

It's almost school holidays, so it's time to change passwords

School holidays are almost upon us so it's time for a little housekeeping.

In the online world, do you know what that means for your kids and their devices?

It's time to change their passwords!

Why?

We often create passwords that are easy for us to remember - birth dates, kid's names, pet's names - and then we tend to make it the same for everything that we log into.

The risk with doing this is that not only are they often easy to guess (and for someone else to access) but it's very common for websites to be breached and personal information, including passwords, to be stolen. Making your passwords too easy and not changing them enough leaves you wide open to the possibility of being hacked. So you need to change your passwords often and make it something that you can remember, but not something that others would easily know.

How can you make passwords stronger?

To ensure your password is strong, include a mix of capital letters, lower-case letters, numbers, and symbols to ensure the password is harder to crack. Or better still use a passphrase – a sentence that you can remember that includes numbers and letters.

How often?

Experts recommend changing your password every 60 to 90 days, making school holidays the perfect reminder to update your passwords.

Remind your kids to keep passwords private! We all know kids like to share. It's common practice for them to share Netflix accounts, Spotify passwords, and even debit card pin numbers. Make sure they know how important it is that their passwords remain private. It stops their accounts from being hacked into and information being posted without their consent or stolen.

As your School, we are always here to support you and we encourage you to come to us with questions or concerns you may have on this topic.

