



Australian Government  
Office of the Australian  
Information Commissioner

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner

# Children's Online Privacy Code Workbook



## Drawing submission

Young children under 8-years-old (recommended)

*Have your voice heard!*

# For parents and carers

## Who are we?

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) wrote this workbook. When you read the word 'we', it means OAIC.

### **What is the OAIC?**

*We are the Australian Government's privacy regulator, and our goal is to protect the privacy of Australians.*

We are responsible for writing the Children's Online Privacy Code.

When we refer to 'children' we mean individuals under the age of 18.

This workbook is **recommended for young children under 8-years-old.**

## What is online privacy?

All human beings have a right to privacy. Privacy means that you get to make decisions about the things that affect you, that you get to think and believe what you want, and that you get to control your own body.

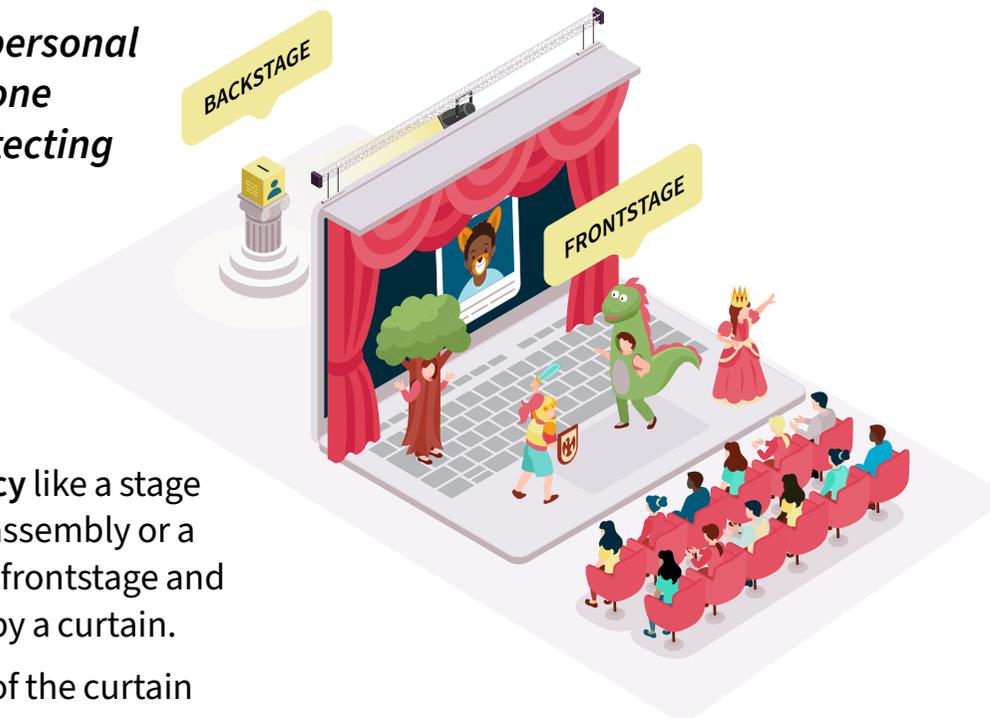
The right to privacy means you get to choose when to give other people information about you, and what they do with that information. This is especially true when it comes to personal information.

Personal information is things like your name, address, email, phone number, school, date of birth, photos or videos of you, location, and online activity.

*You can think of us as like 'privacy police'.*



**Protecting children’s personal information online is one important step to protecting their online privacy.**



Think about **online privacy** like a stage where you watch school assembly or a music concert, where the frontstage and backstage are separated by a curtain.

The frontstage is in front of the curtain and is where everyone in the audience can see what is happening. The frontstage is like where you and your child, as well as other people, share things about your child online for other people to see (like sharing photos of your child with your friends and family).

To help protect your child’s online privacy frontstage, you and your child, as well as other people (like family, friends, school and clubs), need to think carefully about what is shared publicly for others to see.

