



FaceBook a messaging, chat, picture and video sharing app

Facebook requires everyone to be 13 years old before they can create an account.

You can alter privacy settings to manage whether posts, photos etc. are private or visible to friends or the public.

Facebook Parent Controls

It is becoming less popular with children and young people but a significant number are still using it.

Concerns with facebook include plans to allow encryption messages, meaning that only the sender and receiver can receive messages. This could put more children at risk of child abuse.

In addition to this there have been issues where death by suicide or terror attacks were live streamed on the app and the app has been accused of not removing the profiles of those expressing extremist views.



Reddit a discussion, image and video sharing platform

The age rating for Reddit is 13. Reddit has a parental guidance rating in the Goggle Play store of 17. It is one of the only apps for which the usage is higher in boys than girls.

Parents Guide

The app has content suitable only for those older than 18, it is marked NSFW (not safe for work). You can turn this off in settings so that those posts won't come up.

Reddit has sub groups which are blog-style groups based on personal views. These sub groups can be places where people discuss their favourite games or hobbies for example. There is even one for people aged 13-19.

They can also be described as an 'Echo Chamber' and have at times been found to discuss controversial topics, such as hate and misogyny. There are no parental controls on the app or website but there are things you can do to maximise safety.



Fortnite a computer game with online live voice chat

Fortnite is a fighting game, there are a number of different games, including some to fight other humans, zombies and monsters.

It contains frequent violence (described as mild) and is rated age 12 plus.

Parents Guide

There is an in chat feature, which comes through headphones so parents don't always know what's being discussed.

These chat features are where concerns and links with radicalisation are highlighted.

However, parents can set up a lobby of friends before starting to play so that children aren't playing with strangers.