

Important guidelines from Be Sure Consulting and nationally recognized child cyber crimes expert Detective Richard Wistocki for parents raising children surrounded by technology.

## **Phone, Online and Gaming Safety Tips:**

- **1.** Parents are responsible for all of their child's devices and actions until they are 18.
- **2.** Most social networks such as TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat, require users to be 13 years of age or older to have an account. Check your child's date of birth on their accounts to ensure they listed their true age. Many children list the year 2000 out of convenience (this makes them appear 20+ years old).
- **3.** Never allow your children to charge devices in their rooms at night. This is when they loose sleep affecting their grades, participate in inappropriate video chats and potentially become victimized.
- **4.** Your child should be able to tell you their online friends true first name, last name, where they live and where they go to school if they are chatting online. Not by what their "online friend" tells them but what they have witnessed or verified themselves.

- **5.** Parents should be aware of monitoring software that is available to make their kids safe such as Bark.us.
- **6.** Before sending any picture, video or snap, think about the "3 P Test" If you were to show that picture or video to a parent, priest or principal what do you think they would say? If they wouldn't approve it is NOT OK to share.
- **7.** Parents must know the code or password to unlock their child's phone or device in case something happens. When a parent attempts to access the device and the child changes the code without informing the parent, that could have major consequences.
- **8.** Do your best to be involved and make efforts to understand the apps and games your child uses, the more you understand about their online lives the better you can guide and protect them from poor choices.



For more information and training visit besureconsulting.com | cyberparenting-101.com | juvenilejusticeonline.org

