Kit's Digital Detective Mission

1. Needs Help. You should never share your full name or school name with websites, as this is personal information that could identify you. (2 marks)

Working: The scenario asks for personal details (name and school) in exchange for a prize, which is a common trick.

1 mark for identifying it as 'Needs Help', 1 mark for explaining that personal information should not be shared with unknown websites.

2. You should not message them. You should tell a trusted adult immediately because you do not know this person. (2 marks)

Look for: The child must identify that they should not talk to strangers and should involve a trusted adult.

Good: Do not do it, it is not safe.

Better: You should not message them because they are a stranger and you should tell an adult.

Best: You should not message them on another app. You should tell a trusted adult because strangers online are not always who they say they are.

What moves an answer up: Moving from a simple instruction to explaining the 'why' (stranger danger) and the 'who' (trusted adult) increases the level.

3. You should use a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Birthdays are easy for others to guess. (2 marks)

Working: Passwords should be unique and hard to guess, not based on obvious personal information.

1 mark for choosing the mix of characters, 1 mark for explaining why (birthdays are too easy to guess).

4. You should talk to a trusted adult, such as a parent, carer, or teacher. (2 marks)

Working: The curriculum identifies 'trusted adults' as the primary point of contact for online concerns.

Accept any appropriate adult (parent, teacher, grandparent, etc.).

5. No, this is not a good idea. You should never share your password with anyone, even friends, to keep your account secure. (2 marks)

Working: Passwords are private keys; sharing them makes an account vulnerable.

1 mark for saying 'No', 1 mark for explaining that passwords must be kept private/secret.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure answer demonstrates an understanding that personal information and passwords must be kept private and that any online worry should be shared with a trusted adult.

If your child is stuck

Ask the child: 'If a stranger in the park asked for your home address, would you give it to them?' Explain that the internet is just like the park, but with more people.

Common mistakes to watch for

Children often think that because someone is a 'friend' in a game, they are safe to trust. They also often underestimate how easy it is for others to guess passwords based on birthdays.