




you decide ...

Thoughts and facts about the Internet and privacy for ages 9-13



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Editor in chief: Torbjørn D. Moe, the Norwegian Centre for ICT in Education
Project manager: Karoline Tømte, the Norwegian Centre for ICT in Education
Journalist: Inger Lise Welhaven
Design: Haugvar Communications & Design
Illustrations: Mikrofilm AS
Printing: Nor Grafisk AS

For more information, please visit: www.dubestemmer.no

**Norwegian Centre for ICT
in Education**

P.O. Box 530
NO-9256 Tromsø, Norway
Tel.: (+47) 854 19 000
www.iktsenteret.no

**Norwegian
Board of Technology**

P.O. Box 522 Sentrum
NO-0105 Oslo
Tel: +47 23 31 83 00
www.teknologiradet.no

**The Data
Inspectorate**

P.O. Box 8177 Dep
NO-0034 Oslo
Tel: +47 22 39 69 00
www.datatilsynet.no



YOUR CHOICE

This brochure is about you. It's about the Internet. It's about all the interesting and fun things you can use the Internet for – and a little bit about what can go wrong.

This brochure is about having respect for others. It's about having respect for yourself. It's about how you can look after yourself and be safe – when you're online, too.

Some things in this brochure you will certainly know about already. Some things will be new. We hope that working with this brochure will produce some useful discussions on how you can use the Internet in a good way, so that you will find it easier to make choices that are right for you.

It's forYOU to decide.



... Did YOU send that lame message??

You probably did it just for fun – but how amusing was it really?

A lot more people than you intended got hold of the message, didn't they? Suddenly it's your fault that a classmate doesn't dare come to school.

Was it really worth it – or do you wish you had thought it through?

**Consider the consequences of your actions
– not everything can be undone.**

HELLO.....IS THERE ANYBODY OUT THERE..??? Yes!

Hundreds! Thousands!! Millions!!! On the Internet, you can reach the whole world if you want. And sometimes you reach someone you don't want to reach...

Lots of people can see YOU!

The Internet is great. You can chat with friends on MSN, see films on YouTube, download music, visit friends' websites, and share your photos. The Internet gives you unlimited possibilities to be seen and heard.

It was different when your parents were young. Basically, they almost had to be the world's best football player or win the Nobel Peace Prize to be noticed by the outside world. Now the photos you post on Flickr, or the video you put up on YouTube, can be seen by millions of people – by your grandmother in the next town, a plumber in Brazil, or even by your future spouse.

The whole world

Perhaps you've got a profile on MySpace, Facebook, Piczo, or another online community, or a blog where you've posted photos and some information about yourself? Have you ever thought through whether you want your neighbours or parents to see what you've put on the Internet? Because there's every chance they do ...

In some online communities, you can decide who sees what on your profile. But tagging, cutting, and pasting are easy on the Internet. It's very easy for something that was meant only for your friends to end up being seen by others. And once posted, it can be very difficult to remove.

Your own archive

Are you member of a sports team? In which case, it could be that they put photos of you up on their website. Maybe, you've done something so interesting that a newspaper has interviewed you and the article has been published on the Internet? If you're in a marching band, there could be some great pictures of you from one of your performances.

What's posted about you on the Internet can be downloaded by others and stored in various places. If someone searches for your name through search engines such as Kvasir or Google, they could get lots of hits and build up a picture of what you're like as

a person. As such, everyone has his or her own archive on the Internet.

You decide what your archive on the Internet looks like.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

You're bound to know lots of people. Do you confide in all these people equally, or are there some people you tell more to than others? What do you share with different people – and why?

Have you ever posted anything about yourself on the Internet that you've later regretted?

Has anyone ever put photos of you on the Internet? Did you think that was OK? Did they ask for your permission first?

TASKS:

Look up the name of four celebrities on the Internet and find their web pages. Do the sites say things or publish pictures that you think shouldn't have been posted?

How many hits did you get for each celebrity? Do you think the celebrities themselves posted or approved all the pages and photos?

«Privacy» is particularly important on the Internet. Look the word up in a dictionary or online and find out what it means.

Vocabulary

blog = a bit like an online diary, where the person who owns the blog can post photos and contributions.

online community = a place on the Internet where you can meet and chat to other people.

profile = information and pictures of you on an online community.

search engine = a service on the Internet where you can search for information.

tagging = entering a name tag to a person in a picture and linking it to the person's profile.

archive = collection of information, photos, text, etc.

private = something which is personal, which concerns you only.

Share everything?

