

Welcome to the July 2022 Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for Parents

Ofcom Children and parents media use and attitudes report 2022

This report looks at media use, attitudes and understanding among children and young people aged 3-17. It includes findings on parents' views about their children's media use, and how parents of children and young people aged 3-17 monitor and manage their children's use.

Ofcom findings include:

Online access and attitudes

- Nearly **all children** went online in 2021 (99%)
- the **majority used a mobile phone (72%)**



Online behaviours

- Using video-sharing platforms (VSPs) such as YouTube or TikTok was the most popular online activity among children aged 3-17
- 31% posted content they had made themselves, especially those aged 12-17
- YouTube was the most widely used by children
- 89% used You Tube, compared to half using TikTok

Online profiles

- A majority of children under 13 had their own profile on at least one social media app or site
- 33% of parents of 5-7s said their child had a profile
- More than six in ten children aged 8-17 said they had more than one profile on some online apps and sites (62%); the most common reason, overall, was **having one profile just for their parents, family or friends to see**.
- Just four in ten parents of 3-17s knew the minimum age requirement for using most social media; 42% **correctly said 13**.
- Four in ten parents of 8-11-year-olds said they would allow their child to use social media (38%).

Access and download the full report [here](#)

Social Media

Do you know how children use social media?

Do you know what apps they use?

Do you know how to use privacy settings?

Do you know the recommended ages for use of apps?

To find answers to the above questions and for advice and guidance visit:

[Commonsensemedia—Apps sorted by age](#)

[Parentzone—Age ratings](#)

[NSPCC—Share aware resources for parents](#)

[UK Saferinternet Centre—advice centre for parents and carers](#) includes parent guides to: mobile phones; laptops; smart devices; smart TVs; games consoles; social media

[Pegi—age related ratings](#) for online games, videos, films.

NB.PEGI ratings are quite easy to understand. They use a clear number to show from which age the game is suitable for before buying a game for minors.

Tik Tok

CommonSense Media's review: Parents need to know that TikTok is a social network for sharing user-generated videos. Users can remix others' work and browse content created by other users, including famous recording artists. Since the app features a lot of music, you can expect swearing and sexual content in some songs. Read the review in full [here](#)

NB. Recommended Age: 13

Find out how to apply TikTok privacy settings at [Internet Matters](#) including how to apply restrictions on:

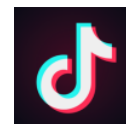
- **privacy**
- **location sharing**
- **identity theft**

Download the [Parental Guide](#)

Find out more about why children use social media and how to keep them safe when using:

- Instagram
- Wink
- Whatsapp
- Kik

Visit the NSPCC [here](#) and find out how to keep children safe when using social media.



Reminder for Grandparents!

Just in case you may have missed our previous article on [Support for Grandparents:](#)

The UK Safer Internet Centre has published a resource to [support grandparents with online safety](#). The guidance includes:

- how to [support your grandchild](#) in using the internet safely and responsibly

- how to respond if something goes wrong

Find out the answers to frequently asked questions:

- How to understand the latest technologies and trends?
- How to understand the roles and responsibilities in relation to online safety?
- What you should know about parental controls?
- How to talk to your grandchild about their online life?
- Where to go for help or to report something worrying or inappropriate?

Be in the know!. Subscribe to the [UK Safer Internet Centre's](#) newsletter:

18 Popular Social Media Sites

[Commonsense Media](#) has listed 18 of the most popular types of apps and websites for teens: texting, microblogging, livestreaming, self-destructing/secret, and chatting/meeting/dating. Find out more about what parents/carers need to know [here](#)

What to do if you need help

Visit the [UK Safer Internet Centre's](#) website to access details and links for a number of organisations that can help with:

- Reporting on Social Media
- Reporting Criminal Content Online

Need FREE advice? phone the NSPCC: 0808 800 5000

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