

A guide to sharing pictures: Parent Factsheet

Think before you share

- With new technology families are sharing more of their lives online, including sharing pictures of their children.
- Children are using social media, videos, web cam, live streaming and texting. They are sharing more and more images of themselves, from an early age.

Sending an image means it can be shared again by others

Did you know there are rules for sharing images?

- You need consent to take and share images/videos of others.
- People also need your consent to take and share your image.

What is sexting?

- Sexting is sending an indecent image.
- It can lead to online bullying, grooming or emotional stress.
- It is a criminal offence

If your child is over 10 and has or sends an indecent image of someone under the age of 18, it is a criminal offence.

- The police can get involved.
- Your child could receive a criminal record and be placed on the Sex Offenders Register.
- This could harm their future.

What you can do to help keep your child safe online

- Discuss regularly with your child what they like to take pictures or videos of? Who do they share them with?
- Regularly remind them to think before they share. Any image they send of themselves can also be shared again by others.
- If you are concerned with anything you or your child has seen or asked to do, please call Childline or tell your child's school.

