



### SNAPCHAT AND CSA IMAGERY

A recent report revealed that Snapchat was flagged in nearly half of Child Sexual Abuse imagery crimes reported to the police in the past seven years. Snapchat is a social media platform used to share customisable photos, messages, and short videos referred to as 'Snaps' which can disappear after 24 hours. It has been around since 2011 and has grown in popularity with young people, however the app has evolved significantly since then and carries a worrying amount of risks to children and young people. Click [here](#) to find out more about [Snapchat and the risks](#).

### SEND AND ONLINE SAFETY

Young people with SEND are more likely to experience online issues such as cyber bullying, online grooming and exploitation. Some may struggle to understand terminology around online risks and what not to share online. They are more vulnerable as they are less aware of what is appropriate to share, and the consequences of sharing inappropriate material. They are also more likely to be over-trusting and have less understanding around healthy relationship. Click [here](#) to find out more and what we can do to help.

### TIKTOK CHALLENGE – CHROMING

Also known as “huffing” or “sniffing”, is an act of inhaling the fumes of household chemicals such as nail polish remover, hairspray, aerosol deodorant or permanent markers. This causes a short-term “high” and can result in slurred speech, dizziness, hallucinations and disorientation, but can also cause a heart attack or suffocation. An 11-year-old boy recently suffered a suspected cardiac arrest after taking part in the challenge.

### AI LABELS FIGHT FAKE IMAGES

Meta is taking steps to boost transparency on its platforms by labeling AI-generated images on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads. They're collaborating with other tech giants to develop a system that can identify AI-created content across various platforms. This initiative aims to help users distinguish between real and AI-made content, potentially reducing confusion and anxiety around unrealistic beauty standards or misleading information, which could be beneficial for mental health.

### THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT 2023

As of October 2023, the Online Safety Act has passed which means that tech companies running social networking sites or search engines must promote online safety by tackling illegal material and content that is harmful to children, conducting regular risk assessments, and properly enforcing age limits. While many have celebrated this development, there have been warnings it will take years to take effect.