



# CID LOOKOUT

ON POINT FOR THE ARMY



## Be Careful What You Post On your child's first day of school

With the start of the new school year quickly approaching, the Department of the Army Criminal Investigation Division-Europe Field Office, and the Department of Defense Educational Activity-Europe, would like to encourage parents to use caution when posting messages and images to social media about their children's first day of school, particularly details that could be exploited by strangers to locate or gain the trust of a child.

While the back-to-school photo is something to be treasured and is a milestone in a child's life, you should carefully consider what details you are posting.

The personal information that you include in your proud-parent-post could be used by someone to identify, locate, groom, and/or build a false sense of trust with your child.

Family members should be cautious when posting back-to-schools photos and updates on social media. Some recommendations to consider are:

- Avoid personal details such as school name, teacher name, or even grade level.
- Avoid images that have your house number, street name, school names, bus stop location, easily identifiable buildings or landmarks that could reveal your child's location.

Other considerations in keeping your loved ones safe:

- Review privacy and access settings on all social media accounts.
- Be cautious of unsolicited friend/stranger requests and what appear to be hoax accounts.
- Discuss online safety with your children and encourage them to discuss with you any suspicious contacts or anything that makes them uncomfortable.



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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

Find more Internet safety and cyber-crime prevention tips, reporting portals and information at [www.cid.army.mil/tips](http://www.cid.army.mil/tips).

Army CID partners with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, parents can find age-appropriate resources through Netsmartz at [www.missingkids.org/netsmartz](http://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz).

*Have you been or do you know someone who may have been the victim of a crime? Scan the QR code or click here to send a completely anonymously report to Army CID.*

