Parents Safety Tips For 8-10 year olds	Parents Safety Tips For 8-10 year olds	Safety tips
Attitudes towards media • At this age they still accept media content uncritically and believe media portrayals are real if they appear possible in real life. In particular, they may be frightened by realistic portrayals of violence, threats or danger. This is an age where kids may be easily influenced by media images and personalities – especially those that appear "cool" or desirable. • At this age, Internet use is also growing, although they still accept and use technology uncritically they often blend their online actions with other activities and media since this is the age when multi-tasking begins. • Their favourite online activities are playing and downloading games, and surfing the Net for fun, which includes visiting virtual environments like Club Penguin. On an average school day, 57 per cent are doing homework and a surprising number are also making use of the Internet for self-expression and learning.	**Online issues** • At this age, children are more confident now about going online and perceive the Internet as a fun place to be. • Generally, children under the age of 10 lack sufficient critical thinking skills to navigate online alone but research shows that 20 % of 9- 10 year olds have their own devices with Internet access. • The challenges that existed at younger ages remain: easy access to adult sites through hyperlinks, relentless advertising and search engine results containing inappropriate Web sites. • As well, the growing confidence and increased online explorations of this age group raise some new issues, such as: • The increased consumption of online games (generally created by advertisers) that leave them vulnerable to aggressive harvesting of their personal information; • Their naïveté regarding false online identities and • Their vulnerability – especially if left unsupervised – to harassment from peers.	• Create a list of Internet house rules with input from your children. • Sit with them when they are online or make sure they only visit sites that you have approved. • Keep Internet-connected computers in an open area where you can easily monitor them. • Utilise Internet-filtering tools as a complement – not a replacement – for parental supervision. • Use child-friendly search engines or search engines with parental controls. • Establish a shared family e-mail account with your Internet Service Provider rather than letting your children have their own accounts. • Teach your children to always come to you before giving out information through e-mail, chat rooms, message boards, registration forms, personal profiles and online contests. • Use e-mail filters to block messages from particular people, or those that contain specific words or phrases. • Don't allow instant messaging at this age. • Only allow your children to use monitored chat rooms and message boards on reputable child specific sites. • Talk to them about their online friends and activities just as you would about their other activities. • Encourage your kids to come to you if they encounter anything online that makes them feel uncomfortable or threatened. (Stay calm. If you "freak out" your kids won't turn to you for help when they need it.)

Online Safety Tips for Parents

Be Aware	Be Curious	Be Engaged
• Install filters to protect your child from inappropriate websites. • Keep tabs on your child's internet use. Make sure you know what sites your child visits, how much time he or she spends on them, and whom your child is communicating with.	• Set limits for screen time to have a balance with real world connections. • Put the family computer in a public place in your home, such as a kitchen or family room, to encourage an open dialogue and discourage unwanted online behaviour. • Consider not allowing your child to have any connected devices, such as a Smartphone, laptop computer, or tablet, in private areas of your home, like a bedroom or bathroom.	• Keep the conversations going. Start talking with your child at an early age about online use and continue the dialogue as your child gets older. • Know any passwords that your child uses, and explain that they shouldn't be shared with friends