

A Guide To
Parental Controls
For
Twitter

Twitter is a social media platform where people share messages called tweets, which are restricted to 280 characters – originally, 140 characters. Twitter is well-known for being a popular news source for people as well.

What types of content can I restrict?



Inappropriate content



Sharing data

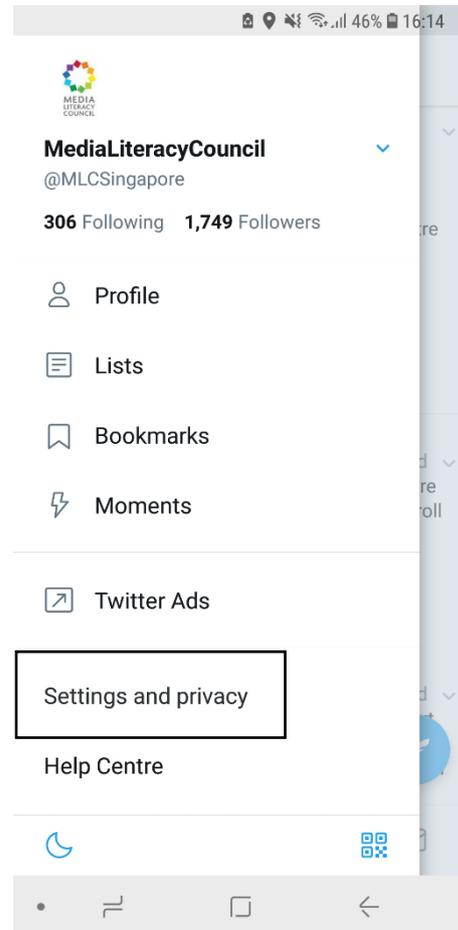


Social networking

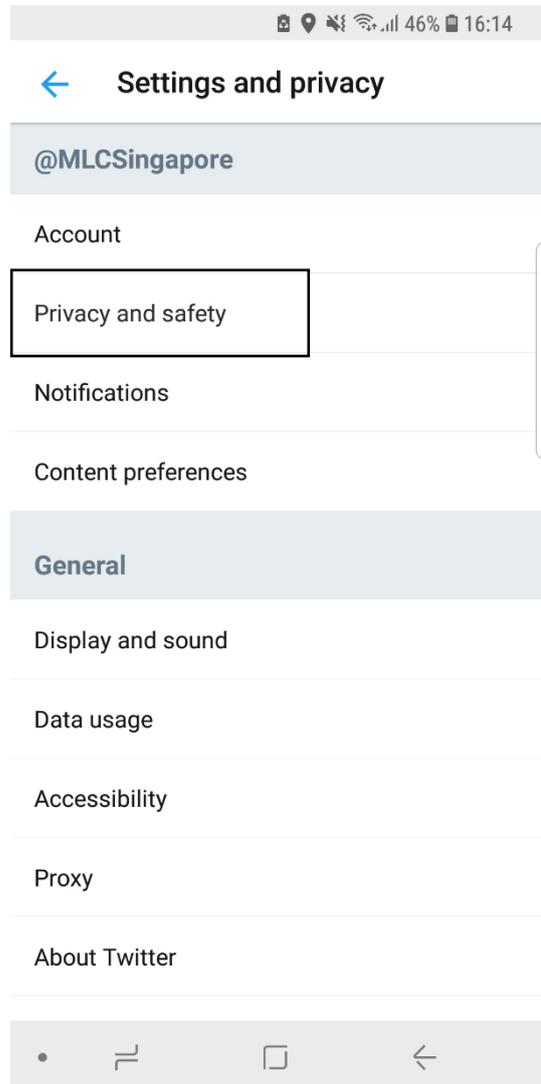
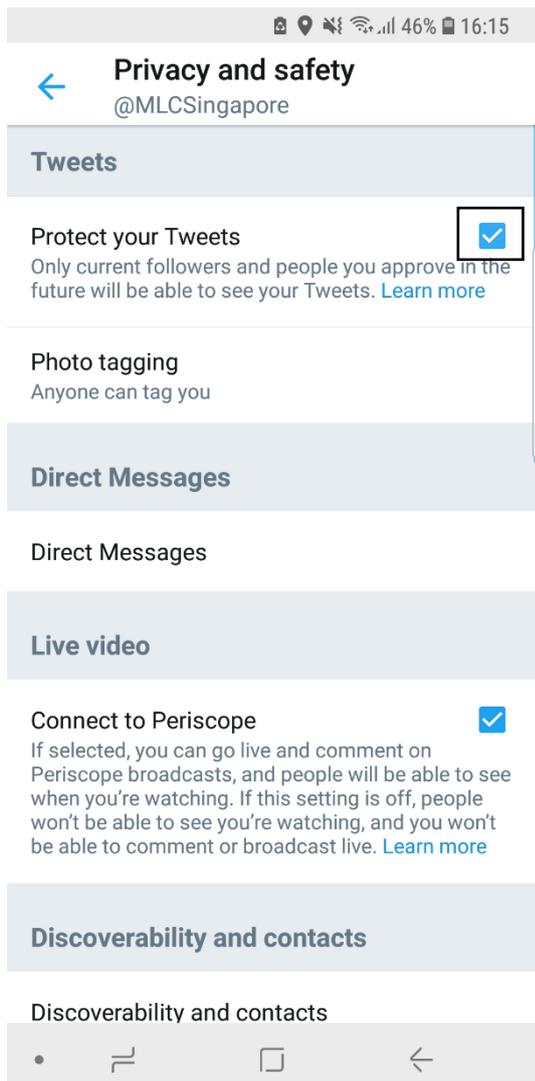
Twitter's privacy settings are easy to navigate. The settings let you control who can contact them, what data they share, and also allows you to report content that is inappropriate or abusive.

