How to Protect Your Child on Facebook

With more than 500 million active users, Facebook is today's most popular social network. If you allow your child to use Facebook, it's imperative that you adjust the privacy settings to the levels you as a parent find appropriate and safe. Get started by logging in to your child's Facebook account, going to Account | Privacy Settings and following these sample guidelines:

- **Customize profile settings** to make personal information available to “Friends Only” or “Friends of Friends,” not just any user. Even with these settings, any and all information can be used to manipulate or exploit your child, so make sure your child doesn't post anything too detailed or revealing.

- **Contain communication options** to “Friends Only” or “Friends of Friends” to prevent unknown users from reaching out to your child.

- **Disable Friend Tags in Facebook Places** so Friends cannot broadcast your child's whereabouts.
**Turn off Public Search**
by making sure the "Enable public search" button is not checked to prevent a preview of your child’s Facebook profile from appearing in search engine results when his name is entered.

**Restrict applications’ access to information**
by un-checking all options for personal information sharing available through Friends.

**Block information and requests**
to cut off communication from precarious users by adding them to your child’s “Block List.”

*These are just a few of the many privacy settings available on Facebook. To learn more, visit: facebook.com/privacy/explanation.php*