Protect your privacy and personal information! Protect others' privacy!

In Ontario, people are protected by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (2012*). The act requires that the government protect the privacy of an individual's personal information existing in government records. https://www.ipc.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/Resources/provincial%20guide-e.pdf

At the Ottawa Catholic School Board, students' personal information is also protected by a policy document called *Protection of Privacy Support Document – Ottawa Catholic School Board Privacy and Information Management (PIM) of Personal Information* (2016) Found at https://tinyurl.com/yd88sl4y

Although many agencies work to protect your personal information, **it is important that YOU take steps to protect your own personal information** as well.

Questions:
Why do we need to protect our personal data?
Have you ever been hacked? What happened?
What personal information do you want to protect and why?

Things we can do to protect our personal information
How can we protect ourselves from people on the internet accessing personal information about ourselves that we don't want them to have? - Brainstorm (teacher and students) * possible answers below

1. Keep a passcode on your phone or device

2. Use different passwords for different logins

3. Use secured internet (private which requires a password) and not public internet (public Wi-Fi) for personal business (i.e. banking, etc.)

4. If a link looks suspicious, don't open it. Avoid phishing emails!

5. Change the privacy settings on sites like Instagram, etc. Chose things like private mode or friends mode instead of public which is open to everyone on the web.

6. Be aware of cookies and how to get rid of them

7. Use security software on your computers like ESET or Norton Antivirus, etc.

8. Don't overshare on social networking sites

9. Read privacy policies

10. Other?

A few reasons why we want to protect our data and online information include:

- People need a private place to work online. People want to be able to discuss their opinions without fear of reprisal

- students may want to keep rash or radical comments from going public or will want to try out perhaps controversial ideas without having them spread all over Facebook

- Institutions want to protect students from personal data collection for commercial purposes by private companies, tracking of their online learning activities by government agencies, or marketing and other unrequested commercial interruption to their studies.

- institutions want to protect students, as far as possible, from online harassment or bullying.

Bates, Tony and Bates A.W. (2016). Teaching in a Digital Age page 301
https://opentextbc.ca/teachinginadigitalage/

- Other? Student input here is welcome ☺