

# Parental Controls for Social Media

Tips to enable controls on major social media platforms



**facebook**

**TikTok**

 **Instagram**

**tumblr**

 **Snapchat**

**twitter** 

# facebook

Facebook is a social networking platform that allows users to post updates, upload photos and videos, send messages to friends, join groups for specific interests, and more. To **adjust your child's [privacy settings](#) and personal information**:

- Log into their account and navigate to your child's profile. Choose **About** near the top of the page, then select **Contact and Basic Info**.
- Add, change, or remove the information that you would like to edit, such as your child's family relationships and location.
- To adjust who can view this personal information, set the privacy setting to **Public**, **Friends**, or **Only Me**. Click **Save** at the bottom of the page to confirm your changes.
- Some of your child's information will be visible to all Facebook users, **regardless of privacy settings**. These include your child's profile photo, cover photo, name, and gender.

## To adjust who can view posts and photos tagging your child:

- Log into their account, click the down arrow in the top-right corner of the Facebook screen, and select **Settings & Privacy**. Then select **Timeline & Tagging**.
- Click the **Edit** button next to **Who can see posts you're tagged in on your timeline?**
- Select the audience of people who can view this content on your child's timeline (ex: **Friends, Everyone, Only Me, etc.**).
- By turning on **Timeline Review**, your child will be prompted to manually approve any posts or photos they are tagged in before they appear on your child's timeline.
- Click **Save** to confirm your changes.
- You can also navigate to specific photos and posts that your child has been tagged in and choose to hide them from your child's timeline.



When your child posts their own **photos and status updates**, they can select the audience for these posts individually.

**To adjust who can view a specific post or photo** of your child's, navigate to the post or photo and click the audience selector beneath your child's name. If the post is set to **Public**, you can adjust the content to be visible to **Friends** or **Only Me**.

**To adjust the privacy settings of your child's photo albums**, go to your child's profile and click **Photos** and then **Albums**. Select an album and then choose **Edit Album**. Look for the audience selector above the **Save** button and make sure the album privacy is not set to **Public**. Click **Save** to confirm your changes.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. If you know of a user under the age of 13 who has created an account using a false date of birth, you can report their account [here](#).*



Instagram is a photo and video sharing platform that allows users to post their own photos and videos and view and comment on the photos and videos of others. Instagram's [privacy settings](#) allow users to make accounts fully private, limit who can view their content, and more.

#### To set your child's account to private mode:

- Log into your child's account, navigate to their profile, and click the gear icon.
- Scroll down to **Privacy and Security** and select **Account Privacy**.
- Tap next to **Private Account** to make your child's account private.
- After their account is private, they will need to manually approve all followers. Only their followers will be able to view Instagram posts and stories.

Instagram Stories are photos/videos that your child can upload that are visible only for 24-hours. **To set restrictions on who can interact with your child's story**, navigate to your child's account settings, scroll down to **Privacy and Security** and select **Story Controls**.

- To hide your child's stories from specific users, click **Hide Story From**. Then select from the list of your child's followers who you would like to block from viewing their stories.
- To prevent your child's Instagram stories from being shared by their followers, make sure that the button next to **Allow Sharing** is unchecked.

Instagram also allows users to **prevent their followers from making offensive comments** on posts.

- To automatically ensure that offensive comments made on your child's photos or videos are hidden, navigate to your child's account settings, scroll down to **Privacy and Security** and select **Comment Controls**.
- Make sure that the button next to **Hide Offensive Comments** is checked.
- In this section, you can also choose to prevent specific users from commenting on your child's posts. Click on **Block Comments From** to choose from a list of your child's followers from whom to block comments.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. The accounts of users under the age of 13 can be reported [here](#).*

