Minecraft Parental Controls Guide

Controls & settings guide

From Mojang Studios, Minecraft is popular among kids and teens and available across devices, including mobile, and systems. While you can set a range of parental controls on the devices they use, you can also use the Xbox Family Safety app and in-game safety settings to keep children safe online.

1 How to manage social features

How to manage social features
Within the Xbox Family Settings app, you can manage who your child interacts with while playing Minecraft.

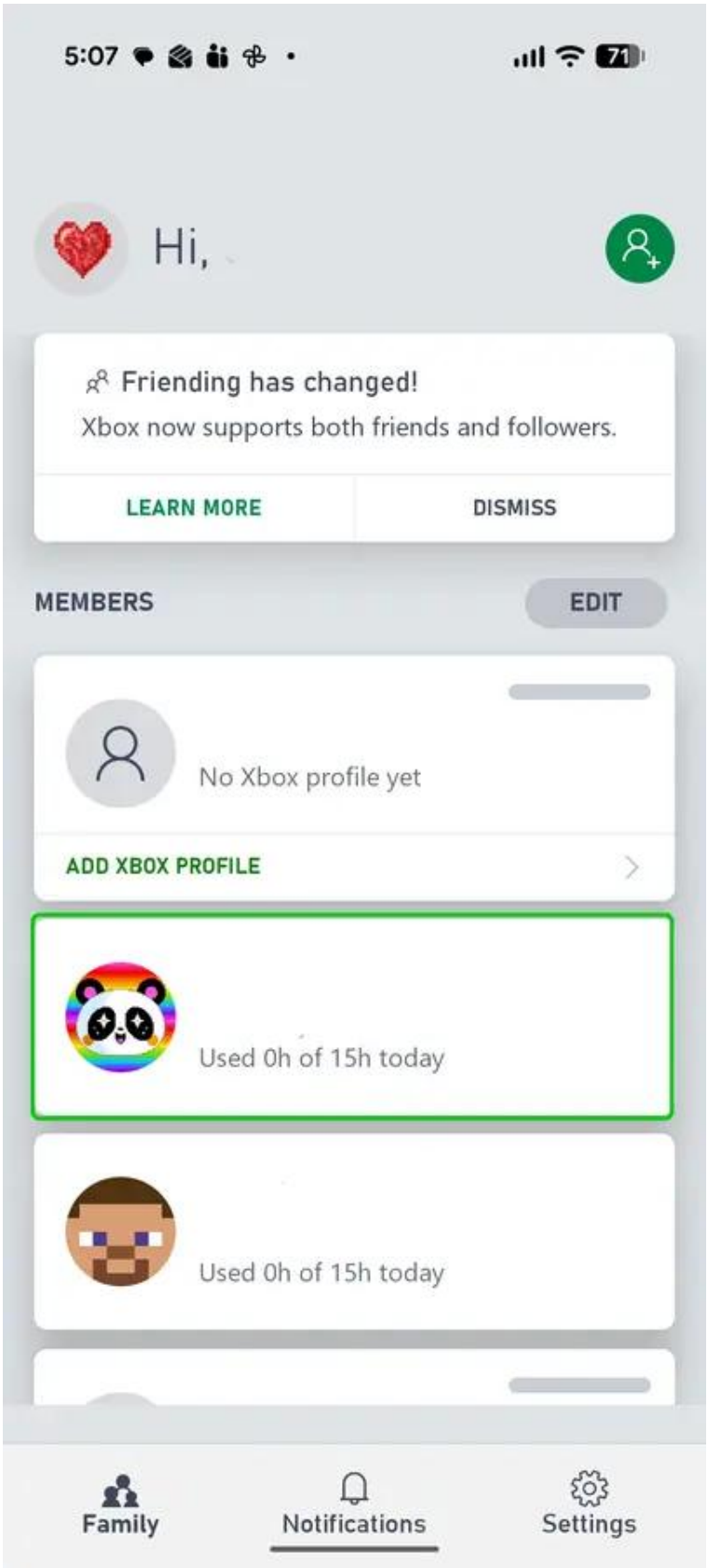
To manage social settings:

Step 1 – From the Xbox Family Settings homepage, select the child account you wish to manage.

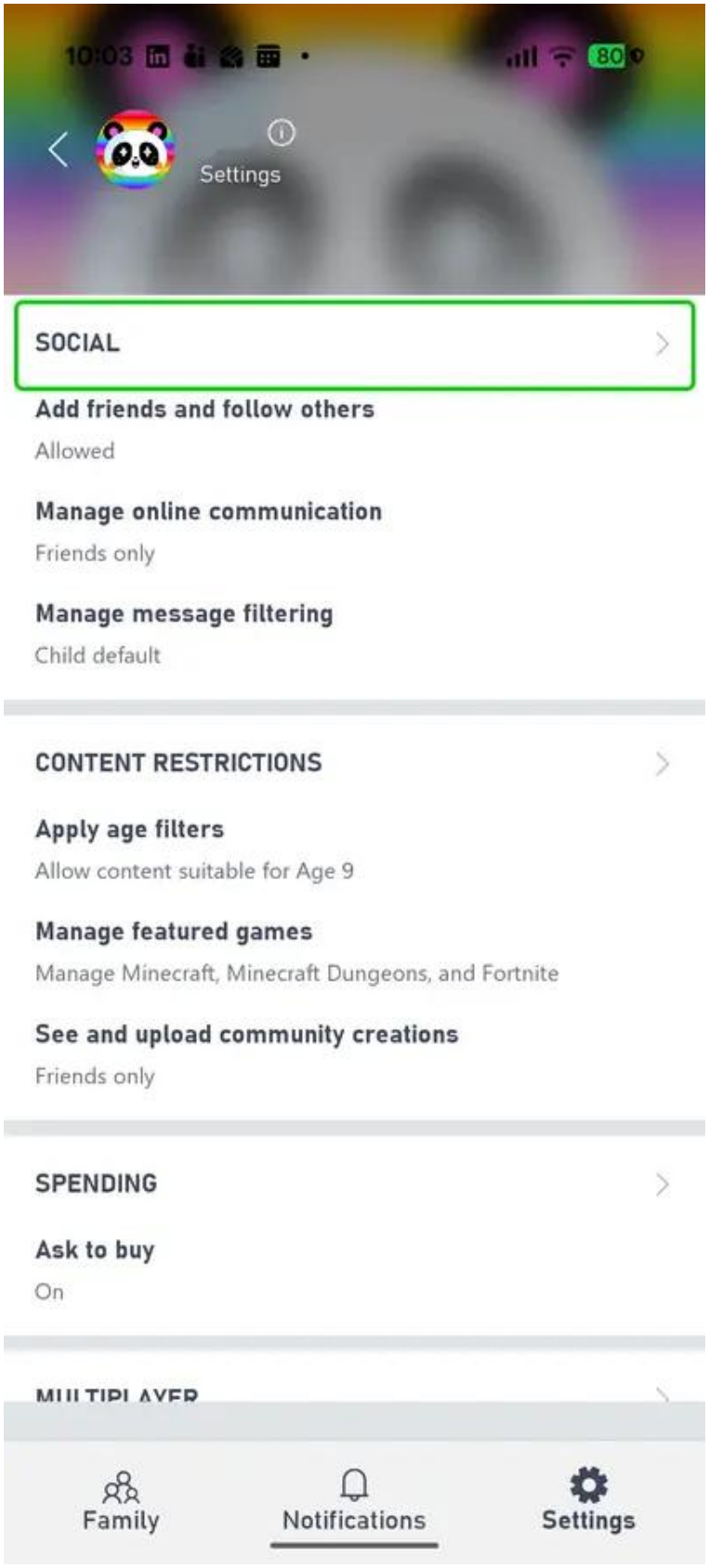
Step 2 – Within the account's settings, select **Social**.

