

Digital reputation

Young children

All internet users will have a digital or online reputation. Essentially, this digital reputation is the opinion that others hold about the user. Digital reputations are informed by content that is posted online and how people communicate online. People can be judged on how they behaved as a child well into the future.

For young children, the concept of a digital reputation is probably too complex for them to grasp. General internet safety tips are a good start in helping children to develop appropriate online etiquette and to learn appropriate ways of responding online. These are available under the Parenting online topic.

As a starting point, it can be useful to help young children understand that they should behave the same way online as they do offline. Help them to understand that other people can see what they are doing online. So they should take care with what they say and do.

More information

The Cybersmart program provides a range of cybersafety materials for parents and their children. For more information, resources, advice and tips, visit the Cybersmart website at www.cybersmart.gov.au. Encourage your children and teens to take a look around the website. If you have young children, you may like to explore it together to help them understand how to protect themselves against online risks and make the most of their experiences online.