Online Safety Information for Families and Young People

Twitch

Kik

Roblox

Instagram

Snapchat

Twitter

Facebook

TikTok

National Online Safety

7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety

1 Which apps/games are you using at the moment?

THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICE. BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.

2 Which websites do you enjoy using and why?

AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY, ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.

3 How does this game/app work? Can I play?

PLAY AGAIN? YES NO

SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILST YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.

4 Do you have any online friends?

CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD, FOR EXAMPLE: "HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?" THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.

5 Do you know where to go for help?

Childline 0800 1111

ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.

6 Do you know what your personal information is?

YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.

7 Do you know your limits?

CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEM SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

Top Tips for Families – Online APPs

Some apps, sites and games online have age restrictions. Getting to grips with all the different age ratings can be a nightmare. Here's our guide to the main ones.

Our top tip, though, is to check out the terms and conditions for sites your children are using or want to use.

OK for under-13s

Why 13? A lot of very popular sites and apps make 13 the minimum age for users. This is because the United States passed a law in 1998 that said that companies could not collect data from children under the age of 13 without their parents' permission. The expense and work involved led many companies to restrict their services to over-13s.

These are services that are either designed for children aged under 13, or are specifically designed to be used by under-13s providing they have parental consent:

Popjam This service is available for use by children aged under 13. Their terms explain that if a child is younger than 13, they need the consent of a parent or legal guardian before giving out any personal information when they register. In some countries (including the US), Popjam may also separately contact parents or legal guardians to get consent and verification before a child uses their services or provides personal information. They would not be required or expected to do this in the UK.

Club Penguin A site specifically for under-13s, with parental consent required.

Moshi Monsters A site specifically for under-13s, with parental consent required.

Over-13s only

Some of the best-known sites on the web are for over 13s only. As we have seen, this is because of American law, which specifies that anyone under 13 is a child, as far as collecting their data is concerned. (They must get their parents' permission.) In the UK, under-13s registering for these sites aren't breaking UK law but they are breaching the terms and conditions of the website.

It's also worth remembering that because these sites are designed for over-13s, they won't necessarily have procedures in place to make them suitable places for younger children. These sites include:

Google To have a Google+ account and access all their main services including YouTube and Gmail you need to be over 13. However, if your child is under-13 they can still use these services, but they won't be able to create an account or upload content.

Facebook You need to be 13 to have a Facebook account. It is a violation of their terms and conditions to create an account for someone under 13.

Twitter It's not easy to find how old you have to be to use Twitter. The information they provide for parents doesn't specify an age nor does the information for teens. However, in their privacy policy they say that their services are not directed to persons under 13.

Instagram You need to be over 13 to use Instagram.

Ask.fm This site requires users to have parental consent if they are under the age of majority, which, in the UK, is 18. In any instance they require users to be over 13. It is important to be aware that when a child signs up for this service they simply have to affirm that they have parental consent if they are between the ages of 13 and 18. A child entering their age as under 13 won't be able to create an account.

Snapchat You need to be over 13 to have a Snapchat account. However, some features are limited to over-18s and to use those you have to affirm that you are either over 18 or have parental consent. At the moment, those features are only available in the US.

Spotify You cannot use Spotify if you are under 13 and anyone between the ages of 13 and 18 is required to have parental consent (not something Spotify checks).

WhatsApp This app used to require users to be 16 and over but has changed its terms and conditions so it now says it is for 13 and over.

Over-18s

Most of the sites that fall into this category are the ones that are obviously for age-restricted products or services, mainly gambling and adult content.

It isn't at all safe to assume that because a site is supposed to be for over 18-year-olds that anyone will take proper steps to prevent under 18s using it. Many pornography sites are freely accessible to under-18s.

OpenView Education — TRAINING THROUGH THEATRE — APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+
- Facebook
- Snapchat
- Instagram
- Twitter
- TikTok
- Kik
- YouNow
- Yubo
- House Party
- Monkey

16+
- WhatsApp

17+
- Sarahah
- YOLO

18+
- MeetMe
- LiveMe

What parents need to know

Twitch

Twitch is a gaming-focussed live-streaming service, owned by Amazon, where you can watch others play games live and listen to commentary as they play. It has 15 million daily active users and more than three million people live broadcast video game streams and other content on Twitch, with channels dedicated to just about every popular video game imaginable – both modern and retro. There are also shows that feature gaming competitions, professional tournaments, game-related chat and news. Plus, numerous non-gaming channels covering everything from cookery and music to art and travel. But Twitch is not just about watching other people's shows – anyone can broadcast their own gaming action.

