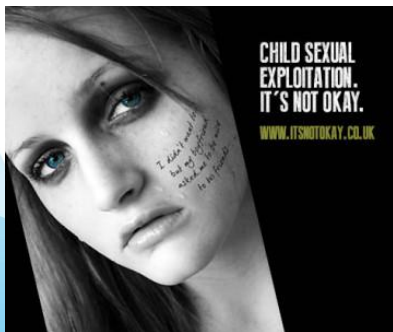




Operation TOPAZ


Child Exploitation Team



9478 Androulla (Andri) Nicolaou
Prevention Officer

X (twitter) : @AndriVNicolaou

LinkedIn: Androulla (Andri) Vai Nicolaou

A photograph of several police cars parked along a street next to a brick building. The cars are white with blue and yellow checkered patterns and the word 'POLICE' in blue. The image is partially obscured by a large white diagonal shape that contains the text.

In the fight against child abuse
we all have a role to play.
Any act, big or small can make a real
difference to a child and create a safer
society for all children

Understanding How Children Are Exploited



Child Exploitation normally follows three stages.

- **Recruitment.** This can take various forms but can be described as a grooming process. ...
- **Control.** This is an essential element in the process as it establishes the dominance of the perpetrator over the victim. ...
- **Exploitation.**



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Grooming process

Target

- Observing children
- Finding out their vulnerabilities, needs and wants
- Gaining and developing trust
- Manipulating children to recruit them
- Glamorising their lifestyle
- Sharing information with others in the group

Test

- Test out children's loyalty
- Offer them protection
- Give a sense of belonging
- Might create a dependency
- Introduce them to more established members
- Ask for favours
- Ask to recruit others

Trap

- Experiences of physical, sexual and psychological violence
- Trafficking
- Humiliation & control
- Reinforced dependency
- Blackmail
- Debt bondage
- Isolation from family, friends and society

Signs that a young or vulnerable person is being groomed:

- They have a new group of friends
- Using new language
- Appear to have new clothes, shoes, phones and cash
- They start to skip school
- They become secretive
- Their behaviour changes, maybe they have become emotional, withdrawn, aggressive and they start staying out after and later not talking about where they go or who with
- Start to appear with unexplained injuries or you think they may have started carrying a weapon

CrimeS
Speak up. Stop it.

What is Exploitation

What is Sexual exploitation:

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse.

When a child or young person is exploited, they're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status and affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities.

Children and young people are often tricked into believing they're in a loving and consensual relationship. This is called grooming.

They may trust their abuser and not understand that they're being abused.

Anybody can be a perpetrator of CSE, no matter their age, gender or race. The relationship could be framed as friendship, someone to look up to or romantic.

Children and young people who are exploited may also be used to 'find' or coerce others to join groups.



What is Criminal exploitation:

Criminal exploitation is a form of modern slavery that sees victims being forced to work under the control of highly organised **criminals** in activities such as forced begging, shoplifting and pickpocketing, cannabis cultivation, drug dealing and financial **exploitation**



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What is Exploitation?

Exploitation can happen when a child or young person is manipulated or pressured into a situation that may impact on them negatively.

Where does it happen?

This can happen in person or online. All of this can be difficult to recognise for children and young people and can lead to confusion.

How does it happen?

- This can happen by one person or a group of people. They may use different things to build a relationship with the young person to gain their trust

What may look like?

Offering food, clothes, a place to go, drugs and alcohol and giving them affection. It might also be friendship, time, pretending to love, care and offer protection.



Why do they do this?

This gives them power over the child or young person, so they can control them and get them to do what they want.

90% of girls and 74% of boys admit to being sent explicit images either to themselves or their peers.

(Ofsted 2021)

1 IN 4

LGBTQ+ minors are asked for nudes by a stranger online daily or weekly.

1 IN 8

9 – 12 year olds have shared a nude image with an online only connection

Home office in 2021 said that more children than ever before are identified as potential victims of trafficking and exploitation



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30 MINUTES

It takes just 30 minutes for a sexual predator to convince a young person to meet in person.

