

## Briefing Note: Social Media settings January 2019

### Snapchat (minimum age is 13; under 16 requires parental consent)

Snaps are only shown for a brief time and seem to be gone, however, screen shots can be taken, and user will be notified.

Choose the settings icon (see image)

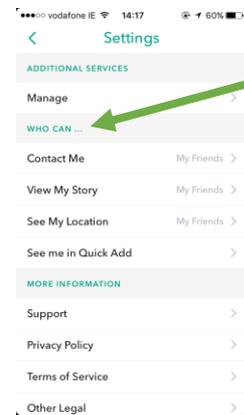
Change WHO CAN settings to:

Contact Me > My Friends

View My Story > My Friends/Custom

See My Location > Ghost mode

See me in Quick Add > Turn off



To BLOCK other users:

Choose My Friends

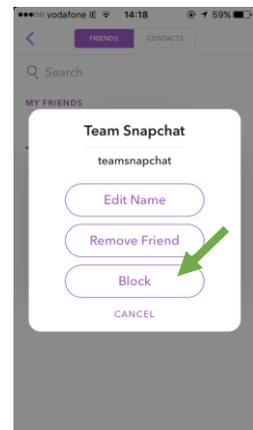
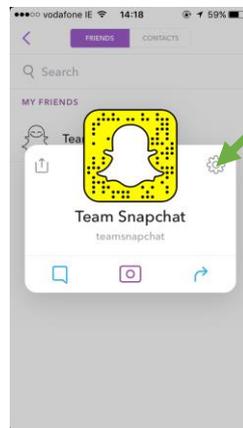
Find the user you want to block

Press their name

Choose the settings icon (see image)

Select BLOCK

Confirm this by selecting BLOCK again.



### Instagram (minimum age is 13; under 16 requires parental consent)

You can REPORT **an image** by clicking on the ... (3 dots) and choosing REPORT. You will then be asked to choose why you wish to report the image.

You can REPORT **an account** in the same way by going to the user profile and selecting the ... (3 dots) and choosing REPORT. As seen in the image, you will be asked to state your reasons.

You can BLOCK someone, and they won't be notified:

Tap their username and open their profile.

Tap ... (3 dots) in the top right corner

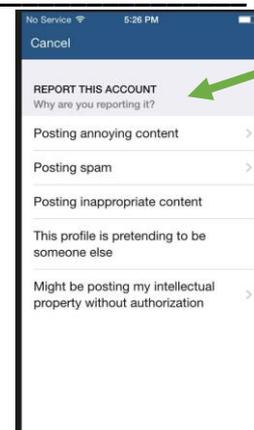
Choose BLOCK

Choose BLOCK again

Set account to Private (see image):

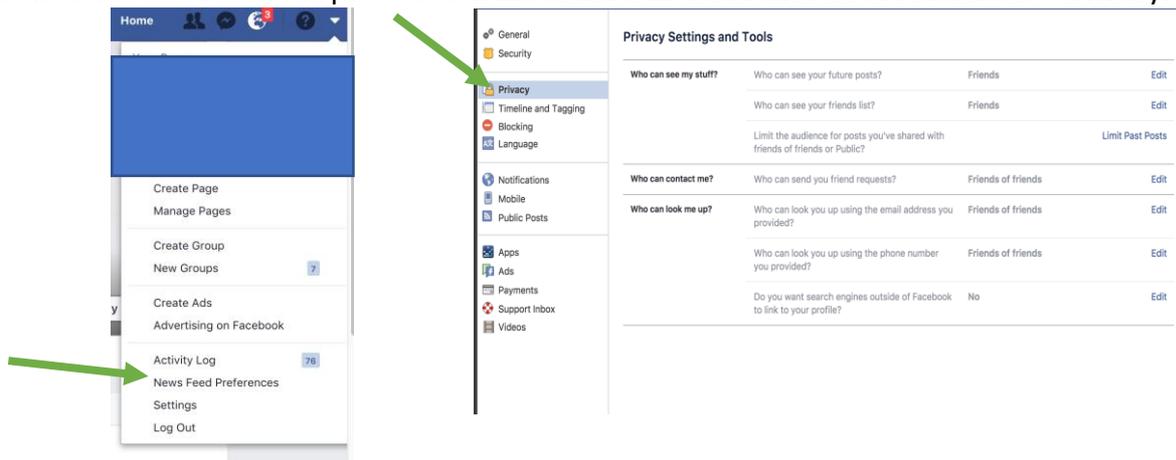
Click settings icon and scroll to private account.

Slide to the right to turn on this option.