The backstage is behind the curtain and is where only the people running the show can see what is happening. The backstage is like where your child shares their personal information with an app, game, or website to use that online service.

To help protect your child’s online privacy backstage, online services need to take care of the personal information you and your child choose to share with them.

**The Code focuses on protecting your child’s online privacy backstage.** It does this by shining a light on what happens to children’s personal information behind the curtain, telling online services how to take care of children’s personal information, and giving you and your child more control with what happens to their personal information online.



**You can ask for help to read this document.**

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you. If you speak a language other than English and need help with this document, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on [131 450](tel:131450) and ask the operator to contact the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner on [1300 363 992](tel:1300363992).

*This workbook is intended to explain the main rules of the Code in an accessible way. It does not reproduce the Code’s legal text, and the language has been adapted and simplified to support understanding. The official ‘Exposure Draft’ of the Code remains the authoritative source.*

# About the Code

## What is the Children's Online Privacy Code?

The Children's Online Privacy Code (we call it **the Code**) creates special rules for online services that will help protect the privacy of children (people under the age of 18) when using the internet.

This new Code will help **protect children's online privacy** by telling many online services, like apps, games, and websites, how they need to follow special privacy rules when taking care of children's personal information online (things like your child's name, address, email, phone number, school, date of birth, photos or videos of them, location, and online activity).

The Code will apply to many apps, games, and websites that are used by children or collect personal information about children.

## Why do we need a Children's Online Privacy Code?

The Code is being developed to help make the internet a place that recognises the importance of children's privacy and takes steps to protect the privacy of young people.

When online services follow the Code, you and your child will be given the chance to learn more about what happens to their personal information online. This will allow you and your child to have more control and the ability to choose what personal information you want to share with the online service.

Having more control about what online services do with your child's personal information helps protect your child's online privacy.

## Where can I see a copy of the draft Children's Online Privacy Code?

The Children's Online Privacy Code is currently a draft.

The official draft Code is a long legal document. That is why we have worked with a group of young people to make child-friendly guides to help explain the draft Code.

We explain what is in the draft Code throughout this workbook. But you can read either a short or extended (longer) guide that also helps explain the draft Code. Learn more about our child-friendly guides and the official draft Code at [www.oaic.gov.au/privacyforkids](http://www.oaic.gov.au/privacyforkids).

## When will we finish writing the Children’s Online Privacy Code?

The Code will be ready by 10 December 2026.

## How can I help?

We have created some activities in this workbook for you to do. Please send us your answers when you’re finished.

## What will we do with the drawings we receive?

In this workbook, young children are invited to submit a drawing about **what they think protecting their personal information online looks like**.

We will look at all the drawing submissions and find the patterns (themes). These patterns will help us understand how young children think and feel about protecting their personal information online. Protecting children’s personal information online is the goal of the Code.

The drawings could also be shared on our website as a gallery where children and their parents and carers can view other children’s drawings. Seeing other children’s drawing can support conversations about what protecting children’s personal information online looks like.

## How do I submit my responses?

Submit your answers by emailing this pdf to [copc@oaic.gov.au](mailto:copc@oaic.gov.au) or answer the questions through one of the online forms which you can access from our webpage [www.oaic.gov.au/copc](http://www.oaic.gov.au/copc).

The due date for this workbook is **5 June 2026**.

We might publish your response on our website. It will be anonymous: this means that no one will know who you are or what responses you submitted. Please don’t write your name or any personal details on this workbook.





### **And remember!**

Personal information is things like your name, address, email, phone number, school, date of birth, photos or videos of you, location, and online activity.

Protecting your child's personal information online is one important step to protecting their online privacy. It is also important to think carefully about what you and others share about your child online for others to see. You can always speak with a trusted adult if something does not feel right.

