

# Important WhatsApp information for parents and teachers

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## *ParentShield* *The Child-Safe Mobile Network*

In its latest updates WhatsApp – the popular Facebook-owned chat application has stopped asking for any age verification for new users – meaning any child in charge of a smartphone can easily use the application to share photographs and videos without their parents' ( or teacher's ! ) knowledge.

### **What is the minimum age to legally use WhatsApp in the UK?**

*In the UK you need to be 16 to legally use WhatsApp.*

### **How can parents monitor their child's WhatsApp?**

*WhatsApp is secure and encrypted so it cannot be intercepted. You can, however, set up a second device*

*allowing you to participate in their chats and conversations. You can access the information and guide on the [parentshield.co.uk](https://parentshield.co.uk) website [here](#)*

## **What precautions can Parents take?**

- \* Use a child-safe mobile network*
- \* Check a child's phone regularly to see what Apps are installed*
- \* Use Parental Controls to restrict app installation to chosen apps*
- \*Set privacy settings on any chat applications to restrict sharing with known contacts only*

## **Why is WhatsApp dangerous?**

*By default WhatsApp allows unrestricted sharing of voice, text images and videos with any other user anywhere in the world.*

*Personal information, profile picture, and even location can easily be shared with hundreds of strangers.*

## **Why ParentShield different?**

*ParentShield intercepts and BLOCKS any WhatsApp ( And Snapchat, and Signal, and Telegram!) setup verification SMS messages and informs parents instantly.*

**<https://parentshield.co.uk>**