

Some Definitions:

*Some of these definitions your child may already know!
We've adapted these from www.wikipedia.com*

Social Networking Software: is a broad term to describe a range of web sites that enable people to connect or collaborate through computers and to form online communities. There are many different tools people use to do this. The minimum age without adult supervision for most sites is 13 years, however many young people ignore this and age can be difficult for these sites to enforce.

YouTube: is a very popular free video sharing site that lets users upload, view, and share video clips. This can be used in both positive and negative ways by users.

Bebo: is a site designed to allow friends to communicate in various ways. It is an online community where users can post pictures, write blogs and send messages to one another, and is similar in format to MySpace, hi5.com, Xanga and Yahoo! 360.

Blog: is a website where entries are made in journal style. A good example of a blogs is a personal online diary. Blogs are a great personal writing tool!

Wiki: is a type of web site that allows the visitors themselves to easily add, remove, or edit the content. This ease of interaction and operation makes a wiki an effective tool for collaborative authoring.

Podcast: is similar to a blog but it uses audio rather than text. This is a very fun and creative way to share learning and all computers in the school can create podcasts, which can then be uploaded to class web sites.

'Google It': is a term which refers to 'searching for something' using the search engine Google. We suggest using the advanced search feature of any search engine because it helps develop information literacy skills (In Google this is: www.google.com/advanced_search?). There is a 'safesearch' feature within most search engines, however this doesn't mean that it is safe in every situation.

Information Literacy: an important term for schools that refers to a set of competencies/skills that an informed citizen of an information society ought to possess to participate intelligently and actively in that society. Becoming an ethical user of information and communication technology falls into this area.

PXT: a fancy name for sending pictures, video clips and other multimedia files, usually via mobile phone. Most modern mobiles support the sending and receiving of pictures, images, etc. Learn how Bluetooth/Infrared can work on your mobile. For more information check out: www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluetooth

NetSafe: is the main New Zealand organisation for educating and guiding online safety. Check out their web site at: www.netsafe.org.nz