

Knowing these codes may help protect a child

Every mum and dad is naturally concerned about their child's use of the internet and social media.

But how much should we be monitoring their online behaviour? Should we also be involved in our kids' habits when they text their friends too?

These are questions parents must think about on a regular basis - particularly as digital and social habits change so quickly.

In a constantly changing online world it's easy for parents to get left behind - particularly as language changes in effect leave adults in the dark.

In response to the fears many anxious parents have a police service has issued a list of abbreviations on their Facebook page.

The shortcuts include:

IWSN - I want sex now

A/S/L - Age/Sex/Location

KPC - Keeping parents clueless

GNOC - Get naked on cam

KYS - Kill yourself

WYRL - What's your real name.

The post was shared more than 2,500 times and most responses were positive or jokey but a small number said the code needed to be kept secret.

Still more people have criticised the list as already out of date or not relevant to young people.

A spokesman for Newry and Mourne PSNI, said: "As a follow up to the text talk post just to clarify that this was an American resource and indeed some of the codes may not be being used here but it is something to be aware of if you see cryptic messages on your kids devices.

The great parenting debates

"Also prevention is better than cure so speak to your kids about their online activity, what they are using and respect the age limits of social media platforms – is it proper to set up a kid with a Facebook account at eight years old?

"What is an appropriate age to give your child a smart phone or device and data or wifi access?

"There are hundreds of text talk codes – a simple online search will reveal what any codes you spot actually mean."

Belfast Live have published an up-to-date version of the most common abbreviations.

1. 143 – I love you

2. 2DAY – Today

3. 4EAE – For ever and ever

4. ADN – Any day now
5. AFAIK – As far as I know
6. AFK – Away from keyboard
7. ASL – Age/sex/location
8. ATM – At the moment
9. BFN – Bye for now
10. BOL – Be on later
11. BRB – Be right back
12. BTW – By the way
13. CTN – Can't talk now
14. DWBH – Don't worry, be happy
15. F2F or FTF – Face to face
16. FWB – Friends with benefits
17. FYEO – For your eyes only
18. GAL – Get a life
19. GB – Goodbye
20. GLHF – Good luck, have fun
21. GTG – Got to go
22. GYPO – Get your pants off
23. HAK – Hugs and kisses
24. HAND – Have a nice day
25. HTH – Hope this helps / Happy to help
26. HW – Homework
27. IDK – I don't know
28. IIRC – If I remember correctly
29. IKR – I know, right?
30. ILY / ILU – I love you
31. IM – Instant message
32. IMHO – In my honest opinion / In my humble opinion
33. IMO – In my opinion
34. IRL – In real life

35. IWSN – I want sex now
36. IU2U – It's up to you
37. IYKWIM – If you know what I mean
38. J/K– Just kidding
39. J4F – Just for fun
40. JIC – Just in case
41. JSYK – Just so you know
42. KFY – Kiss for you
43. KPC – Keeping parents clueless
44. L8 – Late
45. LMBO – Laughing my butt off
46. LMIRL – Let's meet in real life
47. LMK – Let me know
48. LOL – Laugh out loud
49. LSR – Loser
50. MIRL – Meet in real life
51. MOS – Mom over shoulder
52. NAGI – Not a good idea
53. NIFOC – Nude in front of computer
54. NM – Never mind
55. NMU – Not much, you?
56. NP – No problem
57. NTS – Note to self
58. OIC – Oh I see
59. OMG – Oh my God
60. ORLY – Oh, really?
61. OT – Off topic
62. OTP – On the phone
63. P911 – Parent alert
64. PAW – Parents are watching
65. PCM – Please call me

66. PIR – Parent in room
67. PLS or PLZ – Please
68. PPL – People
69. POS – Parents over shoulder
70. PTB – Please text back
71. QQ – Crying. This abbreviation produces an emoticon in text. It's often used sarcastically.
72. RAK – Random act of kindness
73. RL – Real life
74. ROFL – Rolling on the floor laughing
75. RT – Retweet
76. RUOK – Are you okay?
77. SMH – Shaking my head
78. SOS – Someone over shoulder
79. SRSLY – Seriously
80. SSDD – Same stuff, different day
81. SWAK – Sealed with a kiss
82. SWYP – So, what's your problem?
83. SYS – See you soon
84. TBC – To be continued
85. TDTM – Talk dirty to me
86. TIME – Tears in my eyes
87. WYCM – Will you call me?
88. TMI – Too much information
89. TMRW – Tomorrow
90. TTYL – Talk to you later
91. TY or TU – Thank you
92. VSF – Very sad face
93. WB – Welcome back
94. WTH – What the heck?
95. WTPA – Where the party at?
96. WYCM – Will you call me?

97. YGM – You’ve got mail
98. YOLO – You only live once
99. YW – You’re welcome
100. ZOMG – Oh my God (sarcastic)
101. 182 – I hate you
102. 420 – Marijuana
103. ADR – Address
104. CD9 – Code 9 – it means parents are around
105. ILU – I Love You
106. KOTL – Kiss On The Lips
107. LMIRL – Let’s Meet In Real Life
108. NIFOC – Nude In Front Of The Computer
109. P999 – Parent Alert
110. PAL – Parents Are Listening -or- Peace And Love
111. RU/18 – Are You Over 18?