



Government of Odisha
Electronics & Information Technology Department

ADVISORY ON BLUE WHALE CHALLENGE

A social media challenge that encourages children, teenagers to perform specific tasks over the course of 50 days that are assigned to them by an anonymous Administrator. The Blue Whale Challenge does not require any dedicated websites, applications or mobile applications to participate in this game.

The following advisory is issued on public interest.

Advice to the Parents and Teachers

- **“DO NOT PANIC”**. A child participating in this game may be under significant trauma, so talk to your child in a **calm and patient manner**. She/he may need the help of a **Psychologist**.
- Always be **vigilant** about your child’s online activity in social media and if you find your child already playing the Blue Whale challenge, then restrict him/her from using internet and inform local police authority for further assistance.
- Teachers/Hostel in-charge need to keep an eye on social behaviour of the students, sensitize and restrict them from this internet game.

Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, etc.)

- Use **STRONG PRIVACY SETTINGS & PASSWORD**. Don’t share the password with others.
- Use **HTTPS** to connect to your social networking sites whenever possible, especially when connecting from a public hotspot. Beware of your social networking service only uses HTTP for login credentials.
- **VERIFY** friend/follower requests before acceptance and also verify the links, attachments, downloads, emails, anything sent to you.
- Set your search engine to **“safe search”** mode on your web browser (Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge, Safari, Opera, etc.). Use the Parental **controls** provided by your computer’s/other device’s operating system to restrict access over the internet.

