A-Z OF INTERNET TERMINOLOGY

- **360° videos** - Refers to a type of media that can be viewed from all angles, as if the user were in the centre of the video. They are created with a specialized camera or by stitching together multiple videos. 360° videos can be used to create immersive video experiences, allowing users to explore an environment or story more deeply. They have a wide range of applications, such as entertainment, educational, and promotional.

- **3D** - 3D (three-dimensional) is a term used to describe any object or image that has three dimensions instead of two—height, width, and depth. 3D images or objects seem to stand out from the page, whereas traditional two-dimensional images stay flat. This can be done using special lenses, software, and other technologies. 3D technology is used in many areas such as gaming, animation, engineering and more.

- **Access Point** - An access point is a device, usually a router, which is used to connect Wi-Fi-enabled devices to the internet.

- **ADSL** - ADSL stands for Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line. It is a type of broadband internet connection that is used to provide data transmissions over copper telephone lines. It is used to provide faster internet access than traditional dial-up connections and is suitable for downloading large files, streaming audio, and video, and making VoIP calls.

- **Analogue** - Analogue is a type of technology used to represent physical values as signals transmitted within and outside of a device. Analogue signals are continuous and can range in voltage, pressure, light intensity and more. They are used in numerous electronic devices such as televisions, radios, and telephones.

- **Animation** - Computer animation is the process of creating animated images and videos with the use of computer software. This can include 2D or 3D animation, motion graphics, stop-motion animation, and computer-generated imagery (CGI). In many cases, the animation is created with specialized computer programs designed to aid the creation of animated images, such as Adobe After Effects or Autodesk Maya.

- **Anon** - An anon is an anonymous user on a forum. They often post without registering an account or using a masking identity. Anon posts can be identified by a lack of profile information.

- **Anti-Virus Software** – This is typically a software program designed to detect and remove computer viruses. There are many commercial software companies online offering either free of charge or purchasing options for this type of software and it is highly recommended parents/carers install this on their child's computer. Without this your child and computer security is at risk.

- **App** - An app is a type of software application that can be used on smartphones, tablets, computers, smart TVs, or other devices. Apps are often used to provide access to online services, such as banking, games, social media, or streaming video. They may also be used to access local functions, such as a flashlight, contacts, or camera.

- **Applet** – An 'applet' is a small Java program which runs in the background of a website and allows the option for webmasters to have animation, calculators, sound effects or other interactive functions available on their website. (See also "Java")

- **ASCII** - ASCII is a coding scheme used to represent letters, numbers, and other characters in computers. It is used for text encoding and is the most common format for transferring and storing data.

- **Assistive technology** - Assistive technology (AT) is any type of device or software that helps an individual with a disability increase their independence and access to the environment—in the home, school, or workplace. It can range from low-tech items such as magnifying lenses or pre-recorded books, to high-tech devices such as voice-recognition software and electronic wheelchairs.

- **Attachment** - An attachment is a file that is sent along with an email message. Attachments are commonly used to transfer documents, images, programs, or other types of files that are too large to be sent through the email itself. Some popular file formats used for attachments are PDF, DOC, and JPG.

- **Augmented Reality (AR)** - Augmented Reality (AR) is a technology that blurs the line between the digital and physical worlds by overlaying digital information onto the real world. Using computer vision and display technology, AR enables the creation of interactive, 3D experiences that enhance existing physical objects and environments. AR is used in entertainment, education, industry, and medical training and operations. Examples of AR include 3D gaming, virtual reality scenarios, interactive

learning environments, hands-on industrial training, and medical data visualisation.

- **Back-end** - The backend of a website refers to the server-side components such as databases, programming languages, and APIs that are used to power the website. It is responsible for many tasks, such as data storage, data processing, and manipulation, as well as providing content to the user interface. The backend is often hidden from view and is not accessible to the public.

- **Backward compatible** - Backward compatibility is the ability of a device or software to be used with older versions of the same product. It ensures that new products or updates to existing products can work with any older versions that are already in use. This way, users will not have to replace all their devices or software if a new version is released.

- **Bandwidth** – This is the rate at which data or information travels through a network connection. Bandwidth is usually measured in bits per second. A kilobit is a thousand bits per second. These days we often see this measured at megabits (million bits) per second.

- **Bit** –A 'bit' (taken from the term 'Binary Digit') is the name given to the smallest element of computer data, or in simple terms the smallest unit of information (memory) on a computer. (See also "Byte")

- **Blog** - The word 'blog' comes from 'Web log' and they are basically online diaries.

- **Bluetooth** - Bluetooth is a wireless technology used for short-range communication between two or more devices. It allows for reliable, low-power, and low-cost connections between all kinds of consumer devices and has become a popular wireless standard. Bluetooth devices are often used to connect devices such as laptops, smartphones, and speakers, to each other wirelessly.

- **Bookmark** – 'Browsers' these days typically have the ability for users to save (bookmark) to a file favourite websites so that they can be easily available for future use.

- **Boolean operators** - Boolean operators are special words or phrases used to narrow or broaden a search query. They are used in search engines to filter results and have an effect like using parentheses and quotation marks. Common Boolean operators include AND, OR, NOT, and NEAR.

- **Boot (re-boot)** - Booting is the process by which a computer system starts up. For a computer to function, its software must first be loaded into the computer's memory. Booting is the process of loading this software into memory. When a computer needs to be reset, the process is known as rebooting, which simply means restarting the boot process all over again.
- **Bounce back** - Bounce back is a term used to describe the process of an email message being sent back to its sender after it failed to deliver to its intended recipient. This usually occurs when the recipient's mailbox is full, or when the recipient's email address is incorrect or no longer active. The sender will receive a bounce back notification to inform them that the message was not delivered.
- **Broadband** –This is typically used to describe a high bandwidth connection to the Internet. Broadband is available over phone lines (see ISP), or via cable or satellite connections.
- **Browser** - A 'browser' is a software program essential to modern day computers as this is the software needed to view and search the Internet. Microsoft Internet Explorer or Google Chrome are trusted examples of popular browsers today.
- **Browser hijacker** – This is a very inconvenient common spyware program that will automatically change your browser's home page settings and can be a troublesome problem to remove. If your child downloads from untrusted sources there is a good chance their computer will become affected by this type of threat. A 'spyware removal' program (which differs from an anti-virus program but may be included in your anti-virus package) is often required to stop this attack permanently.
- **Bulletin board** –This is typically the term given to an area of a website where users can post messages for other users to read and respond to. Readers also have the option to contact the author of a bulletin board message by e-mail. (See also Discussion Group).
- **Byte** - A byte typically represents one character, such as "A," in a computer memory, and is made up of eight bits. (See also "Bit").
- **Cache** –When you or your child uses a browser to search the Internet, a file is automatically created on the hard drive which saves information such as addresses, text, and graphics from recently visited websites. If you revisit the website, the computer will find the relevant information from the

cache file often without the need to download the information from the Internet again, making it easier and faster for the user to view the websites.

