

Supports in place in Coláiste Chú Chulainn

- Cisco Meraki – Mobile Device Management
 - Notification when Meraki app is removed
 - Notification when banned apps are installed
- Wifi Firewall on campus
 - Access denied to a number of apps/websites, e.g. Facebook
- Classroom guidelines regarding use
 - Policy regarding photographs
 - Use allowed by teacher
- Classroom Management
 - Teacher supervision
 - Classroom Management apps, e.g. Nearpod
- Ongoing training with students
- SEN supports on iPad devices
 - Definition
 - Text to Speech

If you have any concerns or become aware of an incident, please contact the school office.

There is an array of helpline and support websites with advice on technology and on internet safety available to parents online. Here is a collection of sites that may be of use to you or you may have an interest in visiting or reading.

Internet Safety Help and Advice

Webwise (www.webwise.ie) – Webwise provides parents, teachers, and children with educational resources, advice and information about potential dangers on the internet and empowers users to minimise or avoid these risks. Webwise shares best practice, information and resources with European partners through the Insafe network. Operated by the National Centre for Technology in Education

Make IT Secure (www.makeitsecure.org) – This Irish website provides information on how to protect your computer and how to safely enjoy the benefits of connecting to the internet.

Kid Smart (www.kidsmart.org.uk) – is an award winning practical internet safety programme website for schools, young people, parents, and agencies, produced by the children’s internet charity Childnet International.

Wired Safety (www.wiredsafety.org) – Wired Safety provides help, information and education to Internet and mobile device users of all ages.

Chat Danger (www.chatdanger.com) – Aimed specifically at children/teens and provides safety tips and advice about using chat rooms.

INSAFE (www.saferinternet.org) A network of national nodes that coordinate internet safety awareness in Europe. Comprehensive and informative, it provides a wealth of information on internet safety.

EU Safer Internet Programme (www.ec.europa.eu/saferinternet) – Aims to promote safer use of the Internet and new online technologies, particularly for children, and to fight against illegal content and content unwanted by the end-user, as part of a coherent approach by the European Union.

Safety Tips from EU Safer Internet Programme

(ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/sip/safety_tips/index_en.htm)

Council of Europe Website on Internet Literacy (www.coe.int/internet-literacy) – Here you can find tools and materials to help you stay safe on the Internet, protect your human rights and get the most out of your online experience.

Data Protection Commissioner (www.dataprotection.ie)

This site gives information on individuals' rights and on organisations' responsibilities with regard to data protection.

Council of Europe online game "Through the Wild Web Woods" (www.wildwebwoods.org)

Google Family Safety Tips (www.google.com/familysafety)

YouTube Safety (www.youtube.com/t/safety)

Google Help Center (www.google.com/support)

Safekids.com (www.safekids.com) – This site is where you will find tips, advice and suggestions to make your families online experience fun and productive

Be Web Aware (www.bewebaware.ca) – Canadian web awareness website

Connect Safely (www.connectsafely.org) – ConnectSafely is for parents, teens, educators, advocates – everyone engaged in and interested in the impact of the social Web.

Get Net Wise (www.getnetwise.org) – GetNetWise is a public service brought to you by Internet industry corporations and public interest organizations to help ensure that Internet users have safe, constructive, and educational or entertaining online experiences.

Net Smartz (www.netsmartz.org)

Facebook Help Centre (www.facebook.com/help.php?safety)

Google tips for online safety (www.google.com/intl/en/landing/familysafety/)

Cyber Angels (www.cyberangels.org) – Comprehensive international site offering practical advice and lists of suggested safe sites and child-friendly search engines.

Childnet International (www.childnet-int.org) – Excellent example of a good all-round safety site for children.

Net Family News (www.netfamilynews.org) – Provides useful information and links for families, teachers and guardians of kids that go online.

Cyberbullying.org (www.cyberbullying.org) – Provides information on cyber-bullying

Cyber Smart (www.cybersmart.gov.au) – This site will help you and your family to find out how to be cybersmart and use the internet safely

Get Safe Online (www.getsafeonline.org/) – A online safety resource website sponsored by the British Government and leading businesses to help individuals and small businesses protect themselves against internet problems.

Here is an example of a Parents' Guide from Webwise.

