



Top tips to prevent online stranger danger

Teach your child to:

1 Never give out private information

It is important they keep their personal information to themselves to protect their identity while online. They shouldn't share any info that may let a stranger know who they are, where they live or how to contact them, and especially never share a picture of themselves in their school uniform.

3 Never meet an online 'friend' in the real world if they do not know them

If a stranger is wanting to catch up in person this is definite NO NO! They sound dodgy and your child needs to tell a trusted adult immediately.

5 Never accept or engage in a message from a stranger

It's never a good idea to respond to a friend request or answer a message from someone they do not know. Counsel them to always decline that friend request or ignore their messages. If they persist in making contact with them, advise them to block and report this behaviour.

2 Never talk to strangers

It is extremely important that they never chat with anyone online if they don't know them in real life, even if they say that they do. Tell them to check with a trusted adult if a stranger is wanting online contact from them.

4 Not respond to strange requests from people, especially if they do not know them

Strange requests could be in the form of an instant message, spam emails, pop ups or alerts that are asking for them to share their private information. Tell your child to never respond and ask a trusted adult what to do.

6 Never share their password with anyone (except their parents!)

Sharing passwords could put them at risk from people discovering their private information. Tell them to never share their password with anyone except with their parents or trusted care-givers who can help support them in being safe online.

It's important for parents to:

7 Determine clear family boundaries around tech use and screen time

Set up family rules together to ensure everyone stays safe online. Talking about the rules and expectations as well as the challenges of tech use and screen time will allow your family to enjoy being online with confidence and support.

9 Do weekly history searches on your child's computer

Understanding what websites and apps your child is engaging with helps keep them safe. A weekly history check-in can help support positive conversations with your child about their online activity while determining if they need further information on how to keep safe. Googling your child's name is a great idea too! This will give you their digital reputation.

8 Check their child's social media behaviour to ensure they're acting respectfully and safely

Parents with children who are engaging with social media platforms should have access to their account to oversee their child's behaviour and safety. It can also be a positive experience for families to have software installed that monitors and protects the sites and content being viewed in your home. We recommend Family Zone, which gives parents advice and options.

10 Have regular discussions with your child about their life online and what sites and apps they're engaging with

By knowing the content your child is interacting with, you can help support their online use so it continues to be a positive, fun and educational experience. It also strengthens your bond and demonstrates that their world matters to you.