

Social Networking

Social networking sites are a great way to communicate with your friends.

You can create your own personal space, you can include lots of information about yourself, like what school you go to, what music you like and your favourite sport. You can also have a blog (an online diary) where you can write your daily thoughts and invite people to add their comments.

It is a good idea to use a nickname rather than your real name- your friends will know your nickname so will know it's you!

It's a good idea to put your real age on your site- if you like and say you are older, you may get adults trying to contact you.

It's not a good idea to put your mobile phone number on your site- your real friends will already have it.

Use your privacy settings! Adjust your account so you only approved friends can instant message you. This means that people you don't want to see your profile cant.

Anything you put on social networking sites can be copied or printed so if you want to put pictures up on your site think before you do it. Remember that your site may be seen by strangers and once a picture is online, it's online forever. It may be safer to use cartoons instead of pictures- that way you can make your site fun and safe to use.

Some people who you don't know in the real world may try to ask to be your friend, so they can see your site. It's not a good idea to allow a stranger to have access to your site- they may not be who they say they are.