



## Social Media APP Bulletin



**Live.me**

Live.me is a Video Streaming App. It allows users of any age to Broadcast, chat, watch and share a broadcast to other social media platforms or any other broadcaster. Watchers can send gifts including teddy bears, sports cars and magic wands to grab your favourite broadcaster's attention and invite to private chat.

The terms of use specify that users be at least 18 or have parental permission to use the tool, however teenagers and young teens are broadcasting daily.

Evolving technologies mean it's easier than ever for anyone to be live on the internet at any time but apps that makes live-streaming possible are also becoming the newest tools child predators are using to reach children. As children chase likes and followers, they can easily fall into traps.

As with any app that has a private chat function, Interactions between children and predators may lead to contact offending.

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**Musical.ly**

Musical.ly is a performance and video sharing social network that mostly features teens lip syncing and to famous songs but also includes some original songwriting and singing. 'Musers', as devoted users are called, can build up a following among friends or share posts publicly.

Musical.ly has been around for a while now, however recently there has been an increased amount of reports regarding children being targeted and inappropriate requests being made to them.

M News ▶ World news ▶ Child grooming

### Horried parents warn 'paedophiles are using hugely popular musical.ly mobile phone app to groom underage children'

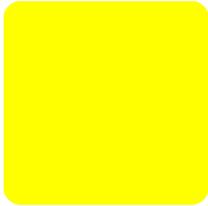
One message seen by Mirror Online shows a child being asked to send naked pictures of themselves to an anonymous user within the social media app

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Yellow

Described as ‘Tinder for Teens’, the Yellow app allows users to make new friends using their Snapchat and Instagram accounts. It is increasing in popularity among school-age teens.

It is similar to dating apps like Tinder or Bumble in that it allows people to connect with others based on their location, with users ‘swiping’ to accept or decline talking to someone based on their profile picture. There are no age restrictions stopping an adult including young persons in their search criteria, however both parties must ‘like’ each other in order to match enable private messaging.

As soon as two users swipe to accept each other, they are automatically added as “friends” on Snapchat, meaning they can begin sending each other photos right away — even if they don’t know each other. Snapchat is a very hard one for parents to monitor, because the pictures more or less delete themselves.

According to media reports the app has been linked to a number of teen sexting incidents in Ireland recently.

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### How to restrict apps and media on iPhone and iPad

To restrict apps and media on iOS devices, use Restrictions in Settings.

Go to **Settings** → **General** → **Restrictions** and type your restriction passcode.

If you haven’t used Restrictions before, tap **Enable Restrictions** and create a passcode that you’ll need to adjust these settings in the future. It’s wise to pick a passcode that’s different from the one for unlocking the device.

You should now see the listed apps and features that are allowed on your device.

What we’re interested in are the sliders underneath the **Allowed Content** heading: For each option such as movies, music and apps you can set a restricted option around sexual content and age appropriate material. In regard to **Apps** you can select the rating you want to allow app downloads for. You can set age ratings for apps between 4+, 9+, 12+ and 17+ years of age.



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