2 IN 3

Minors have been asked to move from a public chat to a private chat
On a different platform

Children and young people have expressed to Ofsted their lack of Sex Education in school and admit using online pornography for education instead.

(Ofsted 2021)

Over 60% of 11-16 years old have been exposed to Pornography online with exposure rates to under age 10's also increasing

(ofstead 2021)

Girls re being deliberately and increasingly groomed into drug dealing "county lines" gangs and subjected to horrific acts of sexual violence as gangs feel females will be less decteded by the police.

(localgov assoc 2021)



GEOUS

OFCOM's Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2023



97%

Of children had access to the internet at home in 2022

89%

Of children played Video games

25%

Played with people They didn't know

22%

Talked to people they didn't know



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POPULAR PLATFORMS Used by under 18s were



YouTube 88%

WhatsApp 55%



TikTok 53%



Snapchat 46%



Instagram 41%



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Playing Games Online

Who is playing and what age



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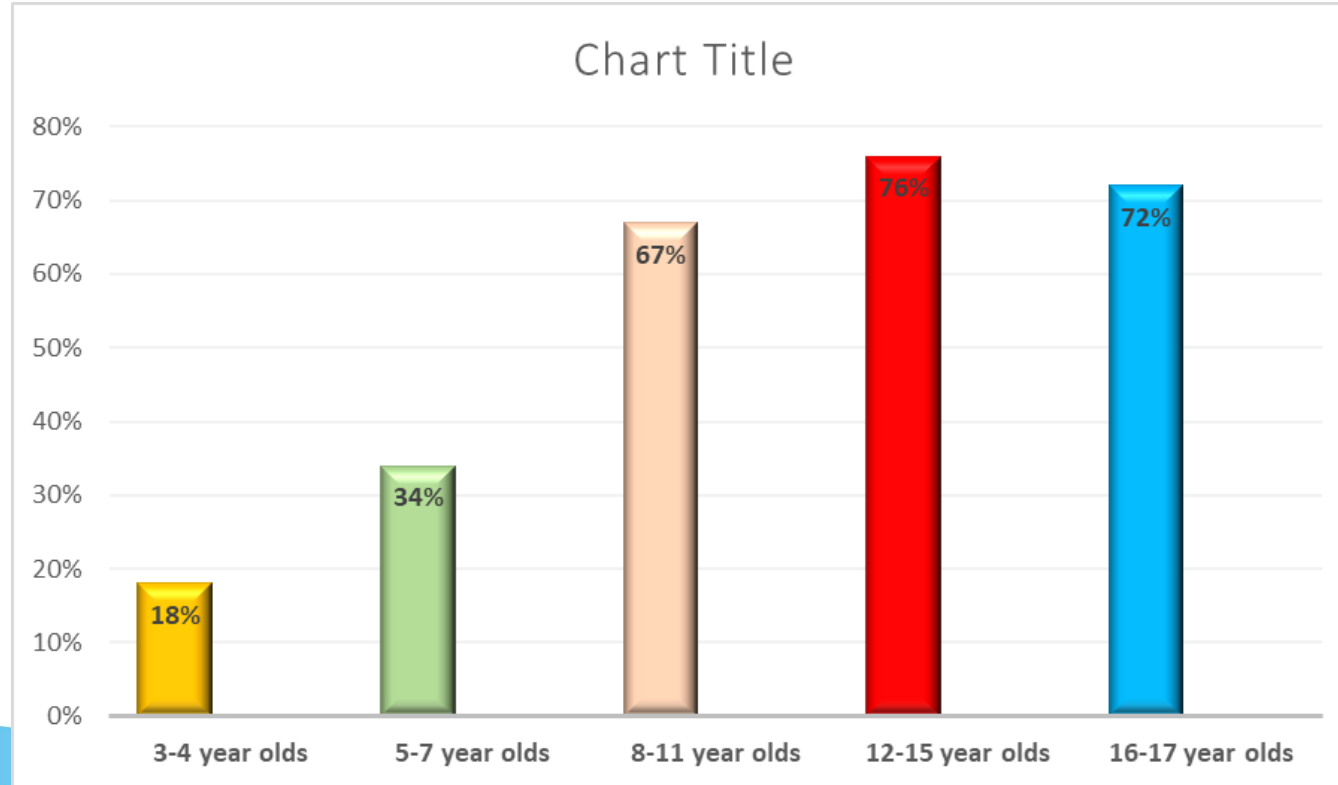
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TECH that is used and what age



