

HECTOR'S WORLD™

Parent Conversation Guide

Episode 3: Running a Tight Ship



netsafe

Episode 3: Running A Tight Ship

Parent Conversation Guide

Theme

Privacy, safety and security

Purpose

Explain what personal information is, why it is valuable online and how to take control of the information you share online to be more secure.

Episode overview

Mr Ling talks to his class about protecting their private information when going online and Jazz is concerned that she shared her school's name with some online 'friends'. Mr Ling explains about 'running a tight ship' when they are online - not to allow cracks to show and water to get in. The characters discuss the importance of keeping their private information...private...to keep themselves safe.

Background Information

Parents and whānau play a key role in fostering good behaviours around online privacy, safety and security. As well as exploring privacy settings and device controls, it's important to discuss and explore the reasons why it's important to think about online privacy and how to protect the information that is personal and special to you.

Using sites and services online can often mean that you are explicitly asked to submit information about yourself, such as name, email address, geographic location etc. and adult users likely know they have a choice whether to answer those questions and share those details, whereas tamariki are more likely to share information without thinking it through.

Each time a parent or child goes online (sharing pictures, visiting sites, browsing social media, playing games etc.) they also contribute metadata to the web - often unintentionally. This data can be aggregated and anonymised, but it can be used to cross match online activities and build a profile of you as individuals, so it's important to think through when, where and how you share your personal information online.

Any personal data shared online, knowingly or unknowingly, can increase the risk of that information getting into the hands of others, or that information being used for other reasons.

Personal information includes:

- Your full name and date of birth.
- Where you go to school.
- Phone number(s).
- Your email address.
- Home address.
- Your interests, activities and connections such as what movies you watch, where you play soccer or who you are friends with.

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Conversation starters

- What are some things you shouldn't share online?
- What is the difference between 'public' and 'private' posts or groups?
- What do you know about privacy settings? Why do you think they are important?
- Have you heard of 'personal information'? Can you guess what it might include?
- What would you do if you were asked for information that you didn't think was safe to share?
- Who could you check with or talk to if you weren't sure whether to share something online?
- Why do you think it's important to protect your personal information?
- How do you remember your log-in details and passwords?

Further reading

Read Netsafe's advice on [how to improve your online privacy and security](#)

Phones and mobile devices are often a convenient way to provide tamariki with access to cartoons and games. read these [12 tips](#) to keep your devices secure.