

Understanding Cyber Crime & Warning Signs in Children

**Kids are spending more time online than ever**

Not all risks are obvious — but knowing the signs helps keep them safe



## What is Cyber Crime?

Cybercrime includes **illegal or harmful activities online**, such as:

Hacking accounts or devices

Sharing or downloading illegal content

Online scams and fraud

Cyberbullying or targeted harassment

Participating in harmful online groups

Using tools that damage networks or accounts

Children may not fully understand the consequences — or may be targeted by others.



## Signs your child might be involved in or affected by Cyber Crime

### Behavioural Signs

Sudden **secrecy** about online activities

Unusual **anger or stress** after being online

Staying up very late to use devices

Strong reaction when asked to limit screen time

### Technical Signs

Devices running unusually slow

Multiple social or gaming accounts you didn't approve

Unexpected pop-ups or new apps

### Interaction Changes

Avoiding conversations about who they talk to online

New "friends" they won't describe

Increased isolation or withdrawal from family

### Emotional Signs

Anxiety, fear, or guilt after gaming or chatting

Sudden drop in school performance