KIDS
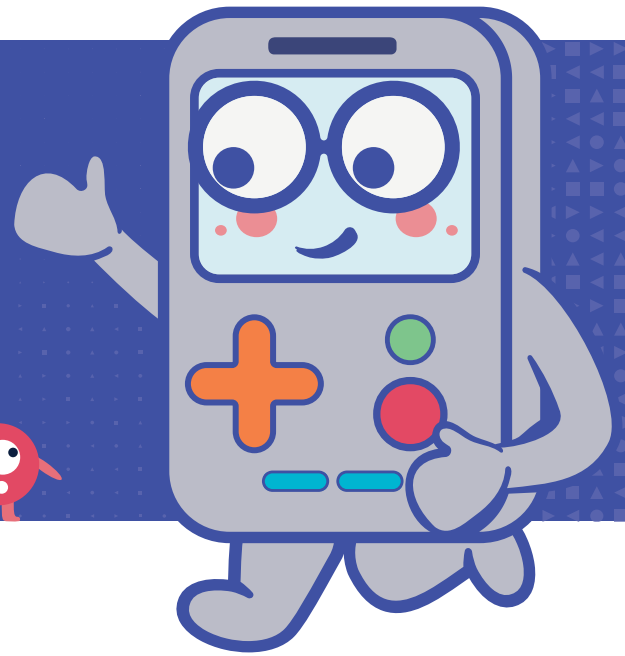# CYBER SECURITY CHECKLIST

✓ UPDATE

Updates give your device a security power up. They fix flaws in software that cyber criminals use to hack your device. Install updates as soon as possible.

✓ TURN ON MFA

Turn on multi-factor authentication (MFA), such as SMS password notifications. MFA puts an extra shield around your account. Once it's on, you'll need to give at least two different types of information before you can log in.

✓ BACK UP

Backing up makes a copy of your important files and puts them in a safe place. It's like saving your progress in a game so you can go back to it later.

✓ USE A PASSPHRASE

A passphrase is a levelled-up password. Passphrases use four or more random words. For example, 'purple duck boat sky'. They are hard for cybercriminals to guess and easy for you to remember.

✓ STAY PRIVATE

Use privacy settings across your online platforms to manage what you share online. Be mindful about what you share and who has access to it.

✓ RECOGNISE

Not everyone online is who they say they are: so take a moment to check if you know the person. Don't click on links or download files from people you don't know. Sometimes, it's really your friend but their account was hacked. If you are not sure, check with them offline.

✓ REPORT

If you receive an unusual email or message, ask a trusted adult to report it by visiting Report Cyber page on our website www.cyber.gov.au/acsc/report. You can also ask them to report it to Scamwatch www.scamwatch.gov.au.

✓ ASK

Ask your parent, carer, or teacher if you're not sure. For more information on how to stay safe online also visit the ACSC's website www.cyber.gov.au, eSafety www.esafety.gov.au/kids/i-want-help-with or ThinkUKnow www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab/parents-and-carers.

Beating cybercriminals takes teamwork. Now that you've got cyber security basics, you're ready to log back on securely.

Remember, cybercriminals are always coming up with new ways to target people. It is always good to keep up to date to stay secure online.

For parents & carers: You play an important role in helping children stay secure online. No parental control is 100% effective. Helping your child build good online safety habits is just as important to keep them safe. **For more information, visit www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice**.

From 10 December 2025, age-restricted social media platforms will have to take reasonable steps to prevent Australians under the age of 16 from creating or keeping an account.

The restrictions aim to protect young Australians from pressures and risks that users can be exposed to while logged in to social media accounts. **Learn more at https://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/social-media-age-restrictions.**