# How to keep your child safe online

## **TIPS FOR PARENTS**

#### Here are some tips for parents to keep your child safe online

### **BE SAFE**

- \* Be aware of how your child uses the internet and explore it with them
- \* Set rules and monitor to make sure your child knows what information they can share or post online and which websites they can visit
- Teach your child to tell a trusted adult if they feel uncomfortable about something they have found on the internet or received in an email
- Discuss with your child the importance of keeping personal information private. This sort of information can be used to identify or locate where they live, go to school or activities in which they are involved

### **BE RESPECTFUL**

- \* Talk to your children about cyberbullying. Online communication should be responsible and respectful
- Children and adolescents who are being cyberbullied sometimes change their behaviour. If you are concerned they might be a victim of cyberbullying, talk to them and tell them you are concerned. Arrange to talk to a teacher or school counsellor
- Advise your child not to respond to any negative messages and to keep evidence. Tell them to report any negative messages they receive to you or another trusted
- \* Children and their parents can contact social media companies and ask for defamatory material to be taken down. If the material is not gone within 48 hours, a complaint can be lodged with the Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner at www.esafety.gov.au

### **BE RESPONSIBLE**

- Consider using inbuilt filters and controls on your digital devices and home network to manage your children's online access. Keep your virus protection up to date
- \* Talk with your child about being careful when downloading files or clicking on links. Some files or links may be harmful viruses or trying to obtain personal information
- Certain online activities (downloading illegal videos or music, plagiarism, sexting, identity theft, 'hacking' networks) are illegal and can result in criminal charges