Tablet

75% of 3-4 year olds
86% of 5-7 year olds
70% of 8-11 year olds

96% of 12-15 year olds
97% of 16-17 year olds

Phone



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The IWF in 2022



375,230

Reports assessed by our team

51,369

Number of Category A (the most severe) reports in 2022

255,588

Reports confirmed to show child sexual abuse

137%

Rise in imagery featuring boys compared to previous year



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Internet Watch Foundation



More than 90% of child sexual abuse imagery taken down from the internet is now self-generated, according to the charity responsible for finding and removing such material.

The Internet Watch Foundation said that it discovered self-generated child sexual abuse material (CSAM) featuring children under 10 on more than 100,000 webpages in the last year.

That figure is an increase of 66% on the year before.



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What is Online Exploitation and Grooming?



Online Grooming – The act of developing a relationship with a child to enable their abuse and exploitation both online and offline. Online platforms, such as online gaming, social media, messaging and live streaming, can be used to do this



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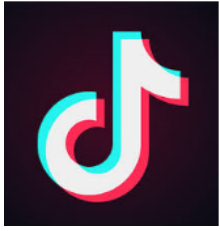
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Criminal exploitation online - Perpetrators can use online platforms as a way to criminally exploit young people by coercing them into criminal activity and then monitoring and controlling their movements



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Know your apps



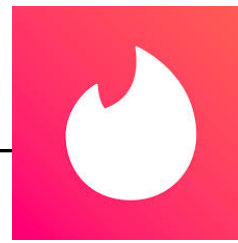
Tik Tok
Creative Media



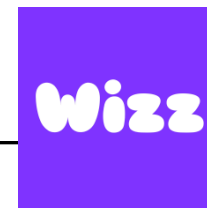
YouTube



Digital Vaults
keep certain files
and photos hidden



Tinder



Buggy chat
matches adults &
kids, has mature
content.



Instagram
Social Media



WhatsApp



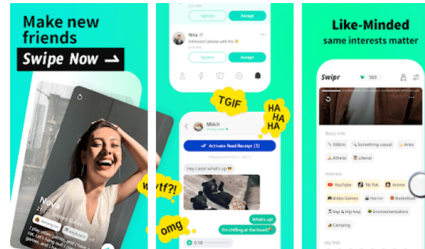
Monkey Cool is a video chat app that
allows you to connect instantly with millions
of like-minded people near you and around
the world.
You no longer need to wait for a match to
happen; just swipe left to instantly create
meaningful connections.



OnlyFans
A content
subscription
service



Snap Chat



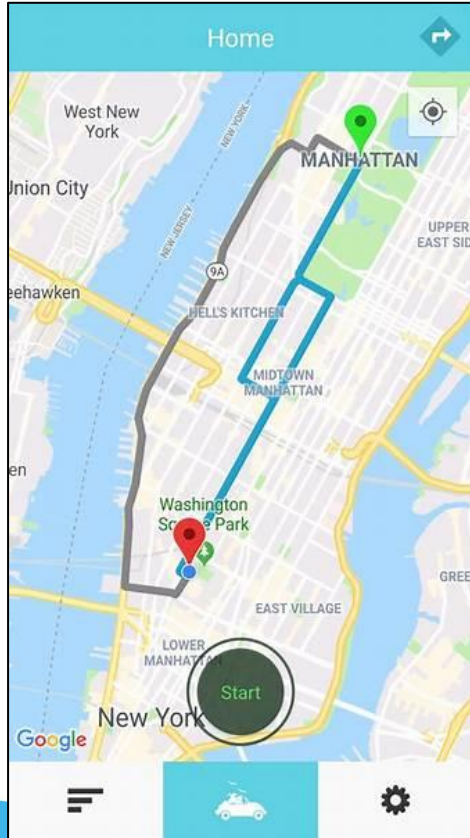
Swiper

12+ is an online dating application for teenagers,
launched in 2020.

