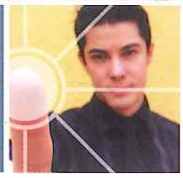
Australian Government

Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy



The Cybersafety Help Button—important facts

1. The Cybersafety Help Button is aimed at keeping children and teenagers safe online.

The internet offers huge opportunities for improvements in education, social interaction, innovation and entertainment. Along with these benefits come risks that can make the internet unpleasant and potentially dangerous. Cyberbullying, scams and fraud, offensive content and unwanted contact are all common risks for children and teenagers.

The Australian Government's Cybersafety Help Button provides information and assistance on cybersafety issues for children as they explore all that the digital world has to offer.

2. The Cybersafety Help Button is easy to use.

The Cybersafety Help Button is an application that can sit either on the screen or can be minimised to sit on the taskbar. When clicked, the Help Button takes the user to a web page that provides information and assistance to deal with cyberbullying, unwanted contact and offensive or illegal content. The page is divided into three functions—***talk, report*** and ***learn***.

The ***talk*** function provides users who are experiencing cyberbullying, or who perhaps have encountered something that has made them feel uncomfortable or threatened. It has a direct link to Kids Helpline resources where they can talk to a professional counsellor.

By clicking the ***report*** function, users can click through directly to site-specific cybersafety information on participating social networking and online game sites, or report abuse experienced on that site. Users can also access links to report scams and fraud, to report inappropriate content to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and to report improper contact or behaviour to the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

The ***learn*** function provides access to cybersafety and security education resources via the Stay Smart Online website and the ACMA's Cybersmart site.

3. The Cybersafety Help Button enables young Australians to become better digital citizens.

Providing easy-to-understand and relevant information, advice and reporting functions, the Cybersafety Help Button encourages young people to ***be safe***, to ***be smart***, and to ***play their part*** in creating a safe online world. So in addition to looking out for themselves online, children and teenagers can help all Australians to be safe online by reporting offensive or illegal content and behaviour to participating social and online game sites, the ACMA, or to the AFP.

4. The Cybersafety Help Button was developed with input from children, parents and teachers from across Australia.

The Cybersafety Help Button was developed following advice from the Youth Advisory Group on Cybersafety, which is a government initiative that provides cybersafety advice to government from a young person's perspective. The advice highlighted the need for an 'one-stop shop' for cybersafety advice and assistance. Since its conception, the design and functionality of the Cybersafety Help Button was shaped by young Australians, their parents and teachers, and the Consultative Working Group on Cybersafety made up of industry and non-government representatives.

5. The Cybersafety Help Button is free and easy to download.

The Cybersafety Help Button is available to all Australians to download from the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy website at www.dbcde.gov.au/helpbutton. It will work with all the major Windows and MAC OS operating systems. Please send any technical questions on the Cybersafety Help Button to helpbutton@dbcde.gov.au

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