Step 3 – Under the **Social** heading, you can go through the options to decide who can communicate with your child, what content is in messages and whether they can add friends without your permission.

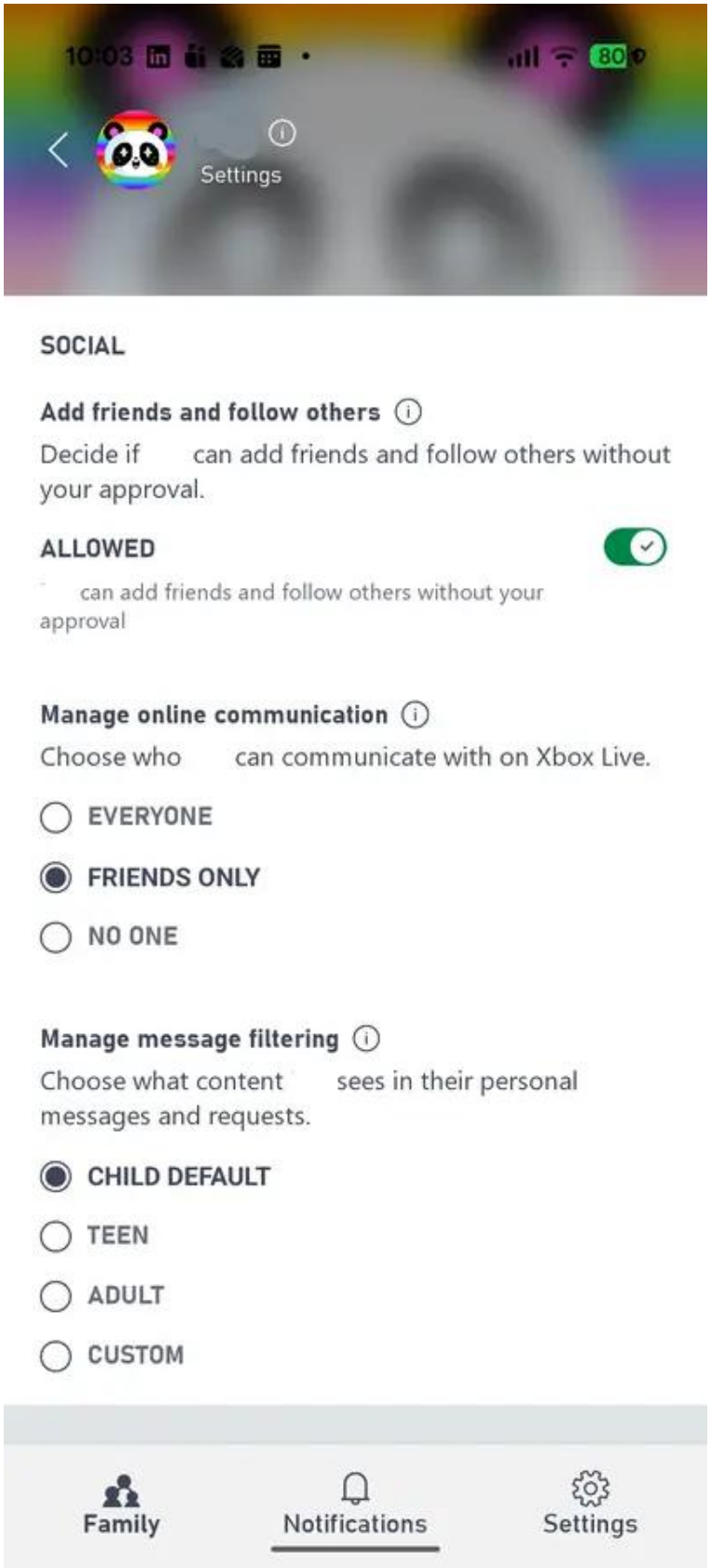
<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


5:07
71
Hi,
Friending has changed!
Xbox now supports both friends and followers.
LEARN MORE
DISMISS
MEMBERS
EDIT
No Xbox profile yet
ADD XBOX PROFILE
Used 0h of 15h today
Used 0h of 15h today
Family
Notifications
Settings

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:03
80
Settings
SOCIAL
Add friends and follow others
Allowed
Manage online communication
Friends only
Manage message filtering
Child default
CONTENT RESTRICTIONS
Apply age filters
Allow content suitable for Age 9
Manage featured games
Manage Minecraft, Minecraft Dungeons, and Fortnite
See and upload community creations
Friends only
SPENDING
Ask to buy
On
Family
Notifications
Settings

