

Twitter:

Age: 13+



What is this? Blogging tool that allows users to post 'tweets' or follow others. Young people enjoy this tool as it allows them to follow celebrities as well as their friends.

What parents need to know? Most teens report having public accounts. Talk to your children about what they post and how a post can spread far and fast. Even though you can remove tweets, your followers can still read what you wrote until it's gone. This can get young people in trouble if they say something in the heat of the moment.

Musical.ly

Age: 13+



What is this? Popular app for creating 15 second music videos. Young people select snippets of popular songs and record themselves singing, lip-syncing or dancing. They can then post this publicly.

What parents need to know? All accounts are public by default. Therefore when you post a video, everyone can see it. In settings, it is easy to change their account to private. With a private account, only approved followers can see their creations.

Oovoo

Age: 13+



What is this? This is a video chat app – this allows you to make video calls, voice calls and send texts to friends and family. You can also start a group video chat with up to 12 people.

What parents need to know? The default privacy settings are set to 'public', so you can talk to people you don't know, but they can be changed so that you can just talk to your friends.

Pinterest

Age: 13+



What is this? Pinterest is a visual discovery tool that helps users find ideas for projects and interests.

What parents need to know? Most pins are appropriate, however, there is some not-for-kids stuff that teens may happen across if they intentionally search for it.

E-safety

This simple guide is to raise your awareness of the most popular social media apps that our students are currently accessing. The internet is a very exciting, inspiring place and it is important that we also see the benefits from using it.

The internet is an amazing resource which enables children and young people to connect, communicate and be creative in a number of different ways, on a range of devices. However, the internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your children have better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online.

Top Tips

- 1) Check all social media apps are set to private.
- 2) Ensure that your child is only accepting requests to follow/add them from people they know!
- 3) Regularly monitor what your child is accessing.
- 4) Communicate and inform them of appropriate use of the internet.
- 5) Ensure parental controls and passwords are set for the use of internet in your home.

Helpful websites

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/
www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/
www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents



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Quick Guide to Social Media

Keeping up to date on popular apps to keep young people safe on the internet



Keeping our students safe online

Top 10 social media apps our students use...

1) Snapchat



2) Instagram



3) WhatsApp



4) Facebook and Facebook Messenger



5) FaceTime



6) YouTube channels



7) Twitter



8) Musical.ly



9) Oovoo



10) Pinterest



Snapchat



Age: 13+

What is this? Free messaging app where you can send pictures or videos to your contacts. It puts a time limit on pictures or videos you send before they disappear off the screen

What parents need to know? Young people may think the images they send cannot be saved. This is not the case. The person who receives the snapchat can easily screenshot the image and display it publicly. This app has increased the cases of inappropriate images being sent.

Facebook/ Facebook Messenger



Age: 13+

What is this? A form of social media that allows us to connect to friends and share context such as photos, videos, statuses, websites, join groups, become fans of things etc. etc.!

What parents need to know? Privacy on Facebook can be problematic if settings are not set accurately. Anyone who is online can see all personal details if the profile is not set to private. When the profile is set to private, again encourage your child to only accept friend requests off people they know in person.

Instagram



Age: 13+

What is this? Free photo sharing app that allows young people to share images and videos with their friends but also publicly. In addition, Instagram Direct allows private messaging to take place between one or many friends.

What parents need to know? Young people may be on the look out for 'likes' and 'comments.' They may measure the success of their photos and therefore their appearance/ self worth on how many likes or comments they receive. Posting a video or photo can be problematic if young pupils are posting to validate their popularity. Unless privacy settings are set accurately, their photos / videos go public and can be seen by anyone online. Please encourage your child to only accept friend requests from people they know in person i.e. they would say hello to if they passed them on the street!

FaceTime



Age: 13+

What is this? This is apples video and audio calling service. This is free of charge if you are in access of Wi-Fi connection. You can FaceTime from an iPhone, iPad, mac etc.

What parents need to know? Many young people now prefer to video call their friends rather than voice call. If your friends are in your contact list on your phone they automatically are synced to your contact list on FaceTime. Your email contacts can also be automatically synced to your FaceTime app.

WhatsApp



Age: 16+

What is this? Lets users send text messages/audio messages/video and photos to one or many people with no fee. Chats maybe 1-1 or group chats can be created.

What parents need to know? As soon as you download this app it automatically adds anyone who is in your phone contact list to your WhatsApp contacts. You can't add someone onto your WhatsApp list without their phone number.

YouTube channel:



Age: 13+

What is this? A place to watch, create and share videos.

What parents need to know? YouTube hosts content you may deem inappropriate for your children, including videos that contain violence, scenes of a sexual nature or bad language. If your child posts their own videos on YouTube and creates their own channels, anyone can watch or comment on these. Ensure privacy settings are accurate.