



Share with Care

August and September Digital Citizenship Focus for Elementary

At Pelham City Schools, we believe in partnering with parents to prepare our students to navigate the digital world. Smart, safe technology usage can enable students to help drive their own learning and help our schools function better. This month, students will be learning the importance of being smart about the information they share with the online world. Information travels fast online, and without some careful consideration, we can find ourselves in situations that may have lasting consequences.

The solution? Learning how and what to share with people we know and people we really don't know. Our online privacy depends a lot on what we do and don't share about ourselves and our families online — especially on social media. A really important skill for students to have is knowing what is and isn't okay to share. It's a skill we all develop with practice, and the best place to start is at home.

Vocabulary

Online Privacy
Digital Footprint
Reputation
Personal Information
Oversharing
Settings

Family Activity

Create a set of “house rules” for your family that include

1. Acceptable apps and websites students can use
2. Setting and changing passwords
3. Device sharing
4. Game play
5. Communication/chat features

How to continue the discussion at home:

- **Understanding** what kinds of information are okay to be shared and what should be kept private — or just within your family.
- **Talking** as a family about what your kids can do when they wonder what to share and who to share it with.
- **Learning** how to see privacy from different perspectives

Resources:

[Family Link](#) is a great tool to help your family set up digital ground rules to help guide students as they learn, play, and explore online.

This [Connect Safely](#) blog post provides tips for protecting your students from identity theft.

Google's [Be Internet Awesome Family Guide](#) is a great resource to help you incorporate and practice good digital habits in your everyday life.



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Be Internet Smart

Tips to help you be smart online



Tip 1

Be a positive presence online just like IRL (in real life).

Remember, once something by or about you is online like a photo, comment, or message, it could stay online forever.

Tip 2

Think before you post.

It's important to know when to post nothing at all – not to react to somebody's post, photo, or comment or not to share something that isn't true.

Tip 3

Protect your secrets.

Do not share your address, email, phone number, passwords, usernames or school documents with strangers.

Tip 4

Don't assume that people online will see you the way you think they'll see you.

Different people can see the same information and draw different conclusions from it.

Tip 5

It's always important to respect other people's privacy choices, even if they aren't the choices you'd make yourself.

Different situations call for different responses online and offline.