

E-Safety Guidance for Parents of Children with Additional Needs



Children with additional needs may be particularly vulnerable online, as they may have difficulties fully understanding or identifying potential risks. Here's how to help keep them safe in a way that meets their unique needs.

Recognise Unique Online Risks



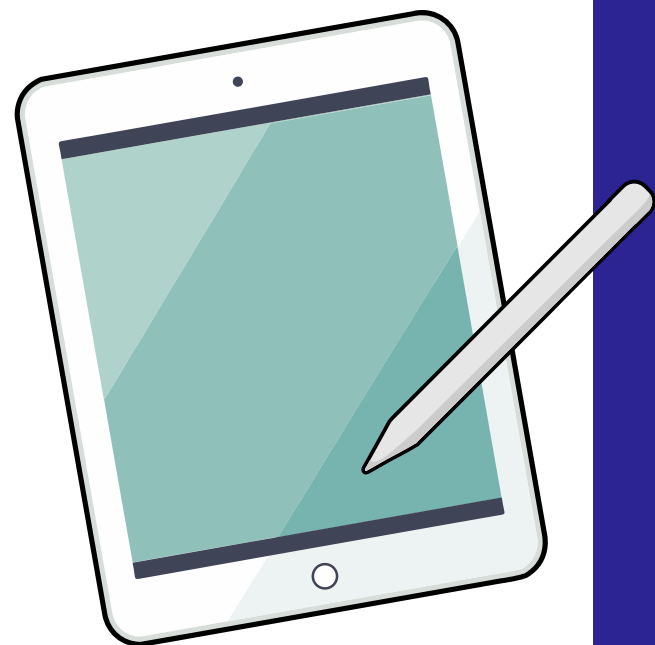
Accidental Exposure to Harmful Content: Children may be more likely to access inappropriate material without fully understanding its impact.



Increased Risk of Cyberbullying: Children with additional needs may be more susceptible to unkind or manipulative behaviour online.



Stranger Danger: Children may be more trusting online, which could make them vulnerable to predatory behaviour..



Privacy Vulnerabilities: Some children may find it challenging to understand what information is safe to share.

Maintain Open, Clear Communication



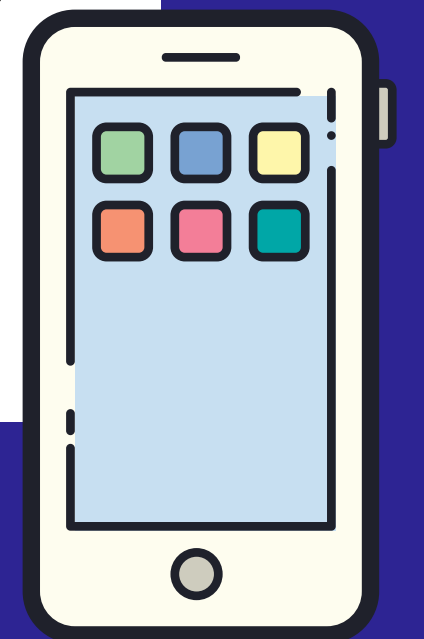


**Frequent,
Simple
Conversations:**
Use clear and
simple language
to discuss
online safety
and appropriate
online
behaviour. ?



**Reassure Them
They Can Come to
You:**
Encourage them
to speak up if they
feel
uncomfortable,
confused, or upset
by something
online. ?

**Ask About Their
Digital Interests:**
Show interest in
the apps and
websites they
use, discussing
safe ways to
engage with
each.