More than 120 million people around the world log on to Facebook regularly to update information, post photos, and check out news from friends. Some people post everything from their telephone number and music tastes, to whether or not they have a boyfriend or girlfriend. Other people choose not to reveal so much. You decide how much information you want to share.

Your password is YOURS!

It should never be given to anyone else.

Get rid of it!

Is there information about you online that you want removed?

1. Talk to the person who put it there. Ask them to remove the information as quickly as possible.
2. Ask the Internet provider to remove the information/photos.
3. Contact your local police station if you think that the information posted is so serious that it should be removed immediately.
4. Contact the Data Inspectorate for advice and help.



SERIOUSLY!?!?

Famous on YouTube

Lasse Gjertsen from Norway became famous because of some film clips he posted on YouTube. The clips have been viewed more than 25 million times! «MTV wants me to make eight videos for them. I'm thinking of taking them up on the offer as it will mean some money for me,» he says. For eight videos, he'll get 1,000 dollars a minute of finished film.

Source: Dagbladet/NRK

Silly photos turned serious

Kristine and Synne are dreaming about being models. The two 13-year-olds take photos of each other, fool around, and giggle. In the last photos they take, they stand there just in their g-strings. They post the photos on their private Piczo page. The photos are intended for their use only, and a password is required to view them.

After a couple of years, they forget all about the page. Out of the blue, someone sends Synne one of the photos on MSN. Someone also prints and puts the photos up at her old school. Synne doesn't go out for a whole week! Now she's worried about the photos turning up again. She had no idea that something like that could happen when she was joking about in front of the camera.

Source: VG

Online communities are good too

Researchers in California have discovered that online communities such as Facebook, online gaming sites, and video sites such as YouTube are important for young people's development. Using the Internet teaches children and young people to develop their interests and knowledge, and to experiment with different ways of expressing themselves. Online communities are used mainly to stay in touch with friends from the real world, but also to make contact with other people with the same interests as themselves. Often, young people are more inclined to learn from others of the same age group rather than from adults.

Source: The Digital Youth Project

WHO CARES? It was only for fun! I didn't mean it. I never thought you would take it seriously. I only sent it to my friend. Nobody else saw it. I promise!

It's a matter of RESPECT

If you want to post photos of your friends on the Internet, you must ask first. If you've got a photo of someone on your mobile phone and want to send it to someone else, again you have to ask first. Because even if you think the photo is funny, your friend might not agree.

Easy to misunderstand

When you're sitting in front of the PC at home, everything might seem less risky than in the «real» world. It can be easy to say things you wouldn't say face to face. It can also be easy to misunderstand each other. When you chat using a keyboard, you can't see the reactions of the person you're talking to. You don't hear their voice, or see their face or body language. Therefore, it can be difficult to know how the other person reacts to what you write.

The Internet and mobile phones offer lots of opportunities to chat with friends about what's going on, share pictures and perhaps secrets. Unfortunately, there are also opportunities to wreck things

for other people. Some kids' best friends have passed on pictures which other people weren't meant to see. Other kids have had nasty things written about them on the Internet by kids from their schools.

The same rules

We have to respect other people's opinions and feelings, whether we're in a playground, sending messages on a mobile phone, or sitting in front of a PC. And the same rules apply everywhere – including the Internet. For example, it's not OK to write something about someone that isn't true. Nor is it OK to bully others.

You're responsible for everything you post online: both pictures and text. You're responsible for the messages you send from your mobile phone. You're responsible for thinking twice before you press enter or send.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Tough behind the screen? Are you a bit tougher when you're sitting in front of a computer than when you're talking directly with other people? Why/why not?

Bullying or teasing? Is there a difference between bullying and teasing?

Have you, or someone you know, been teased or bullied on the Internet or by mobile phone? What happened? Did you tell an adult?

Read «Afraid to go in the shower» on the opposite page. The local authority is proposing a ban on mobile phones in schools. What do you think?

TASKS:

In Norway, we have something called «freedom of speech». Use the Internet to find out what the word means. Are you allowed to say and write exactly what you want because we have freedom of speech?

Many kids are bullied by other kids at school. Bullying can take place online, by mobile phone, or face to face. How can each of the kids in your class help prevent bullying in your school? Come up with some suggested rules for how pupils should behave towards each other when they're online or using their mobile phones.

Are there some places or situations where people have a right to be left in peace, and not be filmed or have pictures taken of them? Get into groups and come up with some rules about when it is OK to take and publish pictures and videos.

You're responsible for what you are and what you do – even if you're online.



A forceful YES!

Every time someone posts photos of you on the Internet, they must ask for permission first. You must only say YES, if you think it's OK. If you change your mind later, you have to let them know. Then they have to immediately remove the photo they've posted.

