



Online Safety – Social Media Age Restrictions

Dear Parents & Carers,

As part of our on-going work on Child Protection and Safeguarding, we thought that this may help you support your child.

We know that many of our children are used to using digital devices for leisure as well as for school work, and are often more confident than the adults around them.

We thought you might find this guide to social media age restrictions helpful. As you can see from the table below, **none of our children are of the appropriate age for the use of social media sites listed below and so should not be accessing them.**

Please be vigilant as to your child’s internet use, as these restrictions are there to protect them. No matter how ‘grown up’ they seem to be, there are always ways that we can protect them from harm in the outside world.

AGE RESTRICTIONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA					
Minimum age 13+	Minimum age 14+	Minimum age 16+	Minimum age 17+	Minimum age 18+	18+ (or 13+ with parents’ consent)
Twitter Facebook Messenger FaceTime Instagram Google Hangouts Tumblr Reddit Snapchat TikTok	LinkedIn	WhatsApp	Vine Tinder Kik	Path	Youtube Keek Wechat Flickr

The following website has further detail on children’s access, and how you can report underage use:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/social-media-guides>



Key things to talk to your children about:

- 1) Ask them to tell you about the sites they like to visit and what they enjoy doing online.
- 2) Ask them about how they stay safe online. What tips do they have for you, and where did they learn them? What is OK and not OK to share?
- 3) Ask them if they know where to go for help, where to find the safety advice, privacy settings and how to report or block on the services that they use.
- 4) Encourage them to help someone! Perhaps they can show you how to do something better online or they might have a friend who would benefit from their help and support.
- 5) Think about how you each use the internet. What more could you do to use the internet together? Are there activities that you could enjoy as a family?

We hope this helps you and your child have a safe experience using the online environment.

Kindest Regards

The Beech Grove Team