

# Parents Quiz

## – How switched on are you?

Find out what kind of digital parent you are

**1. Your 11 year old son tells you he's going to a friend's house to play RuneScape. Is it:**

- A. Some kind of game he likes to play on the internet but you're not sure what it involves?
- B. A fantasy multi-player online role-playing game, which he could be playing against strangers from all over the world?
- C. A modern version of "hide and seek"?

**2. Facebook has become your 10 year old daughter's favourite pastime. Should you:**

- A. Make sure she has customised the privacy controls so that she only interacts with real life friends?
- B. Tell her to stop and explain your concerns that she used false information to sign up to the service (as Facebook is for over 13s)?
- C. Accept that all young people are on social networking websites now – it's just part of life?

**3. Your eight year old son wants a mobile phone for Christmas. Do you:**

- A. Discuss what he wants a mobile for and offer to give him your old one when you get your next upgrade?
- B. Suggest that he doesn't really need a mobile now but you'll consider getting him one when he goes up to secondary school?
- C. Sigh with relief that he's given you an idea for a Christmas present and buy him the latest smart phone?

**4. You see something on the news about 'digital footprints'. Do you:**

- A. Type your son or daughter's name into a search engine to see what information comes up about them?
- B. Sit down with them and explain why they must 'think before they post' – images or messages they post online now could be there forever and could be seen by anyone (including teachers, future employers and complete strangers)?
- C. Switch over to another channel?

**5. Bullies from your 13 year old daughter's school are harassing her on the internet and on her mobile. Do you:**

- A. Give her a hug and suggest that she 'unfriends' the bullies online and ignores the text messages?
- B. Show her how to block the bullies online, help her to gather evidence (such as emails, Facebook messages and texts), and arrange a meeting with her teacher to discuss what action the school can take?
- C. Accept that bullying is just part of growing up?

**6. Your 14 year old son spends hours each day in his room playing on his games console. Do you:**

- A. Speak to him about needing to set limits on the amount of time he spends on it?
- B. Take the games console out of his bedroom and make the most of built-in Parental Controls to set time limits on it?
- C. Leave him to it – he's a typical teenager?

**7. Your child's school has sent a letter home warning about a rise in sexting (exchanging sexual photos and videos) among students. Do you:**

- A. Confiscate their mobile phone?
- B. Sit down with them to discuss sexting as part of a wider discussion about sex and relationships and explain that it's illegal to take, hold or share indecent images of under 18s?
- C. File the letter away – there's no chance your child would do something like that?

## How well did you do?

**Mostly As – "Could do better"**

You know that you need to get to grips with your child's digital world but you don't really know where to start. Take time to research e-safety on the internet then sit down with your son or daughter and ask them what online activities they enjoy, set some boundaries and let them know you're there to help them stay in control.

**Mostly Bs – "Clued up"**

You're clearly very clued up about your child's digital world and take the complexities of parenting in the 21<sup>st</sup> century seriously. You encourage your son or daughter to use new technologies but you also help them to manage the challenges and risks they bring.

**Mostly Cs – "Out of touch"**

You're out of touch and need to stop taking a back seat. Your son or daughter might seem like they're in control of their digital world, but just like in the real world, they need your guidance. Do some research so that you can talk confidently to your son or daughter about any digital issue.