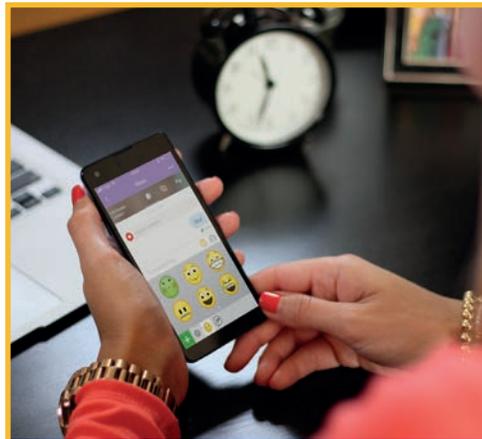
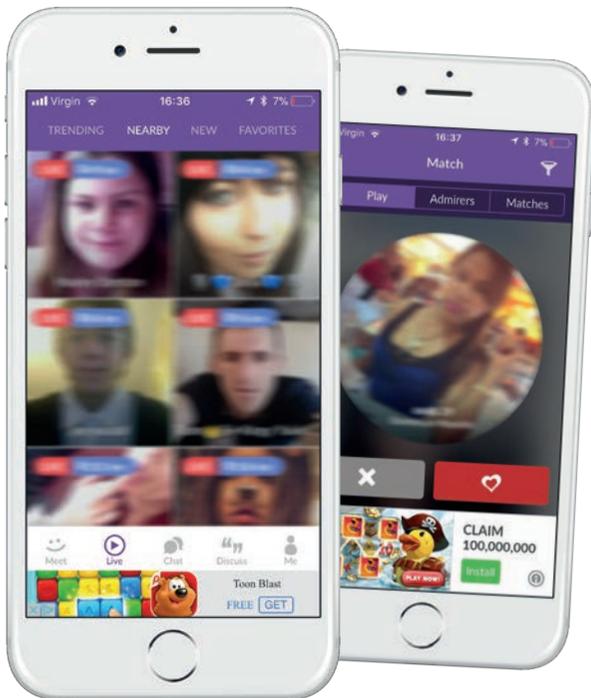




What is MeetMe?

Describing itself as the mobile version of a 'bar or coffeehouse where everyone belongs', MeetMe is a social networking app that lets you find people nearby who share your interests and want to chat. Launched in 2005 (then known as myYearbook), MeetMe is available for Android, Windows 10 and iOS and has more than 100 million members worldwide.

What does it look like?



Main Concerns for Parents

meet me



Chatting with strangers

Anyone who is 13 years old and over can join MeetMe for free, although its developers say it is most popular with people aged 18 to 34. While MeetMe has the lower age limit of 13, there's nothing to stop children pretending to be older – and other users saying they are younger than they are. Because your child can chat with complete strangers that potentially live nearby, there is obvious cause for concern - it's hard to know just the type of people your child will converse with, or what they'll share with them.

Inappropriate Feed content

The Feed on MeetMe is for open discussion. Your child can view other members' status posts and new photos, then like or comment on them when they want to interact, and vice versa. There is concern that your child may see an inappropriate image or discussions on subjects they don't understand or find disturbing.

Live Broadcasts

MeetMe Live lets members stream themselves simply by pressing the camera button in the Live section of the app and confirm the start of streaming. Live chat can be used by groomers to target young people who may be manipulated into sending sexual images and videos.

Spending on in-app purchases

MeetMe Credits are a virtual currency that you can use to buy extras, such as being positioned at the top of the Meet section or posts positioned at the top of the Feed. Your child may feel like they need to pay to get noticed using the service.



Report abuse

If your child encounters inappropriate content or behaviour on MeetMe, they can click the Report Abuse icon found in the top right-hand corner of the app or website. In the next screen that comes up, indicate what you saw that was inappropriate and click the Submit button at the bottom of the screen.

Protect who can see their profile

By default, MeetMe profiles can be viewed by other members. To change who can see your child's profile, they need to click on the Settings button in the top right-hand corner of the website or app and select 'Privacy' from the drop-down menu, then 'Who can view my profile?' section. Click 'Save'.

Only allow specific people to chat

Within Settings, the Chat settings will give your child the opportunity to choose to allow everyone or only friends to chat with them. Your child can also remove a friend at any time via their friends list.

Learn how to block someone

If your child received an unwanted message or do not want to communicate a user, show them how to block someone. On the MeetMe website, click on a member's profile page and click the 'Block *Name*' link located under 'Break it Off' (on the left). On the iPhone app, view the person's profile, and tap 'Report' in the top right, then 'Block User'. On the Android app, click the menu button on the device followed by 'Block'.

Limit spending on Credits

Explain to your child that they can still use the service without paying for MeetMe Credits. Make sure the option for 'automatic top up' in Payments Settings is turned off.

Be wary of going live

If someone comments something on your child's live feed, they can choose to block the member and they will be removed from the stream and longer be able to interact with your child across all MeetMe features. If your child sees someone else streaming inappropriately, they can submit a report to the Member Services team, who pledge to act immediately.

Broadcasting to strangers

It is important for children to understand the risks of broadcasting live. Live streaming services have limited privacy controls, so it is hard to know who is watching and difficult to prevent people accessing the stream. Explain to your child that it is possible for any video to be recorded and shared without the permission or knowledge of the person who made the video.

Don't share personal information

Remind your child that they should never share personal information with people online, including their last name, home address, school name, or telephone number. If someone asks them for personal information, it does not mean they have to tell them anything.

Be respectful of others

Remind your child to always consider what they are about to comment and to think about whether they would do that in the 'real world' or may regret posting at a later date. Encourage your child to think about the language they use online and to think carefully before commenting on content posted by someone else.

Go LIVE to the world!

