

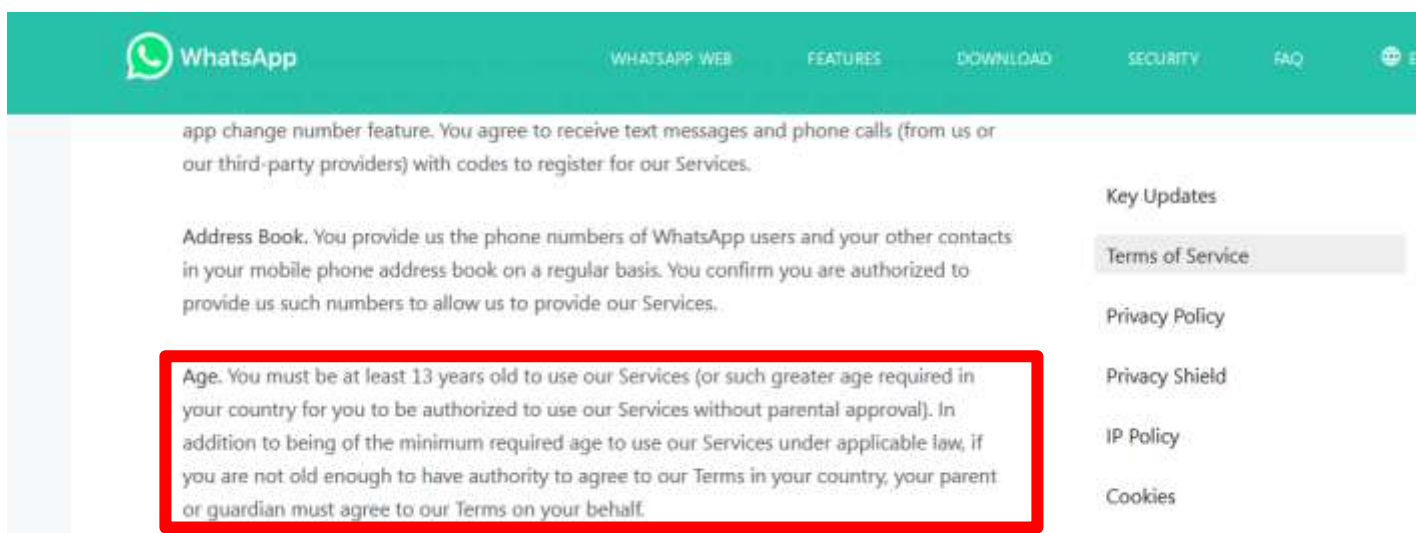
23rd February 2018

Dear Parents,

We have been made aware that some children in Key Stage 2 are using WhatsApp and that some of these children are using it inappropriately.

Unfortunately, this has resulted in valuable teaching and learning time being spent addressing issues which have arisen due to children's use of WhatsApp and not because of issues having arisen in school.

As part of its Terms of Service, WhatsApp's minimum age of use is 13 years old.



The screenshot shows the WhatsApp website's Terms of Service page. The navigation bar at the top includes links for WhatsApp, WhatsApp Web, Features, Download, Security, and FAQ. The main content area contains several sections: 'app change number feature', 'Address Book', and 'Age'. The 'Age' section is highlighted with a red rectangular box and contains the following text: 'Age. You must be at least 13 years old to use our Services (or such greater age required in your country for you to be authorized to use our Services without parental approval). In addition to being of the minimum required age to use our Services under applicable law, if you are not old enough to have authority to agree to our Terms in your country, your parent or guardian must agree to our Terms on your behalf.' To the right of the main content is a sidebar with a 'Key Updates' section and a list of links: Terms of Service, Privacy Policy, Privacy Shield, IP Policy, and Cookies.

Through e-safety lessons provided at school, assemblies, PSHE lessons and our annual 'Safer Internet Week', we do our best to provide our children with the awareness and knowledge they need in order to recognise and avoid dangerous, destructive, or unlawful behaviour and to respond appropriately.

However, it is only through a collaborative effort between parents and teachers that we will succeed in creating responsible and safe cyber citizens. I politely remind you that it is extremely important to **consistently monitor your child's internet usage on all devices to ensure they are not using apps such as WhatsApp**, which is deemed by the company itself to be inappropriate for their age group.

Yours sincerely,

J. Crews
I.C.T. Subject Leader