# Digital Detectives: Staying Safe Online

## Success criteria (tick when done)

[ ] I have used formal language throughout my guide.
[ ] I included at least two words from the word bank.
[ ] I used a modal verb (must, should, could) in my privacy section.
[ ] I included a relative clause in my paragraph about kindness.
[ ] I checked my spelling and punctuation carefully.

## What to expect at this age

Year 6 pupils should be able to write persuasive, formal instructions using cohesive devices. They should demonstrate an understanding of online safety concepts like personal data and reporting.

## Good, better, best: model responses

Good: The purpose of this guide is to explain how to stay safe. You must not share your address or school name online. It is important to be kind to everyone, even if they are mean. If you see something bad, tell an adult immediately because they can help you. Ultimately, stay safe online.

*Uses the correct opening and addresses the prompt, but lacks formal vocabulary and cohesive devices.*

Better: The purpose of this guide is to explain how children can navigate the internet safely. You must keep your personal information private to protect your identity. Furthermore, be kind to your friends, who are usually very supportive. If you feel uncomfortable, report it to a trusted adult. In conclusion, the internet is safe if you are responsible.

*Includes cohesive devices like 'Furthermore' and 'In conclusion' and uses a modal verb correctly.*

Best: The purpose of this guide is to explain how children can navigate the internet safely and responsibly. You must never share personal data, such as your home address, because it could lead to privacy risks. Furthermore, always be kind to others, especially a peer who might be feeling upset by a digital bully. If you encounter something worrying, report it to a reliable adult immediately. Ultimately, your digital footprint stays forever, so choose to be kind.

*Uses sophisticated vocabulary, includes a relative clause, and demonstrates a clear understanding of the 'digital footprint' concept.*

## What a secure answer looks like

Focus on the transition from informal chatty language to formal, persuasive writing. Ensure pupils understand that their writing should sound like a professional guide.

## If your child is stuck

Ask your child to imagine they are writing this for a younger sibling in Year 3. What is the most important rule they need to know?

## Common mistakes to watch for

Children often use informal 'text-speak' or conversational tone. Encourage them to re-read their work to ensure it sounds like a formal instruction manual.