



DISCORD

A free communication platform for voice, video, and text chat, organized into communities called "servers" for shared interests.

Risks include exposure to adult/harmful content (pornography, hate speech, violence), cyberbullying, harassment, and contact with predators via grooming or scams. The platform's open nature allows strangers to connect easily, potentially leading to exploitation or sharing sensitive information.



TWITCH

Platform for watching live video streams, primarily gaming, but also music, art, sports, and just chatting.

Risks include exposure to mature content (violence, sexual themes, drugs), inappropriate interactions with strangers via live chat or private messages (grooming, bullying), pressure to perform for viewers, sharing too much personal information, and encountering scams or hate speech



TELEGRAM

A free, cloud-based messaging app known for its speed, security, and large group/channel capabilities. Used often for drug dealing due to its enhanced privacy/anonymity feature, allowing communication via usernames without sharing phone numbers.



OmeTV

Video chat app available on both mobile and web, connecting users with strangers around the world. It allows users to filter matches by gender and location, offering anonymity, which can lead to exposure to inappropriate content or interactions with predators.



WISHBONE

allows users to compare against each other and rate them on a scale. In terms of safety, users can write comments underneath cards or, in the case that two users follow one another, send other users a direct message using a facility which is very similar to a chat room. Some users have generated cards including images of people that they know for other site users to select the prettiest or hottest.



SKOUT

Skout is a flirting app that allows users to sign up as teens or adults. They're then placed in the appropriate peer group, where they can post into a feed, comment on others' posts, add pictures, and chat. There is no verification, therefore predators may be present as a teen to engage with other children.



WHISPER

Whisper is an anonymous social media app where users can post confessions and secrets. While it might appear to be a place for harmless venting, the app's anonymity can lead to cyberbullying, the sharing of explicit content, and the possibility of dangerous real-world encounters.



GROUPME

Messaging app where users can send group or private messages from their computer or phone using WiFi. Since activity from the GroupMe app doesn't show up on their parents' phone bill, some users use the app to hide their messaging activity. The app has built-in features that allow users to search the web directly from the app. There is no way to moderate or filter that content.



CALCULATOR% VAULT

Calculator% is one of a few apps used to hide photos, videos, files and browser history. The app looks like a calculator but functions like a secret photo vault. The app helps users to lie to their parents by masking their screen with a calculator at the press of a button. By punching four digits into the calculator, users can access scores of photos and videos they've downloaded.



AUDIO MANAGER

This app is like the calculator vault, in which it is designed to hide messages, images and videos.



SNAPCHAT

It is a messaging app that lets users exchange photos, short videos, and text messages. It has features in which messages between accounts can be set to a disappearing feature, meaning once something is sent, it is not recorded on the chat. Some of the risks include:

Exchanging indecent images due to the disappearing feature. This does not mean that these images cannot be screenshot and shared. There is a feature on snapchat called 'My Eyes only'. This tends to be passcode protected which is created by the user of the account

Contact with strangers through messages, quick add and group chats



INSTAGRAM

It is an app that lets users share photos, videos reels and messages. Dependant on their privacy settings, this can be just with friends, or if they have a public account, their posts can be viewed by anyone. Risks include:

Exposure to inappropriate content including sexual, violent or harmful material.

Contact from strangers through comments or Dm's (direct messages).

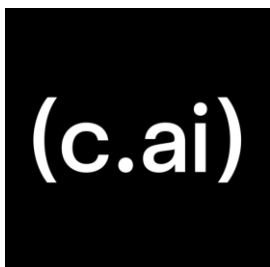
Pressure to compare appearance, lifestyle or popularity which undoubtedly affects their mental health and self-esteem. Filters and editing is heavily used on Instagram, creating an unrealistic beauty standard.



YUBO

Yubo is a app designed for Gen Z to meet new people, livestream, and make friends globally. Often described as a "Tinder for friends", it features profile swiping and group video chats rather than a traditional social feed

Risks include stranger contact and inappropriate conversations.



CHARACTER.AI

It is an app that lets users chat with Ai characters that can imitate celebrities, fictional or custom characters / personalities.

This is causing concerns as young people are emotionally dependant, causing difficulty in distinguishing Ai from real relationships. Therefore, if certain behaviours are being normalised / enabled by an Ai character, this can cause confusion if this is rejected in reality.



WIZZ

Wizz is an app designed and aimed at teenagers to 'meet new people'. Child safety organisations have raised concerns about grooming, sextortion and contact with strangers.