

Digital Citizenship

Broadcast It on the Internet

Notes

Vocabulary:

Consequence:

- The effect of something that happened earlier

Though there are many benefits to sharing information online, the internet should generally be considered public because:

1. “private” information can become public if passed on
2. Posts in many online communities are public by default

Most information posted online:

1. Can be searched
2. Can be seen by huge, invisible audiences
3. Can be copied, altered and sent to others
4. Is persistent – impossible to take down as it can start to spread the minute it is posted

Information that people post online can get out of control fast so it is extremely important to consider the consequences before posting anything.

There are many ways to share information with others online that can be fun and rewarding.

For example:

- Chatting over IM with friends
- Sending photos to friends and family
- Showcase your work and get feedback

Sharing information online can sometimes go too far.

For example:

- Sharing personal information such as your address can put your safety at risk
- Sharing information that may be embarrassing

Given the public nature of the Internet, the impact of information online is usually greater than offline. The consequences of over-sharing, and inappropriate sharing, can range from being just a little embarrassing to being really devastating to your reputation. **Students can be denied entrance to college, lose jobs, or have their reputation damaged.**

It is important to think before posting information online and to put only information there that you are proud of. Ultimately you want to be able to shape your *digital footprint* as much as possible.