- **Chat** – This is a feature offered by some websites that will allow users to "chat" to each other by typing messages which are displayed almost instantly on the screens of other users who are using the same chat room. The number of users using the same chat service can vary hugely normally depending on the chat topic of conversation. Normally users remain anonymous, using nicknames or pseudonyms to identify themselves.
- **Chatroom** –This is the name given to a specific webpage (room) of a website where users can "chat" with each other by typing messages. Chat room conversations are typically organised into specific subject topics.
- **Chip** - A chip is a small piece of silicon with mirrored sides and many small contacts used to store and communicate information. Chips typically contain one or more microprocessors and provide computers with the ability to manipulate and store data. Chips are the primary components of most computer hardware, from desktops to mobile phones.
- **Cloud computing** - Cloud computing is a type of computing that involves delivering computing services over the internet. This includes providing software, infrastructure, and storage services to people over the internet. It allows users to access data and applications from anywhere, at any time, and eliminates the need to purchase and maintain physical servers.
- **Compression** - Compression is the process of shrinking a file or image to reduce its size. This allows it to be stored and transferred more efficiently. Compression can also help reduce bandwidth when transferring data over a network or the internet. Various algorithms are used to reduce the size of files, including lossless and lossy compression methods.
- **Content** - Content is any form of data that is created or used by an organization or individual. This may include words, images, videos, descriptions, files, documents, and more. Content is typically used to engage an audience and provide them with a positive user experience. Content creation and management is a key part of any successful digital marketing strategy.
- **Controller** - A controller is a device used to operate a video game console or some other type of electronic device. They usually contain two sticks, used for navigation purposes, as well as several buttons for selecting options, performing actions, and so on.

- **Cookie** –This is the term given when your browser saves information and transmits this back to the website's server. Cookies are designed to be a harmless time saving way to use a website and may include information from previous website visits or registration details, such as your login details or user preferences. Often the website server may use the information stored in the cookie to tailor the display it sends to the user, or it may keep track of the different pages within the site that the user has browsed or accessed.
- **CPU** - A CPU, or Central Processing Unit, is the main electronic circuitry in a computer that carries out instructions given to the computer by a user or programme. It performs basic arithmetic, logical and input/output operations and is responsible for interpreting the instructions in a program and executing the commands. The CPU is referred to as the 'brain' of the computer and is usually an integrated circuit chip on the motherboard.
- **Cracker** - Someone with the technical knowledge and skills needed to break into computer networks using the Internet normally for personal gain or to cause harm. (See also Hacker.)
- **Cyberbullying** - Cyberbullying is the use of electronic communication to bully another person, typically by sending messages of an intimidating or threatening nature. It often involves sending threatening messages, harassing victims online, or pretending to be someone else in order to cause harm. Cyberbullying can occur on any platform, including social media, text message, email, and online forums. It can have serious impacts for victims, and in some cases can even lead to physical harm.
- **Cybercrime** - Cybercrime is any illegal activity that involves the use of computers or the internet. Examples of cybercrime include identity theft, phishing, credit card fraud, ransomware attacks, illegal sharing of copyrighted material, cyberbullying, cyberstalking, and the creation and spreading of computer viruses. Cybercriminals can target individuals, businesses, or even governments and use techniques such as social engineering, malware, and networks of compromised computers to commit their crimes.
- **Cyberhate** - Cyberhate is any form of verbal harassment, intimidation, provocation and shaming that takes place through cyberspace. It can range from insults, threats, and name-calling to the dissemination of

sensitive information. It can result in damaging mental health consequences and cause feelings of isolation and depression.

- **Cybersecurity** - Cybersecurity is the practice of protecting computer systems and networks from malicious attacks, unauthorized access, and data theft. It involves using strategies such as penetration testing, patch management, user and entity behaviour analytics, and risk assessment to prevent cybercriminals and other malicious actors from disrupting systems and stealing sensitive data. Cybersecurity is essential for organizations of all sizes to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of their data and systems.

- **Cyberstalking** - Cyberstalking is the use of electronic communication to stalk and harass individuals, usually with malicious, threatening or intrusive behaviour. It can include sending repeated offensive and intimidating messages, spreading malicious rumours or gossip, or monitoring and tracking an individual's online activity or movements. Cyberstalking can be extremely dangerous, with victims feeling scared, threatened, and violated.

- **Data** - Data is information that is stored or used by a computer or other device. It can include numbers, text, images, audio files, and more. Data is typically stored in a data structure such as a database or file system.

- **Data Breach** - A data breach is the intentional or accidental release of confidential information. It may include releasing sensitive information to unauthorised parties, exposing vulnerabilities in a computer system, or the theft of databases containing large amounts of data (such as credit numbers). A data breach can result in identity theft and the loss of confidential information, including financial and medical records, customer data, employee data, or trade secrets.

- **Data Structure** - Data Structure is a way of organizing and storing data in a computer or database so that it can be accessed, manipulated, and managed in an efficient manner. It typically involves the use of specialized data structures and algorithms that help to organize and manage data efficiently.

- **Data Transfer** - Data Transfer is the movement of information from one device to another over the Internet.

- **DDoS (DoS)** – This is a term used to describe denial-of-service or distributed denial-of-service attacks (DDoS/DoS attack) and is used

typically by crackers to damage networks and/or gather personal information.

