

# Keeping Kids Safer Online

At least 300 million children per year are subjected to online sexual exploitation and abuse (OCSEA)\*

What happens online can have real-world consequences. Putting in place some basic online safety steps will help you protect yourself and your family.

\*2024 Childlight

### **Know the Warning** Signs of Online Abuse

- Sudden mood swings, secrecy, or withdrawal from family/friends.
- Avoiding activities they used to love.
- Spending too much or too little time online.
- Drop in school performance.

### Technology-facilitated violence can occur on any digital device and across various online platforms.

### Setting Clear Guidelines for **Internet Use**

- Set boundaries for safe websites, screen time, and respectful behavior.
- Involve children in creating the rules to encourage respect.
- Regularly update the guidelines as your child grows and technology changes.

## Teaching Privacy and Online Awareness

- Teach children the risks of sharing personal information.
- Encourage caution with strangers and suspicious links.
- Help children question offers or messages that seem too good to be true.

### **Keep Communication Open**

- Talk regularly about your child's online activities and any challenges they face.
- Encourage your child to seek help if something makes them uncomfortable online.
- Lead by example to set a positive digital behavior and respect privacy.

### Strengthen Security

- Teach your child to create strong, unique passwords and keep them confidential.
- Encourage using different passwords for different accounts and enable two-factor authentication (2FA).
- Stay informed about new apps and emerging online threats to maintain digital safety.

### **Practice Permission** and Consent

 Before taking a child's image or video or sharing it online, seek permission from both the child and their legal parent or guardian.



### Who is behind **Online Violence?**

Not just strangers! Friends, classmates, and even trusted adults can pose risks.

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