The Risks

- Cyberbullying
  With the constant connectivity of smartphones, your child may be more susceptible to cyberbullying or have more opportunities to cyberbully others.

- Location
  A GPS-enabled smartphone can reveal your child's location through online posts and uploaded photos.

- Inappropriate Content
  With smartphones, your child has mobile access to content you may consider inappropriate, such as pornography or violent videos.

- Sexting
  Your child may use the internet and social apps to send, receive, or forward revealing photos.

- Viruses & Malware
  Just like a computer, a smartphone is vulnerable to security attacks if your child accesses unsecured websites and apps.

5 Ways to be Smarter than the Smartphone!

1. Be a parent and a resource.
   Establish clear guidelines, including time limits and consequences for inappropriate behavior, but be open so your child will come to you with any problems.

2. Set up password protection.
   This will keep everyone but you and your child from accessing personal information stored on the phone.

3. Update the operating system.
   New versions often contain important security fixes.

4. Approve apps before they are downloaded.
   Make sure you understand their capabilities and approve their content.

5. Understand location services.
   GPS features are useful when using maps, but you'll want to disable location-tagging when your child posts anything online.

About 1 in 4 teens report owning a smartphone.