Getting online safely for parents & families

Knowing how to get online safely is important for all families in Australia. Read our tips to help you get started.

Using the internet

Getting started

There are many things you can do on the internet. You can:

- Keep in touch with others
- Do your banking
- Browse or shop
- Keep up with the latest news
- Help your child do their homework online
- Learn about topics of interest to you.

You can use a smartphone, tablet or computer to connect to the internet at home or when on the move. To do this you will need to have:

- A wifi connection - broadband at your house, workplace or free public wifi
- Mobile data - through a sim card.

Viruses, scams and phishing from the internet can damage your computer or steal your personal information. There are some simple things you can do to stay safer online.

- Be careful about clicking on links in emails, text messages or pop ups
- Always use virus protection software

Exploring online

Websites are places where you can find information on the internet. Here are some ways you can find a website:

- Type the address into your web browser. For example: www.abc.net.au.
- Type words into a search engine, such as Google or Bing

- Using a Bookmark or Favourite - these are ways to save the webpage as a shortcut in your internet browser.

You can move around the internet by clicking on web links.

- A link is text or words that is underlined or in a different color.
- A link is sometimes a button or an image on the page.
- Often, a link changes color when you move the mouse cursor over it.
- The mouse cursor can change to a pointing finger when it's over a link.
- With a touch screen, you will need to tap on the links or button.

T&C's and laws

Copyright, harassment and discrimination laws apply to the internet. It is against the law to copy, edit or reproduce content without permission, and you must always treat people with respect when online.

If you want to use content like wording or images from a website, you should ask for permission or you need to reference it.

Many websites have terms and conditions (T&C's) which you should read before agreeing to anything.

- Terms and conditions are the rules which govern how you can use the website.
- You should read the terms and conditions first if you are going to sign up or register for something online.

Keep learning

Check out our website **learning.goodthingsfoundation.org.au** to learn more about what you can do online.

Parents can also contact The Smith Family for support to get online, including support to access affordable computers and internet.

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