Use Your Smarts on the Internet

Brimbank City Council

S — Safe

Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when chatting or posting online. Personal information includes your phone number, date of birth, email address and password

M — Meeting

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Try and meet in a public place such as a café or shopping center, and let a friend or family member know where you are going. Remember online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time.

A — Accepting

Be careful opening emails, chat messages, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust. This can lead to problems as they may contain offensive messages or malicious viruses!

R — Reliable

Someone online might lie about who they are, and the information about them online may be false. Always cross check information on other websites, in books, or with someone who can help.

T — Tell

If you feel you have been inappropriately targeted online you can report the person responsible to the website administrator. You can do this through the reporting function or emailing your feedback.

S — Settings

Social networking sites often change security and privacy settings without you knowing about it. Be aware of your privacy settings on social media and check them regularly. Most social media sites have options for you to do a privacy check-up.

For more ways to stay safe online:

1. Visit the 'Be Cyber Safe' page at brimbanklibraries.vic.gov.au
2. Use the Cybersafety button on the desktop of library computers
3. Talk to a staff member

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