

20 APPS PARENTS & CARERS NEED TO KNOW

www.SocialWorkersToolbox.com



Snapchat

Messages and photos disappear. Children can be pressured to send images because they believe they will not be saved. Location sharing can show where a child is in real time.



Roblox

Although it looks like a children's game, it includes chat features. Children can be contacted by strangers and slowly groomed through friendly game play.



Kik Messenger

Accounts can be anonymous. It is often used to move conversations away from apps parents may check.



Fortnite

Voice chat allows children to talk to strangers during games. Language and behaviour are often inappropriate.



TikTok

Children can see adult content, receive sexual comments, and be contacted by strangers. Live videos allow real-time interaction, which can quickly become unsafe.



Telegram

Messages and groups are encrypted, making them difficult to monitor. It is used to share sexual images, harmful material, and to keep conversations hidden from adults.



Hoop

The app connects directly to Snapchat and encourages children to add new contacts quickly, including people they have never met.



Reddit

Children can easily access sexual, violent, or extreme material through posts and comments.



Instagram

Messages allow strangers to contact children directly. Many children run secondary accounts that parents do not know about. There is strong pressure around appearance and popularity.



OmeTV

Random video chats with strangers. No effective safeguarding. Sexual content and adult behaviour are common. Children have no control over who appears on screen.



LiveMe

Children can broadcast themselves live to anyone watching. Viewers can comment in real time, including adults.



BeReal

The app prompts children to take photos instantly, which can lead to oversharing without thinking about safety.



WhatsApp

Private chats and group chats are often used for school or friendship groups, but bullying, exclusion, and sharing of images can happen quickly and spread widely.



Yubo

The app is designed to meet new people. Children can live stream and chat with strangers, which can quickly become sexual or exploitative.



Calculator+

These apps look like calculators but are used to hide photos, videos, and messages from parents and carers.



Twitch

Children watch and interact with live streamers through chat, which often includes adults and unmoderated comments.



Discord

Children join private chat servers linked to gaming or interests. These spaces are often unmoderated and can include adults, sexual content, or harmful language.



Monkey

Children are placed into random video chats with people they do not know. They have no control over who appears on screen.



YouTube

Children can be exposed to adult content through suggested videos, comments, and live streams, even when watching innocent clips.



Bumble

This is a dating app. Despite age limits, some under-18s access it to talk to adults looking for relationships.