



Get in the know
– research the 'terms of use' and age requirements on social media services and explain them to your child.



Keep it private
– show your child how to use privacy settings to control what others can see.



Play nice
– encourage your child to respect others online and to always think before posting.

Should my child be on social media?

Parents can sometimes feel the pressure of pester power to allow their children on social media, even if they don't feel comfortable doing so.

While these services are a fun way to stay connected with others, there can be downsides like cyberbullying, risks to privacy and contact from strangers.

If you allow your child to sign up to a social media service, consider these handy tips.



Report
– show your child how to report inappropriate content, especially cyberbullying.



Beware of bad eggs
– teach your child that not everyone they meet online can be trusted, even if they seem nice or friendly.



Join in
– create an account yourself and find out what your child is likely to encounter.



Talk
– maintain open communication with your child so they feel safe talking to you about any concerns.



Learn more
– keep up to date with popular social media sites at esafety.gov.au/quickguide