

Online Safety for Trans, Gender Diverse and Non-binary individuals and their families - Tips from the eSafety Commissioner

Acknowledgement:

The information in this resource was developed from an online webinar delivered by Transcend Australia and the eSafety Commissioner team about online safety. This information and links point to relevant sections on the eSafety Commissioner's website to make it easier for young people and families to ensure a safer digital environment.

It is important to recognise the risks of the online world and to implement measures to enhance the online safety of trans, gender diverse and non-binary individuals and their families to ensure a safe and enjoyable digital experience. Cyberbullying, doxing and online harassment are offences that can and should be reported.

How do I report online abuse to the eSafety Commissioner?

[Bullying online | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Report online harm | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[What you can report to eSafety | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Report image-based abuse | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Report forms | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[How to collect evidence | eSafety Commissioner](#)

What are some essential tips for ensuring overall online safety?

[Being out, transgender or gender diverse online | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Online hate | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[The eSafety Guide | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Protecting voices at risk online | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[LGBTIQ+ | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[LGBTIQ+ learning lounge | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Using your device safely | eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Key topics | eSafety Commissioner](#)

How can I deal with distressing content?

[Distressing or violent content | How to get help | eSafety Commissioner](#)

Do not share it, report it.
Under Australian law, eSafety can issue a takedown notice to an online platform or service to remove the worst type of harmful online material, or block access to protect Australian users from viewing this content.
Sharing this content may cause distress to others and you may be committing a crime. You can report anonymously through the following link: [Report online harm | eSafety Commissioner](#)

How can individuals protect their personal information while using online platforms?

[Protecting your personally identifiable information | eSafety Commissioner](#)

What privacy settings should be adjusted on social media accounts for optimal safety?

[How to manage your digital safety settings | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[Using your device safely | eSafety Commissioner](#)

[Video library | eSafety Commissioner](#)

What safety measures should be in place for online gaming?

[Online gaming | eSafety Commissioner](#)

How can I identify and handle online harassment on social media?

The best way to deal with this is by reporting it. Talk to an adult that you trust to let them know what is happening. Their support throughout the process will be very important. If an adult does not believe you or take it seriously, find one that does.

To make a successful report, you will need to collect evidence, such as screen shots, account profiles, usernames and webpages. You can report the content to the relevant platform first, and if it is not removed within 48 hours, make a report to eSafety to start an investigation that can lead content being removed and perpetrators being held accountable.

Other steps that you can take are muting or blocking the person/s harassing you and check your privacy settings. Many apps will have these options available.

Most platforms and apps also allow comments to be filtered, where you nominate the words, phrases, hashtags and emojis that you do NOT want to see you in your feed.

What steps can I take if I am a victim of cyberbullying?

Many people are not aware that it is possible to have offensive content removed and reported.

You can make a complaint to eSafety about cyberbullying, adult cyber abuse, image-based abuse (and that includes the sharing, or threat to share, intimate images without the consent of the person shown) or illegal and restricted online content. You can report via this link: <https://www.esafety.gov.au/report/forms>

You can also use eSafety's infographic to check if your experience can be investigated and know what steps to take to report it. The infographic can be found [here](#).

How can parents help their kids deal with cyberbullying?

There are a range of resources to help parents and caregivers to develop strategies to help their kids stay safe online. The most important thing is to listen and support the young person and be willing to have an open and honest conversation.

eSafety has developed this [Guide to Online Bullying for Parents and Carers](#).

What are the best practices for securing computers, smartphones, and other devices?

Parental controls and tools exist to help families create safe online spaces at home.

[Parental controls | How to keep your child safe \(esafety.gov.au\)](#).

What is a digital footprint, and how can I manage and control it?

[Digital footprint | eSafety Commissioner](#)