Online Safety

Protect Your Privacy

1. Keep passwords private
2. Set up privacy controls
3. Always log out

Beware Of What You Share

1. Do not share any personal information such as your name, address, phone number, school, Social Security number, or date of birth.
2. Don't share inappropriate comments, photos, or videos as these can damage your reputation for years to come.

Don't Talk To Strangers

1. Limit your "friends" on social networking sites to people you know in the "real world".
2. Don't open messages from people you don't know.

Don't Be A Bully

1. Be positive when posting comments online.
2. Treat others how you would want to be treated.

Online Security

1. Do not use passwords that are easy to guess such as nicknames or pet names.
2. Do not use any private identity information in the password. Identity thieves can steal this information.
3. Do not use any word in the dictionary as a password. Hackers use programs that will try every word in the dictionary to guess passwords.
4. Use combinations of letters, numbers, and symbols for the most secure password.

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common sense media

Common Sense Media helps families make smart media choices. The site offers ratings and reviews for movies, games, apps, TV shows, websites, books, and music.

common sense education

Common Sense Education provides teachers and schools with free classroom tools to help students make safe, smart, and ethical decisions.

common sense

Common Sense works with policymakers, industry leaders, legislators, parents, and teachers to improve the media and technology for all students, families, and schools.

common sense graphite

Graphite is a platform for educators to find the best apps, games, and websites for students.

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Dear Parents,

We are currently implementing the Common Sense Media Digital Literacy and Citizenship Curriculum in all grade levels at Village Oaks Elementary School. We are committed to using these tools to teach our students the essential skills to be safe and responsible digital citizens.

Ms. Torres —Principal

"Common Sense provides unbiased information, trusted advice, and tools to help parents, teachers, and policymakers to make smart media choices."

www.commonsensemedia.org

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is the continual use of digital-communication tools (such as the Internet and cell phones) to make another person feel angry, sad, or scared.

What Can Families Do?

Limit Online Socializing—There is more risk for bullying on sites where children can communicate openly. Look for sites that offer pre-scripted chat options, like Webkinz or Club Penguin.

Explain The Basics Of Good Behavior Online— Remind your children that being mean, lying, or telling a secret hurts others online or offline.

Remind Your Children Not To Share Passwords With Their Friends— A common form of cyberbullying is when children share passwords, log on to another child's account, and pretend to be that person.

Make Sure They Talk To Someone— A child should tell a parent, teacher, or a trusted adult if he or she is being bullied online.

Teach Children Ways To Handle A Cyberbully — Your child should never retaliate against a cyberbully. Remind them to save the evidence rather than delete it, and to speak with an adult.

What Can Parents Do To Protect Your Children?

⇒ **Use Common Sense Media for ratings and reviews of movies, apps, games, TV shows, books, and music.**

⇒ **Install content blocking software.**

   1. **K-9 Protection—Free software that blocks content, provides malware protection, and contains content ratings of websites.**

   2. **Net Nanny— Protects 1 device per year for $12.99. Filters website content, blocks inappropriate pictures and videos, masks profanity, and gives you time controls on the device.**

⇒ **Monitor computers and devices.**

⇒ **Limit the amount of time on computers or devices.**

⇒ **Computers or laptops should be placed in a central location in the home, such as your family room. Children should <u>not</u> have computers or devices in their own bedrooms.**

⇒ **Consistently communicate safety tips to your child about their online behavior.**

How Much Screen Time Is Okay For My Children?

"The American Academy for Pediatrics (AAP) discourages screen time for children under the age of 2, and advises limiting daily screen time to one to two hours for older children. Studies have shown a link between heavy media use and issues such as obesity, lack of sleep, academic challenges, aggression, and other behavior difficulties." (Common Sense Media)

Did You Know?

- 21% of students in grades K-2 have access to cell phones.

- 71% of teen girls and 67% of teen boys who have sent or posted suggestive content have sent it to a boyfriend or girlfriend.

- 70% of children over the age of 7 have accidentally encountered adult material online through a web search while doing homework.

- Girls are more likely than boys to be the target of cyberbullying.

- 65% of 8-14 year olds have been involved in a cyberbullying incident.

Statistics from GuardChild.com