False sender

The messages you get on your mobile phone don't necessarily come from who you think. There are services on the Internet that enable people to falsify the number from which a message is sent.

Talk to someone

If you're being bullied - either on your mobile phone, the Internet, or in the playground - it is important that you contact someone who can help you: maybe a parent, teacher, or health care advisor. If you find it difficult to talk to an adult you already know, you can check if there is a child help line you can call or contact online. These services tend to be free and anonymous.

SERIOUSLY!?!?

No more Nettby and Facebook

At Forsand School, several pupils were bullied on Facebook and other online communities. The school has now restricted access to these online communities from the school's computers.

Source: nrk.no

Afraid to go in the shower

In Saltdal, there are pupils who won't go in the shower after gym or swimming because they're afraid someone will take their photo. Some also fear being threatened or bullied via their mobile phones, or on the Internet. This has resulted in a number of conflicts and pupils being absent from school. Because of this, the police in Saltdal wants a total ban on mobile phones in local schools.

Source: Saltenposten.no

Vocabulary

anonymous = to not give out your name and personal information.

«A clear message»

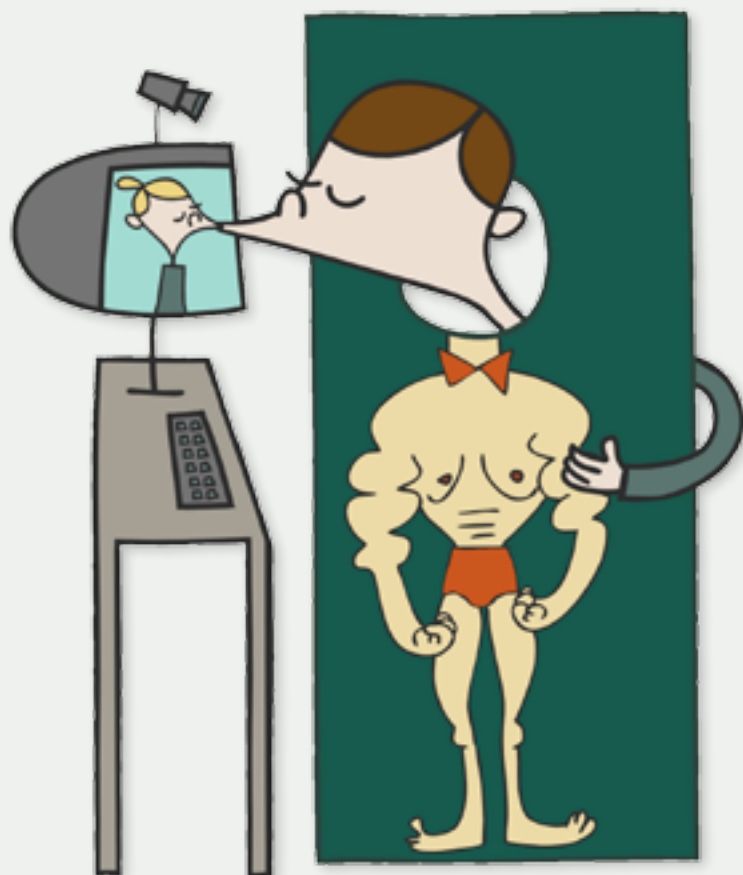
At school today, somebody in my class gave me their mobile phone to show me a photo. In the photo, I saw XX standing in front of a mirror holding a mobile phone and taking their own picture with nothing on from the waist up. The teacher then came by and also saw the photo. Unlike everyone else, our teacher was just silent and looked a little sad. Then she said that XX was having a hard time, and when you are having a hard time you sometimes do really odd things without people understanding why!

All the kids think, «It's her own fault.» Even if someone else got hold of the mobile phone and then sent the photo to other people, they think it's her fault because she took the photo with the mobile phone in the first place.

Excuse me, but if I take photos with my mobile phone, is it my fault that some idiot snoops about without permission and sends the photo to all sorts of people? Anyone who spreads this rumour and shows the photo to other people is a bully!

Girl, 14

Source: barneombudet.no



... Did you fall in love with your LITTLE BROTHER???

Did you fall in love with your little brother???

It's embarrassing isn't it? The boy of your dreams,
who you chatted with online for several weeks,
turned out to be your little brother mucking around.

You're sad and disappointed because you did fall for
him, didn't you?

It's not cool to be made a fool of, but how can you
really know who you're chatting with?

Consider the consequences of your actions
– when it's easy to fool others, it's also easy
to be fooled!

YESTERDAY A 17-YEAR-OLD TOUGH GUY: HEY! WHAT'S UP? I'm Ronny.

