

# A Guide To Parental Controls For WhatsApp



WhatsApp is one of the most popular apps on the market, and one that you and your child are likely to use for a range of purposes – school, work, and play. You might even have a WhatsApp group chat for the family.

## What types of content can I restrict?







WhatsApp has a range of privacy settings to control who contacts your child, and how much of your child's information is available to the public.

# What do I do?

I. On WhatsApp, click the three dotted button on the top right. Then, click **Settings**.





## 2. In the **Settings**, click **Account**. Then, click **Privacy**.

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	Hey there! I am using WhatsApp.		Secu	urity	ý					
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	Invite a friend									
?	Help									



3. Under Privacy, click **Last seen**. This feature lets people see what time your child was last online on WhatsApp. You can change this to **My Contacts**, so that only the people your child has added on WhatsApp can see this information, or to **Nobody**, to be safer.

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Privacy	← Privacy
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out	A Last seen
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ne	N
u don't share your Last Seen, you won't be to see other people's Last Seen	able to see other people's Last
saging	Messaging
ocked contacts: None	Blocked contacts: None



4. Then, click on **Profile photo**. This feature lets people see your child's profile photo, if they added one during registration. You can change this to **My contacts**, so that only the people who your child has added on WhatsApp can see this photo, or to **Nobody**, to be safer.

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← Privacy	← Privacy
<b>Vho can see my personal info</b> ast seen iveryone	Who can see my personal info Last seen Nobody
Profile photo Everyone	Profile photo Nobody
<b>About</b> Everyone	A Profile photo
Status My contacts	S My contacts
Live location None	L Nobody
f you don't share your Last Seen, you won't be able to see other people's Last Seen	If you don't share your Last Seen, you wor able to see other people's Last Seen
Messaging	Messaging
Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.	Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.



5. Then, click on **About**. This feature lets people see your child's About section, which they can personalise. The default About message is 'Hey there! I am using WhatsApp.' You can change this to **My contacts**, so that only the people who your child has added on WhatsApp can see this photo, or to **Nobody**, to be safer.

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← Privacy	Privacy
<b>Who can see my personal info</b> Last seen Everyone	Who can see my personal info Last seen Nobody
Profile photo Everyone	Profile photo Nobody
About Everyone Status My contacts	A About  C Everyone  S  M O My contacts
Live location None	Nobody
If you don't share your Last Seen, you won't be able to see other people's Last Seen	able to see other people's Last Seen
Messaging	Messaging
Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.	Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.
Read receipts	Read receipts



6. Then, click on **Status**. This feature lets people see your child's Status, which they can update daily. You can change this to **My contacts**, so that only the people who your child has added on WhatsApp can see this photo, or to **Nobody**, to be safer.

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Profile photo Everyone	Pr	ofile p	photo	
About Everyone	AN	Ab	Everyope	
Status My contacts	S N	0	My contacts	1
Live location None	L	۲	Nobody	
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Read receipts	Re	ead re	ceipts	
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7. Then, click on **Live location**. This feature lets your child share their location with people. Check to make sure that your child is not sharing their location with anyone.

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Last seen Everyone		Live lo can ma	cation requires background location. You anage this in your device settings.
Profile photo Everyone			
About Everyone			
Status My contacts			
Live location None			
If you don't share your Last Seen, you won't be able to see other people's Last Seen			
Messaging			
Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.			
Read receipts	1		



8. Then, click on **Blocked contacts**. This lets you check and manage who is blocked from your child's account. Blocking an account means that the person cannot contact your child on WhatsApp. If you want to block someone, you can do so by clicking the **Add user** button at the top right.

Under Blocked contacts, you can also click the **Read receipts** box so that people do not know when your child has read a message – except in group chats.

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Profile photo Nobody		Tap + a cont Blocks	Tap + at the top of your screen to se a contact to block. Blocked contacts will no longer be abl
About Nobody		you or	you or send you messages.
Status My contacts			
Live location None			
If you don't share your Last Seen, you won't be able to see other people's Last Seen			
Messaging			
Blocked contacts: None List of contacts that you have blocked.	•		
Read receipts			
If you turn off read receipts, you won't be able to see read receipts from other people. Read receipts are always sent for group chats.			



9. You can also block a user or report scam by going to their profile. Either click their photo in the chat you have with them, or click their name on your contacts to start a chat. Click the three dotted button on the top right. Click **View contact**. Scroll to the bottom and click **Block**, if you do not want them to be able to contact your child, or **Report contact**, if they have threatened or harassed your child.





#### 10. Go back to Settings. Click on Data and storage access.

Make sure that under media auto-download, it says No media. This means that media, like videos or photos sent over chats, are not automatically downloaded on your child's phone. Turning it off under When using mobile data is also kinder to your phone bill!

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Settings		$\leftarrow$ Data and storage usage
Digital Literacy		Network usage
Hey there! I am using What	sApp.	Storage usage
Account		Media auto-download
Chats		When using mobile data No media
Notifications		When connected on Wi-Fi Photos
Data and storage usage		When roaming No media
Invite a friend		NOTE: Voice messages are always automatically downloaded for the best
Help		communication experience
		Call settings
		Low data usage Lower the amount of data used during a

Lower the amount of data used during a WhatsApp call when using mobile data



11. If you need any additional help or want to send a report to WhatsApp, go to **Settings**. Click on **Help**. Then, click **Contact us**. This form lets you submit your problems directly to WhatsApp, and you have the option to add screenshots if necessary.

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