Top Tips for Parents

THE RISK - IT'S LIVE & UNCENSORED

As gamers get engrossed in their games, it is very common to hear rather choice words, so the chance of your child encountering swear words and bad language is extremely high. There is not only the language of the person running the stream that you need to consider, but also the language of other Twitch users in the text-based chat that accompanies streams.

What parents can do

There's not much you can do to reduce exposure to bad language on Twitch, but if there are any troublesome users, it is possible to block them. It is a good idea to spend a little time with your child as they explore different channels on the platform, as this will give you an idea of the sort of content they are being exposed to. As Twitch does not offer any parental control options, this is the best way to police what your child is doing. If your child is overwhelmed or disturbed by comments that are being posted in the stream chat, it is possible to hide it from view by clicking the little arrow to the right of the Subscribe button.

THE RISK - VIOLENT GAMES & ADULT CONTENT

Like so many websites, Twitch does not allow children under the age of 13 to create an account, but in practice, there's nothing to stop anyone signing up by simply entering a false date of birth. In addition to swearing, commentary provided by other Twitch users may well contain adult content, and the games themselves can be rather violent. Bear in mind that many of the games on the market these days have an age rating of 18, and this is indicative of the bad language, sexual content and violence that they may contain.

What parents can do

There is nothing that can be done to prevent your child from accessing whatever channel they want – short of using your router settings or parental control software to block access to the site completely. One of the problems with Twitch is that while there is plenty of child-friendly content out there, it is not at all easy to quickly identify what might not be suitable. Spend some time working with your child to help identify channels that will be appropriate for them. While it may be hard to ensure they stick to these channels, it is useful for them to know that there is content available that is not overtly adult in nature.

THE RISK - POTENTIAL COSTS

By default, Twitch is ad-supported, but there is a monthly subscription option – called Twitch Turbo – that offers an ad-free experience. On top of this, it is possible to subscribe to individual channels, and each one is chargeable individually. There's also Twitch Prime, a premium experience included with the Amazon Prime and Prime Video subscription memberships, which offers bonus games and exclusive in-game content and Twitch Merch – an online store offering merchandise, such as T-shirts and hoodies. Twitch Bits is a virtual currency that gives your child the power to encourage and show support for streamers – through 'cheers' – and get attention in chat through animated emoticons. Bits cost real money and there's one option to buy 25,000 Bits for £288. It's easy to see how costs could very quickly mount up the more involved your child gets into Twitch.

What parents can do

Take steps to restrict access to your credit/debit card, as well as your PayPal account, to avoid getting hit by a large bill. If you are able to access your child's Twitch account, it is possible to check their purchase history, so you can see if they are spending too much money on subscriptions or donations. Explain to your child that subscribing to channels and purchasing Bits for cheers is optional, and that they can watch and enjoy a stream without doing either.

THE RISK - UNWANTED CONTACT FROM OTHER USERS

Just like any website or platform with a social element to it, there is the risk that your child will not only come into contact with the sort of people you might rather they didn't, but also that they could be harassed, groomed or bullied online.

What parents can do

Within Twitch settings, in the Security and Privacy section, it is possible to block messages – known as 'whispers' – from strangers. It's worth noting that this option only blocks messages by those who are not 'your friend, someone you follow, someone you subscribe to, one of your mods, or one of your editors'. Taking things further, it is possible to completely block users who become problematic. Show your child how to make use of this option by clicking on a user's name and in the little pop-up that appears, click the icon that looks like a little speech bubble to block them. If your child wishes to report the user to Twitch, click the three dots button beneath the block option and click Report.

THE RISK - WEBCAM SHARING

As well as seeing streaming footage of games, Twitch also lets users share their webcam, so people can see them. This gives yet another way for people to share inappropriate content, and it also gives another way for streamers to subject your child to advertising, sponsored content and product placement.

What parents can do

Getting involved in your child's use of Twitch is the best way to keep an eye on the sort of content they are consuming and intervene if anything inappropriate crops up. As part of your conversations with your child about what is appropriate to share online, try to educate them about careful use of their own webcam if they choose to stream their own gaming. As well as ensuring they are not encouraged into doing anything inappropriate on camera, it is also important to check that anything that can be used to identify them is not included in shot.