I love heavy metal and girls with big tits! Are you one of us, or ...? :D

TODAY, A CUTE GIRL AGED 11: HI! My name's Lilly and I'm nearly 12 years old. I love High School Musical and I'm mad about horses. Maybe we can meet up? <3

Who are you talking to – REALLY?

Have you got a nickname? Your friends will know your nickname, but other people won't know who's behind the name – not your real name, how old you are, or whether you're a girl or boy. On some websites, such as Facebook, a lot of people give their full name and perhaps some other personal information. On other sites, it's OK to be anonymous or use a nickname.

True? Or not?

It can be exciting to invent a whole new identity where you can choose whether you're a girl or boy, your age, nationality, interests, and hair colour. It's fun to be 20 years old and a superstar for an evening! But it's not just you who can set up a fake profile. Maybe the name of the gorgeous girl you met on Piczo isn't Emilie. And maybe she's not 12 years old. Maybe Emilie's really called George and is 47 years old?!

On the Internet, you can meet lots of exciting people. Most of the people you meet are great. Unfortunately, there are some who are

dishonest about who they are or what they want. Even though only very few people experience abuse online, it is important to be aware that it might happen.

Most information is OK and safe to share with others on a blog, MSN or Facebook. Other things are better and safer to share with a close friend, face to face.

You decide what you want to share with whom.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you come across something unpleasant on the Internet – you get a hurtful comment or come across a nasty page – what do you do? Do you keep it to yourself, or do you talk to somebody about it?

Have you ever talked to someone you don't know on the Internet? Do you think it's OK to send photos and other personal information to strangers you meet online?

TASKS:

How many pupils in your class have online profiles where they use their real name, and how many use a nickname? Discuss and make rules for when it's best to use a nickname and when it's best to use your real name.

Vocabulary

identity = how you see yourself and how you want to be seen by others.

Red Button

On many chat sites in Norway, there is a red button marked POLICE. If something happens which is against the law, and which could lead to abuse, you must tell an adult whom you trust. You can click the red button, and you will be taken directly to the police's information point where you can enter information about what has happened. This button should only be used when you think something is serious. If you are teased, it's best to talk to an adult or contact the Red Cross at www.korspahalsen.no or on 800 333 21.



Imagine ...

Lots of people receive links to web pages they don't know. These web pages are not always pages you would have visited if you had already known their content. In a survey of children aged between 8 and 18, 42 percent answered that they had accidentally visited pages containing offensive or violent material without wanting to. Almost half of those asked had accidentally visited pornographic pages. It is worthwhile looking at the web address or finding more information out about it before clicking the link – or choosing to ignore it.

Source: Safe use survey 2008 (The Norwegian Media Authority)

Nastiness online

When you search the Internet you can come across sites that you think are nasty, and you really don't want to see. There are hundreds of sites showing violence and nudity. There's nothing wrong with being naked, but perhaps it is best to avoid certain things? If you find something that you think is nasty, it's important to talk to one of your parents, a teacher, or another adult you trust.

SERIOUSLY!?!?

You must know who it is

"Whether I use the camera depends totally on who I'm talking to. If someone asks me to use it the first time when we're talking on MSN, I only say yes if I know the person. If someone says they go to one of the neighbouring schools and asks me to send a photo of my friends, I say, «No, I can't send you photos of my friends as I don't know if you're who you say you are,» says a 13-year-old to Aftenposten.

Another pupil thinks that you can never really be sure of who you're talking to. «It could be a 60-year-old man wanting to exploit us,» he says. He also thinks that you can tell pretty quickly if someone is not who they say they are. And then there are all the stories about people who have been stupid when using a camera. The 13-year-old admits there have been incidents when he wasn't very careful. And it is not everything that you would want your friends to see.

Source: Aftenposten

Wanted revenge

13-year-old Megan chatted with 16-year-old Josh Evans on MySpace. Megan thought Josh was nice and they talked a lot on the Internet. After a while, Josh wasn't that nice anymore. He wrote that he had heard that she was cruel to her friends and treated them badly, and how everyone at school knew what she was like. Finally, he said that everyone hated her and that the world would be a better place without her. That day, Megan killed herself.

Afterwards, it was discovered that there was no Josh, but that it was the mother of one of Megan's former friends who had set up the profile. By chatting, she had intended to find out what Megan thought of her daughter and whether or not she had spread any rumours about her.

Source: The New York Times

THAT'S ENOUGH! The door bursts open and in storms Mum in a bad mood and, behind her, Dad in an equally bad mood. Their son has been sitting in front of the PC for four hours without making a sound, not complaining about his homework, nor arguing with his little sister, but that's clearly NOT enough to keep Mum happy.