## **Types of personal information**



**Name**



**Address**



**Email**



**Phone number**



**School**



**Date of birth**



**Photos or videos of you**



**Location**



**Online activity**

# Activity #1

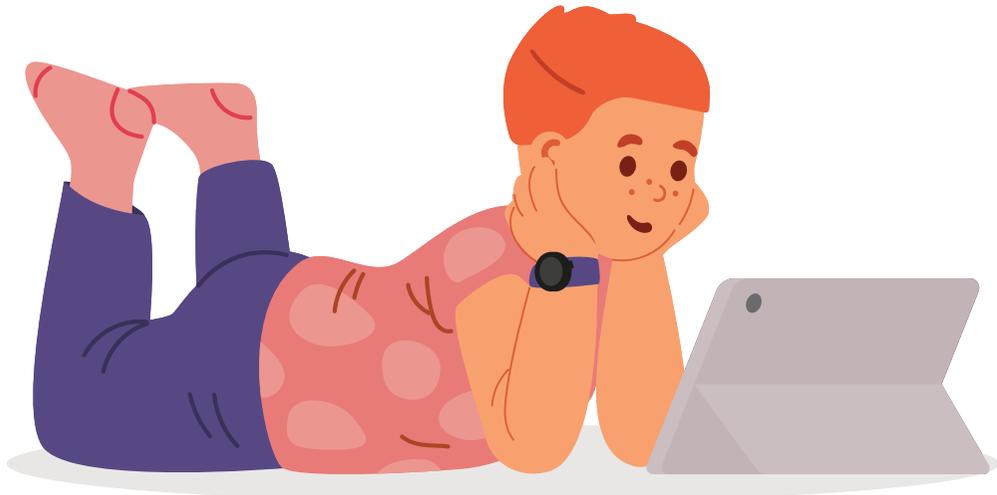
## Thinking game



Let's put our thinking caps on!

Look at the words at the top of the boxes to the right, write down the first word (or words!) that pops into your head.

You can write as many words as you like, there are no right or wrong answers!



### Privacy



I think of...

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### Online



I think of...

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## Personal information

I think of...

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## Protected

I think of...