Allows you to find the people that share the same
interests with GPS

User-friendly interface

Snap Maps





Kids can follow friends and share playlists and favorite songs but will be subjected to ads unless they have access to a paid subscription. 13+

Besides posting on the public boards to find solutions and discuss various topics with others, the Spotify Community allows you to send private messages to other users, that only you can read.



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SoundCloud is an online audio distribution platform and music sharing website based in Berlin, that enables its users to upload, promote, and share audio, as well as enabling listeners to stream audio.

Terms clearly state that you must be "either **18 years of age** or more, or if you are under 18 years of age, you are 16 years of age or more if you reside in the European Union or 13 years of age or more if you reside in the United States or anywhere else".



This is now shut
down



PURE

Pure is a hookup app that helps you spontaneously meet anonymous people in your area for casual sex. All you need is a selfie. Profiles are deleted in an hour, and there is no need to link any social media account.

BeReal.

BeReal Users receive a notification at a random time once a day saying 'Time to BeReal'. **This opens up a two-minute window for the user to post a picture of what they are currently doing.** The purpose of this is to capture an authentic, unfiltered snapshot of a user's life.

Frog - The social network fr.



Frog is an instant video messaging app where real friends share stories together. At Frog, there are no filters, no fakes, only real life and feelings.

Video Stories are called 'SUPs' here on Frog. Like making a sequel to a movie, friends can continue your SUPs by adding Sequel videos. Every good story needs a Sequel! Choose your fun SUPs and friends' SEQUELS to create a Flashback video with just one click.

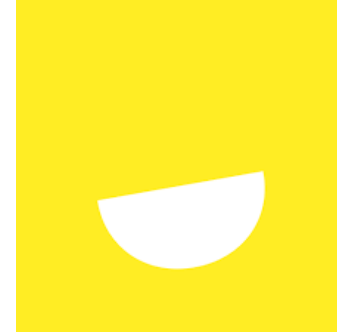
Twitch is the world's leading live streaming platform for gamers and the things we love. Watch and chat now with millions of other fans from around the world





Discord is the easiest way to talk over voice, video, and text. Talk, chat, hang out, and stay close with your friends and communities. With the right privacy settings and monitoring, it's easy to use Discord safely. However, there's always a risk when it comes to sites and apps with open chat. The safest way to use **Discord** is to only accept friend requests and participate in private servers with people you already know.

Yubo (previously Yellow) targets guys and girls who are 13- to 17-year-old who are looking to connect with other kids their age. ... Because unlike Tinder, Yellow has no checks in place to verify ages, meaning any stranger can add your child. And vice versa. That means photos can be exchanged — even if two people have never physically met



Reddit is an American social news aggregation, web content rating, and discussion website. Registered members submit content to the site such as links, text posts, images, and videos, which are then voted up or down by other members.



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“In this open-world action game, players assume the role of three characters whose storylines intersect within the fictional city of Los Santos. Players can switch between each character to follow their own storyline, completing missions that include criminal activities (e.g., stealing cars, executing heists, assassinating targets).”

The game includes depictions of sexual material/activity: implied fellatio and masturbation; various sex acts that the player's character procures from a prostitute—while no nudity is depicted in these sequences, different sexual moaning sounds can be heard.”



Call of Duty is one of the most successful game franchises of all time. Players love it for its realism, humor, movie-quality clips, and thriving multiplayer community. But since its first release in 2003, the game has become increasingly violent.

Though Common Sense Media recommends the game only for adults or very mature teens, we know lots of younger teens -- and even tweens -- play it.

