E-safety
click clever, click safe

Advanced IT Services

To help your child to enjoy it the internet safely, the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) has developed the Click Clever, Click Safe code.

The code has been designed to give parents the confidence to be able to help their children enjoy the internet safely and independently. The code aims to help children and young people understand how their online experiences can expose them to risks.
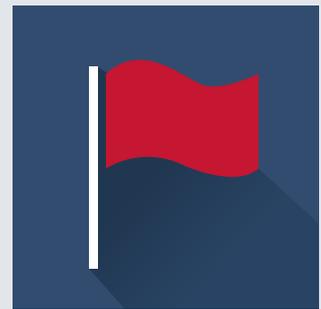
Help you child stay safe online

Zip it   **Block it**   **Flag it**

Zip it   - keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.

Block it   - block people who send you nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.

Flag it   - flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

Zip it

Your child should know not to give out information like:

their full name
photos
postal or email addresses
school information
mobile or home telephone numbers
details of places they like to spend time

Make sure your child knows that they shouldn't arrange to meet people that they have only met online. Even if they have been chatting with someone for a while, that person is still a stranger.

You can help keep your child's information safe by setting privacy settings. This can restrict access to personal information and photos on things like social networking sites.

You should also encourage your child to use a nickname instead of their real name in chat rooms or on instant messaging services. To stop people accessing your child's online accounts, encourage them to keep their passwords secret, and to change them regularly.

Block it

Get your child to block people who send offensive messages and tell them not to open unknown links and attachments. They should delete any suspicious emails or attachments as they may contain something offensive or have a virus that can cause damage to the computer.

One of the main ways children can come across inappropriate content online is through search results. Most search engines include a 'safe search' option that excludes results containing inappropriate images or key words.

You can also install parental controls to filter out harmful and inappropriate content for computers and some mobile phones and games consoles.

Flag it

Your child should come to you or a trusted adult if they are worried or unhappy about anything they see online. They should also do this if a friend they have made online has asked to meet them in the offline world.

If your child does experience inappropriate content online, report it to the website it appears on. The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) has developed an internet safety 'one stop shop' with more information.

Tips so you stay safe on social networking sites

Make sure you're old enough to join.
Do not make friends you don't already know personally.
Always use a 'strong' password. Use random letters or numbers. Change your password regularly.
Use the strongest privacy setting when you set up your profile. Pictures and videos can be shared very easily across the internet, so make sure you are very careful when uploading - even if you only share it with friends, it can easily be spread much further than that.