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# Activity #2

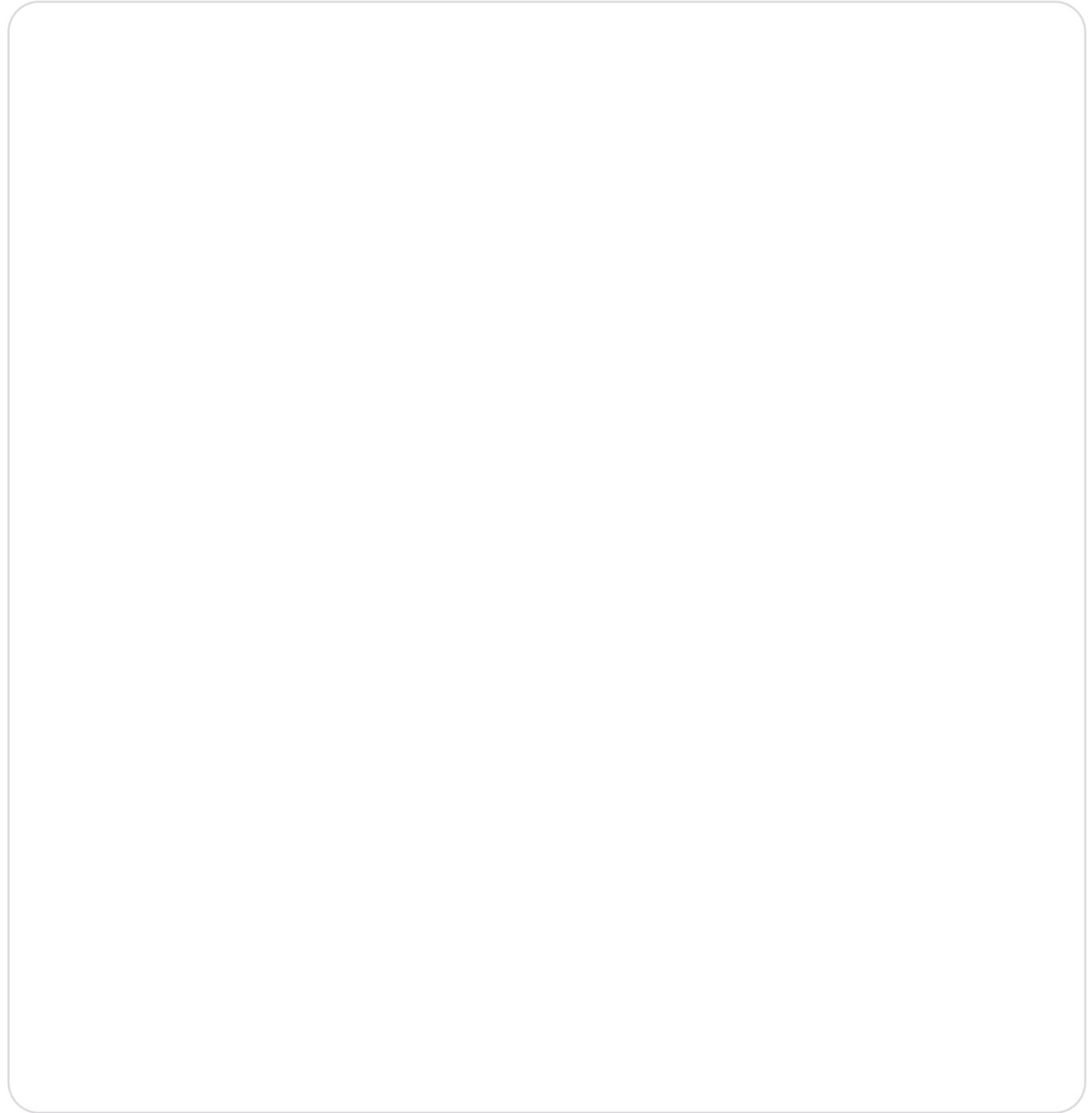
## Drawing submissions



Think about the words you thought of in Activity 1.

Now in the box to the right, **draw what you think protected personal information online looks like.**

Remember there are no right or wrong answers, let us know your thoughts and feelings through your drawing. We are so excited to see what you come up with, and most importantly **HAVE FUN!**



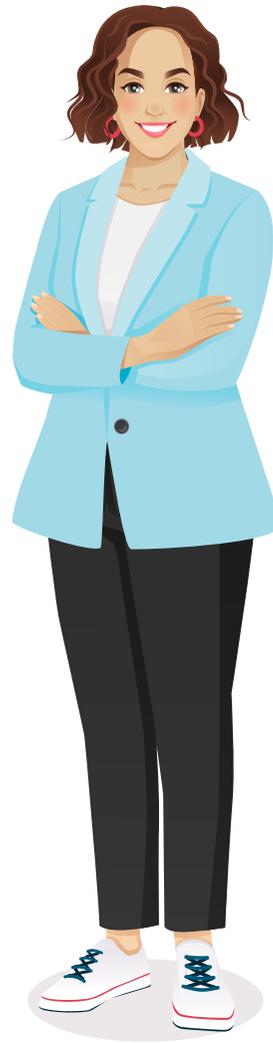
## Submit your answers to us

Now that you have finished your drawing, submit your drawing by emailing this pdf to [copc@oaic.gov.au](mailto:copc@oaic.gov.au). You can ask a family member, friend, teacher, or trusted adult to help you with this.

The due date for this workbook is **5 June 2026**.

Remember, whilst the Code will help protect your personal information online, it's still important for you to be careful when online. Always talk to a trusted person if something doesn't feel right or if you are feeling unsure about an online experience you have had.

We might publish your response on our website. It will be anonymous: this means that no one will know who you are or what responses you submitted. Please don't write your name or any personal details (like your birthday or where you live) on this workbook.



## How to get help

If you want to speak to someone about anything you read here, you can call [Kids Helpline Phone Counselling Service](https://www.kidshelpline.com.au) on [1800 55 1800](tel:1800551800). It is free and confidential, which means that they won't know who you are.



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[copc@oaic.gov.au](mailto:copc@oaic.gov.au)