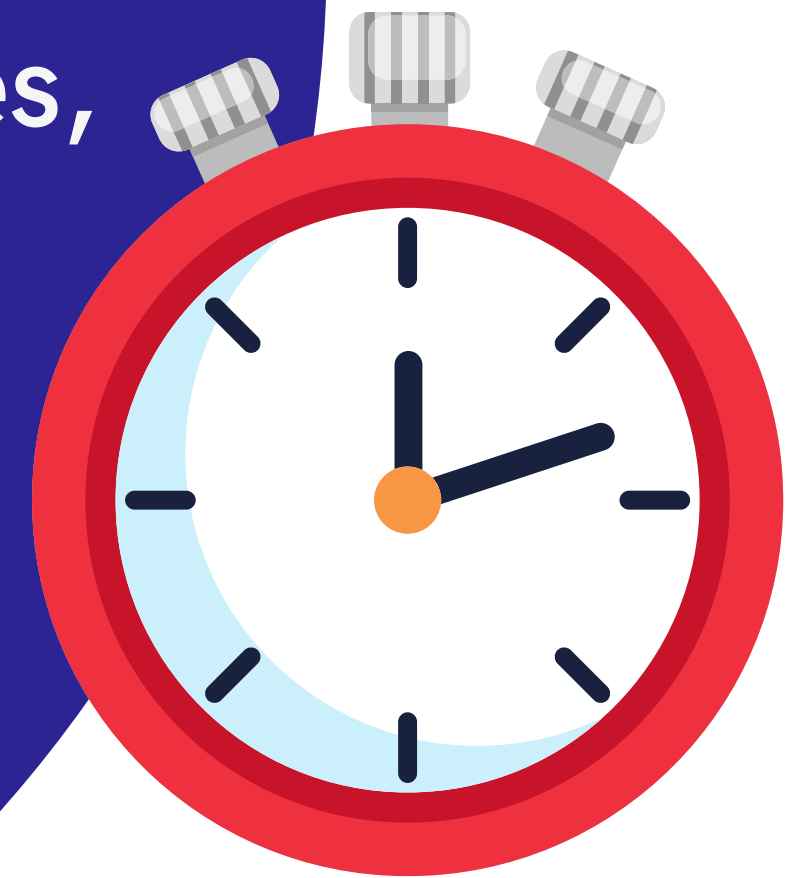


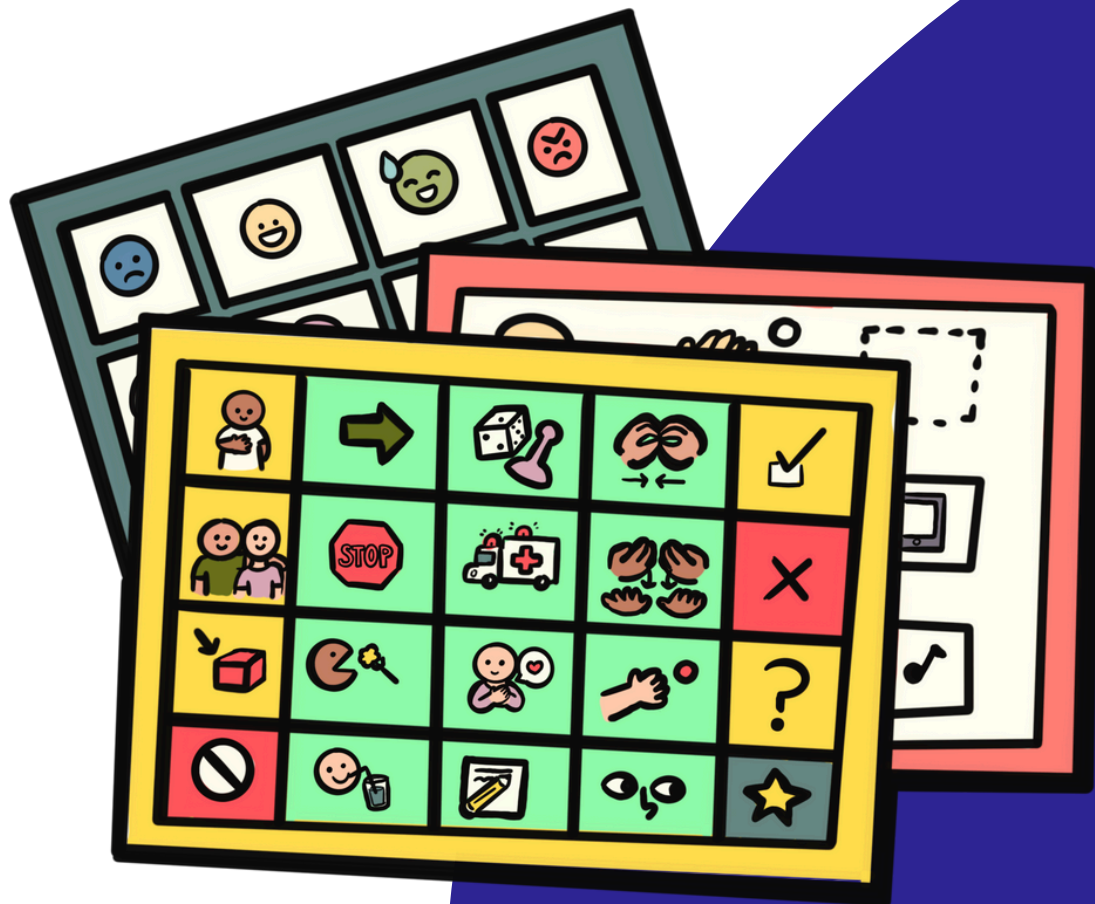
Set Structured Boundaries and Rules



SCHEDULED DEVICE TIME:

Limit device use to specific times and places, such as shared family spaces, to help monitor usage.





CREATE VISUAL REMINDERS

Use visual charts or reminders for device rules, tailored to their understanding level.



AGE-APPROPRIATE ACCESS

Follow age recommendations on apps and games, and use parental controls to keep content safe and manageable.



Teach Careful Sharing and Online Behaviour



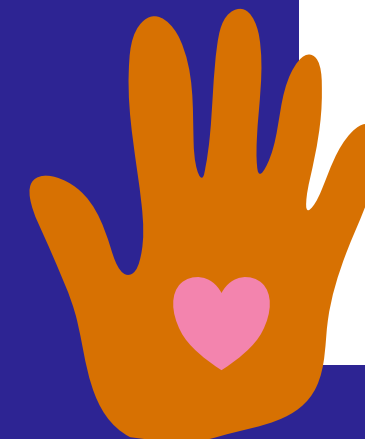
Reinforce Privacy in Simple Terms:
Regularly remind them not to share personal information (like name, address, or school) online, using visuals or examples as needed.



Practice Kind and Respectful Communication:
Help them understand the importance of kind behaviour online, using role-play if helpful.



Explain Permanency of Posts:
Help them understand that what they share online can stay there and could impact them later.



