



BE APP AWARE

90% OF CHILDREN AGED 11 OR OLDER OWN, OR HAVE ACCESS TO, A SMARTPHONE. BELOW ARE SOME OF THE MOST POPULAR APPS AND WHAT TO BE AWARE OF WHEN USING THEM.



Instant messaging, voice and video calling app.


Uses phone number to sign up and connect with other users.

Disappearing messages feature.

Group chat features.

As with all messaging apps, it can be a source of cyberbullying, grooming and scams.

WHATSAPP **AGE RATING 16+**



Popular video sharing and creator app.

Videos are created to be shared, viewed, liked and commented on.

Many people seek validation through likes on their content. This can lead to going to extreme lengths for content.

Bullying can be rife and some content can be of graphic or sexual nature.

TIKTOK **AGE RATING 13+**



Instant messaging, voice and video calling app.

Uses Facebook to sign up and connect with other users.

Group chat features.

As with all messaging apps, it can be a source of cyberbullying, grooming and scams.

MESSENGER **AGE RATING 13+**



Popular social media platform.

Used to share updates, photos, stories and videos.

Facebook does not currently ask for identification upon sign up which means fake profiles are easily created. This means that anonymous cyberbullying, grooming and scams are common place.

FACEBOOK **AGE RATING 13+**



Popular photo and video sharing and app.

Videos and photos are created to be shared, viewed, liked and commented on.

Many people seek validation through likes on their content. This can lead to going to extreme lengths for content.

Bullying can be rife and some content can be of graphic or sexual nature.

INSTAGRAM **AGE RATING 13+**



Popular social media platform.

Used to share updates, photos and videos.

Fake profiles, unnamed profiles and 'bots' are common.

Bullying can be rife and some content can be of graphic or sexual nature.

AGE RATING 13+




Video chat app.

Randomly connects you to video calls with people from around the world.

Includes text chat feature alongside video.

As you are not sure who you will be talking to, users can be vulnerable to bullying, abuse or calls of a graphic or sexual nature.

OMEGLE **AGE RATING 13+**



The most popular form of communication amongst teens today.


Share pictures, messages and videos.

Messages and videos can be made to disappear after a set time.

Can show real time location.

Bullying, abuse and graphic content is prevalent.

SNAPCHAT **AGE RATING 13+**



The most popular site for video content.


Videos can be liked, disliked and commented on.

YouTube shorts similar to TikTok.

Many people seek validation through likes - leading to extreme lengths for content.

Comments on videos can sometimes be abusive.

YOUTUBE **AGE RATING 13+**



Video game streaming app.

Gamers are able to stream their games live globally.

The streamer can interact with their audience directly.

Viewers can access streams of games that might not be age appropriate.

Bully and abuse possible within chat.

TWITCH **AGE RATING 17+**



A social platform in which you can make friends with anyone in the world.

You are able to look through profiles and see if you would like to connect.

Live video streaming.

Used by many teens, it can be rife with bullying and exposed to content of a graphic or sexual nature.

YUBO **AGE RATING 17+**



Another app which is big in the gaming world.

Discord is a chat app which can be used as an overlay for streamers to interact via a chat interface.

Users can create 'servers' which are chat categories with various settings.

Interactions with strangers possible if settings for servers aren't private.

DISCORD **AGE RATING 17+**

IF SOMETHING ONLINE DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT, MAKES YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE, SCARED OR WORRIED; PLEASE SPEAK TO A PARENT, CARER, TEACHER OR TRUSTED ADULT