THE RISK - TWITCH EMOTES

Twitch's interactive chat feature is littered with emoticons or 'emotes', which for first time users will be completely bewildering. They typically feature faces of notable streamers, Twitch employees or fictional characters, such as a grey-scale photograph of a game developer known as Kappa, which is often used in Twitch chat as a symbol of sarcasm or mockery. Your child may be upset or sensitive if they are the target of negative emotes while chatting with other gamers, or they may find some emoticons offensive.

What parents can do

Chat to your child about how they use Twitch and show an interest in understanding how it works. There are lots of online guides to Twitch emotes if you really want to get clued up on what your child is talking about in chats. Twitch's terms of service dictate that emotes must not be used for harassment – defined by 'targeted insults, defamation, intimidation, and threats of any nature'. If your child finds an emoticon that violates guidelines, they can report it via the 'User Report' tool. Channel owners can also add specific emotes to their 'Channel Banned Words' list.

Kik (or Kik Messenger) is a free messaging app used by 300 million people worldwide that lets users exchange messages, photos, videos, GIFs and webpages via a Wi-Fi connection or data plan. Kik is unusual in that your child can sign up without a phone number and then find and message other people via just their username. Kik is aimed at anyone aged 13 years and older – the app says teens between 13 and 18 years old will need parental permission but it does not verify ages.

1 new message

What parents need to know about Kik

4 new messages

1 new message

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION & GROOMING

Police in the UK have warned that Kik has featured in 'more than 1,100 child sexual abuse cases in the last five years' and that 'children are at risk' on the app. Offences involving the app include child sexual exploitation, grooming, and image violations. Kik has also been identified by US police as being used by sex predators, and they say it is responsible for several recent incidents involving children, including the murder of a 13-year-old girl by a man she met via Kik.

FAKE OR ANONYMOUS PROFILES

What makes Kik unique to most other private messaging apps is the fact that it doesn't require a phone number as it works through Wi-Fi instead. By using a username, your child can avoid sharing personal information with others on Kik, but on the flipside, this makes it far easier for people to remain anonymous or to create a fake persona.

SEXUAL PREDATORS

Some people may use Kik with the intention of targeting children. Typically, this is a subtle and a potentially dangerous individual who will initially portray themselves as a friend who 'understands' a child. They may also lie about their age and it's possible that your child could be manipulated by a stranger into doing regrettable or illegal activities, and maybe even meeting them in real life.

JOINING PUBLIC GROUPS

As soon as Kik is downloaded, your child can join public groups to chat with up to 49 others about anything from music, to sports, to travel by searching for topics they are interested in. However, groups can include inappropriate names and content. There are also private groups on Kik that can be joined by scanning a group Kik code or if they're added by someone on their contact list.

SEXTING

Due to the general ease of sharing photos and videos, sexting has been reported on the app. These messages can be screen-captured or copied at the press of a button, which could lead to further dangers, such as blackmail and cyberbullying. It is illegal to make, possess, download, store and share sexual images, photos and videos of a person under the age of 18. This also includes any sexual images, photos and videos that a child may have taken of themselves.

KIK 'BOTS'

Users can add 'bots' to their friends list and communicate with them on the app. 'Bots' are automated software programs built into the app that mimic conversation – developers, brands and Kik can create 'bots' to communicate with any Kik user who has opted to start a conversation with them. Kik has been associated with 'pornbots' and 'spambots', which try to lure users into clicking on links or porn websites by using suggestive and often personalised messages.

VIDEO CHAT

Your child can take part in a live video chat with their friends in a one-to-one chat, or with up to six friends at a time in a private group chat. There is the danger that conversations can be recorded and shared without their knowledge, and with live video conversations, your child is at risk of seeing or hearing content that is inappropriate, sexual or violent.

PERSONAL OR COMPROMISING USERNAMES

As Kik works with usernames and not phone numbers, some people may search for clues as to who someone is in real life, based on their name. For example, if your child uses their real name or something similar, strangers could potentially find out their identity and even start looking for them on other social media platforms.

1 new message

Top Tips for Parents

CHOOSING A USERNAME

When setting up a Kik account, ensure that your child knows the importance of a secure username and why it shouldn't contain ANY clues as to who they are in real life – especially their first or last name. Get them to choose a username that is hard to guess, using a combination of letters and numbers.

