Some Ground Rules

• Please stop me if you have any questions
• There are no dumb questions
• If I start speaking another language ask for clarification
• Remember there is no black and white
• I will try to answer your questions but, I will not have all the answers.
The Traditional “Social Media” Platforms
All the others

- Online games (Fortinet)
- YouTube
- Kids YouTube
- Game Streaming Channels (Twitch)
- Avatar Games (Roblox, Minecraft)
- Spotify or music streaming apps
What Platforms are more or less safe?
In general, social media apps that have age limits, security settings and keep records of posts are typically more ethical than apps designed to keep information away from people. Also, social media apps that allow users to report incorporate content or filter content in general are safer. The thing to remember is all social platforms are public platforms and have trouble monitoring content or keeping people protected from bullying and inappropriate content.
What should we be talking about to our kids to keep them safe while on social media?

• We should be talking to our kids before letting them go on any social media or before they create any social media accounts.
• We should encourage to report any bullying or inappropriate behavior they see online
• To keep a positive online presence and support others online
• That your online personality is an extension of you as a person. Your online presence reflects who you are.
• If you see something that worries you or bothers you, talk to an adult
• Comments, images and videos placed online are similar to tattoos once they are placed online they are hard to remove.
Rumors... True or not true... for example, is it true that even though youth think things disappear on SnapChat, they actually exist? Everything placed online leaves a trace. Some social media do a better job removing meta data than others. The truth is, it is very easy to record Snapchat or any online activity. Snapchat does let users know if someone has recorded videos but there are ways around it. Also, even if you know someone recorded it, it does not mean they will delete it.

https://map.snapchat.com/@49.689731,-112.851731,12.70z
What setting should be on computers or phones to ensure a platform is not taking personal information?

Usually it is good practice to not make any posts public. And to turn off all GPS tracking on your phone. You should also shut off GPS location services from your camera. For most social media accounts, every time they do an update or terms of service they reset you privacy setting. So it is good practice to go check your settings every time you agree to a new user agreement.
What are privacy regulations that are relevant to social media?

The European Union has tried to implement new regulations for age and data collection. In Canada, we typically look to our privacy commissioner for guidance or the criminal code. For most things, age limits and other privacy regulations are hard to enforce. For most social media accounts, they self regulate.

Are there built in ways to monitor?
There are ways to do investigations and back doors to some social media accounts. Lethbridge #51 has a digital threat assessment team to conduct investigations if online threats are made from our students or to our students and our building. As parents, the best way to protect yourself is to follow your children online and be observant while your child is on their device. Ask them what they have been doing and watch for hashtags.

Home routers may also be used to monitor Wi-Fi activities in the home.