- **Default** –If you set a program or device as a 'default' you are basically telling your computer to select that option at all times until you specify another setting. For example, you could set your default email program to Outlook and unless you change this in the main settings all emails will open with Outlook.
- **Device driver** - A device driver is a type of software that allows a computer to communicate and interact with a hardware device. It acts as an interface between the device and the computer, allowing the two to communicate and exchange data, as well as to control the device's behaviour. Device drivers are usually developed by the hardware manufacturer and downloaded and installed onto the computer.
- **Disclosure** –Companies and/or websites who offer your personal information to third parties, e.g., marketing lists, must make available to readers a full disclosure policy document.
- **Discussion group** –Typically Discussion Group members can read and post comments about a specific topic (See also Bulletin Boards).
- **Domain name** (See also "URL") – A Domain name is the address used for a website. All websites need to have a domain name and this name can be anything (but owners will logically try to find a name suitable for their company). A website address also includes a suffix at the end such as .com, .org, .gov, or .edu. Typically, the suffix will indicate what type of organisation the website is. For examples:
  - **Com**–this is the best-known domain suffix and originally stood for "commercial," to indicate a website that could be used for private, commercial purposes only but is today used for many top-level websites.
  - **net**–this was originally intended for websites directly related to the Internet only, but it is now used for a wide variety of sites.
  - **edu**–this is typically used for educational institutions like schools and universities only.
  - **org**–this suffix was originally intended for non-commercial and/or non-profit organisations such as charities but is also used for a wide variety of websites today.
  - **gov** – this suffix is typically used for Government websites only.

- **Download(ing)** – When you transfer (copy) information or files from a website or other web service to your computer or device you are downloading that information. (See also "Upload")
- **Doxxing** – or Doxing is the practice of gathering and releasing personally identifiable information about a person or organisation on the internet, typically with malicious intent. It can be as simple as releasing a victim's address or phone number, or as complex as searching for bank records, and other sensitive information. It is a type of cyber-attack that has grown in popularity as malicious hackers have become more adept at taking advantage of public and readily available information.
- **DSL (Digital Subscriber Line)** –This is a term given to accessing the Internet at very high speeds using standard phone lines.
- **DV** - DV (Digital Video) is a type of digital video format used for recording, editing and storing video and audio data. It is based on the MPEG video standard and is used for recording audio and video recordings onto digital tape, as well as for file transfer of digital video data for editing, mastering, and archiving.
- **E-commerce** - E-commerce is the buying and selling of products or services over the internet. E-commerce includes online retail stores, as well as online auctions and marketplaces. Businesses may use e-commerce to offer their products or services more widely and to create an online shopping experience for their customers. Additionally, customers can shop online at any time and from any location, often with significant savings.
- **E-mail (Electronic Mail)** –An E-mail is the modern-day letter. However, these letters (or messages) are sent using a computer and through a network rather than via the postal service. E-mail addresses always include the '@' symbol, such as joebloggs@autism.co.uk. Though e-mails are made up typically of text, the capacity to attach files that include graphics, sound, and video is available.
- **Emojis** - Emojis are small digital images or icons used to express an emotion, idea, feeling, or reaction in electronic communication. They are most commonly used in text-based chats or messaging apps and can help to add emotion and context to messages.
- **Encryption** –This is a technological way of making messages or data unreadable to everyone except those authorised and is typically password protected information. Encryption methods are often employed when

debit/credit cards are used during online shopping transactions or in extremely sensitive email messaging.

- **End user licensing agreement** - This refers to the information to which the computer user is referred in the context of downloading software. The "end user" is the person for whom software is ultimately designed.
- **Ethernet** – This is the most common way to connect computers together and/or to a network. Ethernet cables are used to connect a computer to another computer, or a computer to a network device.
- **Executable file** –This is a file that is created in such a way it can be directly executed (open/run) by the computer without the need for any other software (data or information files typically need additional software to open/edit whereby executable files do not). Unless from a trusted and responsible source it is inadvisable to open any executable files as they can typically contain spyware or even viruses.
- **FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)** –Many websites will offer a section which lists and answers the most popular or most asked questions about that specific website. The FAQ page often provides useful information for a new user and can be a valuable resource for parents/carers researching age-appropriate websites for their child.
- **File Sharing** –This is the accessing of files on one computer from another computer.
- **File System** - A file system is a way of organizing and storing data on a computer or other device. It typically consists of directories, files, and the related metadata. It enables users to store, access, and manage their data in an orderly and efficient manner.
- **Firewall** –The term 'firewall' is given to any hardware or software that secures files on your computer by blocking unapproved or unknown access on your network.
- **Flaming** –This is the term given to posting or sending a deliberately confrontational or offensive message to someone specific or various people via a discussion board, newsgroup, or e-mail.
- **Follower** - A follower is someone who subscribes to your social media account to receive updates and posts from you. These followers can include people, organisations, businesses and other entities.
- **Forum** - A forum is an online discussion space where users can post messages, share opinions, and exchange ideas. Forums allow people to

have conversations with one another and discuss topics of interest. Posts to the forum can be read and responded to by other users, and conversations can take place over several weeks or months.

- **FTP** - (File Transfer Protocol) –This is a way of transferring data and files using the Internet from one computer to another.
- **Gateway** –If the exchange of information is required across two or more compatible networks, a gateway is used to translate between the protocols.
- **GIF** - A GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) is a type of image file format for distributing low-resolution, compressed images over the internet. It is often used for simple animations or images with limited colour palettes and can be compressed to significantly reduce file sizes. GIFs are commonly used on social media, in emails, and on websites.
- **Gigabyte** - A Gigabyte is a unit of data storage measurement equal to one billion (1,000,000,000) bytes, or one thousand megabytes. It is the most commonly used data storage measurement and is used to describe large amounts of data more easily than megabytes, kilobytes, and bytes. It is also a measurement used to describe the storage capacities of hard drives, storage servers, and other digital storage devices.
- **Graphical User Interface** - A Graphical User Interface (GUI) is a type of user interface that allows users to interact with electronic devices visually, using graphics, instead of text-based command line interactions. GUI lets users point and click on graphical elements to access functions and features, instead of typing instructions and commands. Some Examples of Graphical User Interfaces include Microsoft Windows, MacOS, and Ubuntu.
- **Hacker** - Someone with the technical knowledge and skills needed to break into computer networks using the Internet. (See also Cracker.)
- **Haptic Feedback** - A technology that offers sensory feedback, such as vibrations or physical textures, in response to user input in a VR environment.
- **Hardware** –Hardware is the name given to the machines, wiring, and other physical mechanical components that make up a computer system, such as the central processing unit, monitor, keyboard, and mouse, as well as other equipment like printers and speakers.
- **Hard disk** - A hard disk is a non-volatile storage device used for storing and retrieving digital information using one or more rigid rotating disks

called platters. Hard disks hold significantly more information than other types of storage devices such as USB drives, CDs, and DVDs. They are commonly used in personal computers, servers and in computer systems.

