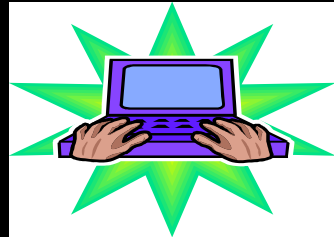


Remember!

- It's important to talk to your children about the sites they use. If you don't know how to use the computer, get someone to show you.
- If you have a computer at home, it's a good idea to have it in the kitchen or sitting room so that it's easier to check what sites your children use.
- If your children use internet cafés, talk to them regularly about this. Go with them some times and get them to show you their online profiles. **Warning:** In an internet café, children could use adult sites and should always be supervised.
- Remember if your children come across unsuitable material on the internet, it's not their fault. Make sure you tell them to report any unsuitable material to you or another adult.



More info

Here are some websites where you can get more information about safety on the web:-
<http://www.webwise.ie>
<http://www.watchyourspace.ie>
<http://www.safekids.com>

Thanks

This leaflet was produced by the Home, School, Community Liaison Scheme Dublin1/Dublin7 Local Committee. Thanks to all the pupils and teachers and to all the parents and community members of the Local Committee who contributed.

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Presentation Primary School,
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Plás Mhuire B.N.S.,
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Tips and advice about Bebo for parents

Computers.... Internet...

Our children are using computers all the time. They use terms and words that many of us don't understand. This leaflet is to help parents understand more about 'online life' and to help make our children's time on the internet safe and fun.

Bebo & the internet:-

A great way to communicate and learn

There are loads of really positive things about Bebo and the internet. These are just some of them

- It is a cheap and easy way to communicate—you can talk to your friends anywhere in the world.
- It is an easy way to share interests with other people—music, sport etc.
- It is a way to make new friends who share your interests
- Computer skills are needed for lots of things—Bebo is a fun way to learn them.

What are they talking about? - some Bebo terms explained

- **Profile:-** the information about yourself that you put up on your homepage
- **Widget:-** a slide show of pictures you make yourself.
- **Flash Box/Bebo TV:-** a video you display on your profile that others can watch. You can choose it from a list of videos or put it up yourself.
- **Top 16:-** your top 16 friends that you choose yourself. Their information such as names, profiles and homepages are seen clearly on your profile.
- **Blog:-** you write about whatever you want to, for example your diary or your memories.
- **Homepage picture:-** your main picture seen at the top of your homepage. It can be a photo of anything you want.
- **Whiteboard:-** people can send and receive drawings and comments.
- **Other half:-** you can add one friend as an other half. This will be shown at the top of your homepage.
- **Skin:-** the background of your homepage. You can make one yourself or just choose one.
- **Share the luv:-** you can send and receive love in comment form. The amount of love you receive is shown on your profile.

Be safe

You can help your children to stay safe online.

Here are some simple hints.

- **Never put up any information that could identify you** (school location, phone number, where you live) on your Bebo site, and never give these details to others when you're online.
- **Meeting strangers is never a good idea.** Online contacts may not be who they say they are. People can make false profiles and lie about things like their age. You should never arrange to meet someone unless you bring an adult you can trust and it's in a public place.
- **Report abuse or bullying:-** never reply to bullying comments. These should be reported to the site owners (just click 'Report Abuse' on the Bebo homepage) and to an adult you can trust.
- **Don't send bullying messages to others:-** Remember that bullying can hurt people and all comments and messages can be traced.
- **Be careful what you post:-** any photos or words that you post on your Bebo site will be available on the worldwide web for everyone to see.
- **You can make your site private.** Just click on 'Edit profile' and it will show you how to do it - or ask someone to show you. Only people who you invite will be able to see your site. You can send a comment to only one person if you want.
- **You can block or freeze unwanted comments:-** it is a good idea to block messages from unknown profiles and not to reply to unknown people.