

COMPUTING · Y3-Y6

Online Safety & Digital Citizenship

Knowledge Organiser — KS2 Computing

Key vocabulary

1

Personal information

Details about you — your name, age, address, school, photos. Keep most of these private online.

2

Password

A secret word or phrase that protects your account. Keep it private. Don't tell friends.

3

Privacy settings

Choices on apps and websites that control who can see what you share.

4

Cyberbullying

Being unkind to someone using technology — messages, posts, or pictures meant to hurt.

5

Fake news

Stories that look like news but aren't true. Often shared to mislead people.

6

Phishing

When someone pretends to be a trusted person or company to trick you into giving them information.

7

Digital footprint

Everything you do online leaves a trace — like a footprint. It can stay forever.



8

Trusted adult

Someone you can talk to if anything online worries you. A parent, carer, teacher, or family friend.

rules for online safety

An easy way to remember

- S — SAFE: keep personal information safe (name, address, school, age).
- M — MEET: never meet someone in person who you've only met online without checking with a trusted adult.
- A — ACCEPT: don't accept files, photos, or messages from people you don't know.
- R — RELIABLE: not everything online is true. Check before you believe.
- T — TELL: tell a trusted adult if anything online makes you feel uncomfortable.
- Created by Childnet — used in primary schools across the UK.

ong passwords

How to make and protect th

- USE a long phrase, not just one word: 'PurpleHorseRunsFast' is much stronger than 'horse123'.
- MIX letters, numbers and symbols where allowed.
- DIFFERENT password for different accounts. If one is leaked, others stay safe.
- DON'T share passwords with friends — even close ones.
- DON'T use birthdays, pet names, or your name in passwords.
- If a password is leaked, CHANGE IT immediately.
- If you can't remember many, use a 'password manager' (an adult app that remembers them for you).

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Digital citizenship



- Treat others online the way you'd want to be treated — same rule as offline.
- Words can hurt MORE online — you can't see the other person's face or know if they're upset.
- Don't write anything online that you wouldn't say in person.
- If you see someone being bullied online, don't join in. Tell a trusted adult.
- BLOCK and REPORT bullies — every social platform has these features.
- It's okay to take a break from social media if it's making you feel bad.
- Remember: posts, photos and comments can stay online forever, even if you delete them.

Spotting fake news

How to know what to trust

- Check WHO wrote it — is it a known news organisation (BBC, Newsround) or random website?
- Check the DATE — is it current, or an old story being shared as new?
- Check OTHER sources — is the same news on multiple trusted sites?
- Look at the URL carefully — fake sites copy real names with tiny changes (bbc.co vs bbc.co.uk).
- Headlines designed to make you ANGRY are often fake — they want clicks, not truth.
- Photos can be faked or taken from completely different events.
- If unsure, ASK a trusted adult before sharing.

