

Digital Citizenship Parent Education Series

Think about Jesus!

Children should think about their online behavior in terms of their Catholic faith perspective. A simple question for children to ask in their lives, both online and offline, is “What would Jesus do?”

We want our children to build positive “footprints” online. Opportunities to share their work, accomplishments, and talents online are important ways for us to build positive self-esteem and a digital resume of their abilities. We also need to frequently monitor online behavior for signs of cyberbullying. [The Canadian Institute of Health Research](#) states that 1 in 3 adolescents have experienced bullying recently. An Alberta study in 2005 indicated that one third of children who become cyberbullies were victims of it themselves.



Conversation Starters.....

Does my online behavior match the person I want to be in real life?

Do I carefully consider whether my online actions build my self-esteem and reputation or harm it?

Would my posts, pictures and online activity be something I want my future employers to know about me?

Have I ever encountered cyberbullying, gossip, or threatening online behavior towards myself or others? What have I done and should I do in these situations?



Online Resources.....

Media Smarts is a Canadian website with a variety of excellent tools for looking at safe online behavior. Check out some of these links for more education and conversation at home:

[eParenting Tutorial: Keeping up with your kids' online activities](#)

[Are you Web aware? A checklist for kids ages 9-12](#)

[Are you Web aware? A checklist for kids ages 13-17](#)



The Regina Catholic School Division provides access to technology for all teachers and students. Learning with technology connects us locally and globally and requires all users to understand the responsibility to use technology safely, legally, and ethically. This supports the vision of technology to enhance learning while stressing also the importance of each user's responsibility as a digital citizen.

While teachers stress the importance of the three areas of respect for “JOY” filled and responsible online behavior, parents can also help educate and discuss these issues at home. In this series, each of the three areas will be highlighted with questions and suggestions for educating your child about digital citizenship.