- **Hashtag** - A hashtag is a keyword phrase, word, or an acronym preceded by a hash symbol (#) used on social media channels as a way to identify messages on a specific topic. It allows a user to easily search for and find social media content related to the hashtag and see how it is being used by other users.

- **Head Mounted Display (HMD)** – A Head-mounted Display (HMD) is display device worn on the head, which immerses users in simulated virtual environments.

- **Headsets** - Virtual and augmented reality devices, often worn like a pair of glasses, that contain a display, sensors, and audio components used to interact with the virtual/augmented environment.

- **Home page** –This is typically the first page of a website and will normally include an introduction to the website and/or company and provides the user with the means of navigation through the website. Also, every 'browser' program will allow users to set the first (home) page they view when the software program starts up.

- **HTML (Hypertext Markup Language)** – This is the most common language used for creating hypertext websites or documents.

- **HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol)** – This is the most common language used to enable computers connected to the Web to communicate with each other.

- **Hyperlink** – A hyperlink is basically an image or selection of text on a webpage which users can click, and it will take them (link them) to another page, document, or file in that website. Text links on websites are usually underlined, and images often have borders around them. If a user hovers the mouse over the link, the arrow cursor on the screen will normally turn to a pointed hand. (See also "Links").

- **Immersion** - The concept of feeling as though the virtual or augmented reality is real, and involves an emotional connection to the environment.

- **IM or Instant Message** –Instant Messaging services are typically small software programs which enable users to chat to other users in real time conversations. Anyone can use these often free of charge programs as

only an e-mail address is needed to register and download/install the software.

- **Influencer** - An influencer is an individual who has the power to affect the purchasing decisions of others because of his or her authority, knowledge, position, or relationship with his or her audience. Influencers may be well-known celebrities, but more often they are everyday people with an engaged following in a particular niche, such as parenting, lifestyle, travel, cooking, and more. Influencers often use social media platforms, blogs, and e-commerce sites to promote products and services.
- **Internet** - The global connection of computer networks which work on a common addressing system. The Internet is also sometimes referred to as the "Net".
- **Internet Protocol** - Internet Protocol (IP) is the set of rules that are used to send data over the Internet. It works by assigning every device on a network a unique address so that data can be sent to and from each device. IP is the foundation for all other data transfer protocols, including HTTP, FTP, and email protocols.
- **Intranet** –This is the private network of a company or organisation and uses technology similar to the Internet but is for confidential and/or internal use only and is not available to the public. Companies use Intranets to manage projects, organise diaries/schedules, distribute data and share information, etc.
- **IP (Internet Protocol)** - The computer language that allows computer programs to communicate over the Internet.
- **IP Address (or IP number)** –When your computer connects to a network a set of four numbers, each between zero and 255, separated by periods (e.g.: 192.168.1.2) is given to your computer and this unique number identifies your computer on the network.
- **IRCs (Internet Relay Chats)** - IRCs is the earliest form of online chatting. IRCs are typically a protocol and a program that allows users to "chat" online live on a website. These IRCs usually centre around a common interest.
- **ISDN – (Integrated Services Digital Network)** –A method of connecting to the Internet over standard phone lines at speeds higher than a standard 56K modem typically allows.

- **ISP (Internet Service Provider)** - A company which provides its customers access to the Internet using phone lines, cabling or satellites is an ISP.
- **Java** -A computer programming language invented by Sun Microsystems. Using Java, Web developers can create small programs called "applets" that allow websites to include animations, calculators, scrolling text, sound effects and games. (See also "Applet")
- **JPEG** - JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) is a popular image file format used for compressing, storing, and transmitting digital images such as photographs and artwork. The JPEG file format supports 24-bit colour and is usually compressed to reduce file size and load times. JPEG files are generally used for web graphics and digital photos.
- **Kbps** - Kbps stands for kilobits per second and is a measure of bandwidth or data transfer rate. It is used to measure network speeds and the speed of data transfers over a network.
- **Kernel** - A kernel is the core of an operating system that manages how a computer interacts with its hardware and software. The kernel provides a bridge between the computer hardware and software applications, allowing the two to communicate properly. The kernel also provides a foundation for user-mode applications and services to build upon, allowing them to access hardware and system resources safely.
- **Keyboard** - A keyboard is an input device that is used to type and enter data into a computer or other electronic device. It typically consists of a set of keys and is connected to a device such as a laptop or desktop computer. It is used to input information such as text, numbers, and symbols. Using a keyboard is one of the most common methods of interfacing with a computer.
- **Keystroke logger** –This term is given to a hardware device or (more typically) a software program that records each keystroke made on a particular computer keyboard. Keystroke loggers can be used by parents/carers to find out what their child is doing while using the computer if other methods fail.
- **Keyword/Keyphrase** –When you want to search the Internet for something you are required to input a keyword or phrase to help the browser search for and find the most appropriate matches to your search.