Parents: A guide to Snapchat (www.webwise.ie)

A guide to Snapchat

Snapchat is an application used to share photos, videos, text, and drawings. It's free to download the app and free to send messages using it. It has become hugely popular in a very short space of time, especially



with young people. There is one feature that makes Snapchat different from other forms of texting and photo sharing: the messages disappear from the recipient's phone after a few seconds.

A guide to Snapchat: How and why do children use it?

Young people are using Snapchat for various reasons, the largest common factor is probably down to cost, once you're on wifi, sending a message with Snapchat is free. Traditional sms text or photo messages can be pricy to send; especially for young people who are on 'pay as you go' phones.

For some people text messages and posts on Facebook and Twitter are too permanent. Snapchat offers its users spontaneity to communicate without any long term consequences, a trait almost completely absent from most social media platforms where users connect with 'friends' in a one-up-manship parade of who went out to the coolest party and who has the best clothes. This perceived freedom from a trail of archived messaging activity is very attractive to teens as they strive to go, 'off the grid'.

What are the Risks?

The majority of Snapchats are sent in a frivolous and fun manner with the most common topics for Snapchat messages being to document meals about to be eaten and funny faces to friends. The main selling point to young people of this app, is the way images self destruct and this has led parents groups and online communities to flag the potential for cyber bullying and sexting type activity.

We generally advise young people to take a screen capture of posts or texts they deem offensive or inappropriate. In the case of Snapchat, screen captures can be difficult to perform as the Snapchat app requires the user to keep one finger on the screen (on certain devices) to view the image. If a user does manage to make a screen capture, the sender of the image is notified. This feature could dissuade teens and children from even attempting to screen capture an offensive message. This could lead to offline bullying which most parents would like to avoid.

The temporary nature of Snapchat messages could lead some teens to get into hot water for sending 'sexts' or sexually suggestive images and text messages. Research has shown that sexting can be very upsetting emotionally, especially if the messages go astray, ending up in the wrong hands. Even though images disappear from the Snapchat app, it doesn't necessarily mean that screen grabs weren't taken which could be shared on other social media platforms.

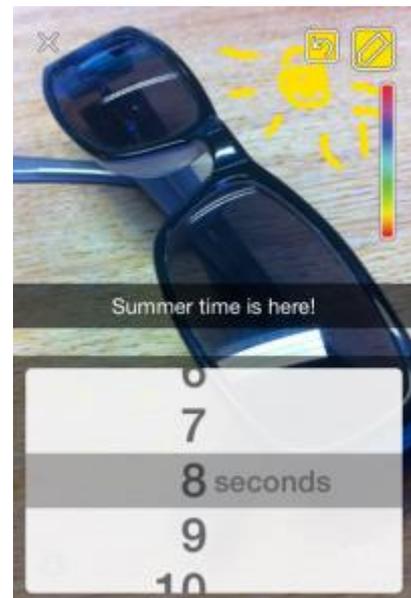
What can you do?

The best defence is to discuss the risks with your child and try to agree on what you both think is an acceptable way to use it. Make sure the line between acceptable and inappropriate use is clear. Discuss sanctions if you feel it would help but remember that the most important thing as a parent is to be there to help if things go wrong. Sometimes the best way to keep communications channels open is to remove the punishment from the equation.

But one issue you should definitely talk about is how permanent is permanent deletion? A very quick trip into YouTube land searching for 'Snapchat hacks' brought back a long list of entries, detailing everything from how to bypass the 10 second countdown to how to capture screen shots of images without the sender being notified. Teens need to be aware that nothing is 100% private online. Even if an app developer claims messages or data is wiped or deleted, we can't always guarantee that this is actually the case.

Video tutorials are also provided on the site.

In their Terms and Conditions, Snapchat states that "Although we attempt to delete image data as soon as possible after the message is received and opened by the recipient ...we cannot guarantee that the message contents will be deleted in every case." This should be a statement to concern Snapchat users and their parents.



Like most other web apps, users have the choice of using them to communicate with existing friends or with the wider world. You should talk with your child about the best way to manage this. Discuss the implications of opening themselves up to SnapChats from their whole address book. A friends list can be set up so messages can be sent and received only from designated friends. As with any online interactions, its usually safer to use snapchat with a selected bunch of trusted people.

