

# <Staying> <Well> <Connected>

First Nations Stakeholder Toolkit



Australian Government



**eSafety**  
Commissioner

# Introduction

The new law is now in place to prevent young people under 16 from creating or keeping accounts on social media. This is known as the Social Media Minimum Age (SMMA).

This digital toolkit has been developed to support organisations, schools, and community groups with the information and resources they need to help our mob stay well connected throughout this change.



# Background

Young people can benefit from being online, but they can also be exposed to inappropriate content, pressure to continuously post, and addictive design features. The social media minimum age law aims to keep young people safer online by preventing access to social media accounts for people under 16.

- The law applies to existing under-16 accounts as well as new ones.
- Social media platforms are expected to identify and delete under 16 accounts, and take “reasonable steps” to prevent under 16s from creating new accounts.
- It will be up to the platforms, not young people or carers to ensure young people don’t have access to social media accounts.
- eSafety have published guidance for families, young people, educators and online services.



# Key messages

**New laws are in place preventing people under 16 from having an account on social media platforms, including TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube , X, Threads, Kick and Reddit.**

**The new law is to keep young people safer online and protect them from harmful content and addictive design features. It's about keeping our young mob safe, strong and connected online and in real life.**

**Less time online means more time for real yarns with family, friends, culture and Country. This shift is part of creating new social norms around healthy online habits.**

**Families, schools and communities all have a role in supporting young people.**

**Together, we can make sure our mob stays well connected in the right ways safely.**



# Actions your organisation can take

We're asking organisations, community groups, and schools to help share our resources and support our young mob as they transition through these changes to social media access.

We know this change might be tricky for some of our young ones, so we've created these resources to make the shift easier and to keep everyone informed about the new rules for under 16s.

## **Ways you can help:**

- Share the Carer's Yarning Guide: Include it in your newsletter or post it on your organisation's social pages to help carers understand the changes and how to support young people.
- Print and display the Student Workbooks: Place them at your reception, library, or community spaces so young people can easily access them.
- Print Posters: Display our posters where our young mob might see
- Start the yarn: Encourage conversations in your classrooms, community meetings, or youth programs about staying connected, safe and strong during this transition.

By sharing these tools, you'll help our young mob stay connected to family, culture and Country while learning healthy ways to be online.

# Suggested newsletter copy

## **What's Changing from 10 December 2025?**

Hey, you mob, a new law now means people under 16 won't be able to have an account on social media platforms including TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, X, Threads, Kick and Reddit. These changes are designed to help keep our young mob safer online.

Check out [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) for more information and resources.

## **Supporting Our Young Mob Together**

From now on, a new law means people under 16 won't be able to have an account on some major social media platforms. Families, schools and communities all have a part to play in supporting young people through this shift. Together, we can make sure our mob stays well connected in the right ways.

Check out [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) for more information and resources.

# Resources

## Carer Yarning Guide



Providing carers of children between 12 and 15 guidance for starting conversations with First Nations young people about the changes. Answers frequently asked questions and how to navigate those tough conversations.