What do I do?

- I. Open Twitter and click the profile icon on the top left corner. Then, click **Settings and privacy**.

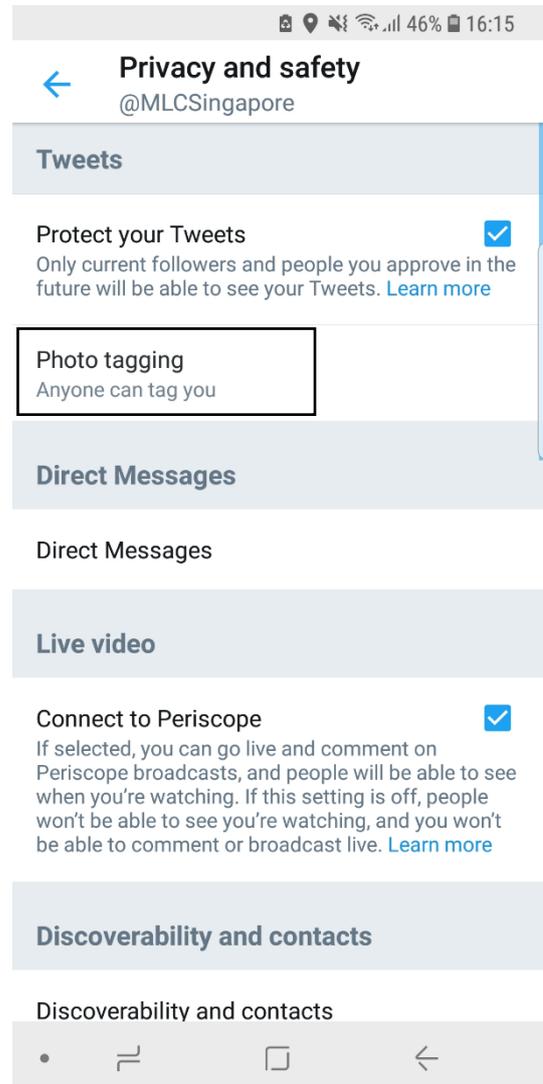
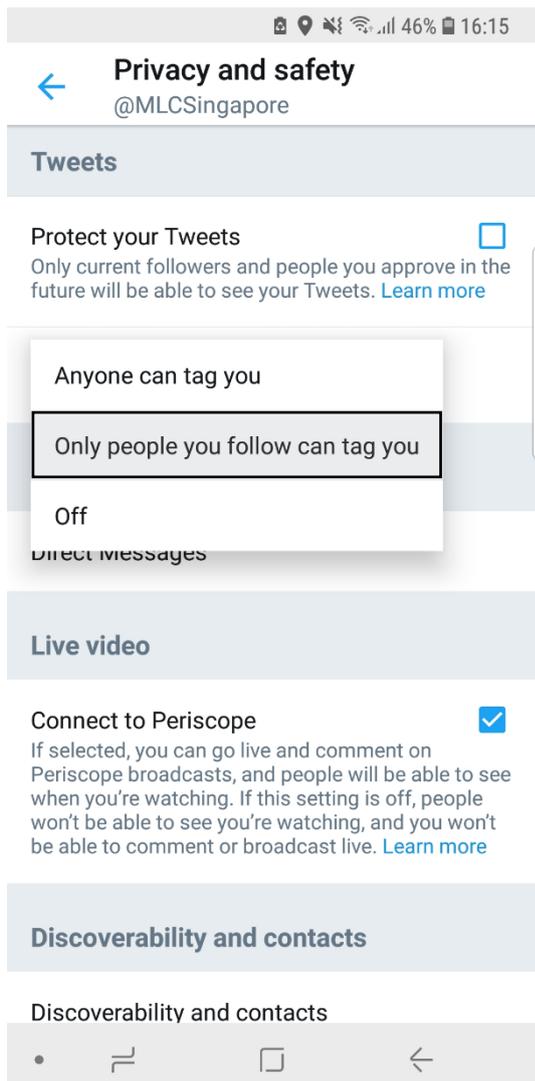


