

YOUTH PRIVACY & DATA PROTECTION 101

Youth encounter both opportunities and risks online. Efforts to defend youth privacy must delicately balance protecting and empowering youth while allowing them to gradually develop autonomy and resilience. This infographic provides an overview of particular opportunities and risks for youth online, along with potential protection strategies.

PROTECTION STRATEGIES

In an effort to ensure youth have safe and secure access to the opportunities that technologies provide while guarding against the risks they present, a range of strategies can be employed and encouraged, whether by governments, online service providers, educators, or parents, including:

LAWS, REGULATIONS & POLICIES

Set underlying legal protections for appropriate data collection and use

TRANSPARENCY & CHOICE

Support youth and parents in understanding how data will be collected, used, and shared, and what rights they have to consent, access, amend, limit sharing, or delete that data

FILTERING & BLOCKING

Limit access to age-inappropriate content and interactions

PRIVACY BY DESIGN

Incorporate privacy into services by default: build privacy in at every stage of product development

DIGITAL LITERACY & CITIZENSHIP

Promote informed, appropriate, and responsible engagement online

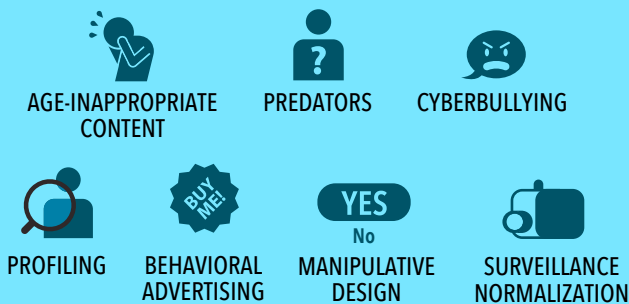
AGE GATES

Require age verification prior to accessing a service

AGE BANDS

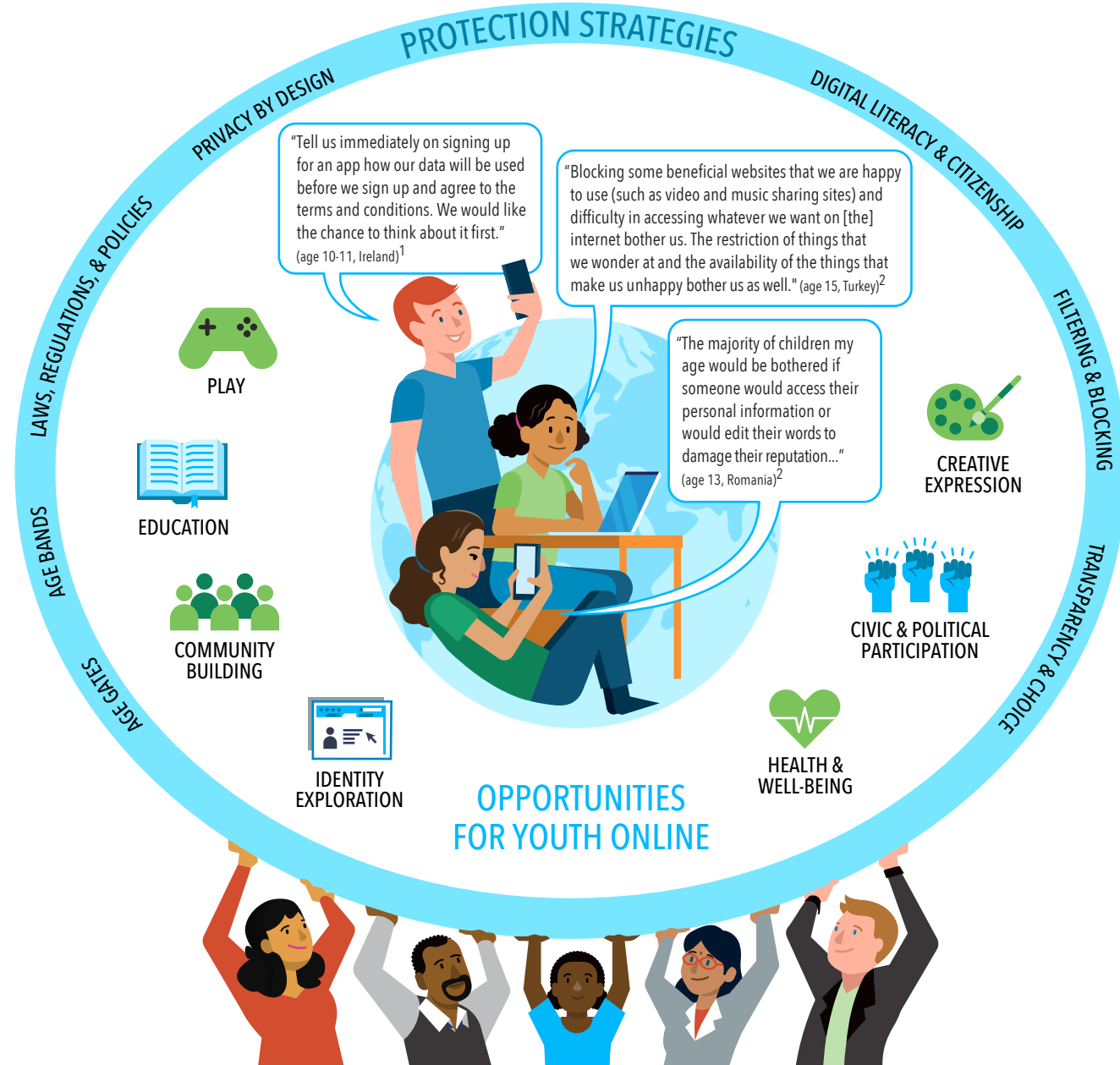
Change aspects of a service to accommodate different age ranges

RISKS FOR YOUTH ONLINE



¹ Ireland Data Protection Commission, "Some Stuff You Just Want to Keep Private," (July 2019).

² Livingstone et al., In their own words: What bothers children online?, EU Kids Online, (February 2013).



KEY ACTORS

Youth, parents and guardians, educators, policymakers, and online service providers are key stakeholders in the youth privacy and data protection landscape. Their involvement in policymaking, protection strategies, and data privacy education is crucial.