

Social Media Platforms and Age Restrictions

Sources of Information:

School audit

National Online Safety Website: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

Action for children website

UK Safer Internet Centre website: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

NSPCC

Social Media Platforms Document:



Age Restrictions are correct based on information supplied by NSPCC and UK Safer Internet Centre in February 2020 but are continuously subject to change.
Please note that some Social Media Platforms have an age restriction of 13+ to open an account, but have further restrictions on viewing age rated content.

YouTube Guide for parents:

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers & trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints & tips for adults.



What parents need to know about **YOUTUBE**

Tips To Protect Your Child

APPLY 'RESTRICTED MODE'

Restricted mode helps to hide any mature or unpleasant videos from your children. It uses YouTube's own automated system & looks at what other users flag as inappropriate content. It must be enabled in the settings menu on each individual device.

CHANGE WHO CAN SEE VIDEOS

You can change who can view your child's content in the settings. Options include Public (available to all), Private (only available to people you share it with & cannot be shared) or Unlisted (available to people you share it with & can be shared further).

BLOCK CONCERNING USERS

To help protect your child from cyber-bullies, harassment or persistent offensive comments, you can 'block' individual users. Doing so hides your child's videos from the user & stops the user being able to contact your child in any way.

CUSTOMISE THEIR EXPERIENCE

There are a number of ways you can customise your child's experience such as Playlists (your videos play continuously rather than videos YouTube recommends) & Subscriptions (you choose channels your child can watch). It's also good to turn off auto play by toggling the blue button alongside the 'Up Next' title when viewing a video.



Safety advice and safety tools on social networks and other online services

UK Safer Internet Centre:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/safety-tools-social-networks-and-other-online-services>

Safety Advice and Safety Tools for YouTube:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides/youtube>

Advice on Parental Controls offered by your home internet provider

Information on parental controls:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parental-controls-offered-your-home-internet-provider>