

NSPCC

**Keeping children and young people
safe online**

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EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

NSPCC

Content warning

Please be aware that within this session, there are mentions of online sexual abuse involving children, online bullying and online harmful content throughout.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

What's the latest in Online Safety?



What are the latest stats about children going online?

Headlines:

1. 97% of homes with children aged 0-18 had access to the internet
2. 87% of children aged 3-4 went online
3. More than seven in ten parents of children aged 3-17 were concerned about their child seeing inappropriate content (75%)
4. The most popular online activity among children aged 3-17 (96%) was engaging with video sharing platforms (VSPs) like TikTok and YouTube



What are the latest stats about children going online?

Headlines:

5. 89% of children play video games
6. 29% of children aged 8-17 have experienced someone being nasty or hurtful to them via apps or platforms
7. Girls aged 12-17 are more likely to share videos of themselves on social media than boys aged 12-17 (52% vs 41%)
8. The most used app for messaging among children aged 3-17 was WhatsApp (55%), followed by Snapchat (38%) and FaceTime (32%).



What are the latest stats about children going online?

Headlines:

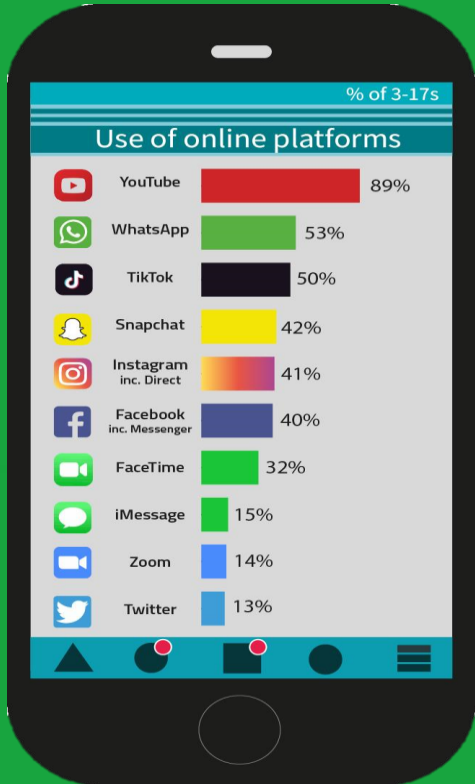
1. In 2022 the IWF assessed 375,230 reports, 255,588 of those led to them finding imagery online of children being sexually abused
2. 199,363 reports included child sexual abuse images/videos where children are often groomed/coerced/exploited online – “self-generated
3. 146,044 (58%) were 11–13-year-olds
4. 90,368 (36%) were 7–10-year-olds
5. 63,050 reports included child sexual abuse imagery of 7–10-year-olds who were groomed/coerced/exploited online - this is a 129 per cent increase on 2021



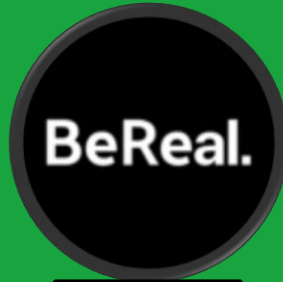
IWF
Internet
Watch
Foundation

Apps to be aware of

Apps that are being used:



Other social media...



Be Real

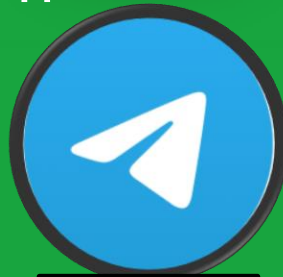


Yubo



Threads

Other chat apps...



Telegram



Session



Signal

Do you know your whispers from your skins?

Metaverse

The metaverse is an integrated network of 3D virtual worlds. These worlds are often accessed through a virtual reality headset

ChatGPT

Free application that allows a user asks questions. This technology is like a content generating machine, it can answer questions, write articles and summarise information

Whisper

A private message sent from one player to another during a game.

Loot boxes

Virtual treasure chests containing unknown items which can be bought for real money.

Skins

A skin changes the look of a game or character. They can be earned or bought in a game.

**What
children
are telling
ChildLine**



Within our coding structure, we have three recording codes relating to online issues:

1. Online sexual abuse / exploitation
2. Online bullying
3. Online harm & safety



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Contacts from children and young people 2022/23...

Online sexual abuse / exploitation	1,832 contacts
Online bullying	935 contacts
Online harm & safety	743 contacts

“I’m feeling a bit weirded out right now. You know on Snapchat how you can just add people on Quick Add? So, I added some people my friends knew cos it said they had mutual friends. Then one of them replied to something on my story saying I was ‘hot’ and I had a nice figure. At first, I was like thanks, then I asked how old he was and man said 22?! I’m like WHAT - and blocked him like that. Don’t you think that’s weird telling a 13-year-old they’re hot?!”

(Girl, aged 13)

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“Some girls from school took pictures of me at a party recently and they’re posting them all over Snapchat and TikTok. The captions are all about how fat and disgusting I look and why did I dress like that at my size. It makes me never want to go outside again.”

