

# TIPS: TWITTER SAFETY

Twitter, like Facebook, has become one of the most popular social media applications for tweens and teens. As a parent, you should learn how to use Twitter and talk to your children about how to be safe when using it. Below are some tips for parents on how to talk with your children about being responsible when tweeting.

Talk to your children about:

Helping you learn how to use Twitter if you are a first time user and creating your account.

Not tweeting any personal information on Twitter, such as their phone number, address, location and inappropriate pictures, videos and posts.

Thinking before tweeting a status, picture or video. Have them ask themselves would this be something I wouldn't mind my parent, teacher or future employer to see.

Not sharing their password with anyone but you.

Making sure they log out completely when finished using Twitter.

What cyberbullying is and how it can affect others. Let them know that they need to come to you if they feel like they are being bullied online or if someone is sending them messages that make them uncomfortable.

Not allowing them to make their tweets public. You can require that their tweets need manual approval from them or you by changing the settings on the Default Account Settings page. By doing this, you can also control who is "following" them on Twitter as well.