WHO decides?

There are a lot of possible explanations for the parents' reaction. If the boy always sits alone playing on the Internet in his bedroom, maybe they're worried that he hasn't got any friends. Maybe they've come to an agreement with him not to spend more than an hour a day on the PC, but he's spending too much time in front of the screen. Maybe they've checked the Internet log and discovered that he's visited web pages he's not allowed to visit.

Are you being watched?

Some children find that their parents check the log or history on the PC they use to see what sites they've been to. Some parents also ask to see their child's mobile phone to read the messages that have been sent and received. Lots of parents say that they do this to protect their child from things that can be bad or unpleasant. Others don't think it's right to check their child's PC or mobile phone.

Most schools have rules for using the Internet, PCs, and mobile phones. Many families also

have similar rules. Others have no rules at all. Some kids think that the rules they have to follow are too strict and are jealous of friends who are allowed to do a lot more. But maybe those who are allowed to do anything they want wish that someone would set some limits, too? Limits on how many hours they're allowed to sit in front of the screen, what websites they have to avoid, and what kinds of games they're allowed to play on the Internet?

Sometimes rules are good.

You can help decide what rules you have to follow.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you have rules on what you can use your mobile phone and PC for? Did you help decide the rules? Do you agree with the rules you have to follow?

Do parents have the right to know everything you're doing? Who you're with, what you're talking about, and what you're doing together with your friends? Do you have the right to know everything your parents are doing?

Some parents post photos of their children on Facebook or other online communities to show to the rest of their family. Is that OK? Should children be asked first? Is it OK to post photos of people who are too young to decide for themselves?

TASKS:

Some websites have age limits for people wanting to access their pages. Find out what the age limits are on Facebook, Habbo and other online communities. Why do you think they have set these age limits? The age limits at cinemas are usually respected. Do you have just as much respect for age limits on the Internet? Why/why not?

Is it important to have rules on using the Internet and mobile phones at home and at school? Why? Discuss in groups and come up with some new rules. Should the same rules be followed at home and at school, or should there be different rules? Discuss the rules with your teacher and parents.

What are schools allowed to check?

Basically, schools do not have permission to check pupils' Internet usage. If something illegal has happened, the police can use the information log on a school's server to find out who was responsible. The Norwegian Data Inspectorate recommends that schools limit the monitoring of pupils and that they should report what they record and why.

You have the right to be heard

The UN has issued a law on children's rights that says:

- No child shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, or correspondence, nor to unlawful attacks on his or her honour and reputation.
- States Parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.

In Norway, we also have the Children's Act, which says that children have the right to have more influence in decisions as they become older. The Ombudsman for Children recommends that parents take their children seriously and that they listen to the child's view when they want to post information and photos of the child on the Internet. This means that your opinion counts, even if you are a child.

But the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child also says: «Both parents have a principal responsibility for the child's care and development according to what is best for the child». Your parents must therefore protect you if they think something is harmful to you. If they think that you're doing something on the Internet that is harmful or dangerous to you or others, they can set limits on what you're allowed to do.

Vocabulary

log = overview of your Internet activities, ex. which pages you have visited or a display of the conversations you've had on MSN.

filter = a program which stops access to certain websites.



Like an open diary

It's possible for other people to see which Internet addresses you have visited by looking at the Internet browser's web history. In most browsers, the log and history can be deleted using the «tools» menu. If you don't remove the log, other people can see which sites you've visited.

SERIOUSLY!?!?

Note from concerned Dad

I am the father of a 13-year-old. I basically want her to have the freedom I had when I was young. It's **WRONG** for parents to exert too much control. Show respect and you'll be respected. I fully understand that there are things that are difficult and wrong to ask parents about. I'm also worried that she'll get into trouble, so I set limits, but until she goes off down the wrong road, she's «free».