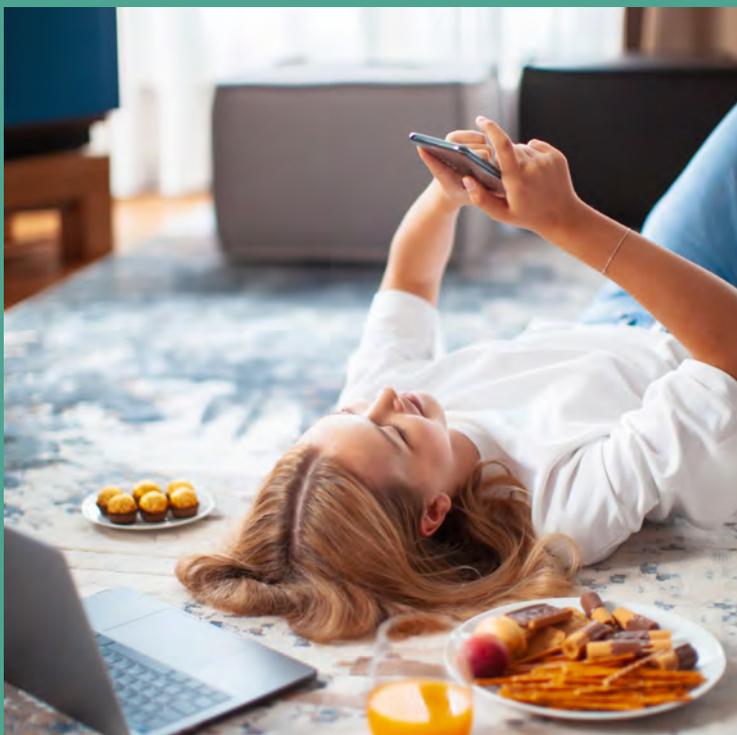
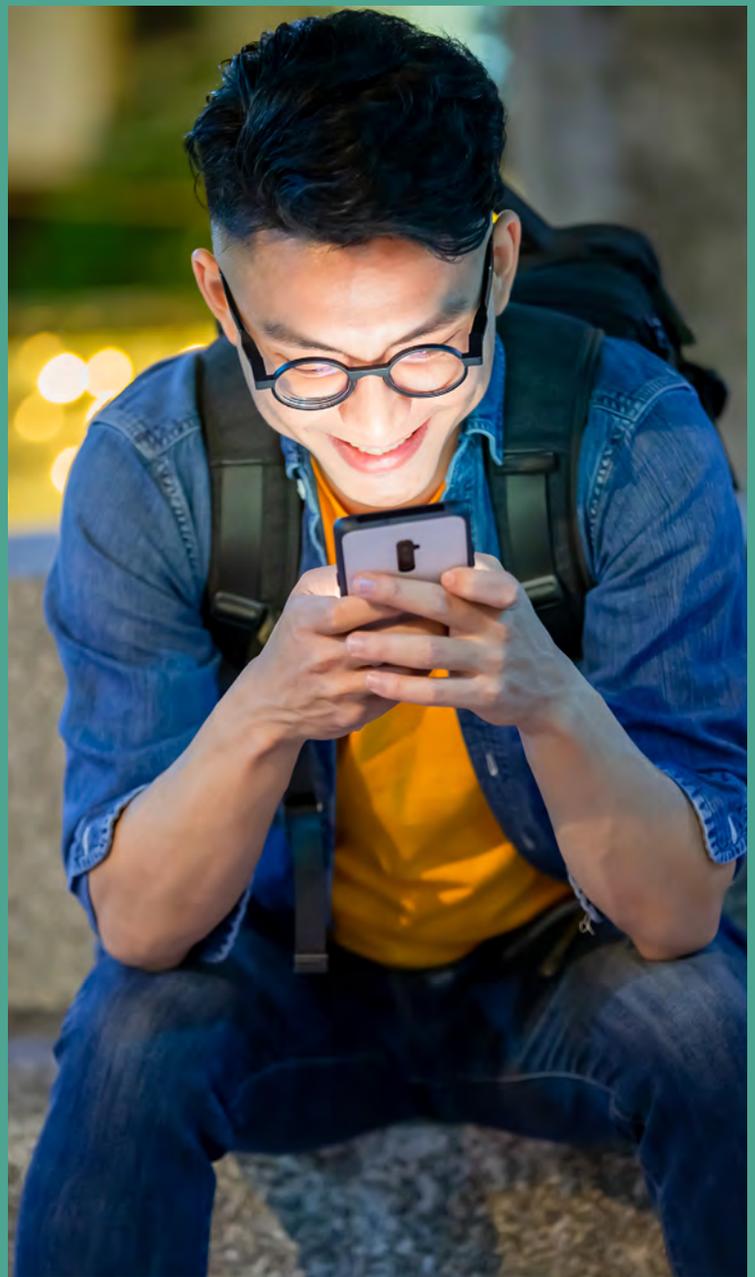


# Snapchat

Snapchat is a platform that allows users to share pictures and videos with friends that disappear after being viewed by the recipient.

To adjust your child's [privacy settings](#):

- Log into their account via the Snapchat app, navigate to your child's profile, and click the gear icon.
- Scroll down to “**Who Can...**” In this section you can adjust who can:
  - **Contact Me:** Choose who can send Snapchats and messages directly to your child.
  - **Send Me Notifications:** Choose whether your child can receive notifications from everyone or Snapchat friends only.
  - **View My Story:** Choose who can view your child's Snapchat story. Specific users can also be blocked from viewing stories by selecting **Custom**.
  - **View My Location:** Choose who can view your child's location on the Snapchat map.



- In general, your child's posts, location, and other content can be restricted to two groups: **My Friends** and **Everyone**. If **Everyone** is selected for **Who Can...Contact Me**, any Snapchat user will be able to send messages and photos to your child.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. Accounts of underage users can be reported by emailing [support@snapchat.com](mailto:support@snapchat.com) and providing details of the account.*

# TikTok

TikTok is a video-sharing platform that allows users to create and upload short-form videos.