- **LAN – Local Area Network** - A network of computers that are generally positioned near each other in the home or small office and are connected by Ethernet cables and/or to a router.
- **Like(s)** - Likes are a way for users to show support for posts made on social media. When a user "likes" a post, it appears in their news feed and other followers may see it as well. Additionally, when a post has many "likes", it become more popular and may appear on the trending page. Likes are used to show appreciation and create a sense of community within a social media platform.
- **Link** –The name given to a word, phrase, or image highlighted in a hypertext document which when clicked will navigation to other related information on that website. Links may be indicated with an underline, colour contrast, or a border.
- **Machine Access Code (MAC address)** - Every computer is identified by a unique number called a Machine Access Code (MAC) address.
- **Malware** - Malware is short for malicious software and is a type of malicious code or software intended to cause harm to data, networks, or systems. It is typically designed to control, disrupt, steal, manipulate, or destroy computers, networks, and other electronic devices. Examples of malware include viruses, ransomware, worms, Trojans, and spyware.
- **Megabyte** - A megabyte (MB) is a unit of measurement of digital information commonly used to measure computer storage and data transfer. One megabyte is equivalent to 1,048,576 bytes, or 1,024 kilobytes (KB). Megabytes are often used to measure the size of files, including video, audio, and image files, as well as the size of downloaded files from the internet.
- **Megahertz** - Megahertz (MHz) is a unit of measurement for frequency or cycles per second. It is most commonly used to measure the clock speed of processors and RAM memory. One megahertz is equivalent to 1,000,000 hertz or 1,000 kilohertz (kHz). It is also used to measure radio frequency in the radio spectrum.
- **Meme** - A meme is an image, video, phrase, or piece of media with a humorous connotation or message that quickly spreads from person to person on the internet. It is often used to make social and political commentary, express emotions or beliefs, parody events, and poke fun of pop culture.

- **Memory** - Computer memory is a form of storage technology that stores data and programs on a computer or other electronic device. Memory is typically divided into two categories: volatile and non-volatile. Volatile memory is stored in the system's RAM and is lost when the system is turned off or crashes. Non-volatile memory is stored on physical components such as hard drives, solid-state drives, and ROM, and is retained even when the system is off.

- **Mobile Phone** - A mobile phone, also known as a cellphone, is a communication device that allows users to make and receive calls, send and receive messages, browse the internet, and access other features such as apps, music, and games. Most mobile phones today come with built-in GPS to enable location tracking and navigation.

- **Mobile Phone Tracking Software** - Mobile phone tracking software is a type of tracking system that uses GPS-enabled phones to track movement or activity. It is typically used for tracking and locating people or vehicles, monitoring employee behaviour and tracking fleet movement.

- **Modem** - A hardware device that allows computers to communicate with the Internet (characteristically called 'dial-up' access) by transmitting and receiving data over a telephone line. Modems come in different speeds. The higher the speed, the faster the data is transmitted/received. Because the fastest widely available modems are only capable of transmitting data at 56 kilobits per second, they are not often used today. Broadband has helped in the extinction of the Modem. (See Broadband).

- **Monitor** - A monitor is an output device that displays information from the computer. It typically consists of a screen that produces images from electronic signals sent from the computer. Monitors are used for a variety of purposes including viewing webpages, editing documents, playing videos and viewing photos. Monitors come in a variety of sizes, resolutions and prices.

- **Monitoring software** –This is typically software programs that allow a parent or carer to monitor or track the websites or e-mail messages that a child visits or reads, without necessarily blocking access.

- **Motion Tracking** - A technology used to actively track a user's movement within a given space, typically within a VR environment.

- **Mouse** - A mouse is an input device used to communicate commands to a computer or other electronic device. It is a small device with a defined

surface on which a user can move their finger or hand. Mice typically contain two or more buttons and a scroll wheel, which is moved to scroll up or down. The buttons can be used to click on items or activate functions on the computer.

- **Multimedia** - Information presented in more than one format, such as text, audio, video, graphics, and images.
- **Navigation** –Most websites will have a method visitors can use to find their way easily through the website and this can be delivered either in text or image form.
- **Navigation and Click-stream Data** –This refers to data or information users generated when browsing the Internet. It can often include information regarding the links on which a user clicks, pages a user visits and the amount of time spent on each page. Most websites will use this information when compiling website statistic reports.
- **Net** – Shortened name for the Internet.
- **Netiquette** –This term is given to the informal rules and manners/courtesy expected of people when using the Internet.
- **Newsgroups** - Discussion groups on the Internet (not on the Web, which is only one area of the Internet). Newsgroups are classified by subjects and do not necessarily deal just with "news." Participants in a newsgroup can hold discussions by posting messages for others to read and responding to the messages posted by others.
- **Networking** - Networking is the practice of connecting two or more computers, devices, or networks to each other so they can communicate and share information. Networking enables devices to access resources, share data, and communicate with each other. It is essential for communication and data transfer across the Internet. Common types of networks include local area networks (LANs), wireless local area networks (WLANs), and metropolitan area networks (MANs).
- **Online** - Online refers to activities such as communicating, surfing the web, shopping, and banking that take place over the internet. Online activities involve the transfer of data communication via a computer network such as the internet.
- **Online Contact Information** –This is the information that allows someone to be contacted or located on the Internet, such as an e-mail address or website.

- **Operating System** –The Operating System is the principal software program that controls and runs your computer. Major operating systems today include Windows, MacOS, and Linux.
- **Password** - A password is a string of characters used to authenticate a user on a system or service, providing an extra layer of security. Strong passwords are hard to guess, contain a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers, and/or special characters, and are not easily found in a dictionary.
- **Password Guessing** - Password guessing is a technique used by attackers to gain access to an account or system. It involves attempting to log in with commonly used passwords, guessed passwords, or dictionary words. Attackers may try to guess the password by using publicly available information, running automated programs that try different passwords, or by using social engineering techniques. It is important to use strong passwords and to regularly update them in order to reduce the chances of a successful password guessing attack.
- **Patch** - A software patch is a small piece of software designed to fix or update a computer program or software package. Patches are usually released by the software developer to address known bugs, security vulnerabilities, and improve system performance. Software patches can be downloaded from the developer's website or installed directly from the operating system's update service.
- **PDF** - PDF (Portable Document Format) is a file format developed by Adobe to share documents easily across different computer platforms. It preserves the fonts, images, graphics, and layout of any source document, regardless of the application and platform used to create it. PDF documents are often used for creating and viewing documents, such as legal forms, books, magazines, spreadsheets, and other documents.
- **Phishing** –This is an identity theft scam very common now. Criminals will send out messages or emails that impersonate correspondence from trusted and legitimate websites. The fake messages generally link to websites which are also counterfeit. On these fake websites, victims are instructed to enter personal information for authentication or confirmation purposes. The information, when submitted, does not go to the trusted company however - it goes straight to the thieves!

