

# Sharenting



.....

**Sharenting is a word used to describe the act of parents sharing photos of their children online.**

.....

In most cases this is done with the best intentions, parents who want to share proud and meaningful moments of their precious children with loved ones.

There is differing advice available about whether or not it's safe to share photos of your child online and there are some important things to consider to reduce any potential risk.

It's important to be aware if posting any photos of your children online that you ensure images don't contain personal information – any details that would identify the names, location or contact details of your children.

Be sure that the people on your social media platforms are only people that you trust and if you're not sure you can manually select individuals to share photos with. Remember that others can share, screenshot or forward your photos, depending on your settings and if you tag a friend, everyone on their list of friends will also see the picture. Once a photo is posted online you no longer have complete control over where it will end up.



# Sharenting

Consider finding other ways to share photos with loved ones i.e. Email or iMessage.

Most importantly, seek your child's permission before posting photos online. By explaining what you are taking the photo for and your reasons for wanting to share it, you are giving them an element of control over what happens to their images. This matters because some photos remain online forever and may cause embarrassment and become problematic for them in the future.

What you consider to be a cute tantrum could be shaming them and allowing others to do the same. This digital footprint will follow them for the rest of their lives. If your child refuses to allow you to share photos its ok to share your disappointment but respect their decision. By doing this we are demonstrating an important message about consent.

## Lets talk about it!

### Conversation starters and tips for discussion.

- I would like to take this photo of you riding your bike without training wheels to show Grandpa how hard you have worked at learning this new skill. Is that ok with you?
- I would like to share this picture of you online, what do you think about that?
- What types of pictures are you ok with me sharing? What types of pictures would you prefer I don't share?
- How do you feel about your photos being put on the internet? Do you understand who can see them?



**Cybersafe**  
Families



1300 20 69 69



info@cybersafefamilies.com.au

[cybersafefamilies.com.au](http://cybersafefamilies.com.au)

Cyber Safety | Education | Counselling