**To make your child's TikTok account [private](#):**

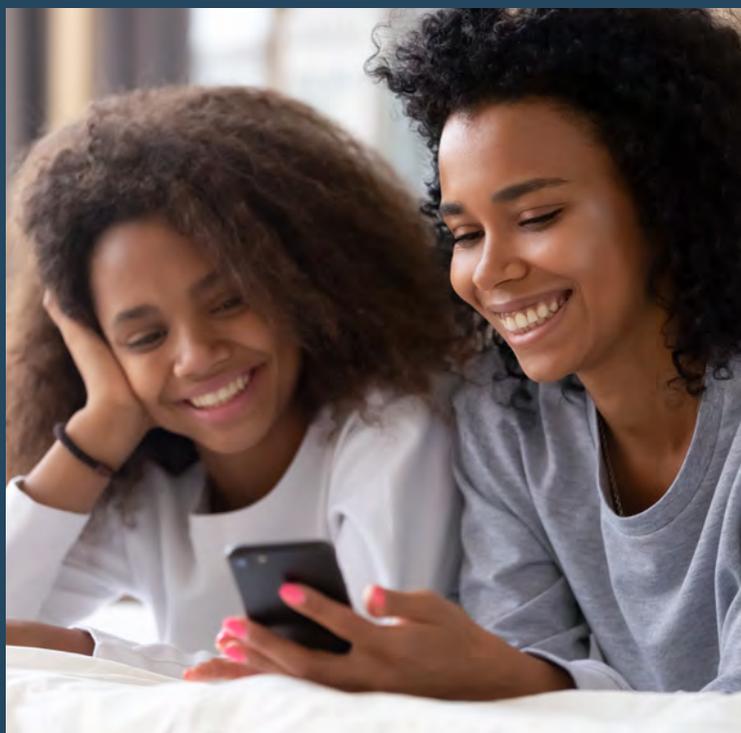
- Log into your child's account, navigate to their profile, and select the **Settings** icon. The settings icon is a gray box with three dots.
- Under **Privacy & Safety**, turn on **Private Account**.
- Your child's videos will now only be viewable by your child's followers and they will only be able to receive messages sent by their followers. Any potential followers will need to send your child a **Follow** request before they can view your child's content.
- If your child's account is not set to private, any TikTok user will be able to view your child's videos and send them messages.
- Under **Privacy and Safety**, you can also manage who can comment on your child's videos. Select **Who Can Send Me Comments** to choose from **Everyone**, **Friends**, or **Off**.



**To adjust what information is visible on your child's profile:**

- Log into their account, navigate to your child's profile and select **Edit Profile**.
- From here, you can edit, add, or remove your child's profile information, including their age, address, and phone number.
- Certain information, such as your child's profile photo, username, and biography will be visible to all TikTok users regardless of your child's privacy settings. Check these items to ensure that they do not contain revealing information.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. Those under the age of 18 must have parental consent before signing up. Accounts of users under the age of 13 can be reported by emailing [privacy@tiktok.com](mailto:privacy@tiktok.com). More information for parents can be found [here](#).*





# tumblr

Tumblr is a blogging platform that members can use to create blog posts, upload art, photos, and videos, and more. Users can change their [privacy settings](#) to make their blog posts private or hide their activity from others.

## To hide your child's account activity from other users:

- Log into their account, click **Settings** at the top of the Tumblr dashboard and then **Privacy**.
- Turn off **Let others see that you're active**. Now other Tumblr users will not be able to see when your child is active on their account.

Users can also **prevent their blogs from being visible** in search results on Tumblr and on the web.

- To hide your child's blog from Tumblr search results, navigate to **Settings** and select **Visibility**. Turn on **Hide [your child's blog name] from search results**.

- To hide your child's blog on the web, navigate to **Settings** and select **Visibility**. Turn on **Hide [your child's blog name]**. Your child's blog will now only be viewable by other Tumblr users when they are logged into Tumblr. Non-Tumblr users or Tumblr users who are not logged in will not be able to view your child's blog, even if they have a direct URL link to your child's blog.
- To prevent Tumblr users from searching for your child's blog using your child's email address, navigate to **Settings** and turn off **Let others find you by email**.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. Users must be 18 years old or older to view content that has been flagged as explicit. To report violations of tumblr's restrictions click [here](#).*



Twitter is a platform that allows users to create short 280-character posts called Tweets, upload photos and videos, reply to other users' tweets, message other users, and more.

**To adjust your child's privacy and safety settings:**

- Log into their Twitter account and navigate to **Privacy & Safety Settings**.
- Choose **Protect My Tweets** and click **Save** at the bottom of the page. You will be prompted to re-enter your child's password to confirm any changes. After doing so, only followers of your child will be able to view their Tweets, and any user wishing to follow your child must submit a **Follow** request that will need to be approved by your child.
- It is Twitter's default setting to **hide Tweets that may contain sensitive media**, but this setting can be disabled. To ensure that your child's account blocks sensitive media, navigate to **Privacy & Safety Settings**. In the **Tweet Media** section, ensure that the **Display media that may contain sensitive content** box is unchecked. Click **Save** to confirm the changes.

**To adjust the personal information that is visible on your child's profile:**

- Navigate to their profile and select **Edit Profile**.
- On this page, you can edit your child's name, biography, profile image, location, and other personal information.
- To hide your child's location, simply delete the information listed in the **Location Field**.
- You can also choose to set your child's birth date, phone number, and email address to private.
- After making any changes to your child's profile information, select **Save** at the bottom of the page to confirm these changes.

*Note: The minimum age to use this platform is 13. The accounts of those under the age of 13 can be reported [here](#).*