There are many titles, as well as apps, in the Call of Duty collection. If your kid is interested in the game, find out which version, and read the full Common Sense review



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Videos of Roblox 18 Plus Game

bing.com/videos



I tried Roblox 17+ games.....

2.3M views · 5 months ago

YouTube › Flamingo



ROBLOX 17+ GAMES

162.1K views · 4 months ago

YouTube › sebee



ROBLOX JUST REI
GAMES...

555.8K views · 4 m

YouTube › KreekCr



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PEGI content descriptors



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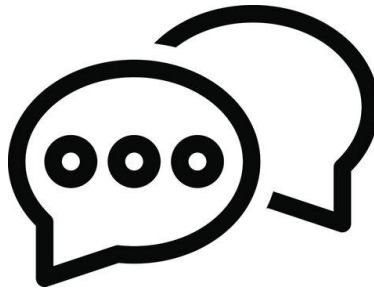


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Creating a safe space and open environment



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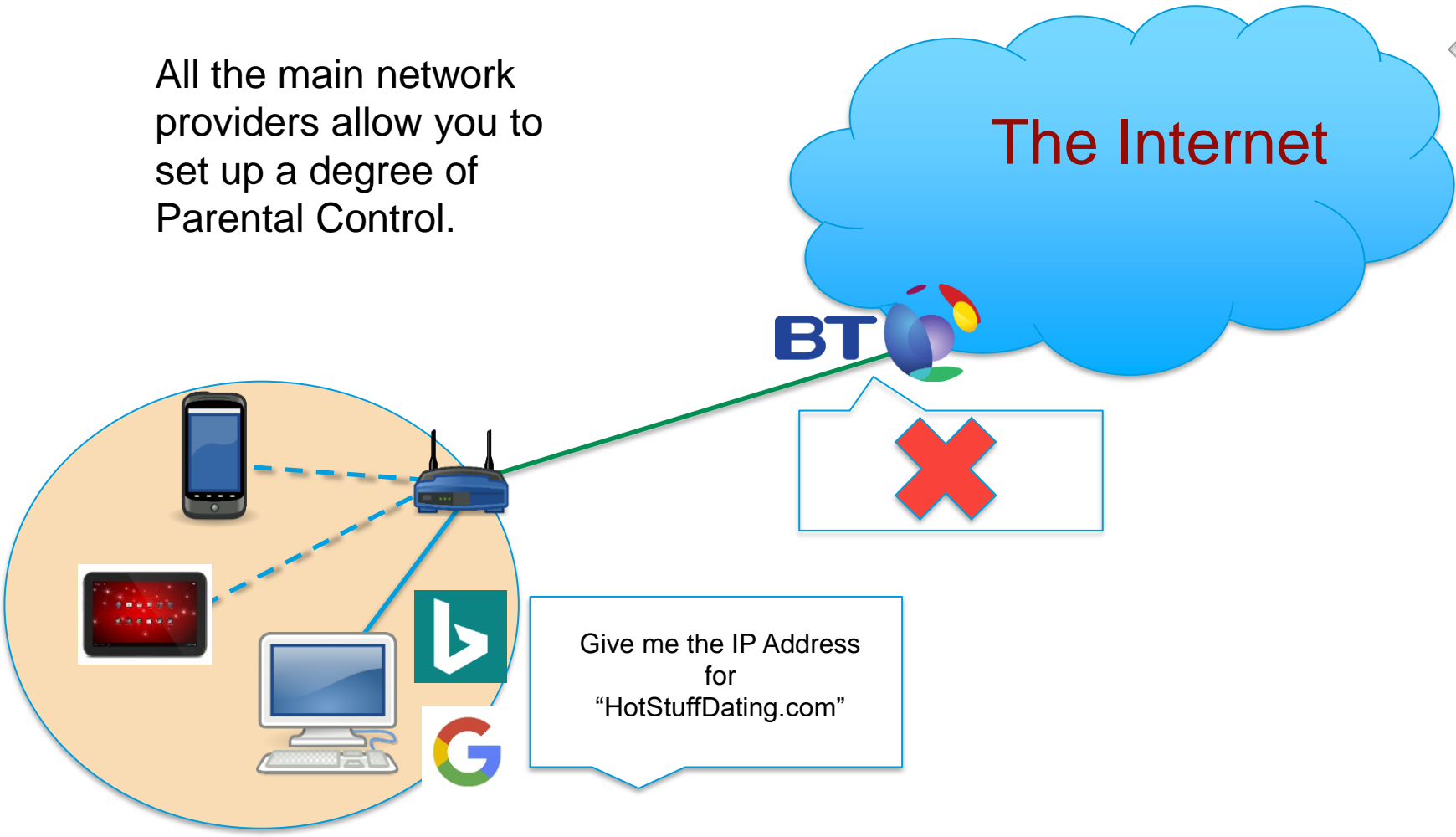