2. Under Settings and privacy, click **Privacy and safety**.



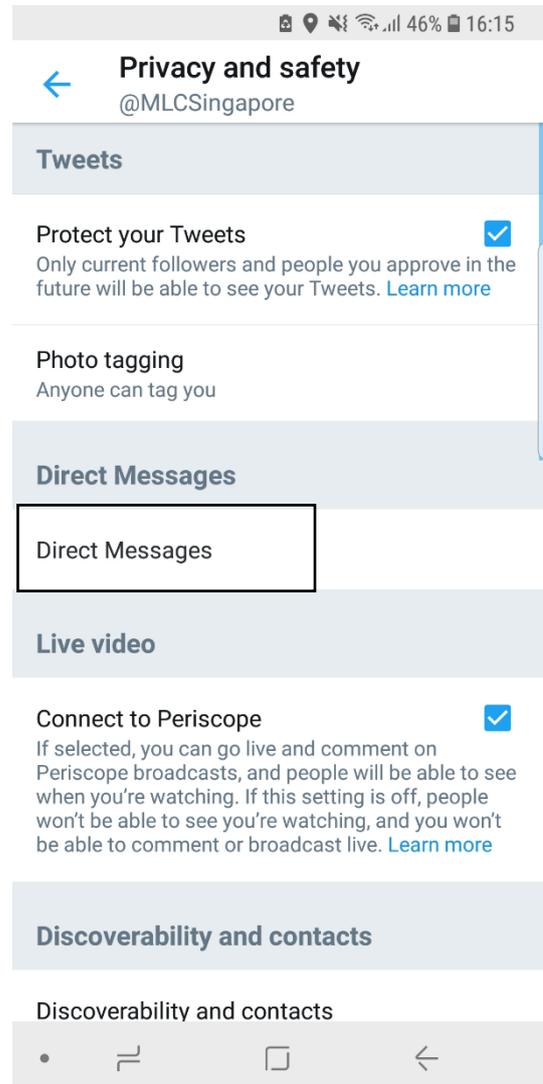
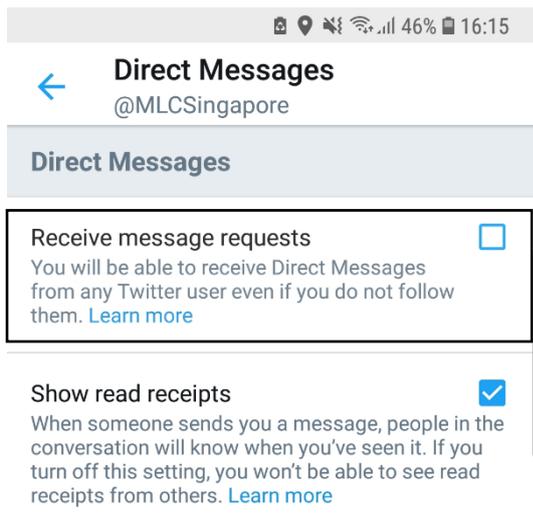
3. Make sure the box is checked and blue next to **Protect your Tweets**, so that only people who follow your child on Twitter can see their posts.

4. Next, under Protect your Tweets, click **Photo tagging**.



5. You can select you can tag your child in photos. Select **Only people you follow can tag you** so that your child's friends can tag them in photos, or turn the feature **Off** entirely, so that your child cannot be tagged in any photos.

6. Next, under Photo Tagging, click **Direct Messages**.

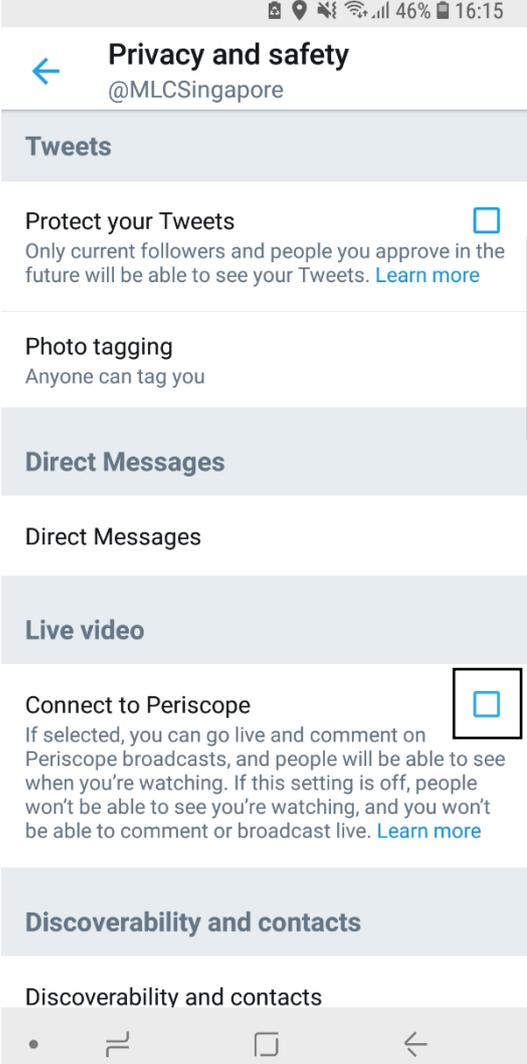


7. Make sure that the box next to **Receive message requests** is not checked so that strangers cannot contact your child on Twitter.

You can also turn off **Show read receipts** so that people will not know if your child has read messages that were sent to them.



8. Next, under Direct Messages, make sure that the box next to **Connect to Periscope** is not checked so that your child cannot make live videos.



The screenshot shows the Twitter 'Privacy and safety' settings page for the account @MLCSingapore. The page is divided into several sections: 'Tweets', 'Direct Messages', 'Live video', and 'Discoverability and contacts'. In the 'Live video' section, the 'Connect to Periscope' option is shown with an unchecked checkbox, which is highlighted by a black square. The status bar at the top indicates 46% battery and the time 16:15. The bottom navigation bar shows the home, search, and profile icons.

16:15 46%
Privacy and safety
@MLCSingapore

Tweets

Protect your Tweets
Only current followers and people you approve in the future will be able to see your Tweets. [Learn more](#)

Photo tagging
Anyone can tag you

Direct Messages

Direct Messages

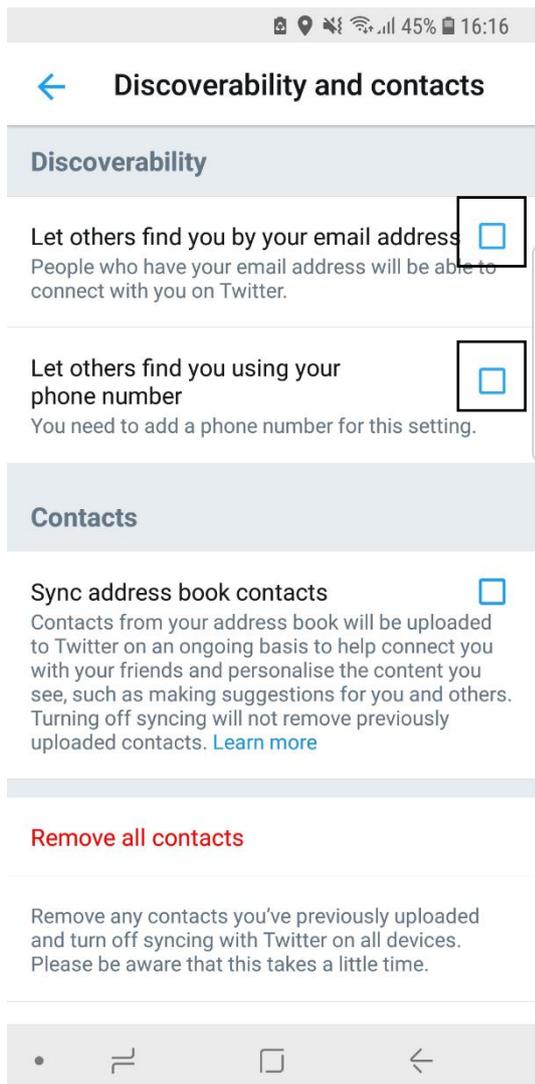
Live video

Connect to Periscope
If selected, you can go live and comment on Periscope broadcasts, and people will be able to see when you're watching. If this setting is off, people won't be able to see you're watching, and you won't be able to comment or broadcast live. [Learn more](#)

Discoverability and contacts

Discoverability and contacts

9. For the next section, click **Discoverability and contacts**.



16:16 45%
← Discoverability and contacts

Discoverability

Let others find you by your email address
People who have your email address will be able to connect with you on Twitter.

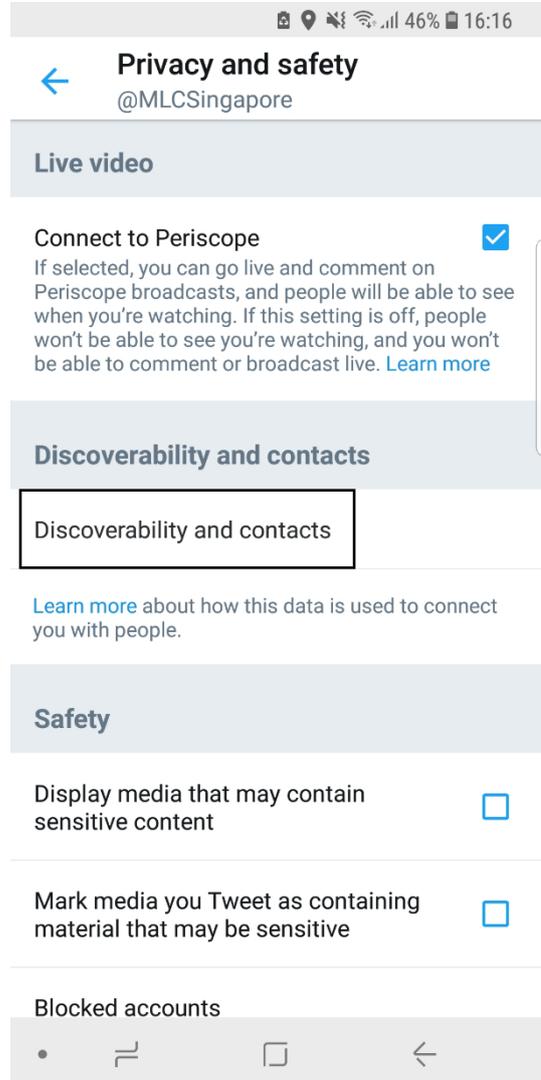
Let others find you using your phone number
You need to add a phone number for this setting.

Contacts

Sync address book contacts
Contacts from your address book will be uploaded to Twitter on an ongoing basis to help connect you with your friends and personalise the content you see, such as making suggestions for you and others. Turning off syncing will not remove previously uploaded contacts. [Learn more](#)

Remove all contacts

Remove any contacts you've previously uploaded and turn off syncing with Twitter on all devices. Please be aware that this takes a little time.



16:16 46%
← Privacy and safety @MLCSingapore

Live video

Connect to Periscope
If selected, you can go live and comment on Periscope broadcasts, and people will be able to see when you're watching. If this setting is off, people won't be able to see you're watching, and you won't be able to comment or broadcast live. [Learn more](#)

Discoverability and contacts

Discoverability and contacts

[Learn more](#) about how this data is used to connect you with people.

Safety

Display media that may contain sensitive content

Mark media you Tweet as containing material that may be sensitive

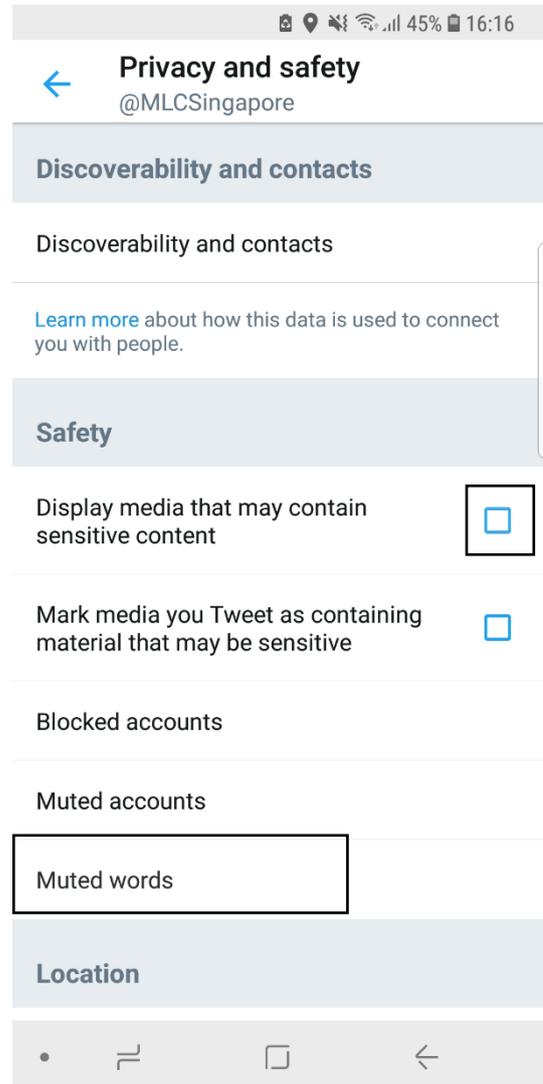
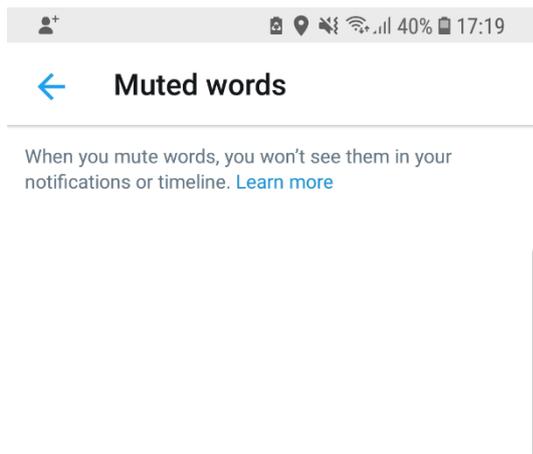
Blocked accounts

10. In this section, uncheck the boxes next to **Let others find you by your email address** and **Let others find you using your phone number** so that people will not be able to find your child's account with their email or number.

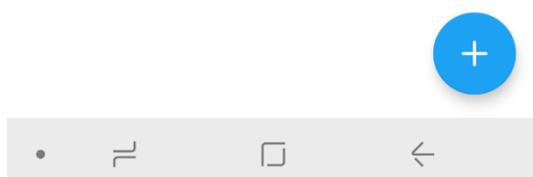
11. Go to the next section on **Safety**.

Make sure that the box next to **Display media that may contain sensitive content** is unchecked. This prevents your child from accidentally seeing content that is marked as sensitive.

Then, click **Muted words**.

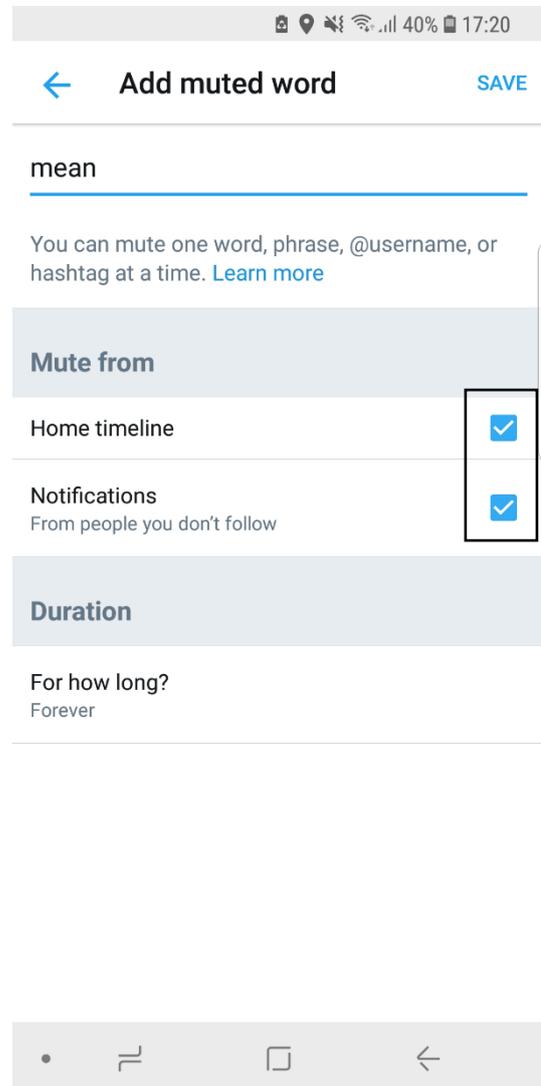
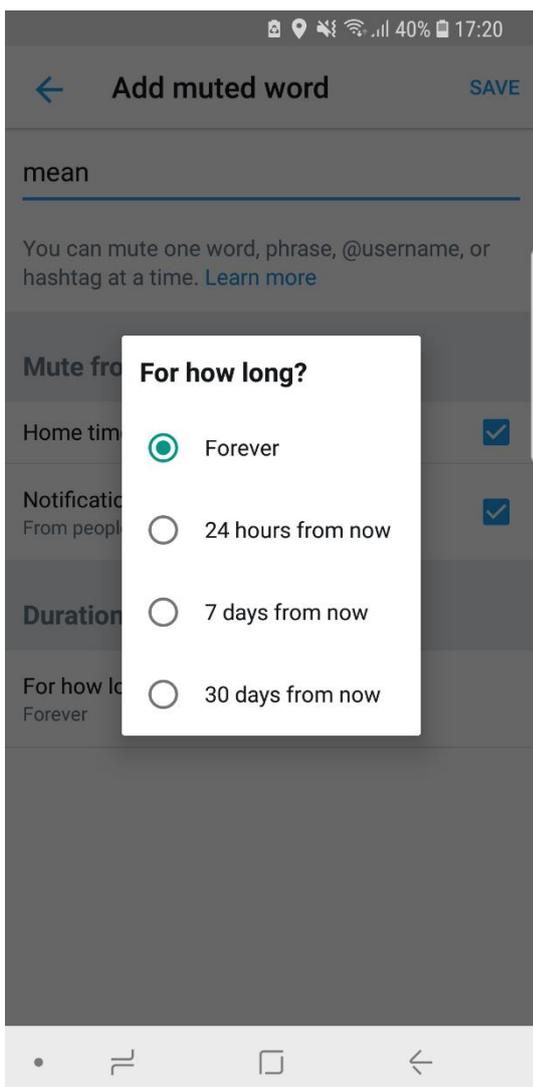


12. If there are words, phrases, or persons that you do not want your child to see on Twitter, you can enter them here. Click the **Add** icon on the bottom right corner.



