

Cotham School

Online Safety Newsletter

Academic Year:
2025/2026

Term: 2
Date: 16/12/2025



Newsletter Topic:

1. What is: Texting and slang dictionary
2. Social Media Focus: WhatsApp - Forwarding Messages.

This guide breaks down common online abbreviations and slang used by kids and teens. It helps parents understand the language their children might use on social media, in games, or while texting.

The full guide is available at:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/text-dictionary/>

A

abt - About
abt2 - About to
acc - Actually
add - Address
afaik - As far as I know
afk - Away from keyboard
aka - Also known as
asap - As soon as possible
asf - As f***
asl - Age, sex, location
atm - At the moment

B

b - Bisexual/Babe/Bro
b4 - Before
based - Used when agreeing with something; or recognising someone is being themselves
bc - Because
bet - yes, okay; affirming something
bday - Birthday
blates - Obviously
bf - Boyfriend/Best friend
bf4l or bffl - Best friends for life
bff - Best friends forever
boyf - Boyfriend
brat - A strong-willed person who goes against expectations. See more here.
brb - Be right back
btw - By the way

C

cap - Lie (often used as 'no cap', meaning no lie)
cba - Can't be bothered
cmb - Call me back
cmon - Come on
ctn - Can't talk now

cu - See you
cua - See you around
cul - See you later
cya - See ya

D

da f/dafuq? - What the f***?
diss - Disrespect
dkdc - Don't know, don't care
dl - Download
dm - Direct Message, a form of private messaging
dnt - Don't

E

ema - Email address
eta - Estimated time of arrival
ez - Easy

F

f - Female
fam - Short for 'family', similar to 'bro'
faq - Frequently Asked Questions
fb - Facebook
finna - I'm going to
fire - A word to describe something positive (e.g. That game is fire)
fr - for real
fuq/fuqn - F***/f***ing
fwb - Friends with benefits
fwd - Forward
fyi - For your information

G

g - Gay or Gangsta...
g2cu - Good to see you
g2g - Got to go
g2r - Got to run
gamer - Video game player
gf - Girlfriend
gg - Good game
gj - Good job
gl - Good luck
glhf - Good luck have fun
GOAT - greatest of all time
gnite - Good night
gr8 - Great
gratz - Congratulations
gtfoh - Get the f*** outta here
gtg - Got to go
gud - Good
Gyat - God d***; exclamation of excitement



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H

h8 - Hate
hella - Really
hits different - Something that affects you in a particular way
hv - Have
hw - Homework
hbd - Happy Birthday

I

ib - I'm back
ic - I see
idc - I don't care
idk - I don't know
ig - I guess or Instagram
iirc - If I remember correctly
ik(r) - I know (right?)
ilu - I love you
ily - I love you
im - Instant message
imho - In my humble opinion
imo - In my opinion
insta - Instagram
irl - In real life
it's giving... - Used to describe something (e.g. 'It's giving childhood' could describe something that reminds you of your childhood)
iyyk - If you know, you know; often used to describe inside jokes

J

jk - Just kidding

K

k - Okay
kewl - Cool
kthnx - OK, thanks



L

l - Lesbian
(take the) L - Loss
l8 - Late
l8r - Later
let them cook - A supportive phrase; to give someone time and space to do something you know they can do
lit - It describes something as positive
lmao - Laughing my a** off
lol - Laugh out loud
lolll - Laugh out loud a lot
luv ya - Love you

M

m - Male
m.i.r.l - Meet in real life
mkay - Mmm, okay
mmo - Massively multiplayer online
mmorpg - Massively multiplayer online role-playing game
msg - Message
mwah - To give a kiss



N

n/a - Not available or not applicable
n2m - Nothing too much
nbd - No big deal
ne - Any
ne1 - Anyone
nm - Not much / Nothing much / Never mind
no cap - No lie
noob - Short for 'newbie', refers to an inexperienced gamer or online community user
np - No problem
nthng - Nothing
nvr - Never
nw - No worries

O

oic - Oh, I see
om - Oh my
omg - Oh my God
omw - On my way
onl - Online
ot - Off topic
ova - Over



P

peak - Unfortunate
peeps - People
pic - Picture
pir - Parent in room
pk - Player kill
pls - Please
plz - Please
pm - Private Message
pmsl - Peeing myself laughing
pov - Point of view
ppl - People
prolly - Probably
pwn - Own, as in conquer or defeat
pwned - Owned, as in conquered or defeated



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Q

qt - Cutie
qtpi - Cutie pie



R

r - Are or our
riz/rizz - Charisma
rizzler - Someone who is good at flirting (because they have rizz)
rly - Really
rofl - Rolling on the floor laughing
rpg - Role playing game
ru - Are you?
ruok - Are you okay?

