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Updated Safeguarding Information for Parents - 4th November 2024

The 'Add Everyone' Explicit WhatsApp Group

Recent concerns have emerged regarding a WhatsApp group known as 'Add Everyone'. Schools and regional Police Forces across the UK have warned that this group exposes children and young people to explicit and harmful material.

'Add Everyone' group chats can go by many names, but their purpose is often the same. These WhatsApp groups are spaces where children and young people are invited to join a chat that contains content such as sexual images, material promoting self-harm, sexual violence, racism and other inappropriate content. These chats may be created by adults seeking to connect with younger users or by young people themselves as a seemingly fun activity. However, as the name suggests, it is difficult to control who becomes a member of these groups, which means that access to children and young people can easily fall into the wrong hands. In some cases, the group's owners ask for children to add their contacts to the group 'except their parents'.

As WhatsApp has lowered its minimum age from 16 to 13 this year, the risk of young users encountering inappropriate content and adults may increase.

More information via the link below:

WhatsApp 'Add Everyone' Group Chats

<u>Links to external agencies are provided in good faith. We do not take any responsibility for the content</u> of these links



