

KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE ONLINE

As your family spends more time at home and online during the COVID-19 pandemic, here are some steps you can take to protect young people online.

SET UP SAFETY MEASURES

- Review and strengthen privacy settings to help manage which sites your family is visiting.
- Contact your Internet Service Provider to determine whether they have free parental control tools you can download and activate.
- Review privacy settings on social media platforms with your family, and make sure you're comfortable with the information about account holders that social media companies and advertisers may be able to access and use.



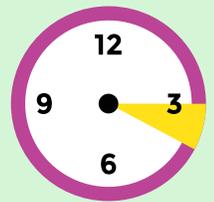
TALK TO YOUR FAMILY

- Talk to young people about online privacy and the risks of sharing personal or family information.
- Remind them to think twice before they add "friends" or build relationships online - especially if they do not know these people in real life.
- Discuss good standards for online behavior, including being respectful, not bullying, and never sending explicit content to others.



OBSERVE BEHAVIORAL CHANGES

- Place computers in a common area so you can monitor online activity, and notice if your child or teen tries to hide their online activity. Discuss rules about password-sharing, monitoring, and access to cellphones and other electronic devices, as well as online accounts.
- Keep an eye out for changes in behavior in young people, including if they spend large amounts of time online unsupervised, especially at night. Ask questions if they are getting phone calls or gifts from someone you don't know - this might be part of a predator's grooming process.
- Notice if children or teenagers are becoming withdrawn from the rest of the family.



REPORT CONCERNS

- It is a violation of federal law to knowingly send or attempt to send obscene material to a minor under the age of 16. Report incidents to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children at 1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678) or www.cybertipline.org.
- If you're concerned that your family is in imminent danger, call local law enforcement.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children: missingkids.org/education

North Carolina Department of Justice: ncdoj.gov/internetsafety

Shield North Carolina: shieldnc.org

NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking: nccaht.org/resources



Attorney General

Josh Stein



Defense
Against
Trafficking.

NC Coalition Against Human Trafficking
identification • protection • prosecution • empowerment