

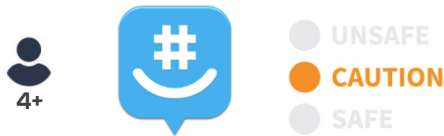


PARENT ADVICE

ONLINE SAFETY

Parent Tips

The best time to have a little control over your child's internet and app use is when purchasing a phone or smart device for your child for the first time (it's a little trickier when you try to do it retrospectively, but still possible of course). You can set up family sharing and parental controls before handing over the device, and then slowly give them more responsibilities and access when they have demonstrated they are mature enough to handle them. Communicating the dangers of the internet and getting their input continually may help your children to use their device in a safer way.



GROUPME

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| PROS | CONS |
| Free | Private / hide from parents |
| Connects users | Language |
| | Sexual content |

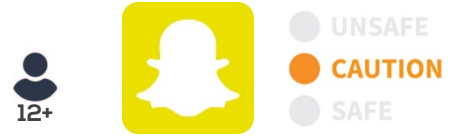
ABOUT:

GroupMe is a free group messaging app that allows users to create groups using their phone or email contacts. An unlimited number of groups can be created. Within each group that is set up, users can text and send images, gifs and videos. GroupMe has its own, exclusive set of emojis which users can send to one another. The social AI chat bot "Zo", developed by Microsoft, can be added as a contact in GroupMe and can participate in group chats, which can be appealing to younger users.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS:

GroupMe has a wide range of gifs available, many of which have explicit imagery and language. GroupMe notifications pop up without showing any of the content of the messages (set as default), allowing users to better hide potentially inappropriate content from parents. Users cannot delete old messages, and parents have expressed concerns that unfiltered internet access is available through the app.

For more information and helpful parent tips regarding your child's tech use, visit www.perimeterguardian.com.au/insights



SNAPCHAT

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| PROS | CONS |
| Entertaining | In app purchases |
| | Sexual themes |
| | Mild language |
| | Chat with strangers |

ABOUT:

SnapChat is a social media photo sharing app, infamous for its self-erasing photos, in-built face filters and geographical photo tags. Users can set different time limits for their photos to disappear (or set to 'Infinity') in their stories, and 'Ghost Mode' enables them to watch other people's stories without being seen themselves.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS:

SnapChat can give users a false sense of security when sharing their photos, believing they have been automatically erased. As conversations cannot occur without a photo, users are continually taking photos of themselves or their surroundings to continue their conversation 'streak'.

As with anything on the internet, photos and conversations on the app are permanent and public, despite what the app claims. Users can see if someone has taken a screengrab of their photo, but are unable to do anything about it (push notifications need to be turned on, otherwise users need to check manually).

Many safety concerns have been raised by parents, including the 'Ghost Mode', geographical photo tags and the ability to chat with strangers.