SHARING USERNAMES

Explain to your child that sharing usernames on social media channels, such as Twitter, Instagram or Facebook, will make it visible to people they might not know – and they'll be able to message your child. If your child joins a group, anyone within that group will be able to see their username. Your teen will have a Kik Code that's unique to them and lets your child connect with anyone that scans the unique code: encourage your child not to share their Kik Code with anyone they don't trust.

DEACTIVATING ACCOUNTS

If your child is under 13, you can submit a deactivation request to Kik by emailing support@kik.com. Use the subject line 'Parent Inquiry' and include your child's Kik username and age in your message. If your child is over 13 and you want to close their account, you will need access to the email address registered to their account before you visit https://ws.kik.com/deactivate.

FIND GENUINE FRIENDS

The Kik app includes an optional feature that your child can turn on to help find real friends on Kik. The feature works by checking for accounts in Kik that match an email address or phone number stored in contacts (on a smartphone). If the app finds a match, it will notify both your child and their friend with a Kik message.

SHOW HOW TO BLOCK & REPORT

Teach your child how to block and report users on the app. Kik's 'block' feature lets users block all contact with another user, without revealing to the other user that they've been blocked. The blocked user's name will no longer appear in contacts in Kik. Your child can also report a group if they think it's offensive or being used for abuse. Some users of Kik have reported that they receive sexually explicit, automated messages over the app – this is when automated spam bots have been created to distribute explicit images and texts using the service. Your child can use the 'Report' feature to report spam. Once reported, there is the option to keep or remove the chat from the conversation list. If conversations are saved, Kik will automatically block the spam account but save the chat history.

DON'T TALK TO STRANGERS

If your child knows not to talk to anyone they don't know in real life, the risks of using Kik are drastically lowered. Alternatively, if any stranger happens to send your child a message, teach them to ignore it.

COMMUNICATION IS KEY

If your child sees something disturbing, pornographic, deviant or otherwise troubling, they may be left confused and in need of somebody to explain it to them. As such, tell your child that you are always there to help them if they need it, and if they start acting differently to normal, calmly ask them why.

AVOIDING UNEXPECTED IMAGES

Kik censors images from strangers to limit lewd content being shared by surprise. The app will blur all photos in messages when users who have never interacted before contact each other for the first time. Users can only share unblurred images after they have both approved each other.

USING A VALID EMAIL

According to Kik, it is really important for users to provide a valid and accessible email address when registering their account. This will help to make sure your child is able to receive important emails from the service, such as a link to reset their password, when they need them.

MUTING OR LEAVING A CHAT

If someone has said something inappropriate to your child through Video Chat, they can mute the user or leave the Video Chat. Tap on the person's Video Chat bubble and a mute icon will appear. When a child mutes themselves, their microphone will be disabled and nobody else in the chat will be able to hear them.

1 new message

National Online Safety
NOS

A whole school community approach to online safety
www.nationalonlinesafety.com
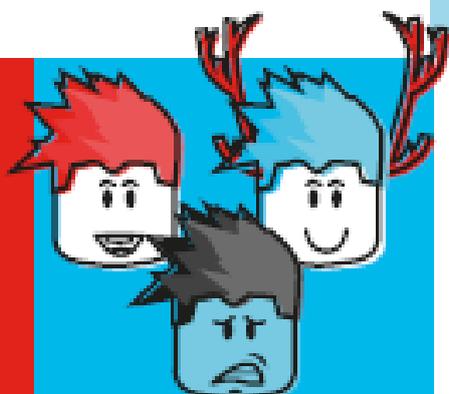Email us at hello@nationalonlinesafety.com or call us on 0800 368 8061

1 new message

Roblox is an online multiplayer game creation platform. You can play online or create your own games and virtual worlds. Games include racing, role-playing, simulations and obstacle courses.

100m players in 2019.*

13-17 year olds spent 32.5 million hours gaming.

There are a wide-range of gaming environments users can play in, interacting with other friends and players in each of the games. The ever-changing games and large number of users make it really attractive to young people.

Users can:
- create your own avatar and play in user-created games
- purchase Robux to spend on equipment and outfits in the game
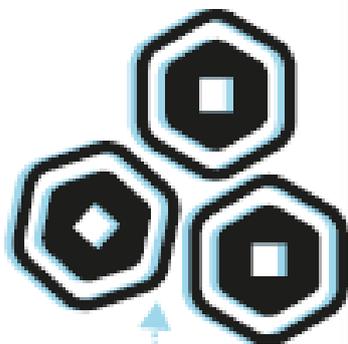- create your own games for others to play.

