Glossary

3G
Third Generation networks are an international standard for wide-area cellular networks, which enable multimedia services, such as email and video, to be delivered faster

Access control/filter
A bar that is put in place by e.g. an internet or mobile provider to prevent access to certain content

Application (app)
A software program that can be downloaded onto a computer or mobile device (e.g. from an app store)

Avatar
A character/animation you can use to represent yourself online (e.g. in chat rooms) and in computer games

Blog
An online journal

Bluetooth
A way of exchanging data over short distances between mobile devices

Browser
Allows access to the Web (e.g. Firefox, Google Chrome, Internet Explorer and Safari)

Burn
The process of copying files (e.g. music) from your computer onto a CD

Copyright
This gives a content producer (e.g. an author or musician) exclusive rights to their work

Cyberbullying
The use of technology, particularly the internet and mobiles, deliberately to upset someone else

Download
The process of copying data (e.g. from the internet or an email attachment)

E-commerce
Buying and selling products and services over the internet

Encryption
The process of making electronic data unreadable to anyone without the "key"

File sharing
The distribution of electronic files, such as documents or music

Firewall
Part of a computer or internet service, designed to block unauthorised access

Flag
Where you report something (e.g. an inappropriate video) to the company hosting it

Flaming
Posting negative or rude comments in an online forum

GPS
Global Positioning System - a global navigation satellite system used for things like in-car navigation

Grooming
The process of befriending a child with the intent of sexually abusing them

Hacker
Someone who breaks into other people's computers

Happy slapping
Where someone films a bullying incident or an assault on a camera phone

Hate site
A website that promotes hatred against e.g. a specific race or sexual orientation

Host
A company, such as an ISP, that runs internet servers

Hyperlink
A reference in a document or on the internet that links through to a different piece of information or website

Identity theft
Where someone pretends to be someone else for financial or other personal gain

IMEI
International Mobile Equipment Identity - a unique number on your mobile, usually printed inside the battery compartment

IP address
Internet Protocol address - a unique number that identifies where you're accessing the internet from

Instant Messaging
The process of sending short real-time messages over the internet

ISP
Internet Service Provider - a company that offers users access to the internet

Login
The credentials you use to access a computer or website (e.g. name and password)

Malware
Malicious software, such as viruses and worms, that infiltrates computers

Memory stick
A portable memory device for storing data and transferring it between devices

Message board
An online discussion website

MMS
Multimedia Messaging Service - the process for sending images, audio and video between mobiles

Moderator
Someone who monitors chat rooms and other online forums and takes action against disruptive or offensive behaviour

MP3
MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 Audio Layer 3 - a common format for digital music files

Parental Controls
Tools that help parents to protect their children online and on other devices - e.g. by controlling which websites they can visit or from whom they can receive email

Password
A secret combination of letters, symbols and numbers used to prove your identity when you log on to e.g. your computer or a particular website

P2P
Peer-to-peer - a network on which users can share files

Phishing
Unsolicited emails or texts sent in an attempt to get personal information (e.g. passwords and credit card details) from you

PIN
Personal Identification Number - a way of locking your mobile and other devices

Pop-up
A form of advertising on the Web that appears in a "pop-up" window

Premium rate (or phone-paid service)
A paid mobile service (e.g. ringtone downloads or competition entries)

Privacy settings
Tools provided by e.g. internet and social networking providers to help you maintain your privacy online

Profile
A description of you (name, hobbies etc) on e.g. a social networking website

SAR
Specific Absorption Rate - the measurement of energy absorbed by the body when exposed to radio frequency (RF) fields

Scam
An unsolicited email or text sent by a fraudster (e.g. asking you for financial help or claiming that you've won a prize)

Search engine
A tool that searches for information on the Web such as Bing or Google

Sexting
The act of sending sexually explicit messages by text, email or Bluetooth

SIM
Subscriber Identity Module used to identify a mobile user

Smart phone
A mobile phone with advanced features like email and internet access

SMS
Short Message Service - a way of sending text messages between mobiles

Social networking
An online community, such as Facebook® or MySpace

Spam
Unsolicited email or text messages

Spyware
A type of malicious software that collects information about you without your knowledge

Streaming
A way of delivering data (e.g. music or video) over the internet

Tag
A way of assigning a piece of information or an image to a particular person

Trojan horse
A type of malicious software that can give unauthorised access to your computer

Upload
The process of loading and sending a file on your computer or over the internet

URL
Uniform Resource Locator - commonly referred to as a Web address

User-generated content (UGC)
Online content (e.g. blogs and videos) created by users

Virus
A malicious program that can corrupt files on your computer

VoIP
Voice over Internet Protocol, a way of delivering voice communications

Webcam
A small video camera built in to or attached to a computer or laptop

Wi-Fi
Wireless technology installed in computers and mobile devices

Worm
A malicious program that can affect your computer