HELPING YOUR CHILDREN PROTECT THEIR PERSONAL DATA ONLINE

What is Personal Data?

Personal data refers to data, whether true or not, about an individual who can be identified from that data; or from that data and other information to which the organisation has or is likely to have access.

Source: PDPC website

Some examples are: includes full name, date and year of birth, contact number, home address, medical conditions, identification number, geographical position (for example, the location data tracked on a mobile phone) and Internet Protocol (IP) address.

It can also include data that can be processed to learn, record or decide something about an identifiable individual. Some examples are daily routines of an individual such as frequent hangouts and online browsing habits. These can be used to compromise the user's personal safety or privacy.

Why is it a Concern?

Data may be misused by third parties for:
- Illegal online activities such as phishing, scams, identity theft and influence of personal opinion
- Tracking a person which may lead to crimes such as kidnapping and burglary
- Financial gain

How can Parents Help?

Parents can help their children to safeguard their personal data by:
- ✓ Modelling and guiding responsible and respectful use of social media, e.g., think before posting information about children.
- ✓ Discussing with children their personal data practices such as the need to be mindful about posting personal data and the dangers of sharing information.
- ✓ Reminding children about setting strong and unique passwords, and reviewing privacy and location-finding settings on devices and social media accounts.
- ✓ Teaching children to reduce their digital footprints, e.g., asking friends not to post or tag photos of them without permission.

Key Messages

Model responsible and respectful use of social media

Teach children to reduce their digital footprints

Remind children to adjust privacy and location-finding settings

Set family guidelines to safeguard personal data
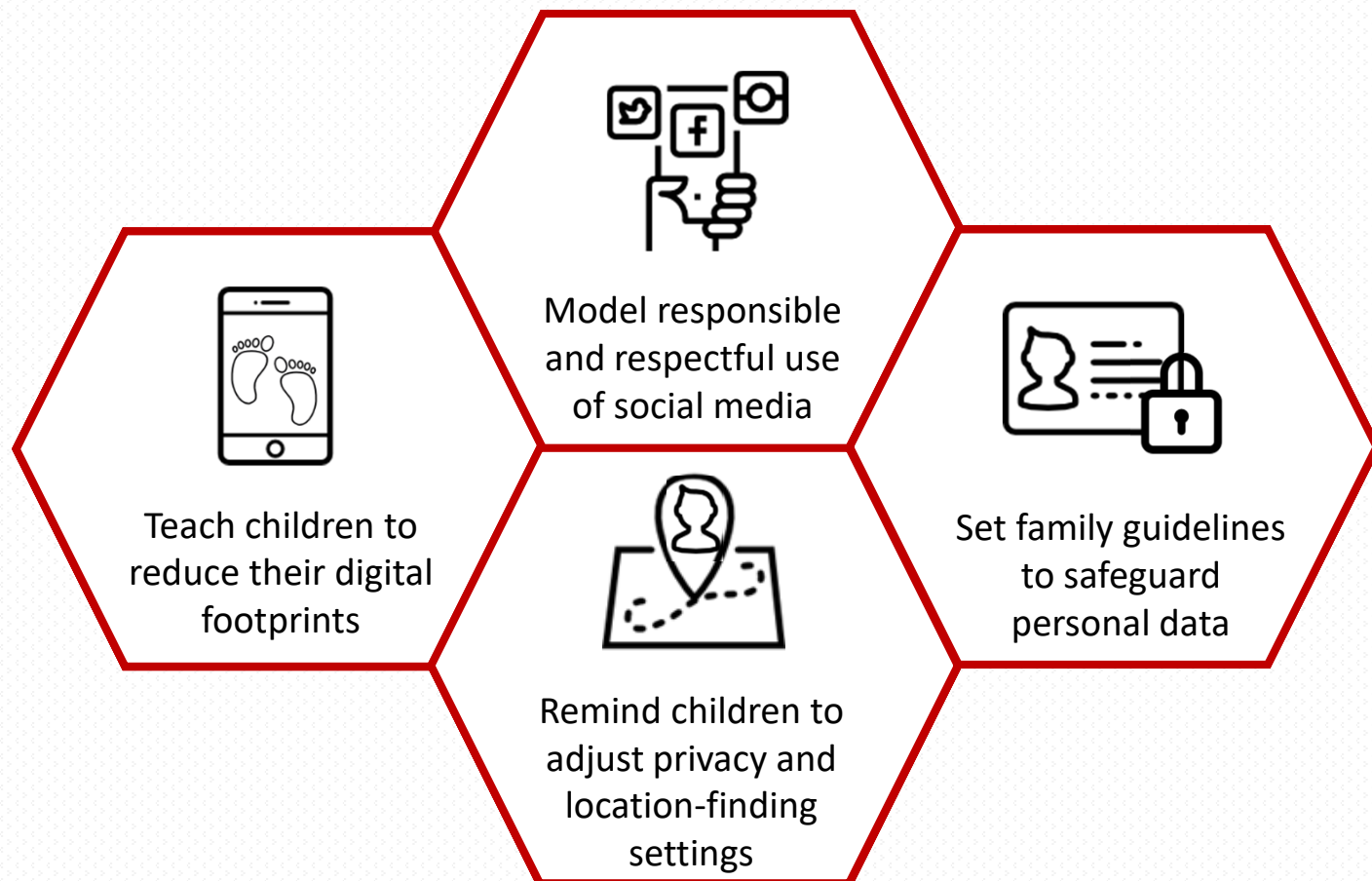
Resources

Ministry of Education
MOE's Cyber Wellness Portal has useful tips, strategies and resources on various cyber issues. You can also access it through "The ICT Connection" mobile app.
ictconnection.moe.edu.sg/cyber-wellness/cyber-wellness-101/handling-inappropriate-content

Media Literacy Council
Media Literacy Council provides information, tips and resources on managing personal information online.
medialiteracycouncil.sg/Online-Safety/sharing-personal-information-online

Personal Data Protection Commission
Personal Data Protection Commission Singapore shares useful information and tips on protecting personal data.
https://www.pdpc.gov.sg/Individuals/Protecting-Your-Personal-Data

Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

CYBER WELLNESS
Responsible Digital Learners