Guidance for Parents

Do you know how to keep your children safe on the internet?

South West Grid for Learning are a non profit, charitable trust company, that provide learners throughout the South West of England with safe, secure and reliable internet connectivity; broadband-enabled learning resources and services; help support and advice in using the internet safely. Find out more at www.swgfl.org.uk

Gaming
Gaming is fun but can be all consuming. Why not use the gaming consoles safety settings to help control age related games and the amount of time spent online. Pay attention to the PEGI (age) ratings and what they mean.

PEGI: www.pegi.info/en/index
Common Sense Media: www.commonsensemedia.org

Social Media
Social Media is a great way for your child to communicate and engage with peer groups. Consider privacy settings and sorting friends into "groups" within these sites relevant to their age. Talk to them about what they post and whether it is appropriate, it can affect their future / relationships / self-esteem.

UKSIC: www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents
Connect Safely: www.connectsafely.org /guides-2

Instant Messaging
Instant messaging is a fast, fun way to speak to friends and family. Ensure your child understands that they may be talking to people they do not know so a conversation about what is appropriate or not to send is a good idea.

UKSIC: www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents
Connect Safely: www.connectsafely.org /guides-2

Cyberbullying
Remember, it is not the technology but the behaviour of the bully that is the problem. Would your child turn to you if they need help? It's always worth talking about bullying issues and making sure your child is supported. Reporting incidents not only helps your child but others too.

Anti Bullying Alliance: www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk
Diana Awards, Anti Bullying Ambassadors programme: www.antibullyingpro.com

General
UKSIC: www.saferinternet.org.uk/parents
Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org
Digital Parenting Magazine: www.vodaphone.com/content/parents/digital-parenting html