DAD

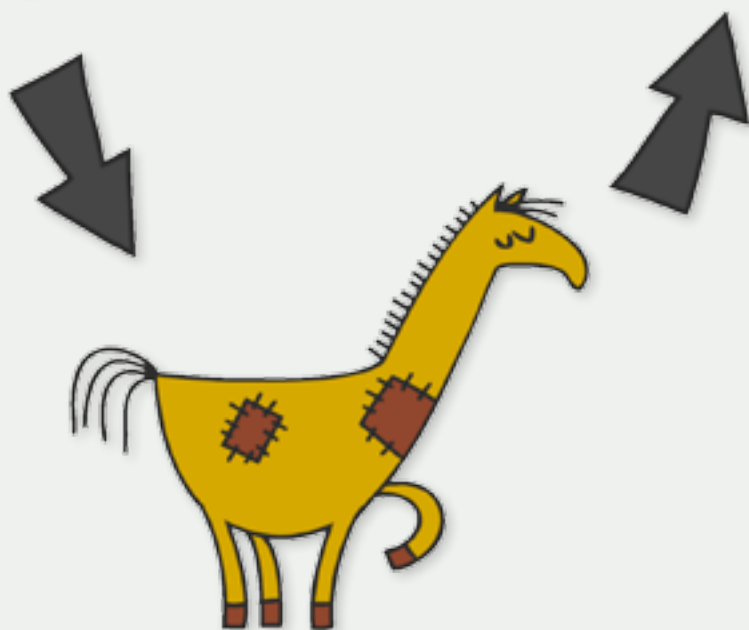
Source: ung.no

«A clear message»

Mum and Dad save my log on msn! I feel really uncomfortable about it!! :-S Because when I chat with boys and hope something comes of it, I daren't write that I actually like the boy, because then Mum and Dad might see that we've been flirting. It would be really embarrassing if Mum and Dad read «OHHHH, I love you SOOOO much» or «you're hot and I'm not». It's pretty embarrassing. Do you think it's OK for my parents to save my log on msn?

Regards, Girl 12

Source: barneombudet.no



... Was it THAT HORSE you wrote about?

You were quite pleased, right? You found all the information you needed on your first search.

Maybe you forgot to double-check who posted the information, and suddenly you handed in an essay based on plain rubbish!

No wonder your classmates were cracking up.
What can you do to avoid this next time?

Consider your actions – YOU are responsible for separating facts from fiction online.

IT'S ABSOLUTELY TRUE! In Australia, water flows up a river instead of down. Because they're on the other side of the equator, you see? I was surfing on the Internet yesterday. That's where I saw it.

Who can you TRUST?

Sometimes a claim is just completely wrong, while other times it can be difficult to know what's true. When you watch the news on TV or read something in a newspaper, you certainly don't expect what they write or say to be a lie or nonsense. You might also think that you can rely on the information published on the Internet. But that's not always the case.

All newspapers and TV channels are responsible for ensuring that what they print or broadcast is correct. If they deliberately say something they know to be false, they can be fined. On the Internet, it's different. Here, everyone – newspapers, government ministers, your sports team, your neighbour, and even you – can post information and opinions on anything and everything between heaven and earth.

Free for all?

When your parents wrote school assignments on The Beatles, they had to go to the library to find information. Just think how much easier you've got it now! Simply by pressing a few buttons, you have

access to enormous amounts of information from all over the world. You can even add to the knowledge available on the Internet by contributing to some websites, such as Wikipedia. In this way, others can learn from you.

The Internet is great for finding and sharing photos, music, and information. But not all of it is available for free. You can download or use music, photos, or films, so long as you have paid for them, or if the person who made or owns them has given you permission. If you reproduce a text that you find online, you must indicate where the text came from.

Safe source?

You've probably used Google or some other search engine to find information for your schoolwork. You may have got hundreds or thousands of hits for the search term you put in. It's not easy to know which pages to go to, to find the right information! What is a reliable source? Who posted the

information? When was it posted? Could it be old information that is no longer correct?

Be critical of what you read and see. Not everything is as it seems.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have you ever found information on the Internet that was wrong? Do you know who posted the information?

When you are looking for facts on the Internet, it's a good idea to check who the contributor is. What type of contributor do you trust the most?

Do you believe everything you read in books to be correct? Do you think your teacher knows the answer to everything? How do you know which information to trust?

Have you ever downloaded music or films from the Internet? Did you pay for what you downloaded? Did you then share the music or films with someone else?

TASKS:

How do you use the information you find on the Internet for school assignments? Check whether the school has rules for how to use this information. Make your own suggestions for rules.

Find out what the word «copyright» means.



SERIOUSLY!?!?

Imagine ...

Some teachers use a program where they can check what you write against material on the Internet. They can then find out whether you copied a text straight from the Internet or whether you used your own words.

How did you find it?

When you use information from the Internet or other places, for example, for a school assignment, you must always state where you found the information. Lots of people use Google as a source reference, but Google is a search engine that simply gets the information from other sources. So, you have to try a little bit harder to find the actual source.

Free!?

There are several websites where you can share music, films, or photos. A lot of the content of such websites is posted without the owner being asked for permission. It costs money to make music or films, and musicians and filmmakers like to be paid for their work.