(Girl, aged 13)

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Online Harms



Understanding the risks



Online grooming



Online bullying



Online challenges, hoaxes and scams



Sharing nudes and transactional sexting



Harmful sexual behaviour



Exposure to graphic content



Developing a relationship with a young person to abuse them:

What do you need to know?

- Not always adults and often happens quickly
- Can have different intended outcomes (sexual exploitation, radicalisation, gang activity and others)
- It is all about trust – they may act as a 'mentor' or offer to help them become famous
- Young people may not feel they are being abused as it may be meeting a need or they may be unsure what a healthy relationship looks like
- All young people are vulnerable but certain groups are more so (e.g. SEND, those who have been abused previously)



When young people seek to harm, coerce or intimidate someone seen to be vulnerable

What do you need to know?

- It can happen anywhere, anytime so young people can feel like there is no escape
- It may be happening anonymously
- It can take many forms (trolling, brigading, etc.)
- Often target those seen as 'different'
- There is often crossover between online and offline bullying
- Young people who bully others online may feel as though they cannot be found out or struggle to see the consequences of their actions



Sharing nudes is when someone sends a naked or semi-naked image or video to another person, which is sometimes referred to as 'sexting' (this can be just messages also).

- Children and young people may consent to sending a nude image of themselves.
- They can also be forced or coerced into sharing images by their peers or adults online.

Transactional sexting describes the exchange of sexual content in exchange for money.

- Children and young people being offered money or electronic gift cards on online in exchange for sending nudes or semi-nude images or videos of themselves.



Report Remove

What is Report Remove?

A self-reporting tool, developed in partnership with IWF, for under 18s in the UK worried a nude image or video has been shared online, to see if it can be removed from the internet

How does it work?

- Young people access Report Remove through the Childline website and follow the simple instructions
- Currently, 13-17 year olds must verify their age with ID to make a report because IWF can only remove content of children
- A digital 'hash' (like a unique digital fingerprint) is created and shared with internet companies so that they can locate and remove the image
- Childline will never view the image or video as this is all handled by IWF
- Childline's support service is there throughout to offer updates, emotional support and advice to the child

Where to get more information?



Report Remove page on ChildLine website



Blog on Online Safety Hub on nspcc.org.uk









**Advice
and
Support**



- ✓ Explain to parents/carers the purpose for coaches, club officials etc. to communicate online with their child
- ✓ Get consent from parents/carers before communicating online with children
- ✓ Make sure online communications are only in relation to club related activities e.g. changes in travel arrangements, venue changes etc.
- ✓ Only use group texts, emails etc. and always copy in the parent/carer or the DSL / LSO of the club to all communications with children


- X Respond to online messages from children other than those directly related to club / team matters
- X Use online communications for personal conversations, sending pictures, or anything of a personal nature
- X Use language that is sexist, racist, derogatory, abusive or sexualised in its tone

Explore the online safety hubs on NSPCC and Childline for more advice and information.









 <p>Chat apps Find out about different chat apps like WhatsApp and Kik, and how to help young people use them safely.</p> <p>Read more</p>	 <p>Content promoting self-harm, suicide and eating disorders Get advice on supporting young people who've been exposed.</p> <p>Find out more</p>	 <p>Fake news, hoaxes and misinformation Learn about the risks of fake news and find out how to spot hoaxes and misinformation.</p> <p>Find out more</p>
 <p>Internet connected devices Get advice about what internet connected devices or toys are and how to keep your child safe.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	 <p>Livestreaming and online video apps Information and advice to help you understand the challenges and keep your child safe.</p> <p>Learn more</p>	 <p>Parental controls Get advice on setting up parental controls to help keep your child safe online.</p> <p>Learn more</p>

nspcc.org.uk/online-safety

ONLINE AND MOBILE SAFETY



Having a mobile phone and going online is great for lots of reasons. But it's important to be aware of the dangers too. Learn how to stay safe online.

 <p>Feeling good on social media We've got advice to help you feel good when you're using social media apps - like Instagram, YouTube and Snapchat.</p>	 <p>Remove a nude image shared online If you're under 18 and an image of you has been shared online we can help you get it removed from the internet.</p>	 <p>Staying safe online Follow our simple tips for staying safe online.</p>	 <p>Bullying and cyberbullying If you or someone you know is being bullied, we're here to help.</p>
 <p>Cover your tracks A guide to keeping your visits to Childline private.</p>	 <p>Sexting and sending nudes If you've been sexting and something's gone wrong, we've got advice to help.</p>	 <p>Online gaming We can help you learn how to stay safe online when playing games.</p>	 <p>Taking care of your digital footprint Learn about how to keep your personal information safe online.</p>

www.childline.org.uk/online-safety

Childline

Childline is a free service for children and young people - here whenever they need support or advice. Our Childline counsellors are there for young people every day of the year.

Young people can call Childline for free on 0800 1111

Young people can visit [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk) to chat online to a counsellor, use the message boards or send an email.



Further support and advice



NSPCC Helpline – 0808 800 5000



Child Protection in Sport Unit

NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit – thecpsu.org.uk



NSPCC Learning



Professionals Online Safety Helpline – 0344 381 4772

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