


Social Media and websites

Below is a list of different social media platforms that teenagers are accessing. No social media could ever be declared as completely safe however some 'Apps' are safer than others. The list is in a rank order of concern with 'Apps' that could potentially be the greatest concern to safety and safeguarding at the top. This will be amended each month.




For all 'Apps' children should be aware of the age verification process and the age they should be accessing the sites. In addition it is important for them to be aware of how private they have their settings. The higher they/you set the privacy settings the fewer the potential issues there should be. Children need to be made aware of who they should add onto 'Apps' and the issues surrounding adding unknown people as friends on social media.

Regular conversations with your child about the type of content on the social media and games they are accessing and who to speak to if there are issues will help to ensure your child is safe online. Make your child aware of the privacy settings that are available and get them to talk through with you what they have done. Let them know that it is possible to block people.



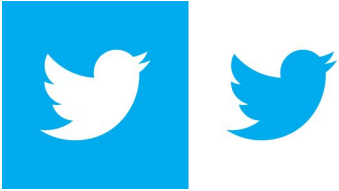

The NSPCC has an excellent resource which looks at being safe online and is updated with information regularly which is a great tool to access in addition to this document. You can reach it by visiting the following website url: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk>



App	Information	To be aware of
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Monkey</p> </div>	<p>A social Media App that links into Snapchat or can be standalone.</p> <p>An App where you can send video recordings or speak to friends for short periods of time only</p>	<p>Feature allows you to see who is online and effectively connect with anyone you want at a click of a button. This results in instant video communication with potentially a stranger.</p> <p>Age verification process and privacy are not very strong</p> <p>Can integrate to Snapchat and allow users to become friends</p>

 <p>Yellow</p>	<p>An online dating App aimed at teenagers to share photos.</p> <p>Can integrate with other apps and can appear on these as tags and bios.</p> <p>Teenagers swipe left or right depending if they find the people on their screen attractive.</p>	<p>Age verification is hard to police.</p> <p>Can lead to issues regarding sending of inappropriate material online.</p>
 <p>Whisper</p>	<p>An App/website that allows people to communicate their thoughts online. These can be accessed by anyone else that is online.</p> <p>Anyone accessing then has the ability to communicate with the people who post the stories.</p>	<p>Can be used by people to post their desires.</p> <p>No age verification process so hard to ensure that the website is safe and trusted.</p> <p>Online evidence supports the fact that this website can be an issue for trolling.</p>
 <p>Omegle</p>	<p>Another online website that can also integrate with Bios and tags on other social media.</p> <p>Allows people to talk online to complete strangers. This is the purpose of the website with the tag line "stranger to stranger chat"</p>	<p>No age verification.</p> <p>Should be 13 to access</p> <p>Limited privacy.</p> <p>Advocates talking to strangers, and will connect you to strangers.</p>
 <p>Ask.fm</p>	<p>A website that allows you to ask questions anonymously and respond to questions anonymously.</p>	<p>Need to be 13 to access</p> <p>Anonymity links to bullying and trolling.</p> <p>Exposure to inappropriate content.</p>

 <p>Sayat.me</p>	<p>Another online website that can also integrate with Bios and tags on other social media.</p> <p>Allows anyone accessing the website to post comments on another user completely anonymously.</p>	<p>Each person enrolled on the website gets to read the posts that have been directed to them both positive and negative with no idea who is posting them.</p> <p>Therefore a significant issue with trolling.</p>
 <p>House party</p>	<p>Effectively a video chat room where you can have up to 8 people viewing and chatting at the same time. Therefore communicating in large groups that Skype and Facetime does not allow.</p> <p>Aimed at teenagers</p>	<p>Age verification process.</p> <p>Privacy is only ok as long as only accepting people they know</p>
 <p>Snapchat</p>	<p>Probably the most downloaded App by students within the school.</p> <p>Allows people to add friends and send photos or videos that appear for a limited time only on the screen.</p> <p>Filters can be used to change the appearance of pictures and videos.</p>	<p>Should be 13 to access</p> <p>Can create social pressures as each time someone communicates with someone else they are awarded a streak score. To keep the streak going you have to reply within a certain time.</p> <p>New feature includes a map. This defaults to on. This shows in live time exactly where the location of the user is to their friends . Can be turned off.</p> <p>Photos can be screenshotted.</p>

 <p>Tumblr</p>	<p>Allows you to share photos, quotes, videos and slideshows. You can share other people's pages too.</p> <p>Live streaming feature plus a private message feature</p>	<p>Should be 13 to access</p> <p>Is used by adults and children.</p> <p>Some Tumblr pages have inappropriate content that is not filtered out.</p> <p>Hard to set up effective privacy settings</p>
 <p>Oovoo</p>	<p>Online video call app that allows you to speak to up to 12 people at once in a group chat scenario.</p>	<p>Defaults to public settings which means that anyone can access the content unless you specify under the settings section.</p> <p>Therefore issues surrounding security.</p>
 <p>Musical.ly</p>	<p>Primary aim is to use as a lip sync video software. Can share content with other users</p>	<p>13 to access</p> <p>Privacy settings need to be set to stop strangers from adding or following them.</p>
 <p>Kik</p>	<p>Instant messaging app. Allows you to create your own username and password without using your mobile number. Can send content through all forms of media.</p>	<p>13 to access</p> <p>Can send content to anyone if you have their username so it is easy to receive inappropriate content through the site, and therefore has issues with strangers and inappropriate content.</p>

 <p>Instagram</p>	<p>A picture and video sharing app. Can post images and use hashtags to allow people to search for the content. Can follow friends, and celebrities. Does allow live streaming.</p>	<p>13 to access Fake accounts are common. Need to set up privacy settings to reduce the possibility of strangers following on the app.</p> <p>Issues surrounding bullying are relatively common.</p>
 <p>Periscope</p>	<p>Allows you to view and broadcast live videos around the world.</p> <p>Used by celebrities and bloggers in the main</p>	<p>13 to access</p> <p>You do not know what you will see as it is a live stream.</p> <p>Location identification issues from live stream.</p>
 <p>Twitter</p>	<p>Micro blogging website used to express yourself in messages no longer than 140 characters long. Celebrities, businesses, schools have accounts</p>	<p>13 is minimum age</p> <p>Defaults to public privacy settings unless turned on.</p> <p>Issues with trolls and bullying.</p>
 <p>Facebook</p>	<p>Social network to create a page on yourself as a form of a blog. Add photos, messages, videos and live stream.</p>	<p>13 to access</p> <p>Issues surrounding profiles and privacy settings.</p> <p>Not all content filtered appropriately so can have access to upsetting and disturbing videos.</p>

 <p>Youtube</p>	<p>Video sharing website that people have increased access to if they have a Google account.</p> <p>Can create own channel or playlist.</p>	<p>13 to access</p> <p>Issues with age appropriate content.</p> <p>Issues with trolling if comments section is not set up properly.</p>
 <p>Whats App</p>	<p>Instant messaging App that allows you to send messages, and images. Can have group chat, and video calls.</p>	<p>13 to access.</p> <p>Random people can see your profile picture if they search, therefore risk of contact with strangers.</p>