

## **Common Terms Concerning Technology**

**Blog** – A web site that is set up like a journal or diary; however, it is meant to be shared not secretive

**Chat Room** – An online site where communication occurs in real time

**Instant Messaging (IM)** – A format in which participants can “chat” in real time; see also Chat Room

**Message Board** – An internet forum usually based around a central topic; not in real time; messages can be left and read by others at any time; a.k.a. Newsgroups, Bulletin Boards, Web Forum, or Online Discussion Groups

**Online “grooming”** – The term used when child predators begin to “lure” the child

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**Online Gaming** – A Massive Multiplayer Online (MMO) games, role-playing games in which an internet connection is used to play with multiple players; often have violent themes; can provide a field for bullying, addiction, theft (of personal information or property) and pornography

**Social Networking Sites** – Websites such as MySpace or Facebook, where the individual has a profile page. The user decides which information to place on their profile, which is readily available to other users. The pages may also contain message boards which individuals post messages to each other

**Text Message** – A short message sent from a cellular device (cell phone). Messages can be sent and received and are between the individuals (not online)

**Webcam** – A digital camera used while online so that the picture appears on other computers

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