## \_'Cyber Safety Awareness' An initiative by Cyber Crime Branch, Delhi Police

The digital world is instant and everywhere. That is why it is important to be cybersmart. Understanding the consequences of online actions, knowing what to do if things go wrong and understanding online security can make the online experience of our children safer and more enjoyable.

The Cyber Crime Cell of Delhi Police organizes workshops on 'Cyber Safety Awareness' in schools across Delhi. The workshop aims to share and to familiarize the teachers about a standardized cyber safety awareness module that has been prepared by the Cyber Cell of Economic Offences Wing of Delhi Police. It has been observed that school going children are more vulnerable to cyber offences due to their inquisitiveness, curiosity and inadequate awareness about online threats and safe online habits.

Here are a few tips for parents presented by Cyber Crime Cell, Delhi Police to help them in sensitizing school going teenagers about cybercrime and how to be cyber smart.

- Do not replace physical parental supervision of computer used at home with any safe search engine or any other tool. No search filtering software or tool is perfect.
- Educate yourself also on social media safety and have open discussions with teens about present dangers and long term effects of inappropriate conduct, including posting pictures/videos online.
- Keep the computer in an open area. Make a rule that doors are always left open when kids are online.
- Advise your children to immediately exit any site that makes them feel uncomfortable or worried.
- Parents should keep a track of persons with whom their children are talking to and which sites they are browsing. This is NOT invading their privacy at all, rather it is parenting in the digital space.

- If you find inappropriate content about your child on the internet, please contact the service provider concerned and/or Police as soon as possible.
- Majority of children would not like to tell their parents if they are bullied or harassed online for fear that they will lose internet access. Make sure that your children understand that they will not get into trouble if they tell you about a problem.
- Children under 13 ARE NOT ALLOWED on Facebook, Instagram, SnapChat, iTunes and many more. Don't support your child to break the rules as they are not the only one without these accounts.
- Explain it to your child that all Social Networking Profiles MUST BE SET TO PRIVATE. Use all the security settings available to make the site as safe as possible.
- Do not let young children browse 'Google' aimlessly with no supervision. Children need to be taught about search engines and how they work.
- Don't allow your child to use Apps like Snap Chat that immediately delete the posts. Apps prevent you from monitoring the child's online experience and you may never know what he is being subjected to.
- If you notice a sudden change in your child's behavior, do check, among other things, his online activity on Facebook, Whatsapp etc.

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