## Student Workbook

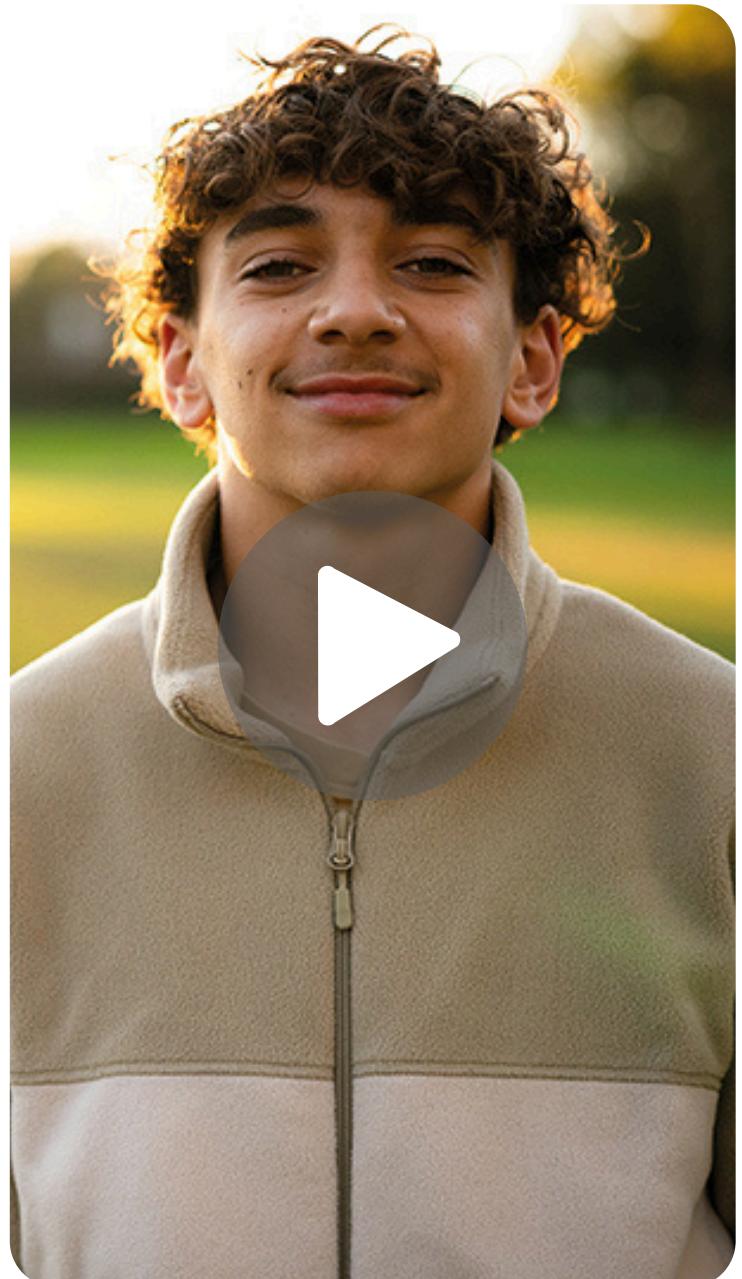


A workbook for First Nations young people aged between 12-15 featuring activities to calm anxious feelings and support them to stay connected through offline methods. Use is encouraged for guided lessons with teachers, support workers and parent.

**These resources are available at [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au)**

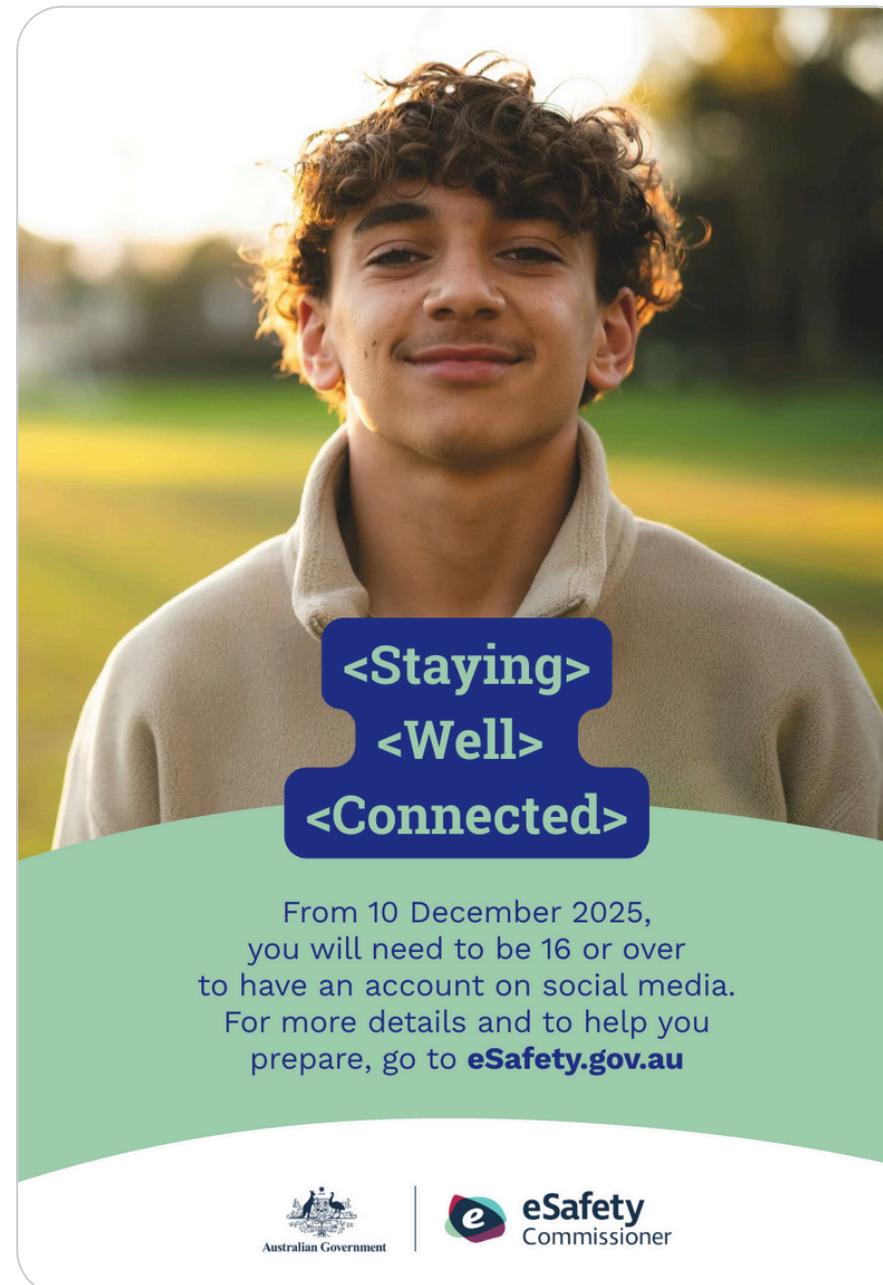
# Digital and printed materials

9x16 15s Social Video



Available at [www.esafety.gov.au](http://www.esafety.gov.au)

A5 Posters to display on physical or digital message boards.



These resources  
are available at  
[esafety.gov.au](http://esafety.gov.au)

# For support

## **13YARN 13 92 76**

A 24/7, free and confidential crisis support line for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, answered by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander crisis supporters.

## **Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800**

Free, confidential counselling by phone or webchat for young people aged 5 to 25, available 24/7 across Australia.

## **Headspace.org.au**

Youth mental health support for 12 to 25-year-olds, with online chat and local centres offering information, counselling, and help with study, work and wellbeing.

## **Lifeline 13 11 14**

24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention for anyone in Australia via phone, webchat, or text.

# More Information

For more details on the new social media changes,  
go to [eSafety.gov.au](http://eSafety.gov.au)



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