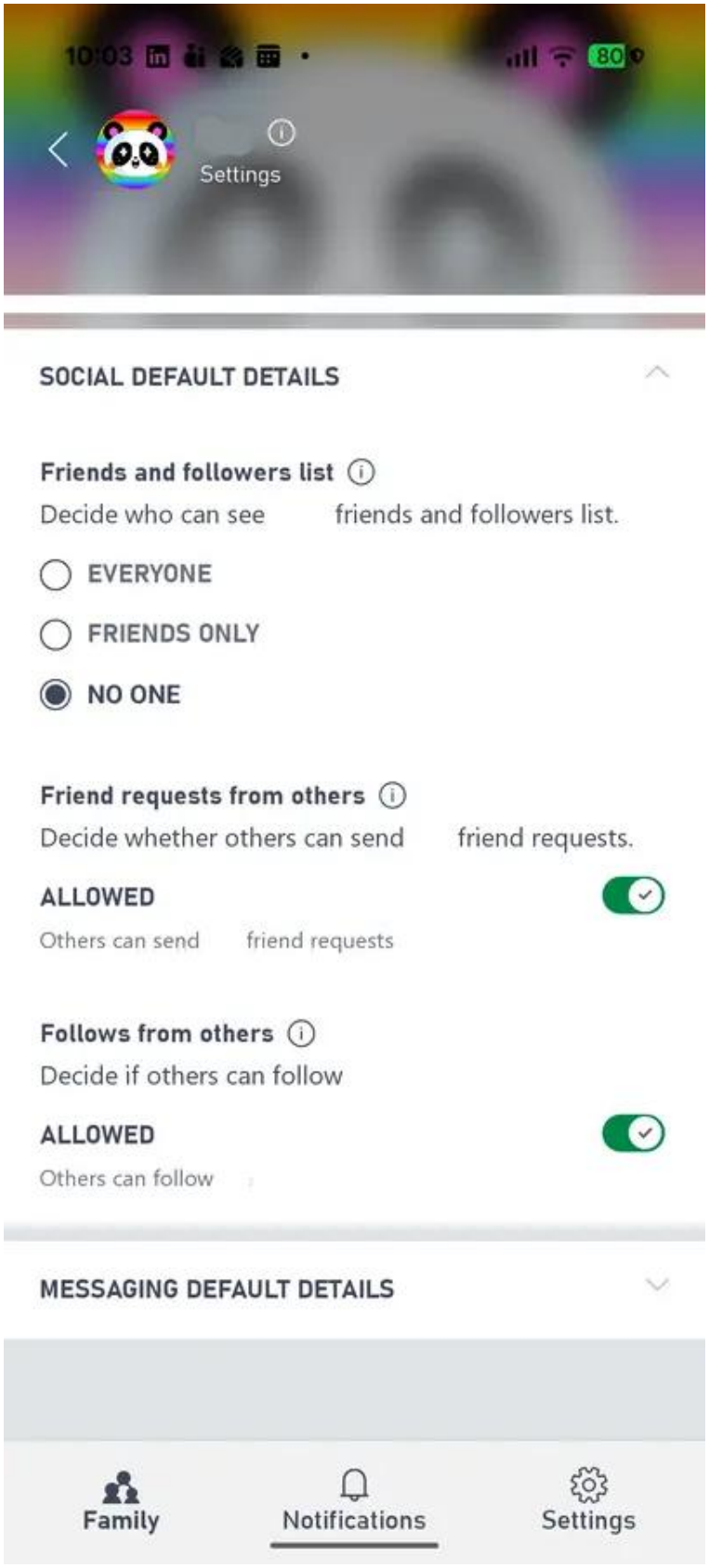
<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:03
80
Settings
SOCIAL
Add friends and follow others
Decide if can add friends and follow others without your approval.
ALLOWED
can add friends and follow others without your approval
Manage online communication
Choose who can communicate with on Xbox Live.
EVERYONE
FRIENDS ONLY
NO ONE
Manage message filtering
Choose what content sees in their personal messages and requests.
CHILD DEFAULT
TEEN
ADULT
CUSTOM
Family
Notifications
Settings

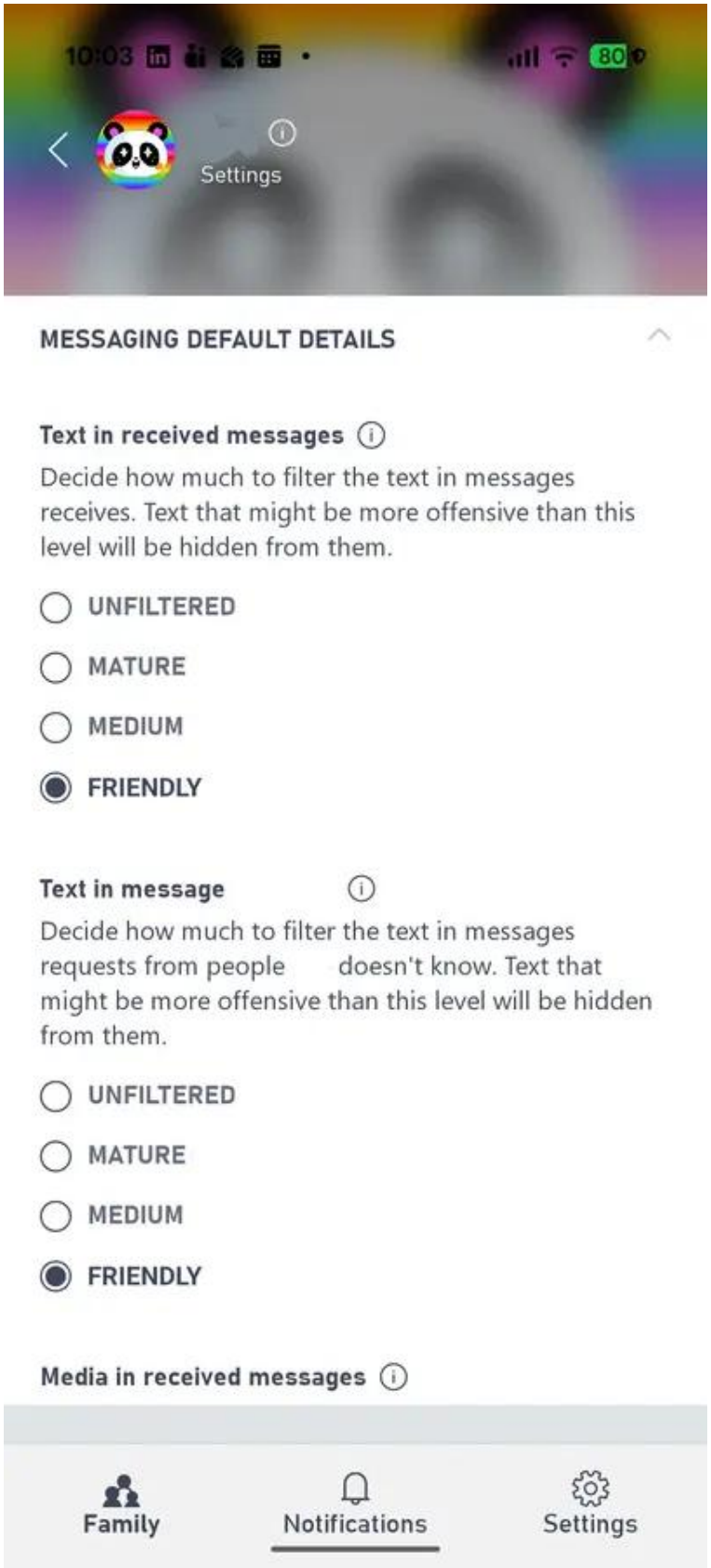
Step 4 – Scroll down to **Social Default Details**, where you can decide whether others can friend or follow your child, and manage who can view their friends and followers list.

Step 5 – Under **Messaging Default Details** you can filter messages to hide offensive text and block media and web links from appearing in them.