- **Plug-in** –This is typically a small software program update that enriches a larger piece of software by adding features or functions.
- **POP** - POP (Post Office Protocol) is a protocol used to retrieve emails from a remote email server. Most commonly, it is used with an email client such as Microsoft Outlook or Mozilla Thunderbird to download emails from an email account such as Gmail or Yahoo. POP is a form of client/server protocol, which means the email client is responsible for authenticating with the server, accessing the mailbox, and sending back any messages.
- **Pop-up Advertisements (or Pop-Ups)** –This is the term used for unsolicited advertising that appears in its own browser window. Most browsers these days have Pop-Up blocking software included in the installation process.
- **Port** - A computer port is an interface between the computer and peripheral devices. It is used to transfer data between the device and the computer. It can be a physical port such as a USB port, or a virtual port such as an Ethernet port.
- **Posting** –When you are sending a message to a discussion group or other public message area on the Internet you are 'posting' that message. The message itself is called a "post."
- **Privacy Policy** - The policy under which the company or organisation operating a website handles the personal information collected about visitors to the site is called the Privacy Policy. Many websites publish their privacy policy on their website for users to inspect. The policy usually includes a description of the personal information, which is collected by the site, how the information will be used, with whom it will be shared, and whether the visitors have the option to exercise control over how their information will be used.
- **Profile** – A page dedicated to an individual on a website which can display information about that person including their contact details, photos/videos, a description, interests etc.
- **Processor** - A processor is a device that operates on data. It is a component found in computers and other electronic devices such as smartphones and tablets. The processor is responsible for executing instructions, such as calculations and commands, which it receives from software. It performs a variety of tasks and is an essential component of any computer system.

- **Protocol** - A protocol is a set of rules used to define how two different computer systems will interact when they exchange data. In essence, it is a language that helps to ensure that both computers understand the same data in the same way. Protocols such as Ethernet, TCP/IP, and FTP are widely used in networks today.

- **Quality of Service (QoS)** - Quality of Service (QoS) is the ability of a network service to provide better performance to certain applications or services over other applications or services. QoS is implemented by setting certain criteria in the network environment such as packet discarding rules, buffer size, and encryption protocols. QoS is used to prioritize certain traffic or applications and provide a better user experience on the network.

- **Query** - A query is a request for data or information from a database table or combination of tables. It is used to retrieve records that match specified criteria. Queries are a central component of most modern database-driven applications. Queries allow users to create ad hoc reports, generate custom views of the data, and retrieve specific subsets of the data.

- **RAM** - RAM (Random Access Memory) is a type of computer memory that can be read and written to quickly, allowing programs and data to be accessed and processed quickly. It is the most common type of memory used in computers and other electronic devices and is considered "volatile" memory, meaning that it will lose its content when powered off. A computer's main system RAM is usually located on its motherboard.

- **Ransomware** - Ransomware is a type of malicious software designed to block access to a computer system or data until a ransom is paid. It typically either encrypts a computer user's data or locks the user out of their system. Cybercriminals often demand payment in a form of cryptocurrency, such as Bitcoin, in exchange for the release of the user's data or access to the system.

- **Read-only** - Read-only memory (ROM) is a type of non-volatile computer memory that is used to store program code and data that cannot be modified or deleted. It is typically used to store the computer's basic input/output system (BIOS) program, which is necessary for the computer to start up. ROM stores information permanently and can only be accessed for reading, not writing.

- **Resolution** - Resolution is a measure of the amount of detail an image has. It is usually expressed as a number of pixels (or "dots") per inch (or

centimetre). A higher resolution image will have more detail and appear sharper, while a lower resolution image will appear fuzzy or pixelated.

- **ROM** - ROM stands for Read-Only Memory and it is a type of computer memory that can be read from but cannot be changed. It is often used to store essential information such as an operating system or device firmware. ROM is typically non-volatile, meaning it will retain its stored information even when power is removed.

- **Router** - A router is a device that forwards data packets between two or more computer networks. Routers are used in both wired and wireless networks to direct traffic and provide the most efficient route for data to reach its destination. They inspect packets they receive and choose the fastest route to send them on.

- **SAAS** - SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) is a type of software distribution model in which software is hosted in the cloud and is accessible by users from any device with an internet connection. It is typically delivered on a subscription basis and can be used without the customer needing to set up or manage any of their own hardware or infrastructure. SaaS is commonly used to host applications such as customer relationship management (CRM), enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, and accounting software.

- **Search engine** – This is typically a software program used for the retrieval of data, files, or documents from a database, network, or the Internet. This tool enables users to find information quickly. Search engines use keywords or key phrases to find websites which match the required information.

- **SEO** - Search Engine Optimization (SEO) is a set of techniques used to improve a website's visibility in search engine results. It is the process of optimizing web pages and content so that they rank higher in the search engine results pages (SERPs). SEO techniques can help websites get more traffic from relevant searches, thus increasing visibility and ultimately leading to more conversions. They can also help websites rank higher for specific keywords and phrases, resulting in more qualified visitors.

- **Server** - A Server is basically a computer connected to a network of other computers and is used as the main system or more specifically to provide (serve up) data to the other computers connected to that network. A server is also typically used to back up/store data and control user permissions. A Web server transmits websites over the Internet when it

receives a Web browser's request for a page. A server can also be called a 'host' or 'node'.

- **Sexting** - Sexting is the act of sending sexually explicit messages or photographs, typically between mobile phones. Sexting can also involve the use of webcam footage or images sent through social media messaging apps. The practice is most commonly associated with teenagers and young adults, who often use sexting as a way of exploring their identity and sexuality.

- **Slacktivism** - Slacktivism, also known as "clicktivism" or "keyboard activism," is an online term derived from combining the words "slacker" and "activism. " It is low-effort activism, either through the practice of signing and circulating digital petitions, or signalling support for a cause through sharing posts, hashtags, and other content. The term implies that these individuals are not truly devoted to the causes for which their posts and content advocate, but merely engage in activism for the sake of appearing to be socially conscious.