13+ without adult permission.

with adult permission and account restrictions.

under 13

ROBLOX
What parents and carers need to know

Games are user-generated and may contain a range of content. Users can interact with each other using text-based chat. Robux have a real-world value, some third party sites may trick users into sharing information for 'free' or 'cheap' Robux.

Useful tips
- Learn how to report chat/game/abuse.
- Learn how to block a user.
- Create a PIN to lock your settings.
- Understand chat and interaction settings.
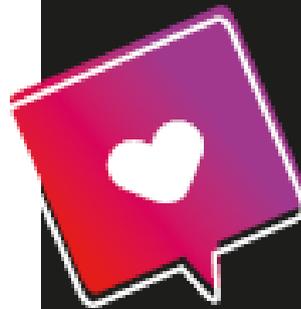- Look at the parental controls available.

Seen something harmful? Get help from ReportHarmfulContent.com

For more on keeping safe online hwb.gov.wales

Access Roblox's parents guide at corp.roblox.com/parents/
Find out more in these checklists tiny.cc/Checklists

Instagram is a photo, video and message sharing app. Users can add filters to their images and create stories – a string of images over 24 hours which they can then share.

66% *
of 12-15 year olds in the UK use Instagram.

Users can:

- share images or video with other users, or the whole community
- ask a question of another user
- use Instagram direct to share with a small group
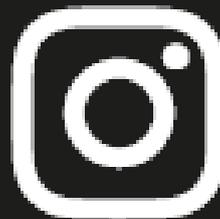- post to Instagram story.

Users enjoy exploring creativity and connecting with friends, celebrities, companies and influencers. Some users place importance or value on getting more likes and more followers.

13+

How old you have to be to use it.

Instagram

What parents and carers need to know

Useful tips

- Screenshot images that upset or offend.
- Learn how to report content.
- Learn how to block someone.
- Learn how to share with select followers.

Instagram automatically sets new accounts to public. Instagram has been linked to issues around idealistic images. Creating a private account means the user can control who can see their posts.

Seen something harmful?
Get help from
ReportHarmfulContent.com

!

For more on keeping safe online
hwb.gov.wales

WG40631

Access Instagram support at
help.instagram.com
Find out more in these checklists
tiny.cc/Checklists

SWGfL
Safe. Secure. Online.

Hwb'

Snapchat

What parents and carers need to know

Snapchat is a messaging app. Users can take photos, record videos, add text or drawings and send them to friends. These Snaps will disappear after viewing, or within 24 hours (for a Story).

68%* of UK 13-15 year olds use Snapchat.

As with any social platform, sometimes Snapchat users can act in ways which may lead to others feeling offended, abused or left out. Users can always report abuse on Snapchat, can block offending users, or leave any group chat where they feel uncomfortable.
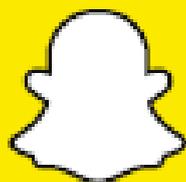
Share Snaps (images) or chat with friends. Explore news and entertainment from established publishers. Make video and voice calls. See where your friends are on the Snap Map.

13+

13-17 year olds should have permission from a parent or legal guardian.
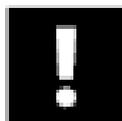
Useful tips

- Check privacy settings to choose who can see your Snaps, your Stories or your location.
- Report safety concerns.

- Block users who make you uncomfortable.
- Only friend or accept friend requests from people you know in real life.

Users can capture photos or videos of the world around them and send them to friends, adding filters, lenses and stickers to these for fun and creative visual effects. Users can always choose who they are sharing Snaps or Stories with.

Seen something harmful? Get help from ReportHarmfulContent.com

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For more on keeping safe online hwb.gov.wales

WG40631

Access Snapchat's Safety Centre at snap.com/en-GB/safety/safety-center
Find out more in these checklists tiny.cc/Checklists

SWGfL   Hwb

Twitter is a micro blogging service. Users can send messages no longer than 280 characters. Users express themselves, share stories, pictures and articles.

17%* 12-15 year olds get their news from Twitter.

13+ How old you have to be to use it.

Users can post messages, images, videos and other online content. Users can follow other users, like and retweet other content and can follow conversations using hashtags.

Users can find out about a wide range of information and stay up to date with the latest news, broadening an understanding of events across the world. It's easy to connect with your favourite band, musicians or celebrities, brand or make a new connection.

