

THE 3 IS OF INTERNET SAFETY



The underlying framework for giving parents sound advice about Internet safety is the 3Is. *The 3Is of Internet Safety* are a quick snapshot of what parents need to support and protect their children. These guidelines are applicable to students of every age, from primary school all the way through high school.

1

INFORMED: Parents need a balanced perspective of technology use. It is important to present the positives and negatives. Technology is critical to learning and the future of our students, but parents are often only presented with a single side of the picture in the media. How good a device is for learning, and how engaging and relevant it is, does not grab viewer attention in the media, unlike the often tragic consequences of cyberbullying.

2

INTERESTED: Parents are encouraged to be interested in their child's learning and technology use. They should be very familiar with it, look at their child's work, and have the child explain what they are doing, why they are doing it, and why it is significant. Being interested in their child's learning and online activities gives parents oversight of their child's activities and can lead to amazing discussions and quick identification of concerns, issues, or problems.

3

IN VIEW: Parents should keep devices out of bedrooms and in public spaces. Keeping all devices in view, while sometimes difficult, will help keep young people safe. It may involve the purchase of headphones to block out the noise of the games they are playing and will often involve chaos at the dining room table as the children spread out their stuff for home learning, but the advantages far outweigh the potential pitfalls.