- **Smartphone** - A smartphone is a type of mobile phone that includes more advanced computing capabilities, such as a more powerful processor, more memory, and access to a wider range of software applications. Smartphones typically come with larger, more modern touchscreens, and offer more features than traditional phones, such as the ability to access the Internet, use location-based services, and run sophisticated apps.

- **Social Engineering** - Social engineering is the act of manipulating or deceiving people in order to gain access to confidential information or such as account details, passwords, or other personal data. Social engineering takes many forms and can include phishing emails, pretexting (creating false identities or using false pretences to gain access to confidential information) or using malicious software to access networks. It is one of the most common tactics used by hackers, and it can be used to commit identity theft, financial fraud, or other criminal activities.

- **Social Media** - This is the term given to describe websites and online software/ tools which enable people to interact with each other – by sharing information, opinions, knowledge, and interests.

- **Social Networking** - Social networking is the use of online communities and websites to interact with other people and share content. These activities can include creating a personal profile, posting comments,

sharing photos and videos, joining interest groups, and more. Social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn connect people from all around the world. These sites allow people to stay in touch by sending private messages, sharing photos and videos, and joining conversations in forums and groups.

• **Software** –This is a computer program created to contain the data and instructions needed to enable computer hardware to operate successfully. Operating System software, such as Windows or MacOS run the computer while software which provides a more particular purpose, such as word processing programs, anti-virus programs etc., is called Applications software.

• **Spam** –This is the term given to any unsolicited "junk" e-mail sent out to many people to promote products or services. 'Porn Spam' is typically sexually explicit unsolicited e-mails referring to inappropriate promotional or commercial websites.

• **Spider** –This is the term given to a software program that "crawls" the Web, searching and indexing websites to create a database that can be easily searched by a search engine. These spiders are used by some of the largest search engines today. If you are a webmaster, you want spiders to crawl your website as this will enhance the listing for your website on the search engine.

• **SSL** - SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) is an encryption technology used to create an encrypted connection between a web server and a client. It is used to protect sensitive data, such as account passwords and credit card numbers, from being accessed, intercepted, or hijacked by malicious actors. An SSL connection is authenticated and encrypted using certificates, which proves the identity of the website and encrypts the data being sent between the two computers.

• **Subscription Data** - Subscription data is the information that you provide to an online service or website when you sign up to become a member. Subscription data usually includes your name, address, email address, telephone number, etc.

• **Surf** –This is the term given when someone searches for information on the Internet or Web 'Surf the Internet'.

- **TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol / Internet Protocol)** – This is the protocol, or method, that computers use to communicate with each other over the Internet.
- **Terabyte** - A Terabyte is a unit of data storage measurement equal to one trillion (1,000,000,000,000) bytes, or one thousand gigabytes. It is one of the most used data storage measurements and is used to describe large amounts of data more easily than gigabytes, megabytes, and kilobytes. It is also a measurement used to describe the storage capacities of hard drives, storage servers, and other digital storage devices.
- **Time limiting software** –This is typically a software program that allows users to set time limits for access to the Internet, computer games, or other software programs and is recommended for parents/carers of autistic children.
- **Tracking Systems** - Technology used for tracking the orientation and position of motion controllers, headsets, and other objects within a virtual or augmented reality environment.
- **Transaction Processing** - Transaction processing is an information processing technique that enables the execution of programmed operations on the data stored in a database. Transactions ensure data integrity and provide a reliable foundation for decision-making. A transaction typically includes a collection of operations that either succeed or fail together as an atomic unit. Transaction processing is used in a variety of applications including e-commerce, web applications, banking, and stockbrokers.
- **Trojan** –These are usually small programs created specifically to allow third parties unauthorised access to your computer. Trojans are often used these days to manipulate a computer into sending out unsolicited emails to all contacts on that computer.
- **Trojan Horse** - A Trojan horse, or Trojan, is a type of malicious software (malware) that is designed to mislead users of its true intent. It is typically disguised as legitimate software, making it difficult to detect. Once installed on a system, Trojan horses can give a malicious user access to the system, allowing them to make changes to the system, take data, or use the system to launch further attacks.
- **Trolling** - Trolling is a type of behaviour that is aimed at provoking an emotional reaction from others. It typically involves making provocative

comments or jokes on social media or in online forums. Trolling is seen as a form of harassment and can cause serious emotional distress to the targets of the trolling.

- **Two-factor authentication (2FA)** - is a security process in which the user provides two different authentication factors to verify their identity. This process usually requires a combination of something the user knows (like a password) and something the user has (like a phone or security token). 2FA is also known as two-step verification or dual-factor authentication.
- **Uninstall** –When you uninstall a software program you are removing that program from a computer. This is normally done using the Control Panel. Often software, especially untrusted and downloaded software, is extremely hard to remove from your computer and the standard option may not be enough, so you may have to remove these with a separate uninstall program. These additional programs will remove all files that were installed with the program and restore any adjustments made to system files. It is recommended that you uninstall software which is not used on the computer as this can help keep your system stable and speed it up. Do not remove any software that you are unsure of or do not recognise before carrying out intensive research as this could potentially damage the smooth running of your computer.
- **Unzip** - Unzip is a term used to describe the process of extracting compressed files from a ZIP archive file. It is often used for software downloads, where users must unzip downloaded files in order to run the software. It can also be used to access image files, audio files, video files and more. Unzip is available as both a command-line tool and a graphical user interface (GUI) depending on the Operating System.
- **Upload(ing)** –This is the term given when someone sends a file or data from their computer to another computer. (See also "Download")
- **URL** - URL stands for Uniform Resource Locator. It is a formatted text string that identifies the location of a file or resource on the internet. URLs include details such as the protocol (e. g. HTTP or HTTPS), domain name, path and file name. URLs are most commonly used to access webpages but can be used to access other documents and resources such as images, video, and sound files.
- **User Interface (UI)** - A user interface, also known as a UI, is the point of interaction between users and the devices, programs, and software that

they use. It is the graphical representation of commands, options, and data on a device such as a computer, tablet, smartphone, game console, or other electronic device. User interfaces enable users to interact with, navigate, and access the functions of a device. Typical user interfaces include graphical user interfaces (GUIs) which are built from elements such as windows, icons, buttons, menus, drop-downs, and typographical elements; command-line interfaces which allow a user to input text commands; and voice user interfaces which enable a user to interact with a device through speech.

