

Parental Control Apps

Parental control apps can be downloaded onto a young person's phone to help parents and carers monitor their child's online activity. In order for this to work, parents/carers must have access to a smart phone or compatible device for the app to be downloaded and accessed. Most Apps will come with 'system requirements' information so that you can ensure your devices are compatible. Some Apps only work when the two devices being used are of the same operating system i.e. iPhone to iPhone. Some Applications will allow for an Android to iPhone pairing or vice versa. Please check such before installing. Some apps have differing features dependent on the phones operating system. It is suggested that you research your chosen App and use the 'free trial' option to test it out. After this trial, there is usually a monthly or yearly subscription to continue usage.

Below is a list of some of the Parental Monitoring Apps available. Please use your own discretion and conduct your own research when selecting an App.

KidsGuard – Allows parents and carers to monitor texts, Social media, call logs, contact lists and downloadable content/files. Also allows for geo-fencing and geolocation, allows you to block apps and restrict time spent on certain apps. Allows for time limits to be set. Different versions, inc. versions that can monitor PC's and Pads, can be downloaded from ClevGuard. This app is hidden on the target phone. **Works best on Android. Can be used on iPads and PC's**

MMGuardian – Allows parents and carers to monitor text messages, photos, internet usage, block content and be alerted to worrying content. Also allows for geo-fencing, social media monitoring, phone time limits and app blocking. Certain features can only be accessed when the App is downloaded directly from their server and not from an app store. You can add settings to stop this app being uninstalled on the target device. **Works best on Android. Can be used on other devices.**

Highster Mobile - Allows parents and carers to monitor phone call logs, text messages, social media and messenger apps. Allows for geo-location and geo-fencing. Parents and Carers can monitor internet browsing. This app is hidden on the target phone. **Further independent research needed**

Qustodio – Parents and Carers can monitor internet usage, text messages, call logs, time spent on social media and can block certain apps as well as put time limits on the phone or individual apps. There is geo-location and a 'panic button' option when downloaded onto an android. **More features with Android. Can be used on other devices.**

Flexispy – Different plan options. Can allow you to monitor and listen in to calls, monitor text, social media, photos, and files. Allows the parent or carer to stay hidden on target phone. Can take remote access of phone features and intercept calls. Allows geo-location and geo-fencing. Allows users to block apps and uninstall content. This works on both Android, iPhone, iPads and PC's

Ikeymonitor – Monitors messaging and social media apps. Can listen in around the phone and record. Monitors internet usage and call logs. Geo-location and geo-fencing. Lots of add-ons according to needs. Is also discreet. **Can be used on both IOS and Android**

Netnanny – Offers geolocation and phone use monitoring. Also allows you to restrict and monitor screen time. There is no social media monitoring. Internet filtering and YouTube monitoring. App blocking. **Can be used on iPads and PC as well as IOS and Android.**

Kaspersky – This is an Anti-virus software for PC and handheld devices. It protects against viruses and Phishing activity. It also monitors screen time and uses Geo-location. **Can be used on windows, mac, Android and IOS.**

Ourpact – Allows parents and carers to block individual apps or give time limits to them. Sets daily screen time allowance. Allows for web filtering and geolocation. Allows you to view online activity. **Can be used with both iPhone and Android**