

You can help to keep children safe from grooming and cyberbullying when using social media!

‘Anne Longfield, The Children’s Commissioner for England said children did not know how to deal with common problems they found online and called for new laws to protect children's online privacy and data.’ (BBC News 5th January 2017)

Do you know?

- **Most social networking sites have a lower age limit of 13**
- **It is easy to copy information and images**
- **It is not easy to take down information once it has been posted and impossible if it has already been ‘shared’**
- **It is now possible to access most social networking sites from an App version using a Smart device (mobile/iPad/iPhone/tablet/TV)**
- **Most App versions of social media can use the location of the device**

Do you know?

- **What sites children are using**
- **What the terms and conditions are for sites being used**
- **Most social networking sites have Privacy Settings**
- **You can restrict/disable ‘Location Setting’**

Many children/young people will have received mobile phones, iPads, tablets, Smart TVs for Christmas. Getting round the recommended age restrictions is relatively simple – they may have lied about their age or an older sibling may have helped to download the App. Popular sites include: Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, Tumblr, Musical.ly and Omegle.

Websites such as InternetMatters, NSPCC, Parentzone and Get Safe Online all have advice and resources on ‘how to start and have conversations with children about their online activity’.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/expert-opinion/expert-advice-to-encourage-children-to-share-safely-online/> - A number of industry professionals who have in-depth knowledge make up their expert panel

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/> - Share Aware Guide provides advice on how to keep safe on social networks, apps and games

<https://parentzone.org.uk/parent-info> - Includes parent guide on setting safety and privacy settings for social media apps.

Parentzone also offers an Online Course for parents/carers (£6.99) ‘Parenting in the Digital Age’

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parenting-digital-age-online-course-parents>

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children/under-5/> - The site includes advice for Under 5’s

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