



Online Safety



KING EDWARD VI
SCHOOL LICHFIELD

Social Media

- ❑ Social networking is hugely popular. Many young people are sophisticated in the way they use social media apps and websites, tailoring their communication for different audiences, and accessing them from a range of devices including smartphones, tablets, and games consoles
- ❑ Figures produced by Ofcom indicated that **70% of 12–15-year-olds** have a profile on social media



Social Media Age Restrictions

Platform	Minimum Age
Twitter	13 +
Snapchat	13 +
TikTok	13 +
Instagram	13 +
Facebook	13 +
Whatsapp	16 +

Most restrictions are in place due to the US **Childrens Online Privacy Protection** law. Whatsapp 16+ is due to the EU's Data Protection Act



Why Children use Social Media

ENTERTAINMENT

BELONGING

CONFIDENCE

POPULARITY

SELF ESTEEM

EXPRESSION



Social Media

- ❑ Social media, like all forms of public communication, come with some risks
- ❑ Not all risks turn into actual problems; and if children never face any risks, they never learn how to deal with them
- ❑ By helping your child understand what the risks are, you can play a big part in preventing them from turning into problems



What they could see or do:

- ☐ **Seeing or sharing** of violent, sexual and pornographic content making them become desensitised to material
- ☐ **Inaccurate or false** information and extreme views
- ☐ **Promotion** of harmful behaviours including self-harm, anorexia and suicide
- ☐ **Over-sharing** of personal information
- ☐ **Actively or unintentionally** getting involved in bullying or hurtful behaviour



Who they might meet:

- ☐ People who might **bully, intimidate or frighten**

- ☐ People posing behind **fake profiles** for:

- ☐ Mischief-making

- ☐ Sexual grooming and stalking

- ☐ Blackmail and extortion

- ☐ Identity theft and hacking



How this could affect them:

- ☐ **Fear of missing out** leading to excessive use or exaggeration
- ☐ **Getting upset** by things they have seen and being uncertain about what to do
- ☐ **Engaging**, or being pressured into engaging in more risky behaviour either by accident or by design
- ☐ **Developing unrealistic ideals** of body image and gender
- ☐ **Becoming subject to peer pressure** or interactions that are intense or too difficult to handle
- ☐ **Creating an online reputation** that may create problems for them in the future





Parental Controls

The UK's four biggest broadband providers have offered parental control options to their customers for over 10 years.

- ☐ TalkTalk: HomeSafe
- ☐ BT: Parental Controls
- ☐ Sky: Shield parental controls
- ☐ Virgin Media: Web Safe



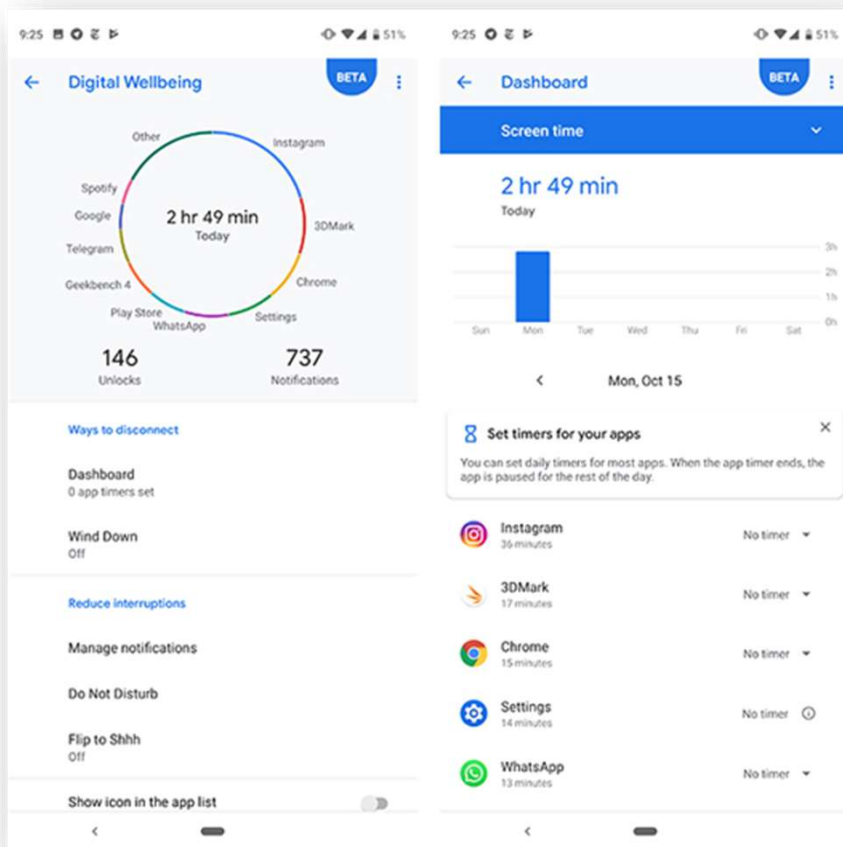
Parental Controls - Apple



Screen Time



Parental Controls - Android



Digital Wellbeing



Practical Social Media Tips

- ☐ Work through safety and privacy features on apps
- ☐ Don't be put off by believing your child knows more than you
- ☐ Ask them to show you which social media apps they use and what they like about them
- ☐ Explain how you can use privacy settings
- ☐ Check if any of their apps have 'geo-location' enabled
- ☐ Show them how to report offensive comments or block people who upset them
- ☐ Check 'tagging' settings
- ☐ Encourage your child to come and talk to you if they see anything that upsets them



Key Message to Parents and Carers

Please check-in with your child to see what social media they are using, and how they are using it!



Key Message to Parents and Carers

For more information:

You can find out more about how children use social media, the apps they use, the risks they know, how to use privacy settings and advice and tips about how to talk to your children at:

- ❑ www.childnet.com/sns
- ❑ www.internetmatters.org
- ❑ www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety
- ❑ www.parentzone.org.uk
- ❑ www.thinkyouknow.co.uk/parents
- ❑ www.askaboutgames.com

To make a report:

Concerned about online grooming or sexual behaviour online? Contact CEOP:

www.ceop.police.uk

We know that seeing images and videos of child sexual abuse online is upsetting, but if you stumble across it, report it to the Internet Watch Foundation: www.iwf.org.uk