



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES

All forms of social media, such as Facebook, YouTube, MySpace, Instagram, Twitter, and Oovoo are popular among teens. Parents are undoubtedly familiar with the risks associated with social networking in this day and age.

Realistically, it is very challenging to monitor our kids' participation in the various types of social media. I Phones, I Pads, and any other tablet can add to this challenge. It is in parents' best interests to discuss with children the different types of social media that they are using and guide them appropriately.

Rule 1: Always solve problems face-to-face with the specific person you're having the problem with.

Rule 2: Assume that any internet message you send can be read by anyone and everyone.

Rule 3: If you're ever bullied online, talk to an adult. Speak up against bullying when you see it.

Rule 4: Keep your webpage private and don't share your password.

Rule 5: Don't give out your ASL (age, sex, location) or any other personal information to someone you have met online.

Rule 6: Never post anything online that you don't want the whole world to have access to forever!

Rule 7: Never make a threat over the internet, even as a joke!

Rule 8: Print out any threats you receive and show them to a trusted adult.

Rule 9: If someone says something that makes you uncomfortable, sign off. Block them. File a complaint with the site.

Rule 10: Never meet anyone in the real world that you met online without having a safety plan with the approval of your parents.

Rule 11: Avoid chat rooms and never go private with someone you met in a chat room.

Rule 12: Keep your webcam unplugged when not in use. Never use a webcam with someone you don't know.