A guide to Snapchat: How can risks be controlled

Snapchat is not the first or the last app of this type, others include Viber (messages and voice calls), Facebook messaging and WhatsApp. The same rules should apply to all online interactions, only share data with those that you trust in real life, think before you click and report any unsavoury data or messages to a trusted adult.

Here is an example of information about filtering software that may be available to you from Hotline.ie.

Filtering Software (www.hotline.ie)

Filtering software attempts to block access to Internet sites which have harmful or illegal content. The effectiveness depends on the sophistication of the software and how up-to-date the blocking lists, on which they generally rely, are kept. There are two categories of filtering systems, software packages that you install and manage on your computer and filtering services that may be offered as service option by your Internet Service Provider.

You should check with your Internet Service Provider to see if they have filtering or parental controls integrated in one of their service options. If you enable such an ISP service there is no need for additional filtering packages to be installed on your computer. Please be aware that filtering/parental control software, whether provided by your ISP or installed on your computer, does not protect you from computer viruses and other malware. You must have up-to-date anti-virus software on your computer to protect yourself as effectively as possible.

Below is a list of software packages available on the Irish market, some for home use.

UPC Magic Desktop

Magic Desktop creates a safe PC Playground for 2 to 10 year olds. It has been made available to the entire community nationwide by UPC (an ISPAI member and supporter of Hotline.ie). Magic Desktop provides early educational skills development coupled with parental supervision of computer use. It includes a special safe internet browser that allows children visit only websites approved by the parent.

<http://www.upc.ie>

KidSafe

KidSafe is an Irish developed solution to protect children online. It has advanced features which enable you to protect children of all ages on the internet. <http://www.kidSafe.ie>

Net Nanny

Net Nanny offers software it states will stop illicit material being available on a computer by filtering and blocking web content while surfing online. <http://www.netnanny.ie>

Cyberpatrol

CyberPatrol is an Internet safety software from SurfControl, a world leading Internet Security Company. Launched in 1995, CyberPatrol is specifically developed for Windows-based standalone PCs to help protect children and adults from the many online dangers that exist.

<http://www.cyberpatrol.com>

ESET Smart Security

ESET Smart Security combines parental control filtering facilities with anti-virus and malware protection. The parental control feature protects your family from potentially offensive web content by blocking various website categories.

<http://www.eset.ie>

Websense

Websense is an enterprise web filtering solution. Websense Enterprise offers to protect organizations from the productivity, legal liability, and bandwidth risks of the internet, combining powerful flexibility with rich functionality.

<http://www.websense.com>

SafeScreen

SafeScreen offered by PixAlert is a real time image monitoring solution for home and business PCs. It identifies and obscures pornographic images on the screen whether from the Internet or other sources such as CD-ROMs, USB keys, etc.

<http://www.pixalert.com>

Here is a screenshot from commonsensemedia.org. Often they present topics through a questions and answer forum which also shows you responses from other parents.

The screenshot shows the Commonsensemedia.org website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with categories: Reviews, Top Picks, Family Guides, Parent Concerns (highlighted in green), Videos, Blogs, Education, Kids Action, Latino (with a 'NEW' badge), and About Us. Below the navigation is a main header for the topic 'Cyberbullying, Haters, and Trolls' with a 'More Topics' dropdown menu. The main content area features a large orange graphic with the word 'Cyberbullying' and a smartphone image displaying a text message that says '#@\$%!!!' and a blue bubble that says 'Advice, resources and more from experts.' To the right of the graphic is a text block: 'Once kids go online, their chances of finding cyberbullies, haters, and trolls is, sadly, quite high. Find age-specific guidelines, videos, and articles to help with tough conversations -- whether your kid is a bully or is being bullied. We answer all your cyberbullying questions, offering age-appropriate advice, school resources, and more from parents and experts.' Below this text are icons for 'FAQs 22', 'Articles 7', and 'Videos 8'. Underneath is a section for 'Explore Questions by Age' with filters for Preschoolers (2-4), Little Kids (5-7), Big Kids (8-9), Tweens (10-12), Teens (13+), and Most Popular. At the bottom, there is a 'Most Popular Questions' section with social media sharing icons (Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Pinterest, Email, Print, Heart) and the start of two question cards: 'What should I do if my kid is' and 'What can I tell my kid to do if'.

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