

Safer Internet Day is a fantastic opportunity to have a conversation with children about using the internet safely, responsibly and positively. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, foster carer, aunt, uncle or older sibling – we can all play a role in empowering children to enjoy their time online!

This year, the UK Safer Internet Centre is particularly focusing on how consent works in an online context and exploring how young people ask, give, and receive consent online. This could be in their friendships or relationships, how they take and share images and videos or how they manage their privacy and data. These conversation starters are a great way to help you talk about these issues with children.

Get the
conversation
started on a
positive note with
these conversation
starters!

1



- ✚ What do you like most about the internet and why? What's your favourite game/app/site?
- ✚ How does going online make you feel?
- ✚ How does the internet/technology make your life better?
- ✚ What could you do if being online is making you feel worse rather than better?
- ✚ What is different about talking online to someone compared to talking face to face? Is there anything that is the same?
- ✚ Can people say/do whatever they want online? Why/why not?

- ★ Do you know where to go for help, where to find safety advice and how to use safety tools on your favourite apps and games?
- ★ What is okay/not okay to share online? Why?
- ★ What could you do if you saw a friend online needed some help or support?
- ★ How do you stay safe online? What tips do you have and where did you learn them?
- ★ Help me! Can you show me how to do something better/safer online?

2



Talk
about
safety

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Talk about sharing online

3

- ◀ How many things can we share online? (pictures, comments, personal information, opinions etc.)
- ◀ What do we like to share online?
- ◀ What should we not share online?
- ◀ What should we do before sharing things online?
- ◀ What do we do if someone shares something about us that we don't like?
- ◀ Can your parents/ carers share things about you online and vice versa?

Talk about online consent and respect within young people's friendships and relationships

4

- ✓ What is consent online and when do we need to ask for it?
- ✓ How do we ask for consent online? How do we give consent online?
- ✓ How do we say no/not give consent?
- ✓ What happens if we share something about someone else without their consent? What happens if somebody doesn't want to give consent?
- ✓ How do we explain to our friends and family about consent? What would we like them to know/do?
- ✓ How do my friends and family ask for my consent and permission?
- ✓ Do you have any tips for how to show respect online and be considerate of others with what we share?

Talk about managing privacy and data online

5

- 🔒 Who owns content online?
- 🔒 What is copyright and how can I use and share work?
- 🔒 What does the internet know about us?
- 🔒 How do you sign up to things? What are terms and conditions?
- 🔒 Who owns your data?
- 🔒 How do connected devices, apps, games ask for my permission to collect or share my information – can I ask for that back?
- 🔒 What happens if something is used without my consent?

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