

Share with Care

Vocabulary



Online privacy: A broad term that usually means the ability to control what information you share about yourself online and who can see and share it

Digital footprint (or digital presence): Your digital footprint is all the information about you that appears online. This can mean anything from photos, audio, videos, and texts to “likes” and comments you post on friends’ profiles. Just as your footsteps leave prints on the ground while you walk, what you post online leaves a trail as well.

Reputation: The ideas, opinions, impressions, or beliefs that other people have about you; something that you can’t be totally sure about but that you usually want to be positive or good

Personal information: Information that identifies a specific person – for example, your name, street address, phone number, Social Security number, email address, etc. – is called personal (or sensitive) info. Really think carefully before sharing this kind of information online.

Oversharing: Sharing too much online – usually this is about sharing too much personal information or just too much about yourself in a certain situation or conversation online.

Settings: This is the area in any digital product, app, website, etc., where you can define or adjust what you share and how your account is handled – including your privacy settings.

Don't Fall for Fake Vocabulary



Bot: Also called a “chatbot” or “virtual assistant,” this is a piece of software that operates online or on a network to automatically answer questions, follow commands (like giving directions to your new friend’s house), or do simple tasks (like play a song).

Phishing: An attempt to scam you or trick you into sharing login information or other personal information online. Phishing is usually done through email, ads, or sites that look similar to ones you’re already used to.

Spearphishing: A phishing scam where an attacker targets you more precisely by using pieces of your own personal information

Scam: A dishonest attempt to make money or gain something else of value by tricking people

Trustworthy: Able to be relied on to do what is right or what is needed

Authentic: Real, genuine, true, or accurate; not fake or copied

Verifiable: Something that can be proven or shown to be true or correct

Deceptive: False; an action or message designed to fool, trick, or mislead someone

Manipulation: Someone controlling or influencing another person or situation unfairly, dishonestly, or under threat. Alternatively, things you find online may be manipulated, such as a photo that has been edited to make you believe something that isn’t true.

Fraudulent: Tricking someone in order to get something valuable from them

Firewall: A program that shields your computer from most scams and tricks

Malicious: Words or actions intended to be cruel or hurtful. Can also refer to harmful software intended to do damage to a person’s device, account, or personal information.

Catfishing: Creating a fake identity or account on a social networking service to trick people into sharing their personal information or into believing they’re talking to a real person behind a legitimate account, profile, or page

Clickbait: Manipulative online content, posts, or ads designed to capture people’s attention and get them to click on a link or webpage, often to grow views or site traffic in order to make money

Secure Your Secrets

Vocabulary



Privacy: Protecting people’s data and personal information (also called sensitive information)

Security: Protecting people’s devices and the software on them

Two-step verification (also called two-factor verification and two-step authentication): A security process where logging in to a service requires two separate steps or two “factors,” such as a password and a one-time code. For example, you may have to enter your password and then enter a code that was texted to your phone or a code from an app.

Password or passcode: A secret combination used to access something. It may take different forms; for example, you may have a four-digit number-only code that you use for your phone lock and a much more complex password for your email account. In general, you should make your passwords as long and complex as you can while still being able to remember them.

Encryption: The process of converting information or data into a code that makes it unreadable and inaccessible

Complexity: The goal when creating a secure password. For example, a password is complex when it has a mix of numbers, special characters (like “\$” or “&”), and both lowercase and uppercase letters.

Hacker: A person who uses computers to gain unauthorized access to other people’s or organizations’ devices and data

It's Cool to Be Kind

Vocabulary



Bullying: Purposefully mean behavior that is usually repeated. The person being targeted often has a hard time defending themselves.

Cyberbullying: Bullying that happens online or through using digital devices

Harassment: A more general term than bullying that can take many forms – pestering, annoying, intimidating, humiliating, etc. – and can happen online too

Conflict: An argument or disagreement that isn't necessarily repeated

Aggressor: The person doing the harassing or bullying; though sometimes called the “bully,” bullying prevention experts advise never to label people as such.

Target: The person being bullied or victimized

Bystander: A witness to harassment or bullying who recognizes the situation but chooses not to intervene

Upstander: A witness to harassment or bullying who supports the target privately or publicly, sometimes including trying to stop and/or report the incident they witnessed

Amplify: To increase or widen participation or impact

Exclusion: A form of harassment or bullying used online and offline; often referred to as “social exclusion”

Block: A way to end all interaction with another person online, preventing them from accessing your profile, sending you messages, seeing your posts, etc., without notifying them (not always ideal in bullying situations where the target wants to know what the aggressor is saying or when the bullying has stopped)

Mute: Less final than blocking, muting is a way to stop seeing another person's posts, comments, etc., in your social media feed when that communication gets annoying – without notifying that person or being muted from their feed (not helpful in bullying)

Anonymous: An unnamed or unknown person – someone online whose name or identity you don't know

Trolling: Posting or commenting online in a way that is deliberately cruel, offensive, or provocative

Report abuse: Using a social media service's online tools or system to report harassment, bullying, threats, and other harmful content that typically violates the service's terms of service or community standards

When in Doubt, Talk It Out

Vocabulary



Courageous: Brave; not necessarily fearless, though, because people are especially brave when they're scared or nervous but take positive action anyway

Compromised account: An online account that has been taken over by someone else so that you no longer have complete control of it

Student agency: A step beyond a student using their voice to speak up, student agency is the capacity to act or make change; including protecting or standing up for oneself and others; often seen as a necessary part of citizenship

Trust: Strong belief that something or someone is reliable, truthful, or able