Do you need music or sound effects for a film you have made yourself or for a school project? Even if you have bought a CD, you are not allowed to use the music in your film and then post it, for example, on YouTube. However, online there is a lot of free music that you are allowed to use! You can find free stuff by searching for creative commons music or royalty free music. If you need photos and want to stay on the right side of the law, you can search for creative commons pictures.

Locked up

In 2007, a 45-year-old was sentenced to 15 days in prison for having posted the Norwegian film «Pitbullterje» on the Internet. He also had to pay 50,000 kroner in damages to the owners of the film.

Source: dagsavisen.no

Let Google do your homework

Pupils are cheating their way to success by copying text from the Internet. All the secondary schools Aftenposten contacted had experienced pupils handing in schoolwork that they had copied partly, or in full, from the Internet. Lots of pupils are not fully aware that copying is cheating.

Source: Aftenposten

«A Clear Message»

A long time ago, I posted a video with music and photos of Eminem. I've now found out that someone says that they have the rights to the video. The video was deleted. Will I be fined for this as well? It's just that I'm a bit worried my parents will be disappointed with me.
Boy, 15.

Source: barneombudet.no

Vocabulary

source reference = to say where you got information from.

critical = to question something; to check that what is suggested is true.

WIN AN IPOD! The words in the yellow box practically jump out at you. Click here to enter the competition to win a brand new iPod! Nothing more. That's all you have to do. You simply have to click and wait to see what happens ...

Were YOU tempted?

Yes, but what really happens if you click the ad that keeps popping up when you sit in front of the PC playing your favourite game? One thing's for certain – the chance of you winning an iPod is very small. However, the chance of those behind the ad registering your PC's address and placing a cookie on your computer so that they can adapt their ads more precisely to your profile in the future is much greater.

Clever tricks

Ads are around us everywhere and in many forms. Sometimes it's obvious when an ad banner or ad window pops up when you're on the Internet. Then it's clear what the ad's advertising. Sometimes the ad can look like an ordinary article. Then you have to be critical and look more closely to see that it really is an ad. Other times the ad is designed as a fun web page with a game. In these cases, you probably don't even think that the game is really meant to be an ad.

Free programs where you can play, draw, or do other fun stuff

sometimes contain spy programs or viruses that damage your PC. Maybe your PC becomes sluggish, or maybe others are given access to your passwords or control over your webcam. Such programs can be difficult to detect and get rid of.

Free?

Maybe you or one of your friends has taken part in a poll using a mobile phone, or accepted new ring tones for your mobile phone? Lots of people say yes to something that appears to be free. When the phone bill for Mum or Dad eventually arrives, it appears that it cost money anyway. Often it can mean something far more long-term, for example, you find out you agreed to buy several ring tones every month even though you thought you had bought a one-off ring tone. It won't be long before your prepayment card is empty.

You decide how you spend your time and your money.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have you come across ads that interrupt whatever you're doing on your PC? Why do you think ads are used in this way? Do you know any web pages containing games made by companies trying to sell products? Which ones?

Have you ever bought something or paid for something using a mobile phone? Did you get what you thought you were getting?

Lots of advertisers allow you to pay for what you've bought via a mobile phone or the Internet. Do you think people buy more using these methods than if they pay in cash up front?

TASKS:

Go to the three websites that your classmates use the most in their spare time. Are there any ads on them?

Pick out three ads from the websites and discuss their contents. What devices have they used? Was it clear that it was an ad? Does the ad give good information about the product?



Vocabulary

Cookie = see «a little spy» below.

firewall = stops unwanted traffic coming into a computer, for example, if an outsider tries to log into the system.

antivirus program = a program on the computer which finds and removes viruses.

web browser = a program used to show content from the Internet (for example, Internet Explorer or Safari).

You've got the power

Children and young people spend a lot of money on mobile phones and the Internet. Some companies are so keen to sell something to you and your friends that they don't always stick to the rules. Has it occurred to you that you could help affect this, for example, by not buying goods or services from companies that act dishonestly or which sell poor quality products?

A little spy

Lots of websites are interested in finding out who their visitors are. Therefore, they save a small file (cookie) on your computer. When you visit a website, they check for their own cookie, and that's how they can recognise you from visit to visit. They can then make a profile of you from the pages you visit and what you look at on their site. In this way, they can adapt the ads to your profile. You can delete cookies under the «tools» menu in your web browser.

Not allowed!

It's against the law to advertise something for free if it's not. It's also against the law to get you to order a fixed service or subscription without informing you clearly about what it is you're saying yes to.

Imagine ...

