



Community Taking Action

- ◆ Make sure that access to the Internet at your children's school is monitored by adults.
- ◆ Know your children's friends and their parents. If your child's friends have internet access at home, talk to the parents about the rules they have established. Find out if the children are monitored while online.
- ◆ Make sure your child's school has an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). This policy should include a list of acceptable and unacceptable activities or resources, information on "netiquette" (etiquette for the internet), consequences for violations, and a place for your and your child to sign.
- ◆ If your child receives threatening emails or pornographic material, save the offensive material and contact that user's Internet service provider and local law enforcement agency.
- ◆ If you come across sites that are inappropriate for children when you are surfing the Net, send the address to online services that offer parental control features or to sites advertising protection software to add to their list to be reviewed for inclusion or exclusion.



City Of Hawaiian Gardens Public Safety Center

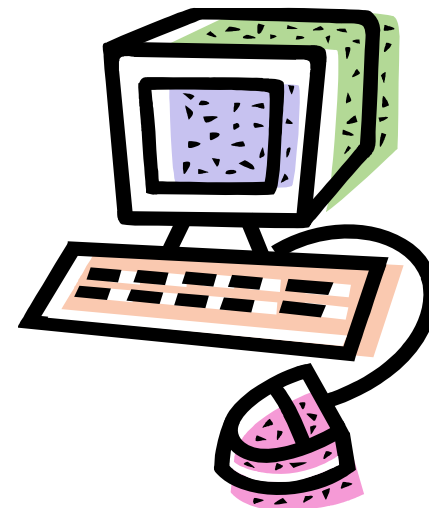
11940 Carson St.
Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716
Phone: 562-420-2641 ext. 651

Common Acronyms used on-line

A/S/L = age/sex/location	GR8 = great
BRB = be right back	WTGP = want to go private?
CUL = see you later	TAW = teachers are watching
CYO = see you online	MUSM = miss you so much
KOC = kiss on cheek	MMA = meet me at
LMIRL = let's meet in real life	MYOB = mind your own business
LOL = laughing out loud	NE1 = anyone
2U2 = to you too	NW = no way
?4U = question for you	QT = cutie
AFK = away from the keyboard	PHAT = pretty hot and tempting
B4 = before	<3 = heart
CTN = can't talk now	=P = sticking out tongue
IM = instant message	;) = winking
G2G = got to go	
HOAS = hold on a second	

Cyber Safety for Kids Online

A Parent's Guide



City of Hawaiian
Gardens
Public Safety Center

Helpful Tips to Keep your Kids Safe Online

The Internet has opened up a world of information for anyone with a computer and



a connection! Your children will learn about computers. But just as you wouldn't send children near a busy road without some safety rules, you shouldn't send them on to the information superhighway without rules of the road. Too many dangers from pedophiles to con artists can reach children (and adults) through the Internet.

Getting Started

- ◆ Explain that although a person may be alone in a room using the computer, once logged on to the internet, he or she is no longer alone. People skilled in using the internet can find out who you are and where you are. They can even tap into information on your computer.

- ◆ Set aside time to explore the Internet together. If your child has some computer experience, let him or her take the lead. Visit areas of the World Wide Web that have special sites for children.

Controlling Access

- ◆ The best tool a child has for screening material found on the internet is his or her brain. Teach children about exploitation, pornography, hate literature, excessive violence, and other issues that concern you, so they know how to respond when they see such material.
- ◆ Choose a commercial online service that offers parental control features. These features can block contact that is not clearly marked as appropriate for children.
- ◆ Purchase blocking software and design your own safety system. Different packages can block sites by name, search for unacceptable words and block access to sites containing those words, block entire categories of material, and prevent children from giving out personal information.

- ◆ Monitor your children when they're online and monitor the time they spend online. If a child becomes uneasy or defensive when you walk into the room or when you linger, this could be a sign that he or she is up to something unusual.

Explain to your children...

- ◆ To always let you know immediately if they find something scary or threatening on the Internet.
- ◆ Never to give out their name, address, telephone number, password, school name, parent's name or any other personal information.
- ◆ Never to agree to meet face to face with someone they've met online.
- ◆ Never respond to messages that have bad words or seem scary or weird.
- ◆ Never enter an area that charges for services without asking you first.
- ◆ Never send a picture of themselves to anyone without your permission.