

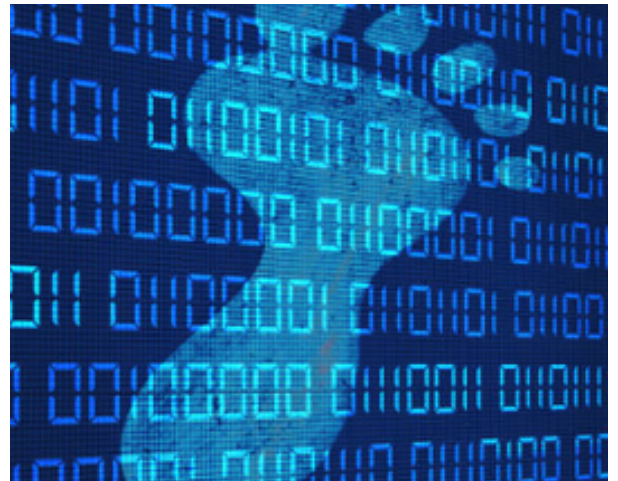
ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT AWARENESS – TEACHING CHILDREN ABOUT ONLINE PERMANENCE

ISSUE 29

DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

We return this week to a topic discussed in one of our earliest issues: the Digital Footprint. In short, the digital footprint is a metaphor for the impact you leave online with every post, like, and upload you make. Think of it as a footprint on a beach; the sea doesn't wash it away. Every post you make impacts your digital footprint and how much others can find out about you, whether they're friends, strangers, or potential employers. It is important to recognise what we are posting online.



PERMANENTLY ONLINE

Once something is shared online, it can be difficult to completely remove. Yes, you can delete the things you post, but often sites will archive data on a consistent basis, meaning what you post isn't always gone forever.

Children may make posts online that are not appropriate; in this case, it is important to remind them of online permanence. Those things that they've posted may come up again in the future, so it is important that everything we do on social media is appropriate. Encourage your child to stop and think before they post anything online.



APP SPOTLIGHT - INSTAGRAM

This week's app returning spotlight is **Instagram**. We are returning to Instagram this week as it relates to the idea of online permanence. Uploading images and making comments can all impact your digital footprint. Instagram can be used safely, but it is important to understand how.

- Instagram requires users to be at least 13 years old to create an account.
- Accounts can be set to private, meaning only approved followers can see posts and stories.
- Be careful with direct messages, anyone can do it!

Scan the QR code to learn more:

