

Reporting abuse and exploitation

Online child sexual exploitation is a complex issue, and it takes many forms.

It's important to know which reporting pathway is most appropriate to your circumstances. If a child is in immediate danger, call Triple Zero (000) or your local police.

Online child sexual exploitation and online grooming

Online child sexual exploitation most commonly includes:

- grooming
- live streaming
- consuming child sexual abuse material, and
- coercing and blackmailing children for sexual purposes.

When making a report, it is helpful to collect evidence before the content is removed to show police exactly what happened. This includes chat, photos or videos by taking screenshots or photos. Where possible record the webpage addresses (URLs), social media details (including account or profile usernames), dates/times and any other information that you think is relevant.

Image-based abuse and sexual extortion

Image-based abuse occurs when intimate, nude or sexual images are distributed without the consent of the person pictured. This includes real, altered and drawn pictures and videos. Creating, possessing and/or sharing sexualised images of people under 18 years can be a criminal offence and can be considered child sexual exploitation material and should be reported to law enforcement. Content removal should be reported to the eSafety Commissioner.

If you think a child is in immediate danger call Triple Zero (000) or your local police.

You can provide anonymous information about this crime to [crimestoppers.com.au](https://www.crimestoppers.com.au) or 1800 333 000.

Other reports you can make Inappropriate, offensive or illegal content

If you encounter a description or depiction of child sexual abuse or other exploitative or offensive descriptions or depictions of a child (child abuse material) online or other offensive and illegal content, you can report it to the eSafety Commissioner.

The eSafety Commissioner works with the global INHOPE network to achieve rapid takedown of child abuse material (CAM) hosted overseas, and cooperates closely with Australian law enforcement when CAM is hosted in Australia.

Cyberbullying

The eSafety Commissioner operates a complaints scheme to tackle serious cyberbullying affecting an Australian child. Working with social media companies, they have powers to assist the rapid removal of material when it is seriously threatening, seriously humiliating, seriously harassing, or seriously intimidating.

Other online crime

ReportCyber is a national online system to securely report instances of cybercrime. It also provides advice to help people recognise and avoid common types of cybercrime. This could include crimes such as fraud, scams and harassment. Report to ReportCyber in the first instance, or your local police.

Reporting outside Australia

The Virtual Global Taskforce (VGT) is an international service that hosts reporting information for each country. Visit virtualglobaltaskforce.com/report to find out where to report online child sexual exploitation from outside Australia.

The ACCCE uses the internationally recognised VGT logo and report abuse button to support VGT's delivery of a coordinated international law enforcement response to online child sexual abuse.