



How are 8-12 year olds using social media?

Source: Life in 'likes'. Children's Commissioner 2018 report into social media use among 8-12 year olds.




When I grow up, I want to be...

"Sometimes I do videos myself, so I can feel like a vlogger"

Annie (age 11)



There is pressure to look good

"If you don't have designer and expensive things, people will make fun of you"

Harry (age 11)



They use it for moral support

"When I posted that my great-nan had died, on Instagram, people messaged me and I felt better about it"

Joe (age 11)



Some will hide to use the wifi!

"At break time, we go into the loo that has wifi and use our phones there, because there's nothing else to do"

Merran (age 11)



'Likes' are a mood booster

"If you're in a bad mood at home, you go on social media and you laugh and then you feel better"

Cam (age 10)



It can be distracting from homework

"You get another buzz, and another buzz, and another buzz," "then you just go off course with your homework"

Billy (age 9)



They know it can become addictive

"I worry about my sister posting too much," "She does 10 posts a day"

Lucy (age 10)



'Likes' are a form of acceptance

"If I got 150 likes, I'd be like, that's pretty cool," "It means they like you"

Aaron (age 11)



Parents are an influence

"My mum takes pictures of me on Snapchat, to send on WhatsApp"

Hassan (age 8)



It makes them image concious

"You might compare yourself, 'cause you're not very pretty compared to them"

Aimee (age 11)



Snapchat can be educational...

"On Snapchat you learn about other countries, like Portugal, depending on where the celebrities have their concerts"

Freya (age 8)



It can be seriously time consuming

"Hmm, 24 hours in a day, so I probably use it 18 hours a day"

Bridie (age 11)