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All the main network providers allow you to set up a degree of Parental Control.



Use a safe search engine



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Monitoring Apps

@ Net Nanny®

 OurPact

 **Norton**
Family



Qustodio


bark



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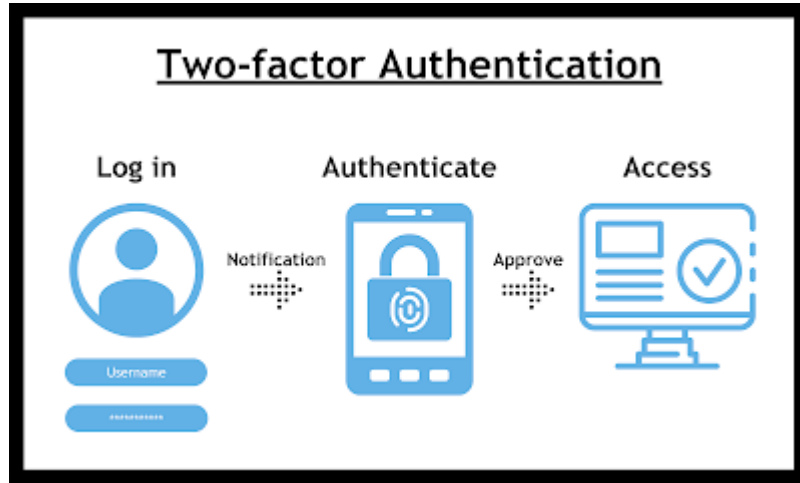


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Secure Your Online Accounts with 2FA



Two-factor authentication (2FA) is a security method that requires two types of evidence to verify your identity online.



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How do we remember them all?



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Cyber Sprinters for kids



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Internet Matters



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Digital resilience toolkit 6 – 10 year olds



Digital resilience toolkit 11 – 13 year olds



Digital resilience toolkit 14+ year olds



Online grooming Guide



Online grooming guide



Online safety guide 0-5 year olds



Online safety guide 6-10 year olds



Online safety guide 11-13 year olds



Online safety guide 14+ year olds



Conversation starter tips



Screen time 5-7 years old



Screen time 7-11 years old



Screen time 11-14 years old



Screen time 14+ years old

www.internetmatters.org/resources/esafety-leaflets-resources/

Common sense media



Parents' Guide to **Pinterest**

By [Erin Brereton](#), Common Sense Media Reviewer ⓘ

 **age 13+** ★★★★★

Semi-social site helps users collect images for inspiration.

Website | <https://www.pinterest.com>

☆ Add your rating

Community Reviews

[See all](#)

Parents say (37)

Kids say (96)

age 14+ ★★☆☆☆ Based on 37 parent reviews



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childline

ONLINE,
ON THE PHONE,
ANYTIME

childline.org.uk
0800 1111

Are you being bullied?

If you are being bullied, or you are not ready to make a report to CEOP, you can talk to Childline anonymously online or on the phone - No worry is too big or too small.

Visit Childline →

Looking for further information?

Use the links below to find a range of information about keeping yourself or a child you know safer from online child sexual abuse.