Most PCs have both a firewall and an antivirus program to provide protection. However, the most important filter of all is the critical awareness in your head! To avoid problems on your PC, don't click on popup windows and links to things you don't know, or reply to messages saying that you've won a prize. That's when the «filter» in your head should kick in. Ask yourself such questions as «Why?» and «Who's behind this?».

SERIOUSLY!?!?

Smart quiz

An SMS quiz was advertised on TV with great prizes and ridiculously easy questions. Each message you received cost 15 kroner. You could receive up to 333 messages in a month. Worst case – it costs you 4,995 kroner every month. Who won?

Source: mobilen.no

Games full of ads

You don't become violent by playing computer games. Perhaps not particularly smart either. But you are influenced. And some games influence you more than others. In the game Anarchy Online, you're encouraged to drink Coca-Cola and drive a Toyota. Funcom, who created the game, was well paid by the large companies to use their brand names in the game.

Source: Forbrukerportalen.no

Spent 6,000 kroner on Habbo

The parents were shocked to discover that their 12-year-old son had decorated a room for 6,000 kroner on the Habbo Hotel website. He had bought the money with his mobile phone. «These TVs cost 30 Habbo coins each. These crocodiles cost 20. I didn't think I had spent so much money,» says the boy, while pointing at the screen at what he had bought.

Habbo Hotel is an online community with over 75 million users around the world. It's free to join but it's possible to spend lots of money once you're a member. With the simple click of a button, you can buy Habbo coins with your mobile phone. Six Habbo coins cost 15 kroner.

Source: VG

ALL NORWEGIAN CHILDREN USE PCS. Three out of every four children use the Internet every day. The trend is clear: the Internet is THE media channel most used by children in the 8–18 age group. And most of this use happens at home.

Some slightly BORING but useful information for all PARENTS/GUARDIANS

For many parents/guardians, the Internet is still a kind of unknown world, whereas for most children it's a natural part of everyday life. The mobile phone has become part of their attire – and it's just as common to chat on MSN, as it is to chat face to face. It's important to recognise the new media channels as an arena where rules, limits, private life, room for creativity, and communication need to be provided and catered for. The challenge is to find a good balance between all these.

This brochure is intended for class discussion. We also recommend that you read through it and discuss the topics addressed in the brochure with your child. Just like in real life, it's important that children feel safe on the Internet and treat themselves and others with respect. For this to happen, it's important that parents/guardians show an interest in, and participate in, their child's use of the Internet.

Together, you can decide how you want things to be.



TASKS:

Have you posted pictures of your child on the Internet? Did you ask for permission first?

To what extent should you as a parent/guardian control what your child does? Is it OK to read your child's diary? The network logs from MSN and the Internet? Mobile phone messages? The Convention on the Rights of the Child sets out a child's right to privacy. At the same time, a child's need for safety and security makes parental involvement necessary. There are many dilemmas. Where do you set the limit?

Where is the PC that your child uses at home? Is it a good idea to have the PC in a room used by others such as the living room or kitchen?

Safer Internet

Do you wonder how best to guide your child around the world of the Internet? What to do about chat sites? How to set up safe passwords? How to react to cases of Internet bullying? Check out the Insafe Internet package for kids and parents at www.saferinternet.org.

Mobile phone tips

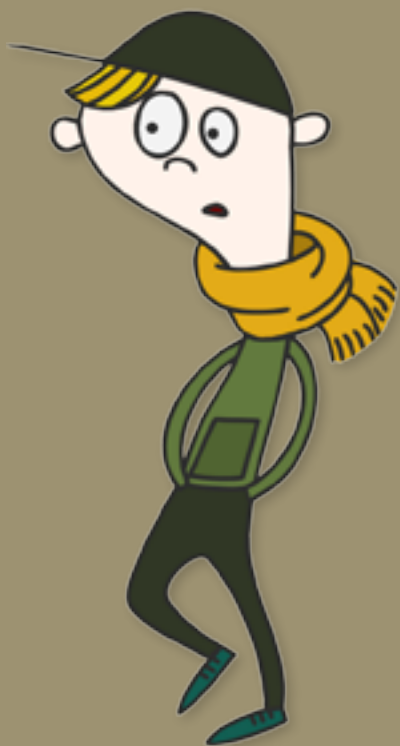
- Choose a subscription with defined financial limits such as a prepayment card or a fixed monthly sum.
- Register your child as a user of the subscription. This makes it more difficult to download adult content on the phone.
- Ask the operator not to list the child in the phonebook to stop any contact from strangers.
- Protect yourself. Most operators enable you to protect your subscription from Internet access, content services such as ring tones and screensavers, and access to telemarketing services.

Source: BarneVakten



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