

Phone Safety: Tips for Parents

The best safeguard for online safety is being informed.

We want to encourage parents to be proactive by getting involved in your child's phone and internet safety.

- **Talk with your kids and get to know the services they use.**



One of the newest ways to share photos with friends online is through **Instagram**. Instagram is a free photo sharing application available on Apple iOS and Android devices where users **upload photos** and share them with friends. They can also view, comment, and like photos shared by their friends on Instagram.

(Source: <http://help.instagram.com>)



- **Check the privacy settings and parental controls.**

Instagram

There is **no private messaging** on Instagram, and anyone 13 and older can create an account by registering an email address and selecting a username.

(Source: <http://help.instagram.com/>)

By default, anyone can follow you on Instagram and see your pictures and comments, but you can configure it to approve future follow requests.

(Source: www.safekids.com/2012/09/09)

- **Warn your child not to give out identifying information.**



Instagram can also **display a map** of where your photos were taken, but this too can be toggled off and on since it's a good idea for kids not to disclose their physical location. You can find instructions at www.safekids.com/2012/09/09 on how to turn the location on and off.

(Source: www.safekids.com/2012/09/09)