



YDH TECHNOLOGY GUIDELINES

These guidelines are designed to help set parameters in our homes so that you and your children can utilize technology safely. Nothing can substitute for a healthy relationship that fosters open communication with your children.

For many reasons, it is imperative that you establish these lines of communication early on, especially with regard to technology matters. Have regular discussions with your children about digital safety, inquire about their activities and tell them that you are asking because you want to protect them. Make it clear that they should never be afraid to share anything with you. When they choose to share something with you, please try to be receptive and understanding.

Below are some of the most basic safety precautions that you should be aware of. If we, as a YDH family, agree to join together to enforce these guidelines, we can empower each other and our children to be safe technology users.

- All internet devices (computers, laptops, tablets & phones etc.) should only be accessed in high traffic areas of your home. They should never be allowed in a child's room and used in private.
- Children should only communicate with other children on WhatsApp etc., never privately with another adult. Tell your children that if they are messaged privately by an adult (even one who they know) they should tell a parent immediately.
- There should be a time limit for gaming and computer usage which should be strictly enforced. Based on current research, this period of time should end at least a half an hour to an hour before bedtime.
- Let your children know that for their safety you will need access to all their accounts, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and SnapChat.
- When playing games online, they should only connect to people who you know.
- Everything that your child posts or texts becomes available to the public, so words and pictures should be chosen carefully. YDH boys are never mean to others especially online or via texting.
- Passwords should only be shared with their parents and never shared with anyone else.
- It is highly recommended that you use an age appropriate monitoring or filtering device that meets your family's needs.
- Downloading content or opening attachments should only be done with parental consent.