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Wind Gap, PA

Tips to protect Kids

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Cyber Hygiene

SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE

Instagram:

- Keep the profile private- Don't accept requests or invites from strangers or reveal data.
- Share the right kinds of photos - Make sure they are age appropriate and do not contain data such as the sign of their school or home address.
- Teach them about the dangers - Talk to them about scams, cyberbullying, and other dangers of posting photos.

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TikTok:

- Switch to a private account - the default account setup is public.
- Opt out of personalized data - TikTok cannot use your personal information this way.
- Change all safety settings to "friends" - this limits who can comment, duet, and react to videos.
- Change the "allow others to find me" toggle. This will keep the account out of searches.
- Enable restricted mode to help block mature content.

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Youtube:

- Create a separate account for each child on the home computer.
- Enable strict content filtering.
- Enable YouTube safe mode on all browsers for each child's account

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Facebook:

- Create a safe screen name. Encourage kids to think of names that don't reveal personal information and offends others.
- "Location" and "Face recognition" should be turned off, and under the "Block" tab, contacts can be prevented from seeing your Facebook profile.

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- Use privacy settings to restrict who can access and post on the child's profile
- Review the child's friends list. You may want to limit your children's online "friends" to people they actually know.
- Know what the kids are doing. Get to know the social networking sites your kids use so you know how best to understand their activities.

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MOBILE DEVICES

- Always block unsolicited calls from strangers
- Talk to the child about the apps they are allowed to use
- Monitor the child's activity on the device
- Talk to them about the dangers of sharing things online
- Make sure their accounts are set up to *"Ask before purchase"* before allowing the child to download paid apps

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NEVER SHARE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Students and kids should not be asked to share confidential information via online tools. They should keep all personal information off social media platforms.

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COVER YOUR WEBCAM

Turn off or block cameras and microphones when class is not in session. Also, be sure that no personal information is in the camera view.

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WATCH OUT FOR "FREE" STUFF

Free games, ring tones, or other downloads can hide malware. Tell your kids not to download anything unless they trust the source and they've scanned it with security software.

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Discord:

- Block unsuitable content - Use the app's explicit content filter in the settings.
- Limit "adds" to friends - Keep the chat between friends of the child only.
- Teach them about the dangers - This is includes what to look for, what not to send out into cyberspace, and avoiding clicking on links that seem like free offers.
- Know which servers they are connected to.

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