PROJECT R.I.S.K.

(Realiable Internet Safety for Kids)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING
TASK FORCE

Reliable Internet Safety for Kids (R.I.S.K.)
Safety Tips for Virtual Schooling

1. Periodically confer with your child's teachers and educators regarding your child's curriculum, lesson plans, assignments, and the school's virtual learning policy.
2. Place your child's device (desktop computer, laptop, tablet, phone, etc.) in a common area of the house (dining room, living, den, etc.).   If your child's work station is in the child's bedroom, keep the door open and periodically check on your child's online activities. At bedtime, phones should not be kept in your child's room. Most predator cases develop when the child is using messaging applications with strangers when their guardian doesn't know the child is online.
3. Know all of your child's screen names, profiles, passwords, and social media memberships.
4. If a Video Teleconferencing (VTC) platform (Zoom, WebEx, Loom, etc.) is a part of your child's curriculum, avoid backgrounds that display personal information such as photographs, diplomas, certificates, mementos, souvenirs, etc. If possible, use a virtual background.
5. When your child's VTC session is completed, deactivate the webcam. If your webcam is embedded on your laptop, put a piece black tap over the camera opening when not in use. If your webcam utilizes a USB connection, unplug the camera from the USB connection when the webcam is not in use.
6. Discourage your child from sharing passwords and login information with others. Also, discourage your child from sharing personal photos, especially with strangers.
7. Maximize the application of privacy settings on computers and devices.
8. Be careful about downloading material during virtual learning sessions. When in doubt about the safety or legitimacy of the material, contact the school or teacher and confirm the legitimacy of the material.
9. Report to school officials and/or law enforcement any inappropriate conduct or activity that occurs during online virtual learning/classroom sessions.
10. Talk to your child about internet safety and maintain an open line of communication.

Links to Resources:

- https://www.missingkids.org/education

- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-checklist.html

- https://polarisproject.org/

- https://www.justice.gov/coronavirus/keeping-children-safe-online