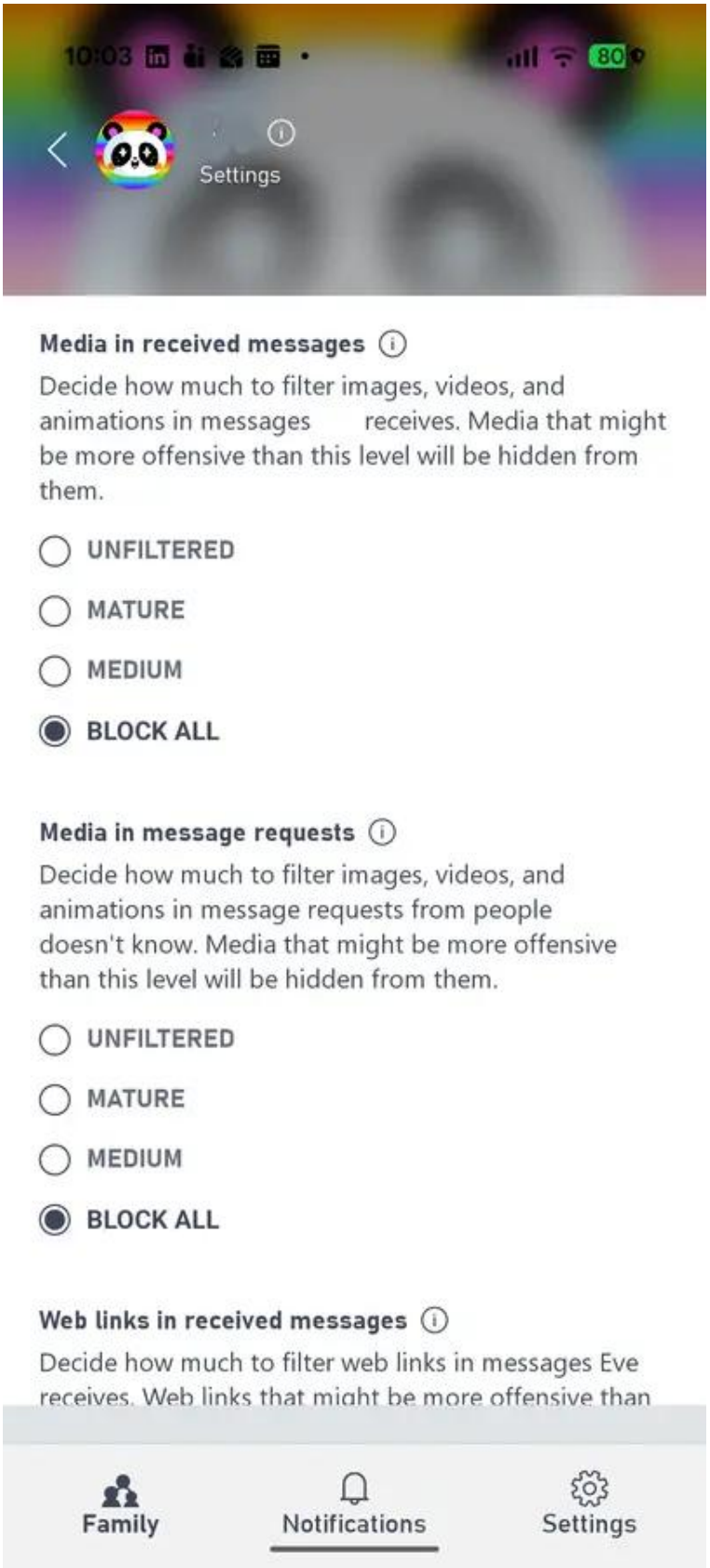
<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:03
80
Settings
SOCIAL DEFAULT DETAILS
Friends and followers list
Decide who can see friends and followers list.
EVERYONE
FRIENDS ONLY
NO ONE
Friend requests from others
Decide whether others can send friend requests.
ALLOWED
Others can send friend requests
Follows from others
Decide if others can follow
ALLOWED
Others can follow
MESSAGING DEFAULT DETAILS
Family
Notifications
Settings

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10:03
80
Settings
MESSAGING DEFAULT DETAILS
Text in received messages
Decide how much to filter the text in messages receives. Text that might be more offensive than this level will be hidden from them.
UNFILTERED
MATURE
MEDIUM
FRIENDLY
Text in message
Decide how much to filter the text in messages requests from people doesn't know. Text that might be more offensive than this level will be hidden from them.
UNFILTERED
MATURE
MEDIUM
FRIENDLY
Media in received messages
Family
Notifications
Settings

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:03
80
Settings
Media in received messages
Decide how much to filter images, videos, and animations in messages receives. Media that might be more offensive than this level will be hidden from them.
UNFILTERED
MATURE
MEDIUM
BLOCK ALL
Media in message requests
Decide how much to filter images, videos, and animations in message requests from people doesn't know. Media that might be more offensive than this level will be hidden from them.
UNFILTERED
MATURE
MEDIUM
BLOCK ALL
Web links in received messages
Decide how much to filter web links in messages Eve receives. Web links that might be more offensive than
Family
Notifications
Settings

2 How to restrict content

How to restrict content
Using Xbox Family Settings, you can restrict content for your child.

