

The 4C's of Online Safety - A guide for parents / carers

The internet offers incredible opportunities for learning, connection, and entertainment. However, it also presents risks that parents need to be aware of. The "4Cs" framework provides a simple and effective way to think about online safety: **Content, Contact, Conduct, and Commerce.** By understanding these four areas, as parents / carers you are better equipped to support your children in navigating the online world safely and responsibly.



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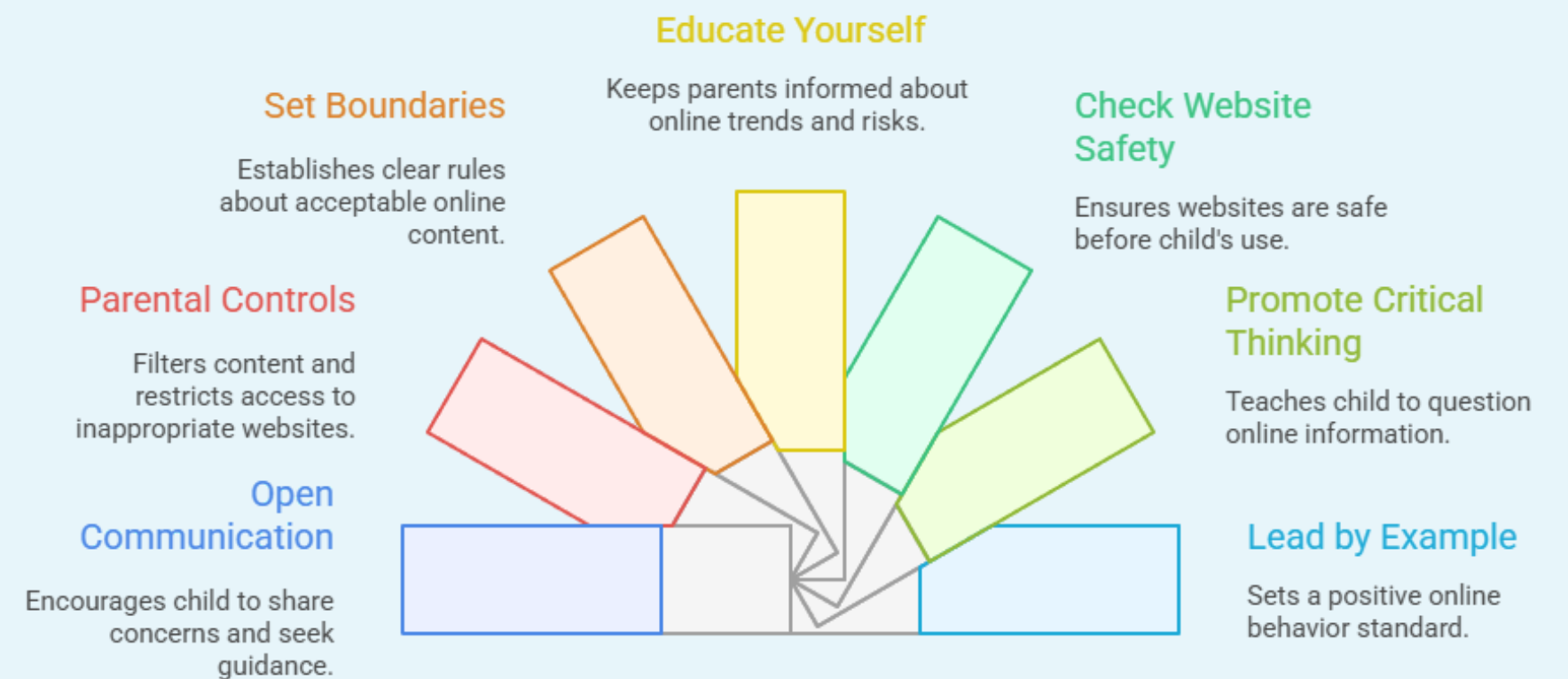
Content: What your child sees

This refers to the information, images, videos, and other materials your child encounters online. It includes websites, social media posts, online games, and streaming services.

