



BfDI

Federal Commissioner
for Data Protection and
Freedom of Information

Data protection is child protection

Recommendations for parents on how
to deal with smartphones, social media,
games and more



Does your child have a smartphone or smartwatch?

Children should know what their devices can do. Keep an overview of which programs and apps are being used. We have made recommendations for you on what you should pay attention to.

What should your children know about the Internet before they start surfing?

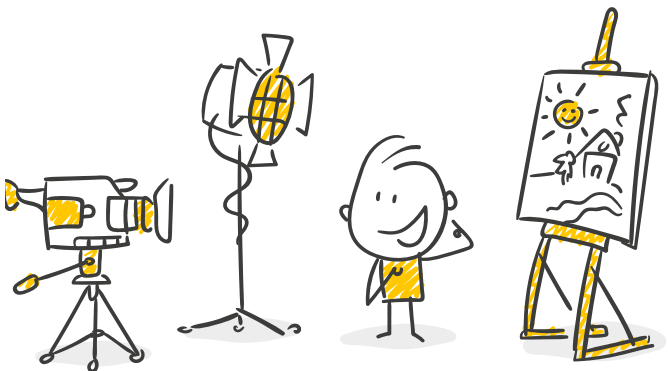
It is important to raise awareness for the functioning of the Internet, the dangers and for your own data. Take advantage of good advice pages that you will find on the BfDI's webpage and on the Internet.

What should children pay attention to when it comes to messenger services/ social media?

As little personal data as possible should be disclosed. Let your children use encrypted communication whenever possible.

What is your child allowed to post?

Posting pictures and videos is fun. But an unconsidered snapshot can make yourself and others vulnerable. To keep the fun going, the BfDI can give you some clues.



What can you do if your child is bullied on social networks?

The Internet is not a legal vacuum. It is important that you, as parents, talk with your children about inappropriate behaviour and about the dangers on the Internet.

“Parent blogger” — disclose everything for a little attention?

The protection of your children’s data begins with you as an example. Despite all the fun of presenting the offspring on the Internet, you should also have an eye on the possible consequences for your children.



Who is responsible for protecting your child’s data?

Data protection knows no age limit. The data protection regulations stipulate that children merit special protection with regard to their personal data.

How can you sensitise your children to the protection of their own data?

When playing, surfing or streaming videos on the Internet, your children should deal responsibly with the possibilities. You too should be sensitive to the protection of your data and your children’s data.



Anonymous Gaming — Who plays with your child?

Take a close look at what and with whom your child is playing. The game chat is the wrong place for personal information. Always secure the game account, if possible, with two-factor authentication.

Online shopping — at what age are your children allowed to shop online?

For your children, the same laws and rules apply online as in the local shop when shopping. Look closely at which websites your children shop (want to shop).

Streaming or downloading videos — what should you pay attention to?

When streaming, you should also note: User data are and remain valuable. Explain to your children why careful handling of their own data is so important.

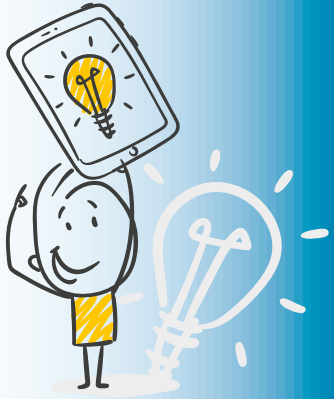
Deletion on the Internet?

The child's first own social media account is quickly created. Posting videos and photos is fun. Nobody wants to spoil the fun, but it is important to find the right measure. The Internet never forgets!

Data protection is child protection!

Children cannot protect themselves on the Internet. At an early stage, using the Internet is a matter of course. It is recommended to accompany children from the very beginning and to talk to them about possibilities, but also about dangers. Surely you too have asked yourself some of the following questions.

This flyer is intended to assist you and provide an introduction to questions from and for children about data protection.



More about the topic

Scan the QR code. Then you get to our digital flyer “Data protection is child protection”. Here you can find answers and valuable information as well as links to many child-friendly websites.



You can also reach the page via the following link:
www.bfdi.bund.de/flyer-child-protection

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