Social Media Apps

What age should my child be to use these apps?

Discord 13+	**Facebook 13+**	**Instagram 13+**	**Snapchat 13+**
TikTok 13+	**Twitch 13+**	**Twitter 13+**	**Youtube 13+**
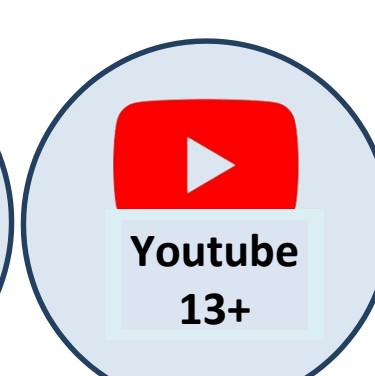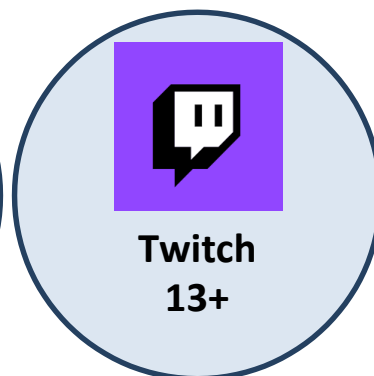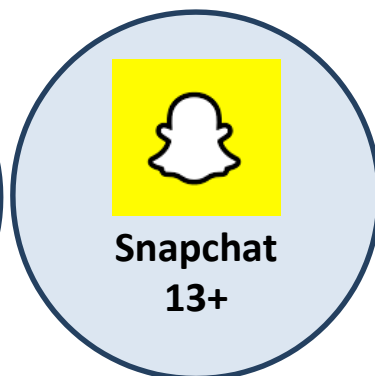
What risks are there of my child using these apps?

Whilst there are benefits to being online, there are risks too regardless of your child's age. Risks include your child viewing inappropriate content, sharing personal information, cyberbullying and grooming.

School Website

We would like to remind you that there are lots of resources on our school website. Under the information tab, please select Online Safety. There you will find a range of resources including previous newsletters and parental guides that are based on current games or issues facing young children. There are also a wide range of links to other trusted websites which can support you on understanding the internet in a little more detail.

Google Classroom

Within school, we are continuing to use Chromebooks. All children will need to know their own log in details including passwords. The children will stick these into the front of their reading records. Please don't change the passwords as children will need to know them to use the chromebooks within computing lessons.

PEGI rate Roblox with a 'Parental Guidance' label (icon shown right), this is because of the huge level of user generated content within Roblox.

It is rated for 'Teens' on Google Play and 12+ on the App store. You can either use Roblox to create games or play games that other users have created. As a lot of the content is user generated, it may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play.

It is important to set up Parental controls appropriate to your child. The 2023 Roblox Checklist created by SWGfL and the UK Safer Internet Centre in partnership with Roblox is now available to download here: https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/new-roblox-checklist-available/

Talking to younger children

According to the latest research from Ofcom, nearly half of all 3-4 year olds have their own tablet (Children and parents: media use and attitudes report 2022) so it is never too early to start chatting to your children about how to stay safe online. But how can you do this?

Here are some of our suggestions: Use books to spark conversations Childnet have created a collection of five 'Digiduck' stories to help you educate your child (aimed at aged 3–7) about online safety.

The stories are available here: https://www.childnet.com/resources/digiduck-stories/. In addition, Childnet have created a learning-to-read book for children aged 4 and above titled 'On the internet.' The book also includes puzzles to encourage conversations. The book can be downloaded here: https://www.childnet.com/resources/a-learning-to-read-book/

Useful links

The following set of videos from the UK Safer Internet Centre are aimed at helping you to help your children.
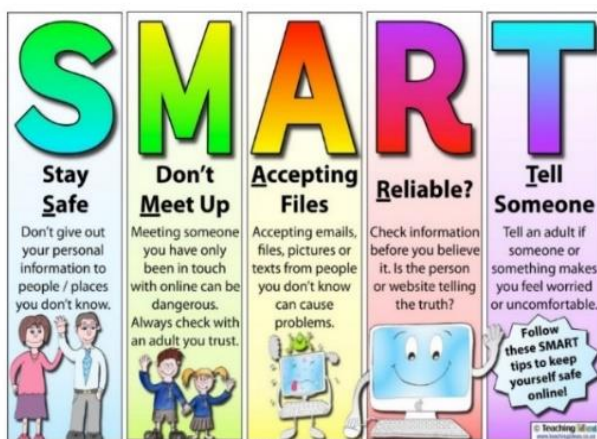
Childnet International - http://www.childnet.com/resources

Childline - http://www.childline.org.uk

Think U Know (links to CEOP) - www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre - www.ceop.gov.uk

CBBC Stay Safe - www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/topics/stay-safe

Internet Matters - https://www.internetmatters.org/start-school-safe-online/

ONLINE SAFETY

Worried about something you've seen on the internet? Want to help your child be safer?

https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/