# **Parents and carers**



## About the eSafety Office:

We help all Australians have safer online experiences. Through education resources and advice we aim to improve the digital literacy and resilience of Australians online.

We also operate a complaints scheme for:

- cyberbullying material affecting
   Australians under the age of 18
- \* illegal and offensive online content.

## What is cyberbullying?

Cyberbullying is a distinct form of aggression. It differs from traditional bullying in the lack of verbal cues, the permanence of digital data, the 24/7 accessibility and the anonymity.

Research indicates that approximately 1 in 5 children (8-17 years old) have been cyberbullied.

## How the office can help you

\* We work with social media services to remove serious cyberbullying material. This includes material that is seriously threatening, intimidating, harassing or humiliating.

- We provide advice and resources to parents, schools and the police to assist in addressing cyberbullying incidents.
- We refer and encourage young people to free confidential counselling and support such as
   Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800 and eheadspace – 1800 650 890







## **Resources for parents**



## **Highlights include:**

<u>Multimedia reviews</u> — tips about entertainment choices available to young people—including games, movies and television.

<u>Online safeguards</u> — advice and information about parental controls for devices, streaming services, web browsers and gaming consoles and a range of content about safe search and filtering software.

<u>Staying safe</u> — information about key internet safety topics.

<u>**Online risks</u>** — guidance for parents to help deal with cyberbullying, sexting, online pornography, inappropriate content and grooming.</u>

<u>Getting help</u> — a listing of professional support services for children and parents/carers. Each state in Australia has a dedicated <u>parent helpline</u>.

#### **Ordering free resources**

Call 1800 880 176 – downloadable from esafety.gov.au.

#### **Other useful resources:**

 How to set parental controls on gaming consoles.

- <u>Parental controls for computers</u>, <u>tablets and smartphones</u>.
- <u>Talking to children about</u> online pornography.
- Young & eSafe empowering young people to make real change in their online lives.
- <u>Quick guide to popular social media</u> sites and apps.
- \* <u>Sexting how to start the conversation.</u>

#### **Infographics**

- Is there an age limit for kids on social media?
- \* Should my child be on social media?
- \* <u>Keeping an eye on screen time.</u>
- <u>8 tips to keep on top of your child's</u> screen time.

#### **Video resources**

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner offers over 350 video resources for children, parents and teachers on our <u>Vimeo</u> channel.

- <u>Rewrite Your Story 8 vignettes based</u>
   <u>on real life cyberbullying stories</u>
- Chatterbox video series for parents covering cyberbullying, unwanted contact and sexting.
- <u>Online grooming Detective Senior</u>
   <u>Sergeant Wayne Newman Child</u>
   <u>Exploitation Taskforces, Victoria.</u>
- <u>Balancing time online Dr Michael</u> <u>Carr-Gregg, Child and Adolescent</u> <u>Psychologist.</u>
- Managing cyberbullying incidents

   Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, Child and Adolescent Psychologist.