• **URL** - (Uniform Resource Locator) - The Web address of a site on the Internet. (See also "Domain name")

• **USB** - USB (Universal Serial Bus) is a type of data connection that is used to connect computers, phones, and other electronic devices to each other. USB is used for many purposes, such as connecting a printer to a computer, connecting a mouse or keyboard, or transferring data between a laptop and a desktop. USB cables can have different shapes and sizes, but the most common one is the standard rectangular shaped cord.

• **Vector Graphics** - Vector graphics is a type of digital illustration that uses mathematical algorithms and geometric shapes to represent an image. Vector graphics are resolution-independent, meaning they can be scaled to any size without losing image quality. Vector graphics can be used to create logos, illustrations, icons, charts, graphs, animation, and more.

• **Viral** - Viral is a term used to describe something that spreads quickly and widely from person to person, often through the internet. "Going viral" is often a goal for marketing campaigns, publishers, and content creators, as it can mean huge exposure of a product, website, or video. Viral content typically involves catchy headlines, interesting videos, or other content that is designed to be easy to share and spread.

• **Virtual Machine** - A virtual machine (VM) is a simulated computer system that runs on a physical computer's hardware. It acts like a computer within a computer, offering the same features and functions as a traditional PC. A virtual machine can run multiple operating systems and applications, allowing users to run multiple programs at the same time without disrupting the performance of their machines.

• **Virtual Private Network (VPN)** - A Virtual Private Network (VPN) is a secure, encrypted connection between two networks or between an individual user

and a network. It is used to protect data being sent between two networks and ensure privacy for users. It creates a secure tunnel through which data can be transmitted and it also helps prevent data tampering, eavesdropping, and other security threats.

- **Virtual Reality (VR)** - Virtual Reality (VR) is an immersive computer-generated experience that utilizes a combination of visuals, sounds, and haptics to simulate a simulated environment. It is designed to create an engaging, interactive experience for the user. Examples of virtual reality applications include video games, simulations, and 3D movies.
- **Virtual Reality Headset** - A virtual reality headset is a device worn on the head that can immerse one in an interactive and immersive virtual reality experience. The headset typically consists of two lenses that enable the user to see virtual displays and objects, a microphone for vocal interaction, one or more sensors for tracking the user's head movements, and headphones for audio immersion. In addition, the headset may also contain a controller or joystick for added interaction with the virtual environment.
- **Virus** – A virus is a software program that is unknowingly installed onto your computer hard drive specifically to cause harm in some way (usually to obtain personal and/or private information or to cause physical damage to the system). Once a virus has managed to get into your computer it is extremely difficult to remove without anti-virus software. (See Anti-Virus)
- **Web (World Wide Web)** -The Web is a system built on top of the Internet which distributes information and data in the hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) language and uses a browser to display the information.
- **Web-based Email** –Rather than use a specific software program to send and receive emails such as Outlook, some websites offer a web-based email service where email correspondence is executed using browser software instead.
- **Webpage** - A webpage is a document or information resource on the World Wide Web or private intranets. It is identified by a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) and can consist of text, graphics, audio, video, animation or interactive content and is typically viewed in an internet browser. A webpage can also be known as a web page, webpage, or simply page.

- **Website** - A website is the collection of webpages or documents/files that are linked together and available on the Web for visitors to find. Websites can be created by companies, organisations, associations, and individuals.
- **Webmaster** – This is the name given for the person responsible for creating, developing, designing, and administering/updating a website.
- **WEP** - WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) is a type of encryption used to protect communications on Wi-Fi networks. It is an obsolete security standard, replaced in 2004 by WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) and later by the more secure WPA2. WEP is prone to hacking, and therefore is no longer considered a safe way to protect data on Wi-Fi networks.
- **Wi-Fi** - Wi-Fi is wireless network technology that allows devices to connect to the internet or to each other without the use of cables. It uses radio waves to transmit data through the air and is the most common way to access the internet wirelessly.
- **Worm** –This is the term given to a small program that can reproduce and spread over a network and has usually been created for malicious reasons and can have a very harmful effect on the infected systems.
- **WPA** - WPA (Wi-Fi Protected Access) is a wireless security protocol and security certification program developed by the Wi-Fi Alliance to secure wireless computer networks. It was designed to improve upon the security of WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy), which had been found to be easily exploited due to its weak encryption system. WPA uses stronger encryption to protect sensitive data transmitted over the wireless network. WPA also includes a Temporal Key Integrity Protocol (TKIP) that ensures the integrity of data transmitted over the network and provides additional tools to make the network more secure.
- **WWW** - The World Wide Web. (See also "Web")
- **XML** - XML stands for Extensible Markup Language. It is a markup language that defines a set of rules for encoding documents in a format that is both human-readable and machine-readable. It is commonly used in web development, data storage, and data interchange. XML is also used to store and transport data between a server and a client, such as a web browser.
- **Yottabyte** - A yottabyte is a unit of data storage measurement equal to one septillion (1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000) bytes, or one trillion terabytes. It is equivalent to one quintillion gigabytes. It is one of the largest data storage measurements known and is often used to describe vast

amounts of data collected from scientific, industrial, and governmental sources.

- **Zero-Day Exploit** - A zero-day exploit is a type of computer attack where an attacker exploits an unknown vulnerability in a software program before the vulnerability is known to the public. This type of exploit is difficult to protect against as the vulnerability may have not been identified and no patch exists for it yet. Attackers who use zero-day exploits can gain access to sensitive data, install malicious software, or take control of a targeted system.
- **Zip** - Zip is a file format and data compression system used to store one or more files in a single location. The files in the Zip file are compressed for a smaller overall file size, making them easier to transmit or download over the internet. The most common way to open Zip files is using a Zip compatible program. Zip files are also used for virus protection, allowing the sender to password protect the file so only the recipient can open it.