

# SAFER INTERNET DAY

tuesday 9 february 2021

In support of this year's Safer Internet Day, we asked everyone who won a prize in the NCA's Winter Cyber Challenge to share one top tip for staying safe online.

Here's what they recommend.

## USE STRONG, UNIQUE PASSWORDS

Using strong passwords was the most popular piece of advice, getting Gracie, Krishan, Asif, Misha and Ismail's vote.

Daniel explained: "Secure passwords include a combination of letters, numbers and symbols."

And Freddie added: "Use strong two-factor authentication methods as much as possible online! It's your only line of defence if your password is compromised."



## KEEP IT TO YOURSELF

Henry said: "Try and keep as much personal information off the internet as possible – nothing is 100% secure."

Did you know?

Photos you take on your phone can contain information about where you were when you took them - make sure you're careful about where you upload them and who you send them to! Thanks, Sam, for the wise words.

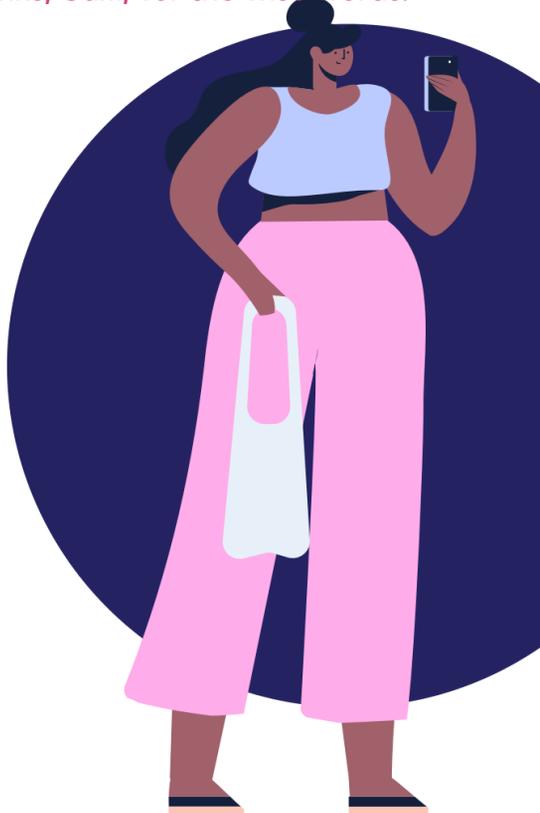


## THINK TWICE

We loved Noah's advice to take a deep breath, slow down and think about what you're about to do. If you're not sure, don't do it.

Daniel provided a useful reminder that if something looks or sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

And Scarlett added a really important message to always check with an adult if you're unsure about anything.



## KEEP IT REAL

Even when you think something or someone is very safe, it still might not be.

Thanks to Sumaya, Megan, Imran and Martha for these three top tips:

- Never meet anyone you meet online – you never know who is behind the screen and their intentions
- Never use your real name as a username
- Never accept friend requests from people you don't know in person



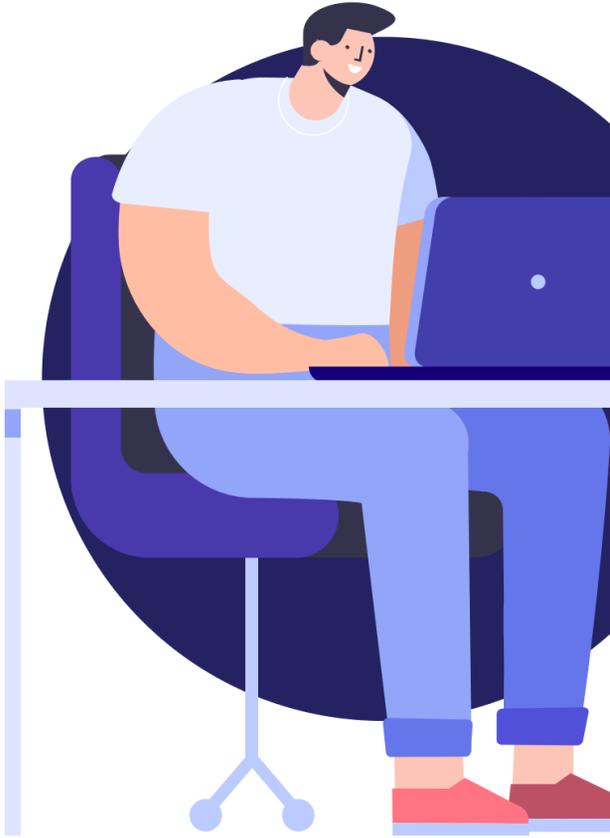
## USE VPNS AND FIREWALLS

Edward said: "Use a firewall to block any risky connections."

Mya recommends using a VPN to secure your internet connection, and Gracie reminded us to enable firewalls and install software updates.

### Together for a better internet

Safer Internet Day (SID) is an annual celebration aiming to promote a responsible, respectful, critical and creative use of digital technologies, especially among children and young people. With a global, community-led approach, SID encourages everyone to come together and play their part for a better internet.



The Winter Cyber Challenge formed part of NCA Cyber Choices  
Learn any time at [cybergamesuk.com](https://cybergamesuk.com)