Digital Media Risks

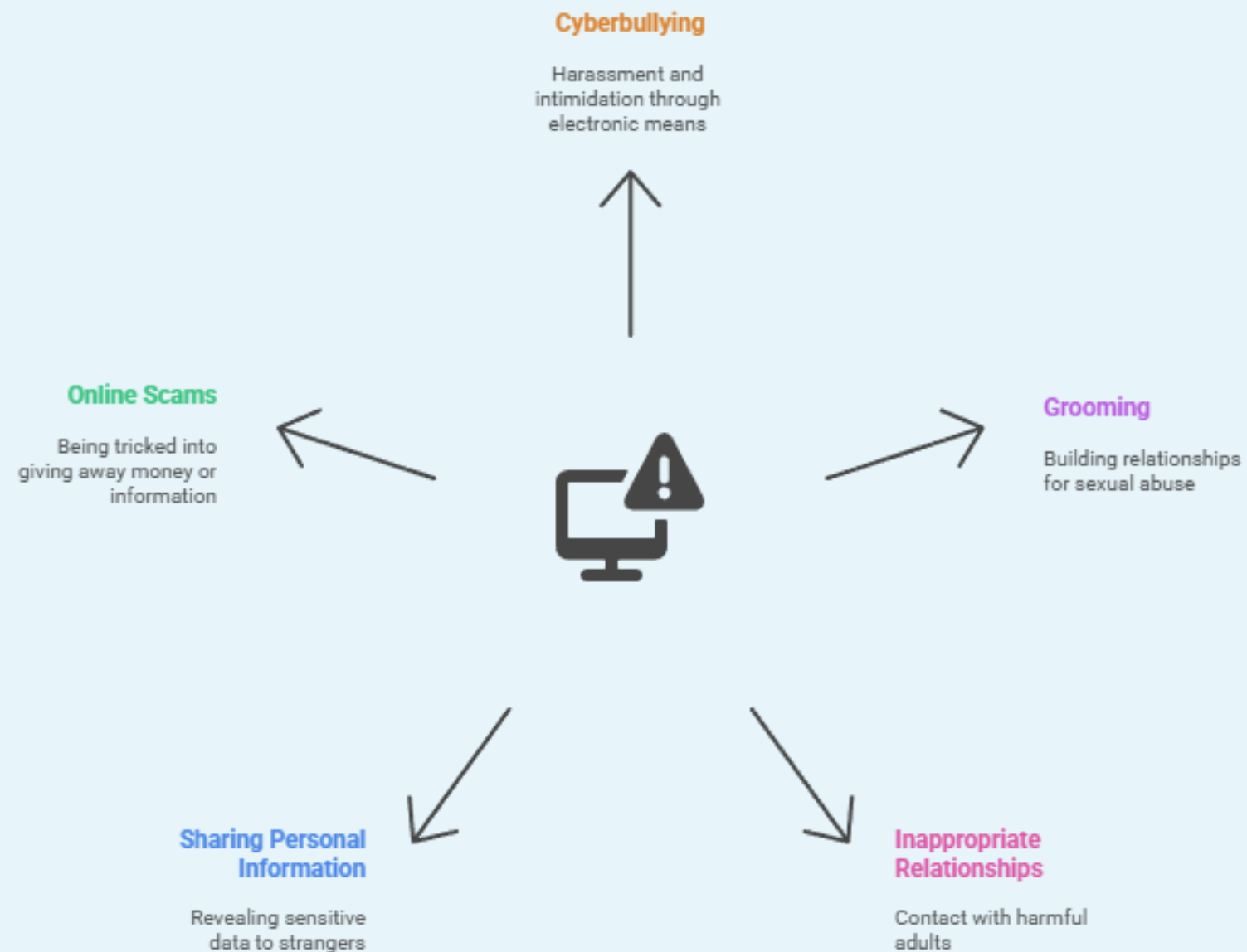


How to ensure child's online safety?



Contact: Who Your Child Interacts With

This refers to the people your child interacts with online, including friends, family, strangers, and online communities.



How to ensure my child's online safety

Discuss Stranger Danger

Reinforce the importance of not talking to strangers online.

Encourage Reporting

Teach your child how to report inappropriate behaviour.

Teach Privacy Settings

Help your child understand and use privacy settings to control information visibility.

Monitor Communication

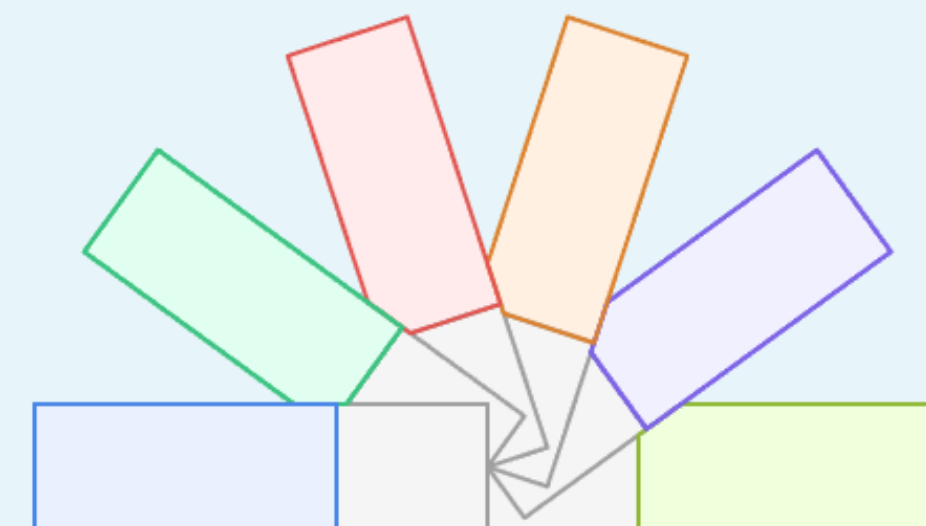
Be aware of who your child is talking to online and what they are discussing.

