

# Parents' thoughts on online safety

Safer Internet Day | February 2020

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Only **4 in 10** parents feel confident enough to talk to their family about online safety.

Over 50% of parents have never received online safety training

**9.4**

Average age parents believe kids should learn about online safety



Where kids are accessing the Internet



**78%**  
Smartphone



**77%**  
Computer / Laptop



**64%**  
Tablet

**73%**

of parents have spent less than 4 hours a year talking to their kids about online safety.  
~20 minutes a month



It's a joint effort between parents and teachers.  
**2 out of 3 parents** believe kids should learn about online safety both at home and in the classroom.

**8.7**  
years old

Average age kids started asking for their own device

**9.5**  
years old

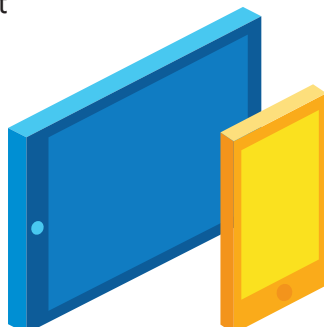
Average age parents are buying devices for their kids

**Biggest challenge to ensuring child has a healthy digital lifestyle**

Content I don't approve of or don't want them watching/using **28%**

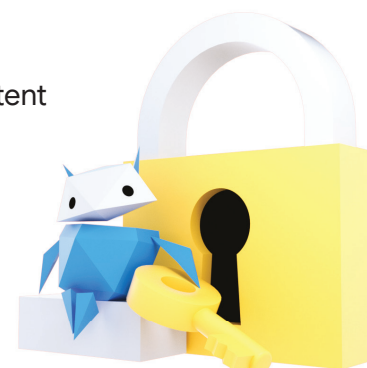
**Top online safety concerns among parents for their kids**

1. Inappropriate content
2. Communicating Responsibly
3. Cyberbullying
4. Security
5. Phishing/Scams



**Top online safety concerns among parents for themselves**

1. Security
2. Inappropriate content
3. Phishing/Scams
4. Communicating Responsibly
5. Cyberbullying



**Methodology:** The family online safety survey among parents and educators was fielded by Critical Mix, Inc. and funded by Google. Online survey was fielded in December 2019 through January 2020 in the United States. Sample Size: n=2,000 Parents with children under the age of 18 and n=1,000 Educators. Margin of error is +/- 2.2% for parents and +/- 3.2% for teachers.

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# Teachers' thoughts on online safety

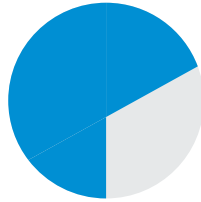
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**1 in 3 teachers**  
report that  
digital safety  
and citizenship  
is not a part of  
their school's  
core curriculum



I have great resources for educating my students about digital safety and citizenship.

60% agree

40% disagree



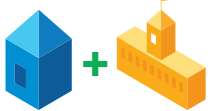
I have great resources for informing parents about digital safety and citizenship.

50% agree

50% disagree



**85%** of teachers agree that parents should be doing more to help teach kids about digital safety at home.



Average age teachers believe kids should learn about online safety.

**93%** of teachers believe kids should be learning about how to build healthy digital habits like balancing screen time and focusing on quality content both at home and in the classroom.

## Top online safety concerns among teachers for their students:

- 1- Cyberbullying
- 2- Privacy & Security
- 3- Inappropriate Content
- 4- Information Sharing
- 5- Healthy digital habits
- 6- Understanding real/fake



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