

Kiwi's Parent – Youth Internet Safety Guidelines

kiwicommmons

Parent Youth Guidelines - What Needs to be Talked about First

There are thousands of parent-child guidelines and tips on the Internet. Some vary greatly, others only have little variations, yet they are all useful in one way or another. Here is my list of top topics that should be included:

- 1.) Kids promise to tell their parents if someone wants to meet offline or asks for their personal information, and in turn the parent agrees to stay calm and not overreact
- 2.) Since the Internet is like the bulletin board at school, the child promises not to post anything on the Internet that they wouldn't post there
- 3.) If the child comes across anything on the computer that scares, upsets or confuses them, they promise to get a parent for help, who will in turn be understanding and not blaming.
- 4.) The Internet is formerly a learning tool not a toy, so both parent and child promise to treat it and other people on it with respect

No list or guidelines will be able to protect your child from all the dangers that can be found online, so do your best to provide your child with the information they need along the way, but most importantly keep the lines of communication open and positive.

Please see the next page for a sample of guidelines you can use.

Parent Youth Internet Guidelines

Youth Agreement:

- I will never give out my personal information, like my full name, phone number, address, school name, email and passwords, unless my parent gives me permission.
- I agree that the internet is foremost a tool for research, not a toy, so I will only use it in moderation.
Internet use plan: ____ hour(s) a day maximum.
- I understand that there is no way of knowing 100% who someone really is online.
- I will treat everyone online with the same respect I would give them face-to-face.
- I promise to watch what I post because as soon as I put something up on the internet, I can't take it back.
- I promise to never meet someone from the internet unless my parent gives me permission.
- If I don't understand something, find something strange or scary online, I promise to talk to a trusted adult about it, like my parent or teacher.
- I will be diligent about opening emails and promise to never open an email from a stranger or reply to a stranger's messages; in case it has a virus, is a scam or they are a bad person.
- I will get a parent's permission before filling out forms or any contest, free stuff or online services.
- I acknowledge there are consequences to disobeying this agreement, including having the internet taken away.

Parent Agreement:

- I promise that any rule I set about the internet is created for my child's safety and general best interest.
- If my child has a problem on the internet, I encourage them to tell me about it and I promise to help them solve it without overreacting or judging.
- I will encourage my child to talk to me about what they do online and who they talk to.
- I promise to set reasonable consequences if any of the rules in the agreement are broken, and can take away internet use if the situation on my discretion.
- I will make an effort to learn more about the internet, and if I don't understand something, I will ask my child for help.
- I am here to help if my child needs help choosing an anonymous screen name, email address, instant message name, as well as to make sure their profiles don't reveal personal information.
- I will not use the computer as a babysitter for my child, and will instead use the computer and internet as a family activity.

Parent's Signature

Child's Signature