



# PARENT/GUARDIAN TIPS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA SAFETY

Minimum age requirement: 13 years old

## INSTAGRAM

Instagram is a free photo and video sharing app. People can upload photos or videos and share them with their followers or with a select group of friends.



**Tip #1: Enable 'private' mode:** Instagram's private account mode locks the account so only people your child approves as followers can follow them.

**Tip #2: Think about location-sharing:** In most cases, your child should avoid posting their exact location when they upload a photo or video. Advise them not to add locations to their posts or use hashtags that reveal their location.

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## TWITTER

Twitter is a service for individuals to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent messages. People post Tweets, which may contain photos, videos, links, and text.



**Tip #1: Enable 'protect my tweets':**

Twitter has a built-in search engine that allows the user to comb the network for tweets. Anything your child posts can pop up in one of these searches. By enabling the "Protect My Tweets" option, users can make sure these posts stay off-limits to search queries and are only seen by approved users.

**Tip #2: Tweet wisely:**

A seemingly harmless tweet can inflict a lot of damage when it insults someone or puts someone in danger. This is often the case even when the message is later deleted. Parents can help their children understand the power of their words and the importance of thinking before tweeting.

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## TIKTOK

TikTok is a video-sharing app. Users can shoot, edit, and share 15 or 60-second videos jazzed up with filters, music, animation, special effects, and more.



**Tip #1: Turn on 'family safety mode':** Its features includes screen-time management controls, limits on direct messages and a restricted mode that limits the appearance of inappropriate content.

**Tip #2: Monitor your child:** Users do not have to create a TikTok account to see content that is posted. If your child has the app, don't forget to monitor what they are watching.

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## SNAPCHAT

Snapchat is a popular messaging app that lets users exchange pictures and videos (called snaps) that are meant to disappear after they're viewed (screenshots are still possible).



**Tip #1: Limit who can contact your child:** Go to the Settings menu and look for Who Can - Contact Me and select My Friends. This means only people your child has added can send them a snap.

**Tip #2: Turn off location services:** Your child can share their location with friends. Keeping location services on could allow your child to connect with total strangers who happen to be in the vicinity.