

Focus on...



AGE 13+



Houseparty is a social networking service that enables you to video chat with other Houseparty users you know & can be used on phones, tablets or on computer



Up to 8 people can be on a call at one time



In order to sign-up, you have to provide contact details including an e-mail address & phone number. You then are given the option to add friends automatically from your contacts and Facebook



You can then connect with people via your contact list or by username & then you can send them a link to the 'party'



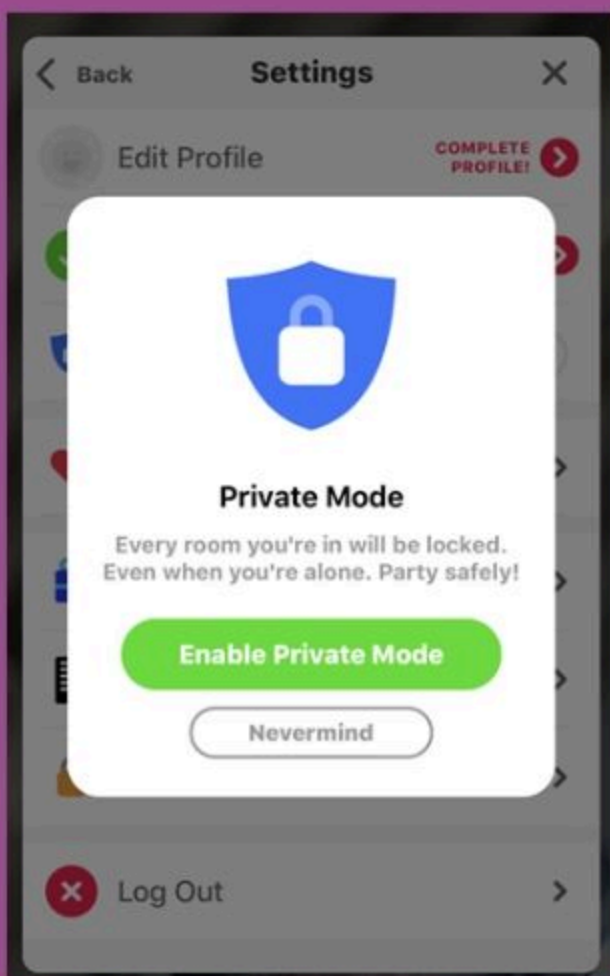
In addition to video calling, you can also play games & quizzes within the platform - making Houseparty different to many other video calling platforms



Advice for keeping children & young people safe



Although Houseparty is relatively safe, in that you cannot search for people without knowing their username and can only connect if they are already a saved 'contact' or 'accept' the request- it is still worth considering these measures in order to ensure that everyone parties safely....



Within the 'settings' make sure that private mode is selected - this will ensure that every 'room' they are in is locked & you have to give permission for someone else to join the chat



Ensure location sharing is turned to 'off' in the settings



If someone new joins the video call, then ensure the room is 'locked' by selecting the padlock at the bottom of the screen - this ensures that nobody else can join the call without permission



Even though their video calls may be with friends, advise them not to share personal information advise that they create a pseudonym as a 'username'. Also consider the environment they are in when using Houseparty & what information may be visible in the background, during a video call



Although Houseparty connects through people's contacts and by sending people invites, consider that friends of friends, who your child does not know, may be invited to join the 'party' meaning they may not have complete control over who is on the call

As with any 'app', communication platform or online game....

Take time to check it out for yourself and always promote yourself as a source of support and someone to talk to if your child has any concerns

