

Typical Parent Concerns:

- Screen Time
- Cyber bullying
- Privacy & Internet Safety
- Social Media
- Special Needs and Learning Difficulties
- Parental Controls
- Texting
- Establishing “Family Rules “
- *And on and on...*

Good resources:

- www.common sense media.org/parent-concerns (start here)
- <https://www.onguardonline.gov>
- <http://www.netsmartz.org/Parents>

“Layers of Defense”

- Filter (<http://www.opendns.com/parental-controls>)
- Built-in parental safety controls & restrictions (iPad/iPod, iPhone, Android, Mac, PC, etc.)
- Extended controls and monitoring with things like special Apps and paid services (search the web for “parent web controls any similar search phrase or visit <http://www.bewebsmart.com/parental-control-links/>)
- Safe Searching in Google, Yahoo, Bing and YouTube
- Video games (Wii, Xbox, Nintendo, etc.)
- Human (most important!)
 - Adult responsibility
 - Child responsibility
 - Adopt a Family Technology Contract

General Tips – “Be Web Smart”:

- Have the “online safety talk” with your kids early and often (just like the “other” talk – start earlier than you think you should, and provide info on a need-to-know basis over time).
 - Screen time limits
 - No computers in bedrooms or phones/devices in room overnight
 - Think before you post – would you be okay with your mom, grandmother, college admissions officer or future boss to see this?
 - What goes on the Internet stays on the internet
 - **Family media agreement**
 - Random spot checks
 - Relax rules as they get older and prove they can be responsible
-

Stay current - **sign up for the “Family Connections Newsletter”** (tips, topics, help): <https://tech.svvsd.org/family/> (click on “Newsletter Signup” on the top menu)

Look for “Camp iPad for Parents” opportunities!

Continue the conversation? Joe McBreen, joe@joemcbreen.com
