



# Prevent Child Abuse Indiana™

A Division of The Villages

A Chartered State Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America



# INTERNET SAFETY

## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

The internet can be a wonderful and useful tool to enhance our knowledge about any topic. Within seconds it keeps us up to date on our favorite sports teams and celebrities and enables us to be linked in at work and school. In those same seconds however, a predator can “enter” our homes, and potentially harm our children. According to research, 1 in 5 children have received some type of online enticement through the internet. It is imperative then, that we teach ourselves, and more importantly our children, basic internet safety.

## EDUCATING OURSELVES & OUR CHILDREN



### CONSTANT CHANGE

Caregivers should stay current because things change constantly including security software, parental controls, apps, tools, terminology and emojis.



### ACCESS POINTS

Technology access points include gaming systems, cell phones, computers, tablets, smart watches – anything that can connect to the internet.



### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Tell children to never give out any personal information on-line or on social media (e.g. home address, birthdate, school name or sports teams, etc.). These items enable someone to trace a child's whereabouts.



### PARENTAL CONTROLS

Caregivers should check internet history regularly, use parental controls, turn off internet at designated times, encourage internet usage only in common areas.



### KEEPING PRIVACY

There's no such thing as private on the internet. Anything shared publicly may be difficult to remove (e.g. sexting, nude images, etc.).

*Social media is not appropriate for everyone; assess individual child's maturity level. Keep open communication with children. Ask about how they use the internet, social media or online gaming/apps.*

## ABOUT US

Prevent Child Abuse Indiana is dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect. In doing so, we make Indiana a safer, better place for our children.

*Together, prevention is possible.*

## LEARN MORE

Scan the QR or visit our website.  
[www.pcain.org](http://www.pcain.org)

