The following sites contain helpful information and top tips for safer internet use:

Webwise (www.webwise.ie)
The Irish Internet Safety Awareness Node. Webwise provides parents, teachers, and children with educational resources, advice and information about potential dangers on the internet and empowers users to minimise or avoid these risks.

Watch Your Space (www.watchyourspace.ie)
Developed by the National Centre for Technology in Education (NCTE). This site offers practical tips, advice and support for teenagers who use the web.

Childline (www.childine.ie)
Childline is one of the services run by the Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC), which is part funded by the EU Safer Internet Programme. Childline provides a service where children and young people affected by issues or content encountered on the internet may turn for advice and guidance – 1800 66 66 66

National Parents Council (www.npc.ie)
The National Parents Council (NPC) provide a training seminar on internet safety for parent associations and financial support received from the EU Safer Internet Programme has allowed an expansion of its existing Parents' Helpline to deal with issues relating to internet safety including cyberbullying – (01) 8874477

The websites referred to in this leaflet and their content are the sole responsibility of the website providers.

The following guides are available to download from www.internetsafety.ie

- A parents' guide to new media technologies
- A parents' guide to filtering technologies
- A parents' guide to social-networking websites
- A guide to cyberbullying

If you come across content on the internet that you suspect to be illegal, please report it using the confidential www.hotline.ie service.

For more Information
Contact: Office for Internet Safety
                Floor 3, Block 2
                Harcourt Centre
                Harcourt Street
                Dublin 2
                www.internetsafety.ie

Email: internetsafety@justice.ie
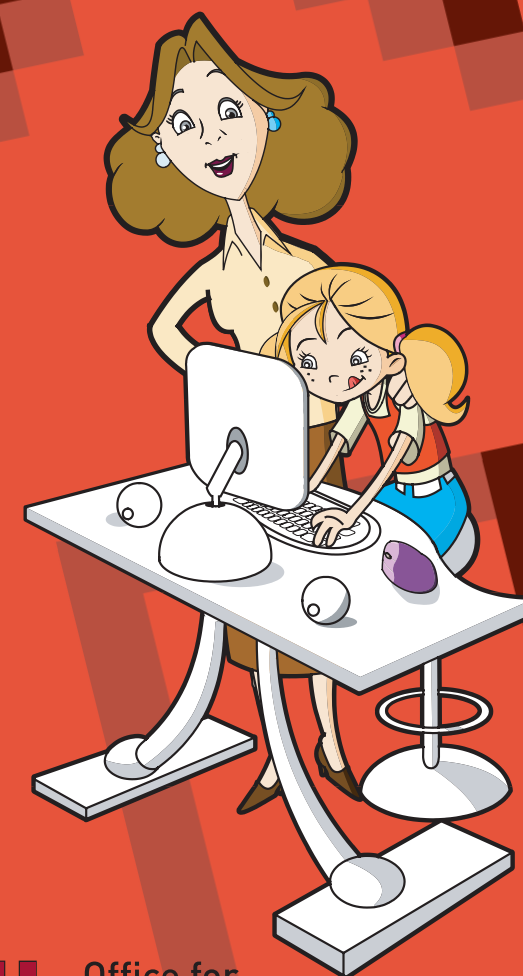Helpline: 01 408 6122

This leaflet was produced by the Office for Internet Safety for Safer Internet Day 2011.

GET WITH IT !

SAFER INTERNET DAY **2011**
8 FEBRUARY

Keeping Safe Online

Office for Internet Safety
An Oifig Sábháilteachta Idirlín

Using the Internet is a popular activity particularly among children and young people. Social networking websites, email, newsgroups, message boards, chatrooms and instant messenging are the various methods of exchanging communications in todays world. For children it is a world of fun, entertainment, learning and creativity. Despite the many benefits offered there are also risks which they must be made aware of.

The internet is global so it is extremely difficult to control, however, there are many ways that you as a parent can help to protect your children from these dangers and ensure that your child's online experience is happy and productive.

The following tips can help you and your family to stay safe on the internet.

Internet Safety Tips for Parents

■ Talk to your children about the potential dangers on the internet and your concerns.

■ Learn how to use the computer and the internet yourself. Take an interest in what your children do online.

■ Set family rules for using the internet such as when it can be used and for how long.

■ Keep the computer in a busy room in the house where you can see it.

■ Ensure your children never give personal information or meet with an online 'friend' without permission.

■ Encourage your children to talk to you about anything uncomfortable they may find on the internet.

■ Protect your computer from malicious software always use a firewall and updated anti-virus.

Internet Safety Tips for Children

■ Take care of your identity while online. Never give out personal details such as your phone number or address because people you meet online are not always who they seem to be.

■ Never post intimate photos or details online or even in a private email. This can cause problems for you in school or in future employment.

■ Don't reply to messages that are meant to harass or upset you. This will encourage the bully.

■ Immediately tell a parent or a trusted adult about any communications that you receive which make you feel uncomfortable.

■ Be responsible online – harassing people online is a form of bullying. Treat people online the same way you want to be treated.