ATTENTION PARENTS

Know the Hidden Dangers of Tech Gifts!

Consider these tips when providing your children access to the Internet:

Think Before You Post

Tell them to ask themselves before posting:
- Is it offensive?
- Could it affect my future, i.e. college, career?
- Would I do it in front of my parents?

Privacy!

- Always make sure they set their privacy settings so they choose who sees their account.
- Keep personal information (address, school, phone number, passwords) to themselves.

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DANGER **DANGER** **DANGER**

- Turn off location settings on the phone or for apps that specifically use the camera on the phone. If location settings are turned on, GPS coordinates are stored with the picture every time one is taken. Children can unknowingly share their location.

Cyberbullying: How To Help

- Save the evidence
- Block cyberbullies
- Set up new accounts
- Talk to the school
- Report it to law enforcement if it continues

Educate & Communicate

The #1 way to protect your children today is by talking to them. Talk about online threats such as predators, bullies, and the risk of sharing too much information.

Set Expectations

- Be sure that your children understand your expectations before they're given access to technology, such as when they can be online and what they can share.
- Inform them your expectations extend beyond the walls of your home, i.e. when they're with other family members or friends.

Addressing Sexting

- Stay in control – never taking an inappropriate photo means they have nothing to worry about
- Talk about the consequences, i.e. shared publicly, anxiety, being bullied, possible criminal charges?

Are They Real?

Referring to their "online" friends, ask them:
- Do they know them in real life?
- Are they certain it's who they say they are and not a fake account? Never allow them to meet someone offline that they've never met before. If you agree to an offline meet, go with them. Also, ascertain who's who on their "friends" list. If they never met them before, consider deleting them. You don't know who's real and who's a predator.

Location, Location, Location

Have your kid's computer and gaming devices in a central location viewable from outside the room.
- Create a central family charging station where all mobile devices are stored before bedtime.
- Don't allow mobile devices in the bedroom.

NJ State Police, Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force

Hotline: 888-648-6007 • www.NJSP.org

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