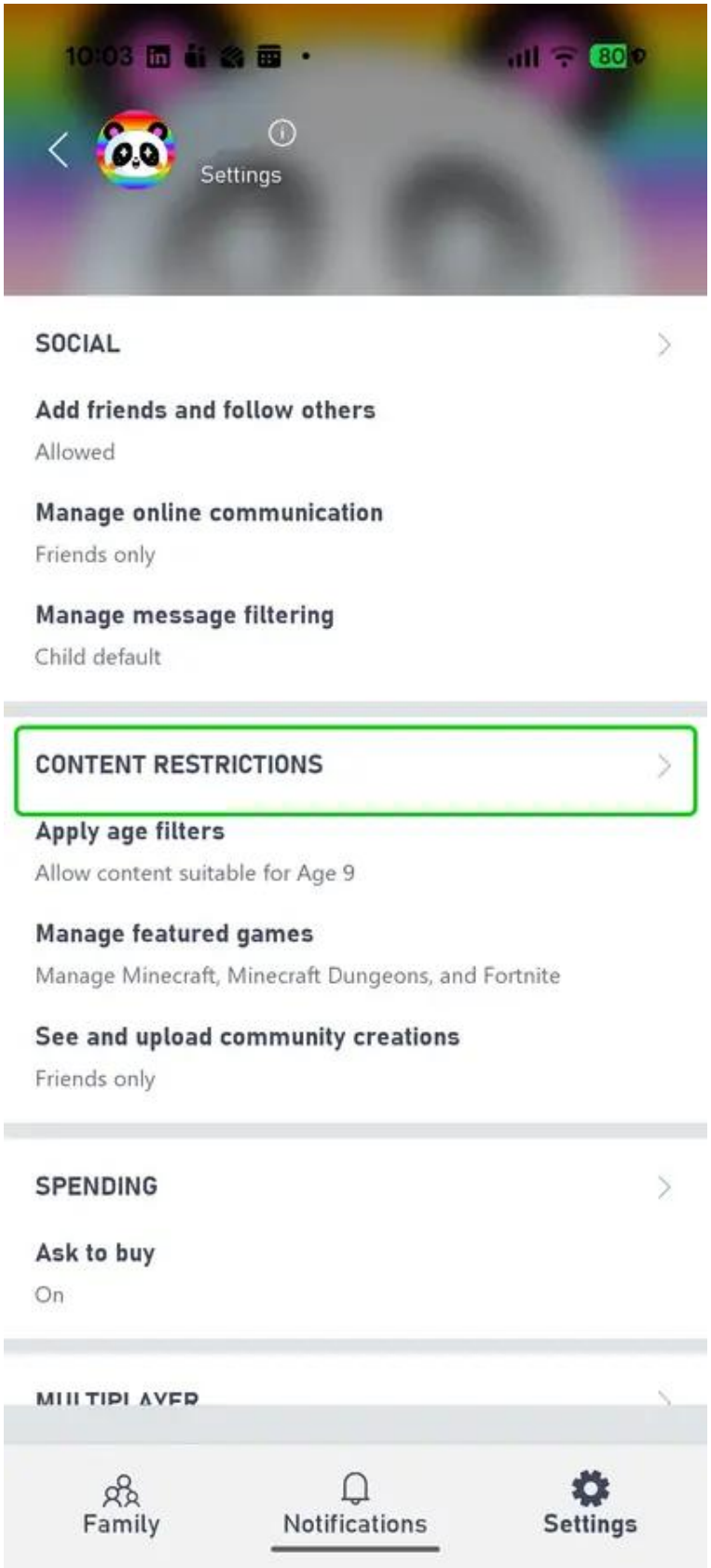
To manage social settings:

Step 1 – Within your child's account settings, select **Content Restrictions**.

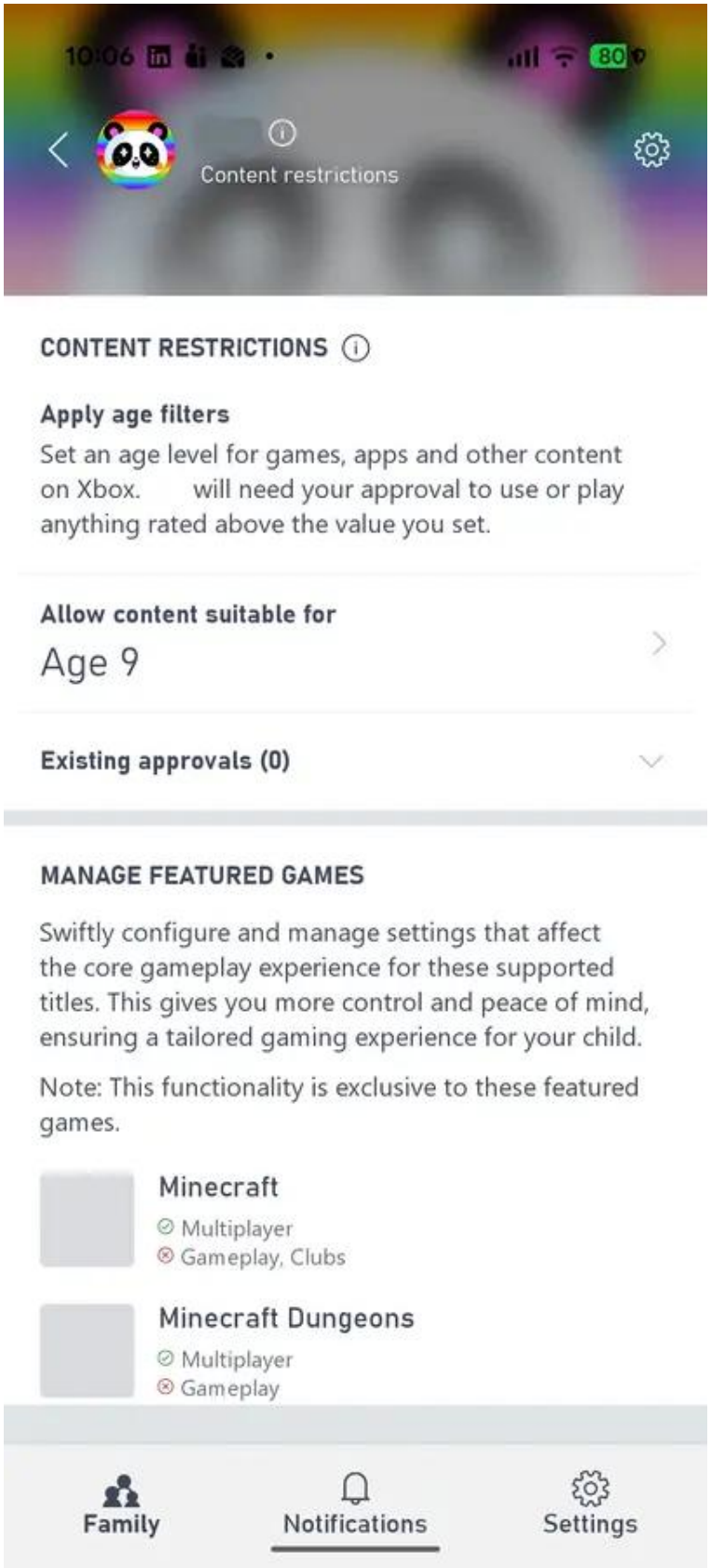
Step 2 – In Content Restrictions you can apply age features to prevent your child from accessing content that is too mature for them.

Step 3 – You can also decide whose community creations they can see. It is recommended to set this to **Friends Only**.

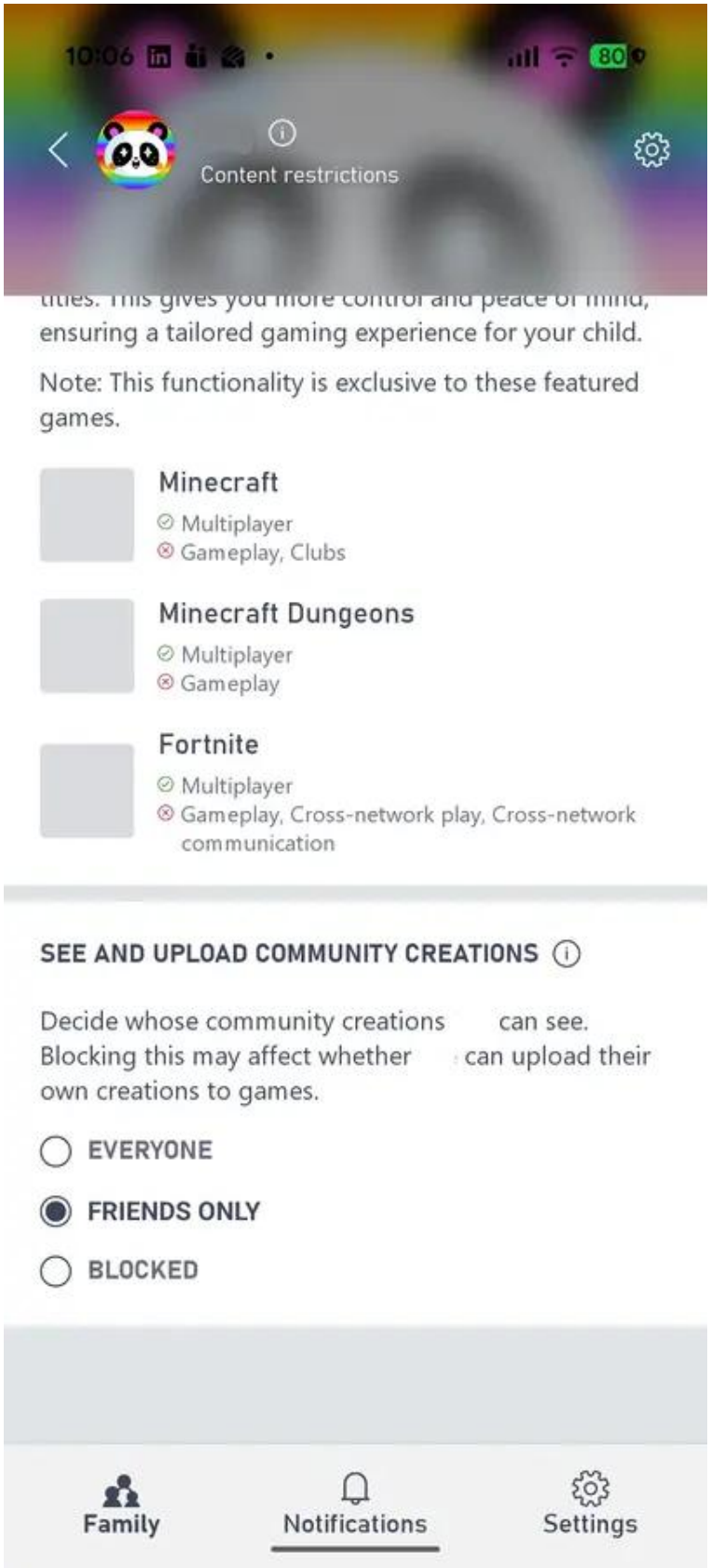
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10:03
80
Settings
SOCIAL
Add friends and follow others
Allowed
Manage online communication
Friends only
Manage message filtering
Child default
CONTENT RESTRICTIONS
Apply age filters
Allow content suitable for Age 9
Manage featured games
Manage Minecraft, Minecraft Dungeons, and Fortnite
See and upload community creations
Friends only
SPENDING
Ask to buy
On
Family
Notifications
Settings

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:06
80
Content restrictions
CONTENT RESTRICTIONS
Apply age filters
Set an age level for games, apps and other content on Xbox. will need your approval to use or play anything rated above the value you set.
Allow content suitable for
Age 9
Existing approvals (0)
MANAGE FEATURED GAMES
Swiftly configure and manage settings that affect the core gameplay experience for these supported titles. This gives you more control and peace of mind, ensuring a tailored gaming experience for your child.
Note: This functionality is exclusive to these featured games.
Minecraft
Multiplayer
Gameplay, Clubs
Minecraft Dungeons
Multiplayer
Gameplay
Family
Notifications
Settings

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10:06
80
Content restrictions
ensuring a tailored gaming experience for your child.
Note: This functionality is exclusive to these featured games.
Minecraft
Multiplayer
Gameplay, Clubs
Minecraft Dungeons
Multiplayer
Gameplay
Fortnite
Multiplayer
Gameplay, Cross-network play, Cross-network communication
SEE AND UPLOAD COMMUNITY CREATIONS
Decide whose community creations can see. Blocking this may affect whether can upload their own creations to games.
EVERYONE
FRIENDS ONLY
BLOCKED
Family
Notifications
Settings

3 How to manage spending

How to manage spending
In-game transactions can be made while playing Minecraft. Use the Family Settings to manage your child's spending.

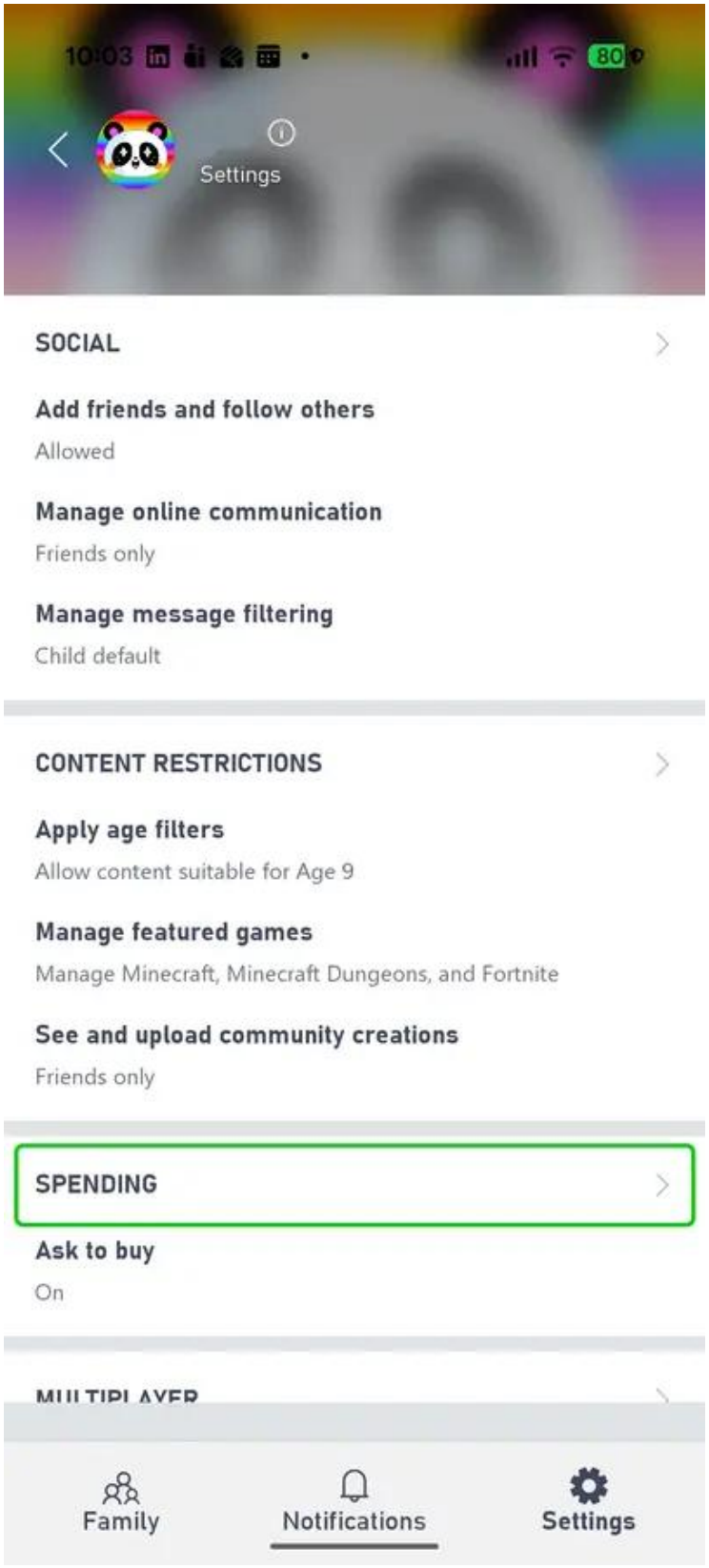
To manage spending:

Step 1 – From your child's account settings, select **Spending**.

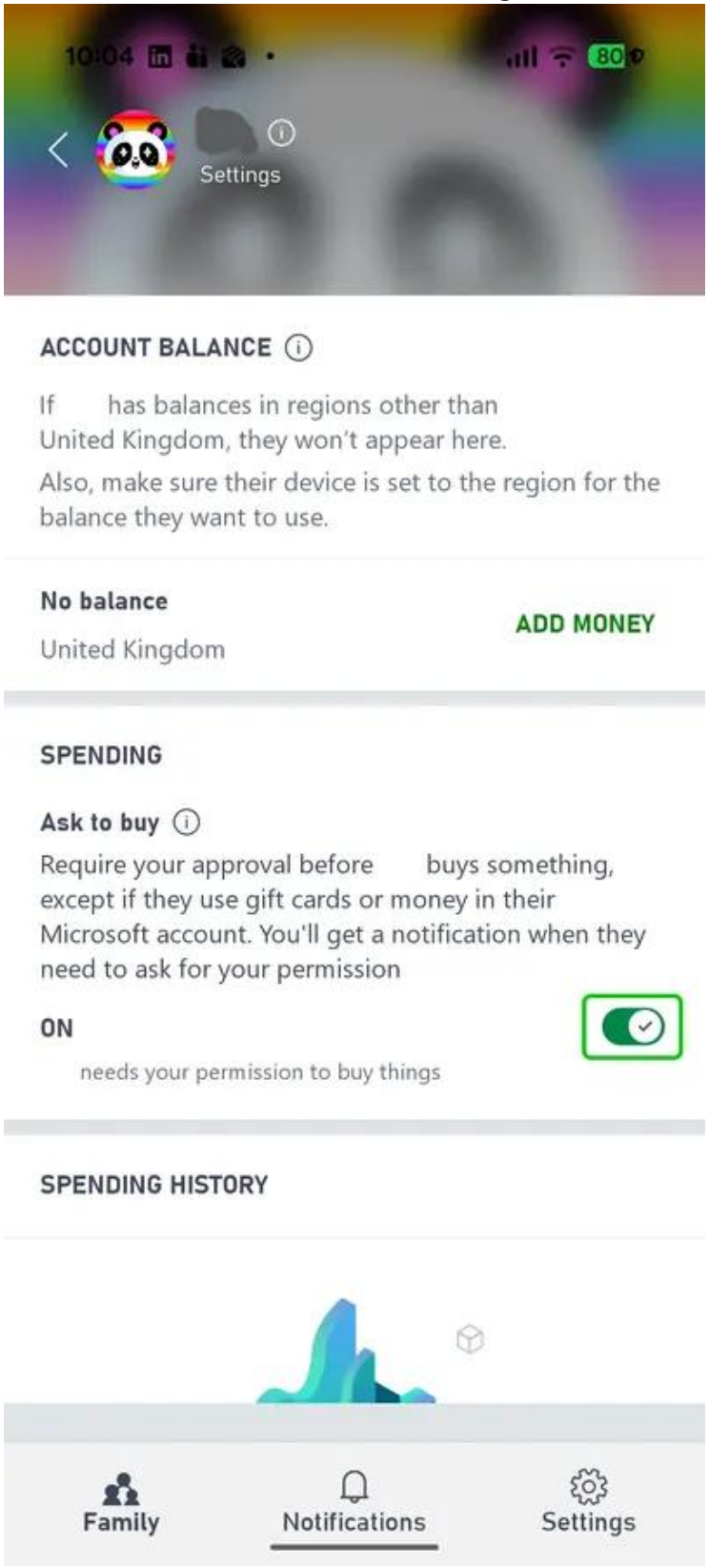
Step 2 – In the Spending settings you can view your child's spending history and add money to their account balance to allow them to make purchases.

Step 3 – Enable the **toggle** next to **Ask to buy** to require your approval before your child makes a purchase.

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


10:03
80
Settings
SOCIAL
Add friends and follow others
Allowed
Manage online communication
Friends only
Manage message filtering
Child default
CONTENT RESTRICTIONS
Apply age filters
Allow content suitable for Age 9
Manage featured games
Manage Minecraft, Minecraft Dungeons, and Fortnite
See and upload community creations
Friends only
SPENDING
Ask to buy
On
Family
Notifications
Settings