Be Aware of Location Sharing

Discuss the risks of sharing location online and disable services when appropriate.

Open Communication

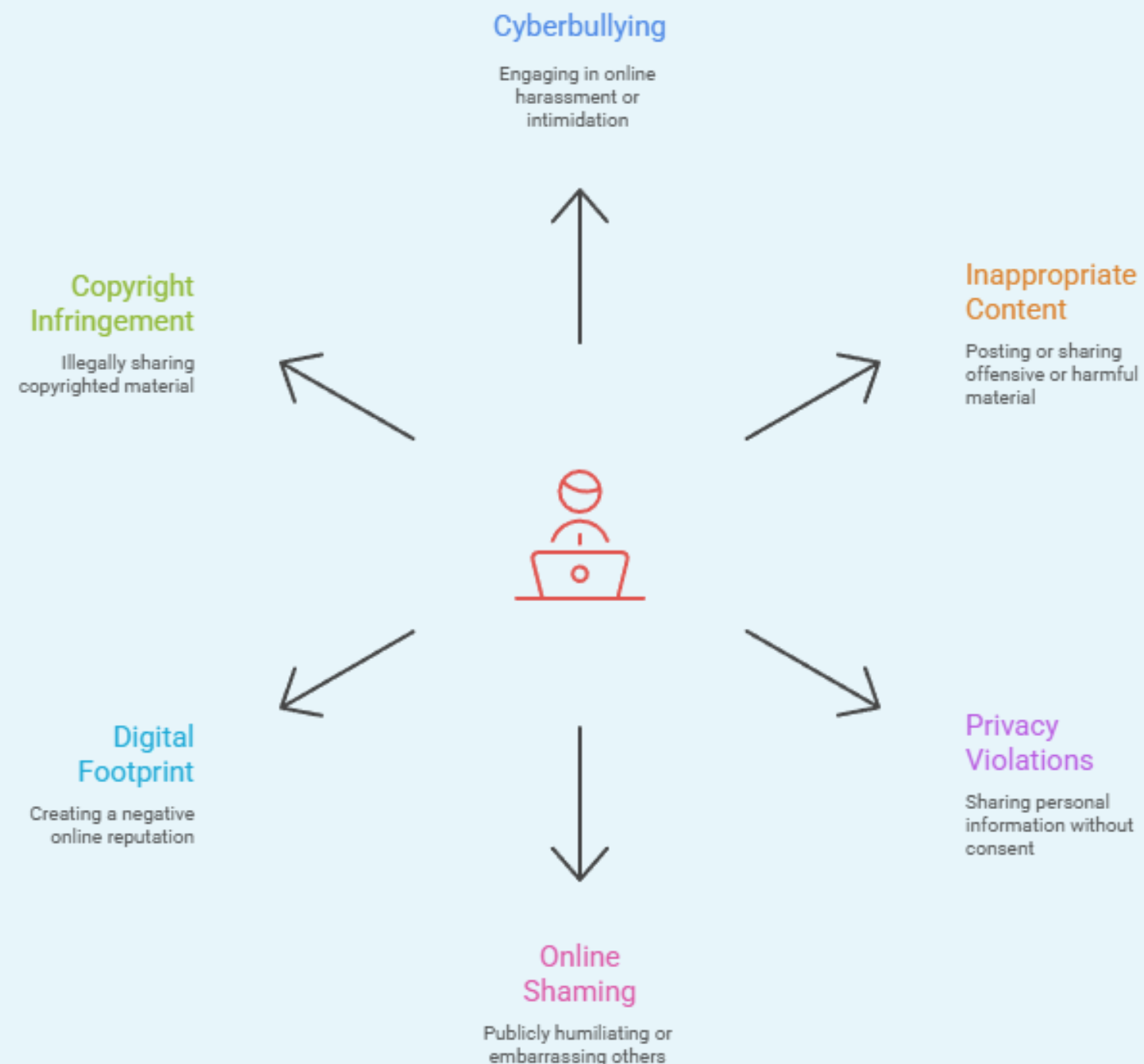
Create an environment where your child feels comfortable talking about online interactions.