4-7 year olds

8-10 year olds

11-18 year olds

Parents/carers

Professionals

Police Reporting

Private Sector Reporting

Information for Private Sector organisations

Quick exit



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Education from
the National
Crime Agency

Welcome to CEOP Education

The National Crime Agency's CEOP Education team aim to help protect children and young people from online child sexual abuse.

We do this through our education programme, providing training, resources and information to professionals working with children, young people and their families.



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I am:

**A professional working with
children and young people**

**A parent
or carer**

**4-7
years old**

**8-10
years old**

**11-18
years old**





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6 in 10 actioned reports specifically show the sexual abuse of an [11-13 year old](#) girl who has been groomed, coerced or encouraged into sexual activities via a webcam. Sadly, we've seen instances of [children aged 3-6](#) being contacted and abused in this way.

For the first time we've looked at the prevalence of [female offenders](#) in the imagery that we see. We've seen how this imagery most often involves children aged 7-10 years old, and that boys are most often seen being abused by a female offender.

Report Remove



How does Report Remove work?

1. Young people aged 13+ are first directed to Yoti to verify their age using ID (our legal remit means we can only remove images of children.) Children aged under 13 do not need to prove their age.
2. Once children have proved they are younger than 18, they are prompted to create a Childline account, which allows them to be safeguarded and supported throughout the process.
3. Young people are then taken to a dedicated IWF portal where they can securely upload images, videos or URLs (website addresses).
4. IWF analysts assess the reported content and take action if it meets the threshold of illegality*. The content is given a unique digital fingerprint (a hash) which is then shared with internet companies to help prevent the imagery from being uploaded or redistributed online.
5. The outcome will be conveyed to Childline who will then contact the young person via their Childline account to keep them updated and offer further support.



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**Nude image of you online?
We can help take it down.**

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Lucy faithfull foundation



Avon and Somerset Police
**OPERATION
TOPAZ**

**The Lucy Faithfull Foundation is the only UK-wide
child protection charity dedicated solely to
preventing child sexual abuse.**

Stop It Now!

UK & IRELAND

Helping prevent
child sexual abuse

 **Confidential Helpline: 0808 1000 900**



[Our impact](#) | [Wales](#) | [Scotland](#) | [Ireland](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Resources](#) | [News and blog](#)

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[About ▾](#)

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[Donate Now](#)



Helpline, live chat, secure email



The Street safe app is an initiative of **the Government Home Office**, which allows women to anonymously flag up areas where they feel unsafe.

Developers of the app say that certain areas can feel unsafe due to environmental issues, like poor lighting, abandoned buildings, vandalism, or behaviours, such as being followed or verbally abused.



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Please note: 'StreetSafe' is not for reporting crime or incidents.

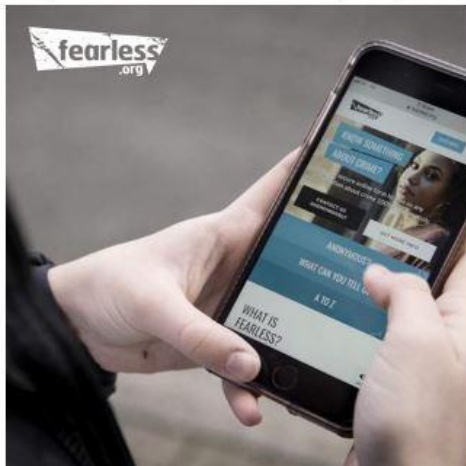


Fearless

Sponsored ·



Fearless.org is an online crime reporting service that allows you to report any information you may have about crime, 100% anonymously.



FEARLESS.ORG

Tell us what you know.

LEARN MORE



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be fearless against crime

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Street Crime



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Cyber Crime



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Street Crime



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[Report criminal content >](#)

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[What we do](#)

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You can anonymously and confidentially report:

Child sexual abuse content

Non-photographic child sexual abuse images

[Report criminal content >](#)



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Every child needs at least
one adult who is irrationally
crazy about him or her.

Urie Bronfenbrenner

 quoteafancy



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