert attention from them
- Teach your child to report any objectionable or concerning content online
- Empower your child to be resilient and to RAISE THEIR VOICE against cyber-bullying
- Accept that your child could also need help

# **LEGAL INFORMATION:**

The following cyber crimes are punishable under the Information and Technology Act 2000:	□ Hacking □ Cyber Bullying	□ Photo Morphing □ Sextortion
	□ Cyber Stalking	□ Revenge Porn
	□ Impersonation (Fake Profiles)	□ Child Online Grooming
	□ Misinformation (Fake News)	□ Cyber Terrorism

#### **IMPORTANT TIPS:**

- Posting abusive, defamatory text, email, image / video on the internet is illegal and will stay as our digital footprint, as evidence against us
- Content available on the internet is not free.
   Understand the consequences of IPR and Copy Rights

# **SCREEN TIME REGULATIONS:**

Age	Screen Time
Under 2 yrs	No screen exposures
Between 2 - 4 yrs	20 minutes in 24 hrs
Between 4 - 6 yrs	40 minutes in 24 hrs
Between 6 - 12 yrs	60 minutes in 24 hrs

#### **IMPORTANT TIPS:**

- Set screen time rules for the entire family to follow
- □ Take a break after every 20 min of screen time exposure
- □ Screen time exposure for educational purpose, entertainment including TV, needs to be balanced
- Select and monitor the content watched by your child
- Parents must monitor their child's game-play
- □ Engage in regular conversations with them about online safety and appropriate online behaviour

# **TECHNICAL TIPS:**

- Never respond to calls, messages, emails related to banking, shopping, lottery scams, insurance, lucky draw, job offers, loan etc.
- Never share your OTP, passwords, PIN numbers or account details
- Use different complex passwords for each online account and change it regularly
- Use licensed updated anti-virus software, firewall and authentic parental control tools in your devices
- Avoid accessing social media or banking accounts from unknown devices or free Wi-Fi
- Remember to logout of your online accounts, turn off Wi-Fi,
   Bluetooth and GPS, when not in use
- □ Place Wi-Fi routers centrally at home, with a defined range
- Check ratings, content and age appropriateness of the games on www.esrb.org and www.pegi.info
- Follow privacy settings for every App, social media profile and control stranger access
- Avoid downloading content from unverified links, unknown sources and torrents
- Learn and teach your child to report abuse, block objectionable content and people
- Set separate child friendly profiles on your devices
- Use kiddle.com or YouTubeKids as your default search and video browsers
- Review and update all Apps on your devices, keep only the ones that are useful

## **IMPORTANT CONTACTS:**

National Cyber Crime Helpline - 1930 www.cybercrime.gov.in

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