S

sec - Second
seggs - Sex; used as a way to get around language filters
ship - Relationship; or imagining people together (e.g. I ship those two)
simp/simping - someone who does too much for their crush (often used in sexist context against men)
skibidi - A reference to a video about an army of toilets taking over the world
skl - School
sksksk - Representing laughter
slaps - Describing something as good (e.g. This song slaps)
smh - Shaking my head
sms - Short Message Service
so - Significant other
sob - Son of a B*tch
sos - Help
spk - Speak
srs - Serious
srsbsns - Serious business
srsly - Seriously
sry - Sorry
stan - being a fan of someone
str8 - Straight
sup - What's up
sus - Suspicious
sux - Sucks or "it sucks"
swag - Boasting about one's skills or style

T

tbh - To be honest
tc - Take care
tea - gossip
tgif - Thank God it's Friday



thang - Thank you
thx - Thanks
tmi - Too much information
trans, t*, t+ - Transsexual
tfn - Ta-ta for now
tly - Talk to you later
tweet - Twitter post
txt - Text
ty - Thank you



U

u - You
u2 - You too
ul - Upload
unalive - Kill; used to get around language filters
ur - Your or you're

V

vm - Voicemail



W

w - win
w@ - What?
w/ - With
w/e - Whatever or weekend
w/o - Without
w8 - Wait
wag1 - What's up
wbu - What about you?
wk - Week
wrk - Work
wtf - What the f***
wtg - Way to go
wyd - What (are) you doing?
WYSIWYG - What you see is what you get



X

x - kiss (or the platform formally called Twitter)

Y

y? - Why?
yeet - To throw something
yktv - You know the vibe
yolo - You only live once
yr - Your
yt - white (or YouTube)
yw - You're welcome



Z

(Gen) Z - People born from around 1997-2012
za - Pizza

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Social Media: WhatsApp

WhatsApp is a popular messaging application used worldwide. It enables users to send text messages, make voice and video calls, share multimedia content such as photos and videos, and use group chat features, all through an internet connection



Age Requirements:

13+ (reduced from 16+ in April 2024)

Key Features:

- Messaging and Group Chats
- Voice and Video Calls
- Media Sharing
- End-to-End Encryption

Safety and Privacy Features:

- Last Seen and Online Status
- Profile Photo and Info
- Block Unknown Calls
- Block/Report Contacts
- Group Invites
- Two-Step Verification
- Read Receipts

How to: [Forward Messages](#)

The forward feature allows you to forward messages from an individual or group chat to another individual or group chat. Forwarded messages are indicated with a "Forwarded" label, which helps you know if your friend or family member wrote the message they sent or if the message originally came from someone else.

You can forward a message with up to five chats at one time. If a message has already been forwarded, you can forward it to up to five chats, including a maximum of one group chat. When a message is forwarded many times, it can only be forwarded to one chat at a time.

Forward a message

1. In an individual or group chat, tap and hold the message you want to forward, then tap **Forward**.
 - To forward multiple messages, you can select additional messages after you select the first message.
2. Tap Forward
3. Search for or select the individual or group chats you want to forward the messages to.
4. Tap Forward or



Forward Limits

You can forward messages to up to five people or groups at a time.

To preserve WhatsApp as a personal space, a message that was already forwarded can only be sent to one additional chat. If a message is forwarded through a chain of five or more chats, it will be clearly labeled as "Forwarded many times."

This policy helps reduce spam and misinformation. For sharing with many people, please create a group or share a link instead.

Forwarded



These messages can be forwarded to up to 5 chats at a time

Forwarded many times



To help keep conversations personal, these messages can be forwarded to 1 chat at a time