

**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**



## Safeguarding Newsletter - February 2019

### Edition 7

### Protecting children whilst online

The internet is amazing. Children can play, learn, create and connect - opening a whole world of exciting possibilities. But with the digital world changing all the time, how can you make sure your child's staying safe?

#### What children do online and through social networking

Children and young people go online to connect with friends, and make new ones, to browse the internet for information, chat with others and play games. They may:

- search for content on search engines like Google
- create, share, comment on or 'like' images or videos through apps such as Musical.ly, Instagram and Snapchat
- keep up-to-date with friends and celebrities on social networking websites such as [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and Instagram live-stream videos through sites such as Facebook Live and Instagram Live
- communicate with others using voice and video chat, or instant messenger. This can take place on social networks, through messaging apps like [Whatsapp](#) and in some types of games play games through websites, apps or game consoles.
- They may also watch others playing games or stream their own game-play through sites such as Twitch and YouTube

When online, children and young people can learn new things, get help with homework, express themselves creatively and connect with friends and family. There are also risks, but by understanding and talking about the dangers you can help keep your child safe online.

How Safe are the sites, apps and games your child uses?



### Minimum age according to Instagram

This is Instagram's minimum age.

13+

Instagram is a picture and video sharing app. Users can post content and use hashtags to share experiences, thoughts or memories with an online community. You can follow your friends, family, celebrities and even companies on Instagram. Instagram allows live streaming.



### Minimum age according to Snapchat

13+

Snapchat is an app that lets you send a photo, short video or message to your contacts. The 'snap' appears on screen for up to 10 seconds before disappearing, or there is an option to have no time limit. There's also a feature called Snapchat Story that lets you share snaps in a sequence for up to 24 hours.



### Minimum age according to Facebook & Messenger

13+

Facebook is a social network which lets you create a page about yourself. You can add friends, write on people's pages, share photos and videos including live videos.

Messenger allows you to instant message in group chats or one to one. Facebook allows gaming and live streaming.



### Minimum age according to Twitter

13+

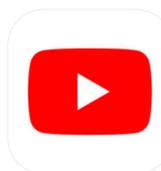
Twitter is a social media site and app that lets you post public messages called tweets.



### Minimum age according to Whatsapp

16+

WhatsApp is an instant messaging app which lets you send messages, images and videos in one to one and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.



### Minimum age according to Youtube

13+

YouTube allows you to watch, create and comment on videos. You can create your own YouTube account, create a music playlist, and even create your own channel, which means you will have a public profile. YouTube allows live streaming.



### Minimum age according to Minecraft is

13+

Minecraft is a game that lets you build and create a virtual world using building blocks. Other activities include using the multiplayer function to explore the worlds created by other users and to combat, chat and play with them.



### Minimum age according to GTA is

18+

18+Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas is a video game where the player follows and directs the life of the central character, Carl in an open environment game. This means the

player makes decisions and has free reign within a fictional city to complete a crime- ridden journey.



Minimum age according to Episode is  
13+

The Episode: Choose Your Story app is a mobile storytelling network and platform which features cartoon characters that you create. Users can create their own stories with their characters and share it with other users.



Minimum age according to Pinterest is  
13+

Pinterest is an online interactive pin board. You can create collections of pin boards using your own images and you can also re-pin things from other people.

If you need to talk to someone about online safety, you can call into school and speak with staff however you could also contact the NSPCC helpline free of charge who will also be able to offer you help and advice about keeping your children safe online by contacting them on

**0808 8005002**