DIGITAL FOR LIFE
PLAY IT FORWARD

Guide Your Child in Leaving Better Digital Footprints

Learn how to help your child leave better digital footprints.

What is a Digital Footprint?

A digital footprint is a trail of your child's online activities, from posts and searches to website visits. Every interaction leaves a trace of information, creating a lasting record of their digital presence.

Search...

Examples of Digital Footprints

- Text messages, including deleted ones
- Photos and videos, including deleted ones
- Photos where your child is tagged
- Social Media Reactions e.g. 'Likes'
- Search History
- Browsing history, even in 'Incognito' mode

5G ⏥ 🔋 100%

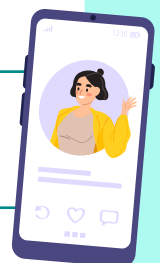## 🔍 Understand Your Child's Digital Footprints

Conduct a Search
Conduct an online search of your child to demonstrate the digital trail they leave behind. This can help them understand the extent of their online presence and the information available about them.

Affects Reputation
Remind your child that their online behaviour, just like their real-world actions, shapes their reputation, which can affect their future acceptance into schools or even jobs.

Leaves a Permanent Record
When your child shares something online, it becomes part of their digital footprint. The content can be misinterpreted, altered, or preserved indefinitely through screenshots and archives, making removal extremely difficult.

2 Tips to Leave Better Digital Footprints

Practise T.H.I.N.K
Encourage your child to consider if what they are about to post is **T**rue, **H**elpful, **I**nspiring, **N**ecessary, and **K**ind. If the answer to any of these questions is 'No', they should not post it.

Is it kind?

Avoid sharing personal information such as NRIC, or any intimate content online. If your child mistakenly posts something they later regret, guide them to remove it promptly.

Review Their Privacy Settings
Advise your child to **control** who can see their posts. Remind them to exercise caution and connect only with known and trusted individuals on social media platforms.

By encouraging your child to be proactive in managing their digital footprints, you are helping them to create a digital reputation that they can be proud of.

Visit **www.digitalforlife.gov.sg** for more tips on parenting in the digital age.