Use Parental Controls and Safe Browsing



Adjust Settings Based on Need: Use device and app parental controls to restrict access to unsafe content, adjusting as your child grows.



Install Safe Filters: Use search filters to block harmful websites and apps and ensure that their browsing experience is as safe as possible.

Review Controls Regularly: Regularly assess and update parental control settings to match your child's current needs and abilities.



Provide Repeated Guidance on Online Safety

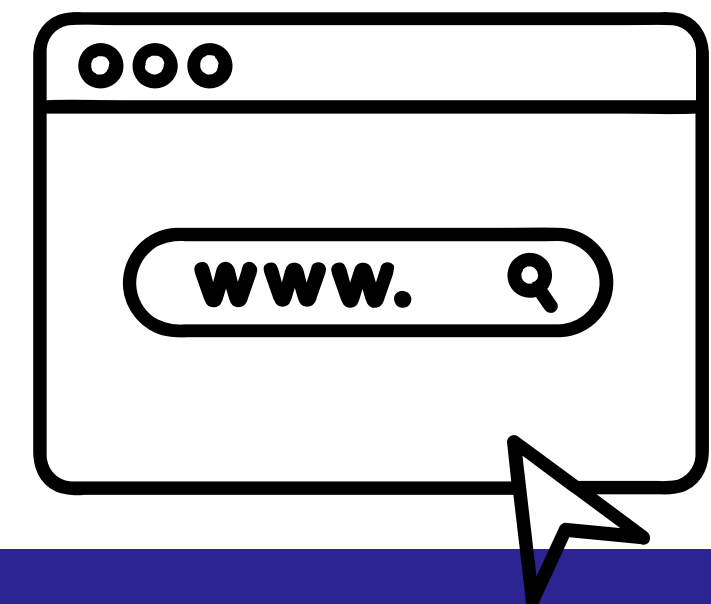


Frequent Reminders:
Regularly revisit e-safety discussions, reinforcing boundaries and best practices.



Provide Examples:
Share real-life examples (in simple terms) to help them understand why safety is important.

Stay Informed:
Familiarise yourself with the apps and websites your child uses so you can support and guide them effectively.



By tailoring e-safety guidance to their needs, you help your child with additional needs develop the understanding and confidence to navigate the online world safely.