

iPad Safety Guidelines for Parents @KPPS

Our iPad Program so far is a great success with 95% uptake. For the safety of your children we would like to ask all our parents to be very diligent in monitoring your child's behaviour online. The Internet is an essential element in all our lives and while it brings considerable benefits, it can expose our children to online risks such as inappropriate content, harmful interactions with other children or adults and marketing ploys.

Children need to be aware of exposing personal data without understanding the long term privacy issues.

For example:

- Uploading a photo of self with street name in view or outside house
- Giving out location or what and where they will be on the weekend
- Uploading photos or video with school uniform on
- Address/phone numbers/email
- Talking to people they do not know
- Adding unknown people as a contact eg Skype, Snapchat, FB, Instagram

In addition, there are many other risks for children using online environments

- Privacy
- Cyberbullying/stalking
- Age appropriate content
- Online grooming
- Identity theft
- Emotional implications

Therefore support and guidance from parents when using online environments is essential, as is the mental understanding and development of the child using the Apps. This is why many of the following Apps have age appropriate restrictions, which is a legal commitment for using the App. In surveying the children we have noticed that a good 70% use Instagram on a regular basis. Instagram is one of the top Apps used by Predators to groom children, with the others listed below used regularly as well.

The following apps have age restrictions and are not of educational value and as such so are not permitted on the children's iPads while at school. Please remove the following apps immediately!

1. Kik Messenger: is an app-based alternative to standard texting that kids use for social networking. [17+]
2. Facebook: To be eligible to sign up for Facebook, you must be 13 years old.
3. Snapchat: is used for sending goofy or embarrassing photos to others. Snapchats also seem to send and load much "faster" than email or text. [13+]
4. Instagram: is a platform that lets users snap, edit and share photos and 15-second videos -- either publicly or with a network of followers. Pictures are on the Internet forever! [13+]

*****Some other sights to look out for are: Google+, Twitter, Tumblr, Vine Wanelo (Want, Need, Love), Oovoo, Pheed, Ask.fm, Pinterest, Reddit, 4Chan, You Tube, Club Penguin, Moshi Monsters, Skype.*****

iMessage and notifications must be turned off when at school. We would highly recommend that parents regularly check iMessage to ensure that children are following the Cybersafe rules.

LINKS:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/advicesocialmedia.aspx>

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/advicesheetcyber.aspx>

