

## What next?

- A skills and awareness audit. Who knows what in your home or organisation? You may already have an e-safety champion in waiting.
- **Remember, that the world of e-safety need not be scary. It is all about taking control. You are in charge of what you do and no-one can *make* you do anything online that you are not comfortable with .**
- Power is knowledge. The more you know about e-safety the more empowered you become. It is not scary, and in fact most people who embark on e-safety training become animated and excited about taking control.
- **Contact the e-safety team at [e\\_safety@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:e_safety@eastsussex.gov.uk) for further details.**
- The most powerful thing you can do is talk about e-safety and talk about it often. Those who would abuse systems, or use them to abuse people do not want e-safety out in the open. They much prefer people not to talk about it..
- **Together, we can make everyone in East Sussex E-Safe.**

## Further information

Anyone can make a mistake. It is what you do about it that matters. Some people have likened “The E-Safety Talk” to “The Growing Up Talk” that most parents dread having with their adolescent children.

It need not be like that.

There is no doubt that children and young people are far more at home in the digital world that adults are. That is why it is essential to learn to play in their playground.

For adults, a good starting point is to ask “What do I want to do online?” List the things you do . This might be anything from sending emails to online shopping...whatever it is, there is a way of doing it safely.

This series of self help leaflets is growing all the time. If you think there is a need for one on a specific subject, then please let the e-safety team know, and we will arrange to have one written.

You can contact us on [e\\_safety@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:e_safety@eastsussex.gov.uk)

# What IS e-safety?

(Or “How do we know what we don’t know?”)

### **What IS “e-safety”?**

E-safety is a term used in connection with all technology that is based on the internet or that electronically connects people. Mobile phones, email and the internet are the most common applications of the term, however, new devices are being developed all the time.

### **What is it that an “E-Safety consultant” actually does?**

The role varies from providing advice and guidance to incident management and support. Most organisations and individuals move a great deal of personal data around and the E-Safety Consultant’s role is to help people to understand how to do this safely. As it says in Harry Potter, “It’s my job to think as dark wizards do.”

### **Is it all bad out there?**

No, far from it. Don’t forget that all you will ever hear about online safety in the media are the horror stories of when something has gone badly wrong. The grooming of children and identity theft are the most commonly reported. But just think how many times the “enter” key has been pressed since 9:00am this morning just in this building perfectly successfully. Now imagine how many times it has been done in the town, the county and even the country. **FAR more good things happen than bad,**

### **So what is the problem?**

Information is valuable. It has a commercial value too. While many applications on the internet are “free”, most require the user to part with some information for the privilege of using it. This may be just an email address, or it may be more like a phone

number or home address. Of course, there are always people trying to con others. “Scams”, as they are called are growing in sophistication, and the more aware we are, the less likely we are to fall into the trap.

### **How do I start to become “e-safe”?**

You already have by reading this leaflet. Next you should make a list of the things you use connected technology for. Divide your list up into “home” & “work”.

### **Questions for the workplace might include:-**

- Do I use a password at work?
- Is it a “strong” password?
- Does anyone else know it?
- Have I written it down anywhere?
- Do I lock my computer when I walk away from it?
- Do I ever log on and allow someone else to use my workstation?
- Do I carry personal (client) data around?
- How do I do this?
- Do I make sure no unauthorised person can access it?

### **In the home, you may like to think about:-**

- Where is/are the computers in my home located?
- Do I use usernames and passwords at home?
- Do I know what my children are using the internet for?
- Do I know what a suspicious email looks like?

- Do my children know about “Zip it, Block it Flag it?”
- Do I have rules at home for using the internet?
- Do I monitor what people have been looking at?
- Would my children know what to do if they saw something that upset them or frightened them?

There are many other things to think about and sometimes work and home overlap.

### **Organisational e-safety?**

Having an e-safety consultancy visit can really help you to determine the needs of your department or organisation. We can even engage with your stakeholders and help you to manage the interface between them successfully. For those in a carers role, disclosure procedures may be relevant, and a means of managing e-safety incidents should be in place in all organisations.

### **But we can’t all do this!**

No, but you can elect an “E-Safety Champion” who would be responsible for keeping their finger on the pulse of e-safety in your workplace. We can train them, and they can train your department or organisation.

### **Do you become involved in serious issues?**

Yes. From time to time things go wrong and we can find ourselves a school or a team to manage an incident. In most cases, the root cause is a failure of responsibility somewhere along the line.