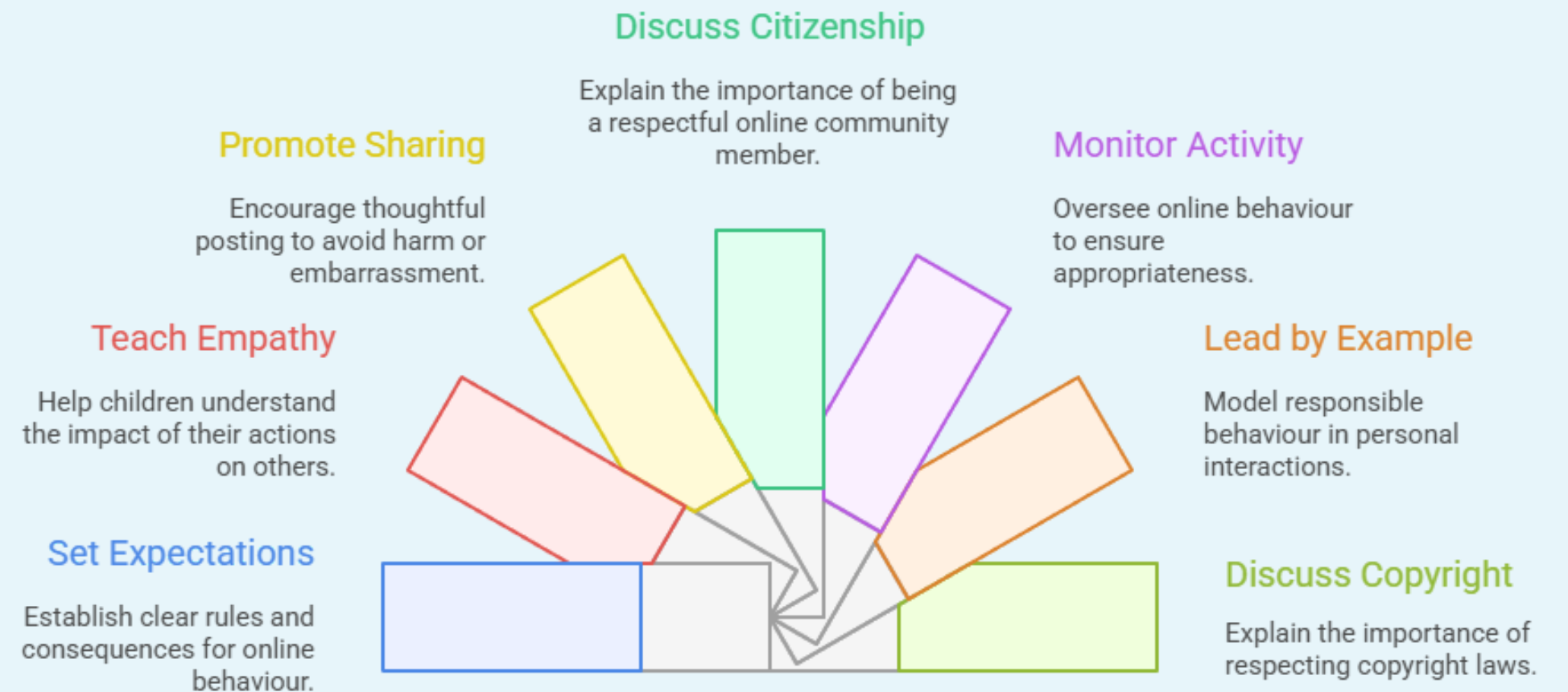
Conduct: How Your Child Behaves Online

This refers to your child's own behaviour and actions online, including how they treat others and the choices they make.

Online Risks and Consequences



How to promote responsible online behaviour in children



Commerce: Online Spending and Financial Risks

This refers to any online transactions or financial activities your child engages in, including online shopping, in-app purchases, and online gaming.

Online Financial Risks for Youth



Online Spending Safety for Children



By understanding and addressing the 4Cs of online safety - **Content, Contact, Conduct, and Commerce** - parents / carers can play a vital role in protecting their children from the risks of the digital world. Open communication, clear boundaries, and ongoing education are essential for creating a safe and positive online experience for your child. Remember to stay informed, adapt to new technologies, and work together with your child to navigate the online world responsibly.

For further information and updates, please refer to our school website:
<https://www.stepgateschool.co.uk/page/?title=Online+Safety&pid=73>

