

Newsletter Topics: New AI-Manipulated Image Concerns | WhatsApp - Usernames!

New Guidance Issued Due to Concern of AI-Manipulated Images

Photos of children that seem completely innocent can be altered with AI to create sexually abusive content.

As this threat rises, the IWF and NCA have released new advice on how to talk to your child about AI and image consent.



What Does AI-Generated Child Sexual Abuse Imagery Include?

According to the IWF, AI-generated child sexual abuse material can take several forms:

- Everyday photos of children - taken from social media, websites, or apps - altered into sexual or abusive images (often called “deepfakes”).
- Entirely artificial images or videos that appear to show a real child.
- Existing images digitally stripped of clothing to create nude or semi-nude content, sometimes referred to as “nudifying”

What Can I Do?

The guidance offers practical tips for sharing children's photos online. Key points include:

- Pause before posting images - consider using a private “close friends” group.
- Review and update privacy settings on all social media platforms.
- Know what to do and who to contact if concerns arise.

Where Can I Find the New Guidance?

The full guidance, including a video showing how everyday photos can be misused by AI, is available here:

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/resource/s/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

The official press release can be found here:

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/new-guidance-for-parents-and-carers-as-ai-manipulated-images-of-children-become-a-growing-concern>

WhatsApp - Usernames

WhatsApp now lets you create a unique username (like @Name123) to keep your phone number private.

Key points for parents:

- Your WhatsApp account still needs a phone number, but you can choose to share only your username.
- If someone doesn't have your number saved, they'll see your username instead of your phone number.
- People who already have your number saved will still see it as usual.
- You can also set a username key (like a password) to control who can message you first - this helps prevent unwanted contact.
- You can change or delete your username at any time.

Usernames boost privacy, but your phone number stays linked. Remind your child to use them wisely and never share personal info with strangers.

https://faq.whatsapp.com/65875553162769/?cms_platform=web