Twitter

What parents and carers need to know

300m+ users

REAL FAKE

This is a very public platform, however users can create private accounts. Tweets can be seen by thousands in seconds. Unless they are protected, Tweets are public - which can mean that others can re-share, comment upon and collect information and images you share. Remember, think before you Tweet - if your Tweets are public, anyone can see them and respond to them with their own comments.

Useful tips

- Learn how to block and report content and other users.
- Understand the importance of the blue tick which means the account is verified.
- Use critical thinking, not everything will be accurate and true.

Seen something harmful?
Get help from ReportHarmfulContent.com

For more on keeping safe online
hwb.gov.wales

Access Twitter support at about.twitter.com/en_gb/safety.html

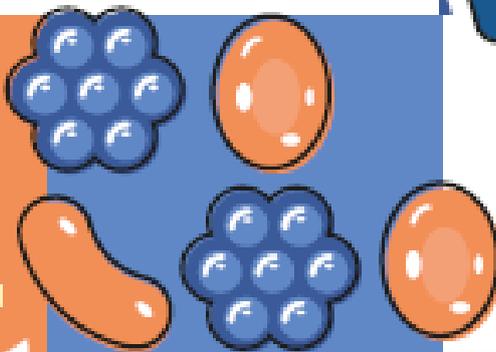**Find out more in these checklists** tiny.cc/Checklists

WG40631

Facebook is a social network. Users can connect with other users, like, share and interact with published content. Users are able to share almost any type of content.

69% *
of 12-15 year olds use Facebook.

Users can see information and news from friends and brands, or organisations and re-share or like. Users can comment on, or like, posts. Likes can be important to some users. Others may enjoy playing games on Facebook.

Users can connect directly through the Messenger app for private messaging. A wide range of content can be shared in messenger and on Facebook including live video. Users can control who can see shared content.

13+

How old you have to be to use it.

Facebook
f

What parents and carers need to know

My Name
@#?!   ?!£#@!

My Name
£%&?@ +&*%? @#
£%&?@ ♥♥

Facebook is a public platform, content can be set to 'only me', 'friends', 'friends of friends' and 'public'. Users should consider their online reputation when sharing content. Facebook processes large amounts of information about their users.

Useful tips
- Regularly review settings.
- Know how to manage your friends, apps and games.
- Make sure you know how to block content and report users, particularly if you're posting content publicly.

Seen something harmful?
Get help from
ReportHarmfulContent.com

!

For more on keeping safe online
hwb.gov.wales

WG40631

Access Facebook help at
facebook.com/help
Find out more in these checklists
tiny.cc/Checklists

*Source Ofcom: Children and Parents Media Use and Attitudes survey 2020.

TikTok is a short-form video app.
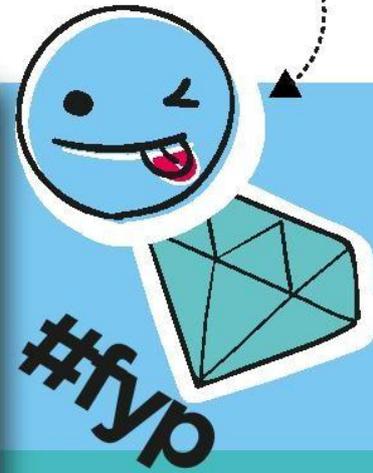Users can create their own videos or watch content created by other users.

13%* of 12-15 year olds use TikTok.

TikTok started as a lip-sync app, their most popular type of content. Users over 18 can 'gift' items to favourite content producers. Duets are popular.

Users can participate in hashtag challenges by clicking the 'Discover' button. Creating and editing videos is simple, with different effects, filters and stickers to choose from.

#fyp

TikTok

What parents and carers need to know

How old you have to be to use it

13+

All new TikTok accounts are public. No account is required to watch content. Users can make their account or video private. Gifting on TikTok involves coins and gifts with a real-world value. Because content is user-generated, younger children may see content intended for older users.

Useful tips

- Learn how to report content and block a user.
- Set your messaging preferences.
- Learn how to set your video privacy settings.
- Turn on TikTok's family pairing mode.

Seen something harmful?
Get help from
ReportHarmfulContent.com

For more on keeping safe online
hwb.gov.wales

WG40631

Access TikTok's safety centre
tiktok.com/safety
Find out more in these checklists
tiny.cc/Checklists

SWGfL Safe, Secure, Online   Hwb*

*Source Ofcom: Children and Parents Media Use and Attitudes survey 2020.