# A PEATC

## Do You Know....

**Fact Sheet for Virginia's Parents**
**Text Acronyms Parents Need to know**

### Making Sense of Text Acronyms

When it comes to texting, parents and children don't speak the same language. Texting often includes acronyms.  An **acronym** is an abbreviation, that consists of the initial letters of the other words and is pronounced as a single word.  When you look at your child's text messages or online chats, you likely won't understand these acronyms.  But they are popular on the internet and found mostly on social media platforms because **they offer a shorthand for instant communication. Some acronyms are harmless, but there are a lot that are very direct and shocking**. Below is a list of those  you should be aware of in case you find them on your child's phone.

*Acronyms about parents*
- CD9: Parents around/Code 9
- KPC: Keeping parents clueless
- POS: Parent over shoulder
- 9: Parent watching
- 99: Parent gone
- PIR: Parent in room
- TWD: Texting while driving

*Acronyms about drugs and alcohol:*
- GNOC: Get naked on camera
- 420: Marijuana
- Broken: Hangover from alcohol
- CID: Acid (drug)
- DOC: Drug of choice

*Acronyms about intimacy and relations:*
- LMIRL: Let's meet in real life
- WYRN: What's Your Real Name?
- ASL: Age/Sex/Location
- NIFOC: Naked in front of computer
- 1174: Party meeting place
- SUGARPIC: Suggestive or erotic photo
- IWSN: I want sex now
- THOT: That hoe over there
- KOTL: Kiss on the lips
- PRON: Porn
- CU46: See you for sex
- 53X: Sex
- TDTM: Talk dirty to me 8: Oral sex

**WARNING ACRONYMS AHEAD**

**Do you know what acronyms your child is using when they are online?**

**Do you know what the acronyms mean?**

**Do you know who your child is talking to, following or who is following them while they are online?**

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**These are acronyms you need to know!**

## Keeping Track of Your Child's Mobile/Online Activity

If your children want to hide something from you, they will always find ways to do it. **Educating your child on what is appropriate and also monitoring their online activities is so important.** Supervising your child`s keywords you can protect them from communication with online predators and cyberbullies while they are online.

There are **many apps** that you can download to monitor your child's activities, including but not limited to keyword detection. PEATC does not recommend any specific applications so be sure to conduct your own research and pick the one that best meets your family's needs.

**MSpy** is a tool to monitor your child's phone activity remotely and find out if he is accessing inappropriate content. Includes immediate notification when specified keywords come up. https://www.mspy.com/

**Mobile Tracker Free** allows the activity on the device on which it is installed to be monitored from any other location that has internet access. Includes tracking of WhatsApp and Facebook messages. https://mobile-tracker-free.com/

**IKey Monitor** lets you keep track of all keystrokes on your child's phone no matter what app is open. It also allows you to block games or set limits on how much time can be spent on an app or on the phone. https://ikeymonitor.com/

**Spy Phone App** can record incoming and outgoing phone calls, SMS, and surroundings. It tracks GPS locations, browser activity and messages from applications like WhatsApp, Facebook, Viber, Skype, and Line.

**XNSpy** also allows tracking phone calls, emails, GPS location, SMS, and messaging chats, such as WhatsApp, Viber, Line, and Skype. It allows you to check saved photos and videos as well. https://xnspy.com/

These are just a few of the applications available to parents. It is important to have a balance between respecting privacy and **keeping your child safe in the online world**. Many children do not understand the dangers of online activity, including texting with friends. Start discussing online safety at an early age!



Tips to Impart to Your Child

- If you wouldn't write it or say it face to face or in front of your parents, don't text it or post it.

- Everything you do on the web is there forever. Employers and colleges can look at your social media profile and use it as part of their decision-making.

- Children are taught not to engage with strangers in person. They need to know not to engage with strangers on-line.

- Adult predators often pose as children or teens online. These people are very dangerous.

Don't let your children browse the internet without supervision until you feel they are mature enough to do so safely.

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**PEATC's mission focuses on building positive futures for Virginia's children by working collaboratively with families, schools and communities to improve opportunities for excellence in education and success in school and community life.**
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