



Christ Church (Brondesbury) C of E Primary School

WhatsApp

What are the risks for children?

Dangers of WhatsApp for children



Following on from yesterday's "Features of WhatsApp" message, we will now look at some of the dangers which this online media may pose to our young children.

Today we start with:

Unwanted contact

To contact someone on WhatsApp, all you need is their phone number.

This means that your child could be at risk of receiving unwanted messages or calls from others. While your child can't stop unknown people contacting you through WhatsApp, they can amend the settings within the app so less information about them is available to others.

There are privacy settings for four groups within WhatsApp – **Everyone**, **My contacts**, **My contacts except** and **Nobody**.

Through these, your child can control who can see their profile picture; when they're online; when they were last using the app; and links they share on their profile, among other things.

If they are being contacted by an unknown person on WhatsApp, they can block them:

To block a contact, business, or unknown phone number

1. Click on the chat with the sender you'd like to block. You can also click at the top right of the chat window.
2. Click **Block** > **Block**. Check the box next to Report to WhatsApp if you also want to report the sender.