



DERBY CITY COUNCIL



Young People, ICT and E-Safety

A guide for Parents and Carers



Derby City Partnership



City for Children and Young People

For young people today, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become an integral part of their everyday life. It offers great opportunities to further their research when doing homework and school work.

It is also great fun! They can play games and keep in touch with friends and family. However, just as any other new technology, there are pitfalls and they need the tools to help them develop the skills to keep safe.

This guide explains:

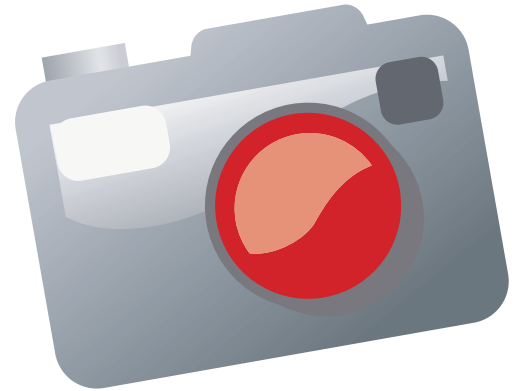
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How young people are using ICT in school

ICT is taught as a subject in its own right but also supports student's learning in other subjects, including English and Mathematics.

Uses of ICT in School

- Word Processing to write essays or letters.
- Databases to record information.
- Spreadsheets to create tables, charts and graphs.
- Desktop Publishing to design posters and leaflets.
- Multimedia Presentation to present text, pictures and sound.
- Internet to access research for project work.
- Email to contact other students within the school and teachers.
- Digital Cameras to record what they have done in class or on a field trip.
- Website Publishing to create their own websites.
- Access to VLEs (Virtual Learning Environments), where students can upload homework, and work on shared projects.



Benefits of using ICT at home

Many studies have looked at the benefits of having access to a computer and the Internet at home. Here are some of the key findings:

- used effectively, ICT can improve children's achievements
- using ICT at home and at school develops skills for life
- students with supportive and involved parents and carers do better at school
- using ICT provides access to a wider and more flexible range of learning materials
- improves their ICT skills and makes learning more fun
- offers them choice in what they learn and how they learn it
- supports homework and revision
- improves the presentation of their work
- connects learning at school with learning at home.

All this can lead to better performance at school and an improved standard of work.



Using the Internet safely at home

Whilst many Internet Service Providers offer filtering systems to help you safeguard your child at home, it remains surprisingly easy for children to access inappropriate material including unsuitable texts, pictures and movies.

Parents are advised to set the security levels within Internet Explorer with this in mind. Locating the computer in a family area, not a bedroom, will enable you to supervise children as they use the Internet. However, don't deny your child the opportunity to learn from the wide variety of material and games available on the Internet. Instead discuss with them some simple rules for keeping them safe and make sure they understand their importance.



To keep safe, they should:

- use websites recommended by teachers and use student friendly search engines
- be aware of who created a website and possible bias within information
- only email people they know
- exercise caution before opening an email sent by someone they don't know.

Social Networking Sites and Chat Rooms

These sites are where young people can create personalised pages, chat to friends, and share information, videos and photographs. The most common ones are Facebook, Bebo and MySpace.

- Internet chat rooms should be used with caution - know how to block unwanted users.
- Never give out a home address, phone or mobile number.
- Never email your school name or a picture in school uniform (even to a friend).
- Never arrange to meet anyone alone, and always tell an adult first.
- Only use a webcam with people you know.
- Only accept people as friends who you know.
- Be aware of and use the privacy settings on social networking sites.
- Be careful of what photos and videos you post on line. Everyone who has access to their profile will be able to see and read everything you post.

Encourage them to tell you immediately if they see anything they are unhappy with or feel threatened by. If you feel that this is serious, contact your child's school, the police or report to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP).





Text Messaging

For more and more young people, their mobile phone is part of their everyday life. For their safety, they need to apply the same rules as when using Social Networking Sites.

Photographs taken on mobiles can be forwarded to hundreds of people within minutes. Do they want so many people accessing an embarrassing photo?

Remind your child to take care when taking and sending photographs.

Cyber Bullying

Bullying can take many forms and, with new technology, it is easier to upset and threaten others anonymously. The bullies can send unpleasant text messages, threatening e-mails and post comments and photos to social networking sites.

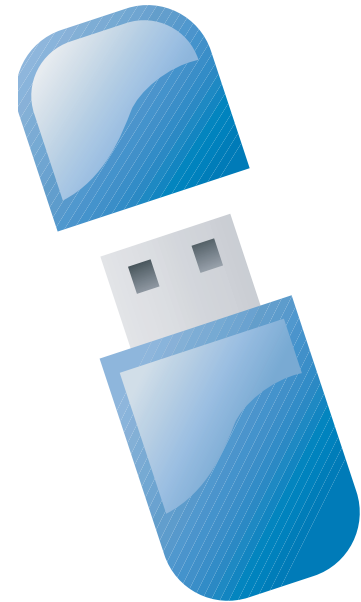
If your child experiences any of these, do not delete them. Contact your child's school or, if you think necessary, report them to the police.

Top Tips for using the Internet safely ...

- Keep the computer in the family room.
- Allow filtering within your Internet Safety Providers Settings. Consider using further filtering/monitoring software.
- Discuss with your child what they are doing online.
- Use child-friendly search engines (see page 11).
- Get your child to speak to a trusted adult if they see anything that upsets them or makes them uncomfortable.
- Never give out personal information such as your address or telephone number.
- Think before sending photos by mobile phone or posting to social networking sites.
- Use the Privacy settings on social networking sites.
- Use the links in this leaflet for further advice.

Using these Top tips...

- Discuss them with your child and keep them near the computer.
- Check the Internet sites which they are visiting by clicking on History and Favourites.
- Create a dialogue and a relationship of mutual respect as far as the Internet is concerned.



Websites offering further information and advice

- **BECTA**
www.becta.org.uk
- **CEOP**
www.ceop.gov.uk
- **Childnet International**
www.childnet-int.org
- **Cybermentors**
www.cybermentors.org.uk
- **DCSF**
www.parentscentre.gov.uk
- **Internet Watch Foundation**
www.iwf.org.uk
- **Think U Know**
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Child-friendly search engines

- **Ask Kids**
www.askkids.com
- **Cant U Find**
www.cantufind.com
- **Kidsclick**
www.kidsclick.org
- **Yahoo Kids**
<http://kids.yahoo.com>



We can give you this information in any other way, style or language that will help you access it. Please contact us on 01332 716924
Minicom 01332 716709 or Fax 01332 716920

Polish Aby ułatwić Państwu dostęp do tych informacji, możemy je Państwu przekazać w innym formacie, stylu lub języku.
Prosimy o kontakt: 01332 718910 Tel. tekstowy: 01332 716709

Punjabi ਸਿੱਧ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਅਸੀਂ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਨਾਲ, ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਹੋਰ ਟੂਥ ਨਾਂ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਿੰਦ ਦੇ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ,
ਜਿਹੜੀ ਟਿੱਸ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕਰਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੋਵੇ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ
01332 718945 ਮਿਲੀਯਾ 01332 716709 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Urdu 01332 717959 پر معلومات ہم آپ کو کسی دیگر ایسے طریقے، انداز اور زبان میں موبیا کر سکتے ہیں جو اس تک رسائی میں آپ کی مدد کرے۔ براؤزر
01332 716709 پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔



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