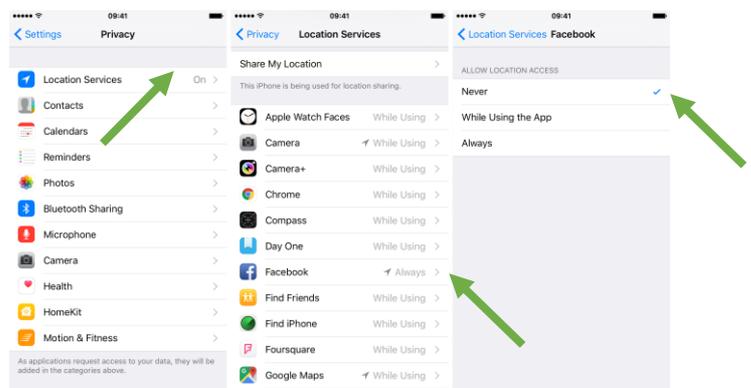
## **Facebook (minimum age is 13; under 16 requires parental consent)**

Set who can see Facebook posts and make contact in the News Feed Preferences > Privacy:



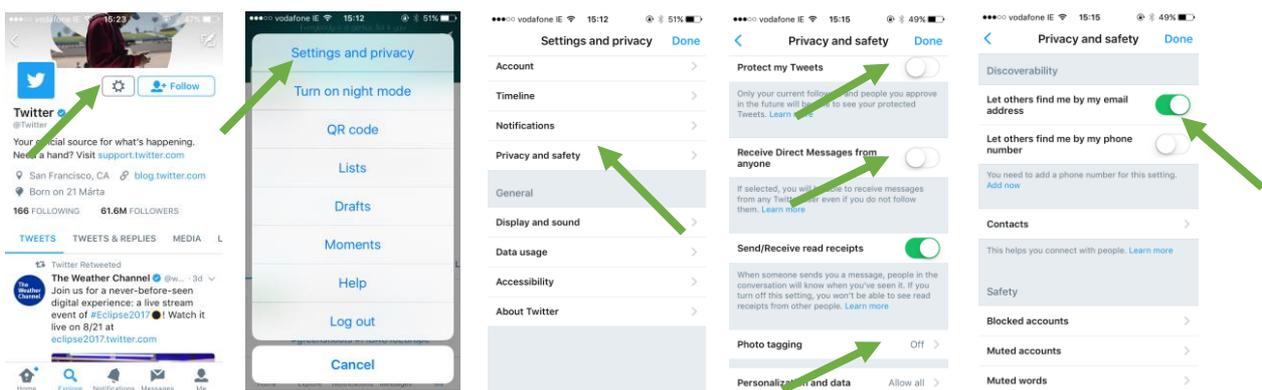
Check any profile image used is appropriate and doesn't give away personal details e.g. school uniform.

Turn off location settings so that any check-ins or photos do not show your location. Change the access to NEVER by entering the Settings > Privacy > Location Services section of your PHONE not the APP.



## **Twitter (minimum age is 13; under 16 requires parental consent)**

By its nature Twitter allows users to give their opinion and share their thoughts. Safeguard your child's use of this app by following the sequence of privacy settings and suggestions shown below:



- Select Settings > Settings and Privacy > Privacy and Safety > Protect my Tweets – set slider to off so only followers can see tweets from you
- Make sure Direct Messages and Photo Tagging are set to Off
- Under Discoverability set the slider for both email and phone number to off (Email is shown as On in the image)
- Turn off location services for Twitter in Privacy setting for the phone as per the instruction above for Facebook.

## Talking about the apps

The above tips for social media use are a good start to safeguarding young people online, however the most effective tool is conversation and making sure your child is aware of their digital footprint and online risks. The following conversation starters have been taken from <https://cybersafereiland.org> who also have loads of additional information for parents:

Six ideas for conversation starters

1. **Talk about what they like doing online**, e.g. what apps they use, what games they play or which YouTubers they follow.
2. **Ask what they see that they worry about online** and what they would do if something made them feel upset or worried.
3. **Ask your child to give you their top tips** for how to stay safe online. This can help gauge their knowledge but also open the door to discussing these ideas further.
4. **Go through the privacy settings** for their apps. For every social media / messaging app or game that they use, get them to show you the privacy settings (e.g. the options that set out who can see their photos or follow their games) and how they would report or block someone or something that makes them uncomfortable or upset.
5. **Talk about what information they think is OK to share** and what is not okay to share (e.g. full name, email, address, passwords). Discuss what they might consider before sharing photos, and what kind of photos they like to share most.
6. **Ask your child to help you do something online**, e.g. change the privacy settings on your social media account, search for information on something or download an app.

Some other useful websites and videos include:

- <https://www.webwise.ie>
- <https://cybersafereiland.org>
- <https://thecpsu.org.uk/>
- <https://h2bsafetycentre.com/>
- [www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)
- [www.o2.co.uk/help/nspcc/child-protection](http://www.o2.co.uk/help/nspcc/child-protection)
- [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)
- [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)
- <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

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Youth Development Department

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