



Child Safety: Internet Awareness

The internet has opened up a world of information for anyone with a computer and a connection. Your children will learn about computers and social media. As a parent, it is your responsibility to make sure your child stays safe online. Too many dangers, from pedophiles to con artists, can reach children (and adults) through the internet. The following information is based on true events! All of these tips reflect things that have happened to others; they come from children and families who have had a range of sad, scary, or devastating experiences online.



GETTING STARTED

Explain that although a person may be alone in a room using the computer, once logged on to the Internet, he or she is no longer alone. People using the Internet can find out who you are and where you are. They can even tap into information in your computer. Set aside time to explore the Internet together.

CONTROLLING ACCESS

The best tool a child has for screening material found on the Internet is his or her **brain**. Teach children about exploitation, pornography, hate literature, excessive violence, and other issues that concern you, so they know how to respond when they see this material. Choose and download a commercial online service that offers parental control features on all your devices. These features can block contact that is not clearly marked as appropriate for children; chat rooms, bulletin boards, news groups, and discussion groups; or access to the Internet entirely. Purchase blocking software and design your own safety system. Different packages can block sites by name, search for unacceptable words and block sites containing those words, block entire categories of material, and prevent children from giving out personal information. Monitor your children when they're online and monitor the time they spend online.

TELL YOUR CHILDREN (and teens and adults):

- To always let you know immediately if they find something scary or threatening on the Internet.
- Never to give out their name, address, telephone number, password, school name, parents' name, or any other personal information.
- Never to agree to meet face to face with someone they've met online.
- Never respond to messages that have bad words or seem scary or just weird.
- Never to enter an area that charges for services without asking you first.
- Never to send a picture of themselves to anyone without your permission.

- Once a picture, a message, a post is sent, it cannot be retrieved and will remain on the internet virtually **forever**.
- It's okay to say "no" and to never let anyone pressure them into doing something they feel uncomfortable doing.
- That everything they read or see on the internet may not be true and that people online may not be who they seem.

WHAT YOU CAN DO IN THE COMMUNITY

- Make sure that adults monitor access to the Internet at your children's school.
- Know your children's friends and their parents.
- Set reasonable rules for computer use and discuss them with your children.

Investigations have shown that children will likely have a social media page whether you approve or not, so it is imperative that you teach them internet safety.

- If your child's friend has Internet access at home, talk to the parents about the rules they have established.
- Find out if the children are monitored while they are online.
- If your child receives threatening e-mails or pornographic material, save the offensive material and contact that user's Internet service provider and your local law enforcement agency.
- If you come across sites that are inappropriate for children when you are surfing the Net or become aware of the transmission, use, or viewing of child pornography while online, report it to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

SAN DIMAS STATION

San Dimas Sheriff's Station is one of six stations within the East Patrol Division of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The Station's jurisdiction encompasses approximately 276 square miles. In addition to serving the City of San Dimas, the station serves unincorporated communities of Azusa, Covina, Glendora, La Verne, Claremont, Pomona, the Los Angeles County portion of Mt. Baldy, a large portion of the Angeles National Forest (State Route 39), and portions of Angeles Crest Highway (Highway 2). The population for these areas is approximately one hundred and five thousand (105,000), nearly sixty six thousand (69,000) in the unincorporated areas and more than thirty-six thousand (36,000) in the City of San Dimas.

San Dimas Sheriff's Station
 Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
 270 S. Walnut Avenue
 San Dimas, CA 91773
 (909) 450-2700

Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/>

Flickr photos for San Dimas Station: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sdmlasd>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SDMLASD> <https://twitter.com/LASDAndy>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SanDimasSheriffsStation>

Website: <http://www.SanDimas.lasd.org>

LASD Text & Email (Register at <http://www.Nixle.com> :
<http://local.nixle.com/lasd---san-dimas-station-los-angeles-county-sheriff/>

And/or, in the [City of San Dimas, Code Red](#) <http://bit.ly/130HiGY>

LASD HEADQUARTERS:

Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau - Newsroom

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

323-267-4800

Email: SHBNewsroom@lasd.org

Website: <http://www.lasd.org>

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Instagram LASD Photos: <http://instagram.com/LASDHQ> Pinterest

LASD Photos : <http://pinterest.com/lacountysheriff/>

YouTube LASD Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/LACountySheriff/videos?view=0>

Alert LA County: Telephone emergency mass notification system

<http://www.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/alertla>

SNAP LA County: Specific Needs Disaster Voluntary Registry <http://snap.lacounty.gov/>

Text & Email, Register for LASD Nixle messages: To receive more detailed, up-to-date information via E-MAIL and/or TEXT directly from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), sign up for "Nixle" alerts at <http://www.Nixle.com> and register for "LASD – Headquarters Newsroom (SHB), Los Angeles County Sheriff" AND your local LASD station area. Or, to receive URGENT TEXT ALERTS ONLY, text your zip code to 888777. Standard text messaging rates may apply depending on your calling plan.

"If You See Something, Say Something"

LA Crime Stoppers: Partner to prevent or report crime by contacting your local Sheriff's station. Or if you wish to remain Anonymous, call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), texting the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

Jim McDonnell, Sheriff
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department