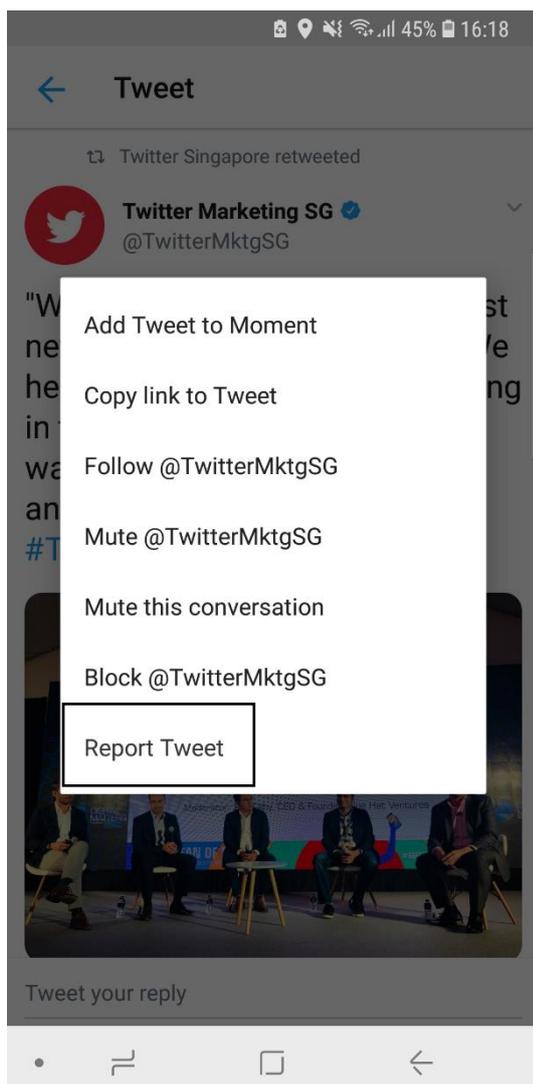
13. Type in the word you want to mute. You have the option of muting this word on your child's **Home timeline** and **Notifications**, but they can still be seen through search.

Muted words are not case sensitive, and apply to the word and hashtag. Both **mean** and **MeAN** are muted, and so is **#mean**.



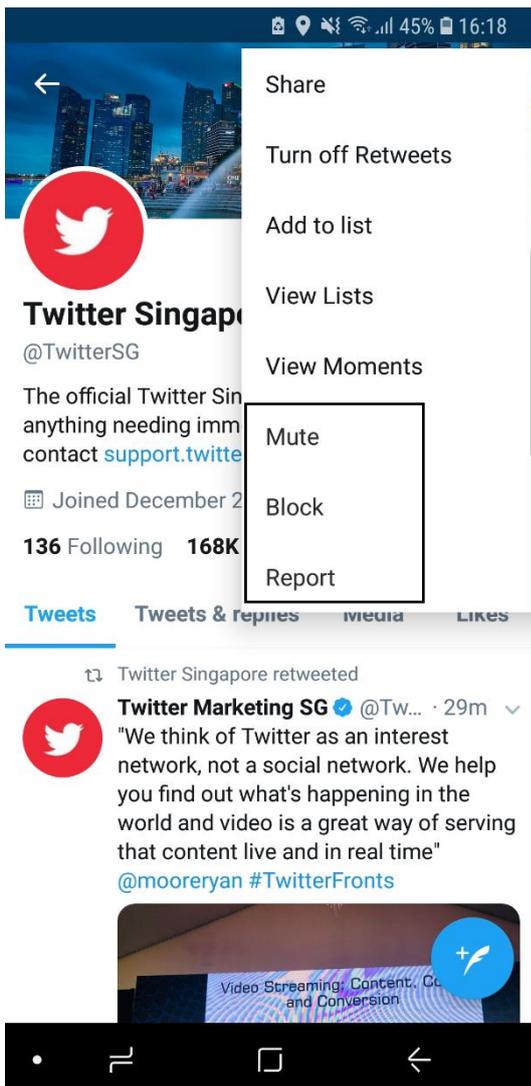
14. You have the option of selecting how long you want the word, phrase, or account to be muted. The default time is **Forever**.

15. You can also report a tweet if you find it offensive or spam. Click on the tweet. Then, click the downward pointing arrow on the top right, next to the name of the poster.



16. In the pop-up box that appears, click **Report Tweet**.

17. You can also mute, block, or report an account. Go to the account. Click the three dotted button on the top right corner.



18. In the options that appear, click **Mute**, **Block**, or **Report**.

Mute would stop Tweets that mention the user from appearing on the timeline or notifications.

Block would stop any Tweets from the account from appearing.

Report would allow you to make a report with Twitter directly about inappropriate or abusive content posted by the account.



**MEDIA
LITERACY
COUNCIL**