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">



4 Setting screen time limits

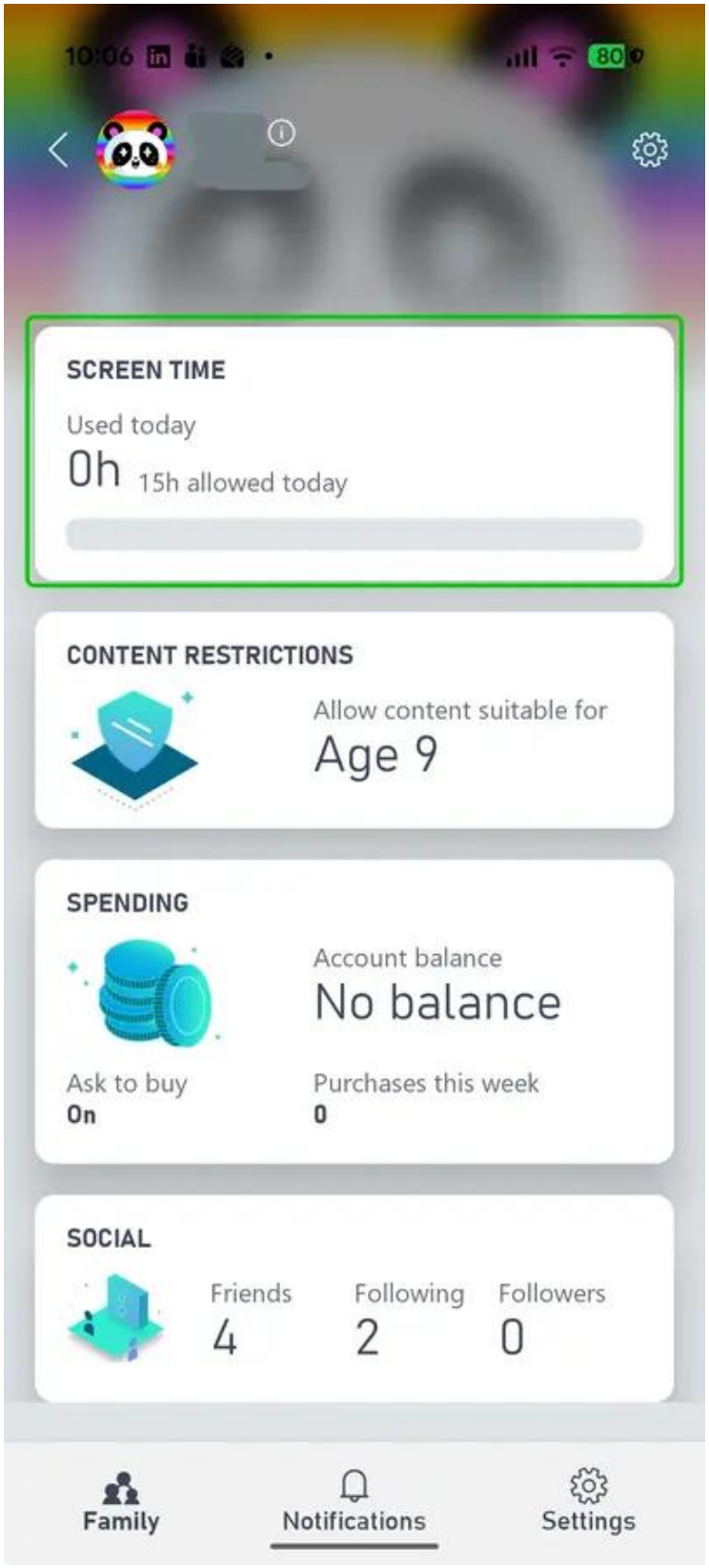
Setting screen time limits
Custom screen time schedules can be set on your child's account, limiting how long your child can play Minecraft and on what days.

To manage screen time:

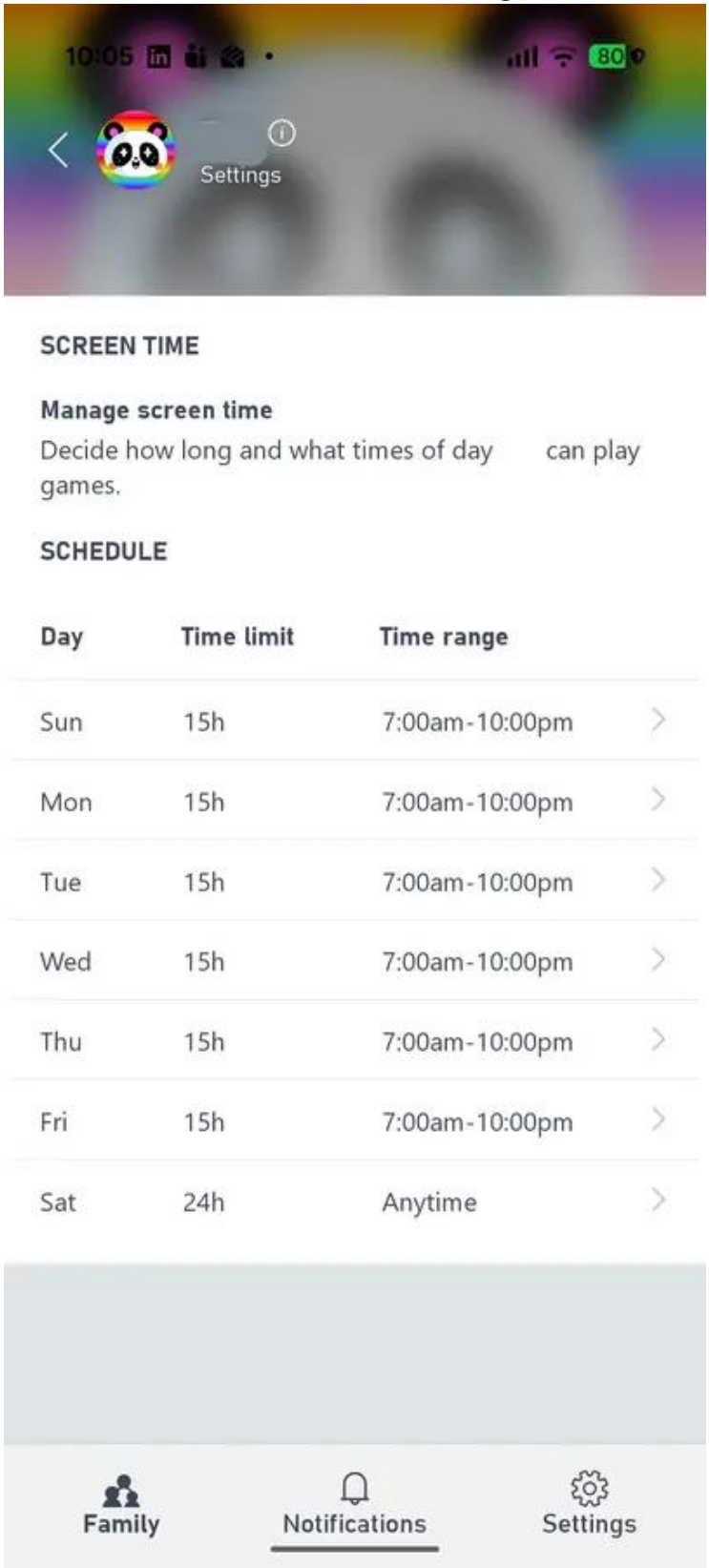
Step 1 – From your child's profile overview, select **Screen Time**.

Step 2 – Within Screen Time, you can set custom screen time schedules. You can edit how long your child plays, during which time range, on each day.

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">


SCREEN TIME
Used today
0h 15h allowed today
CONTENT RESTRICTIONS
Allow content suitable for
Age 9
SPENDING
Account balance
No balance
Ask to buy
On
Purchases this week
0
SOCIAL
Friends
4
Following
2
Followers
0
Family
Notifications
Settings

<?xml encoding="UTF-8">



5 How to add, mute, block or report players in-game

How to add, mute, block or report players in-game
When in a game and you pause, you can add, mute, or report the player(s).

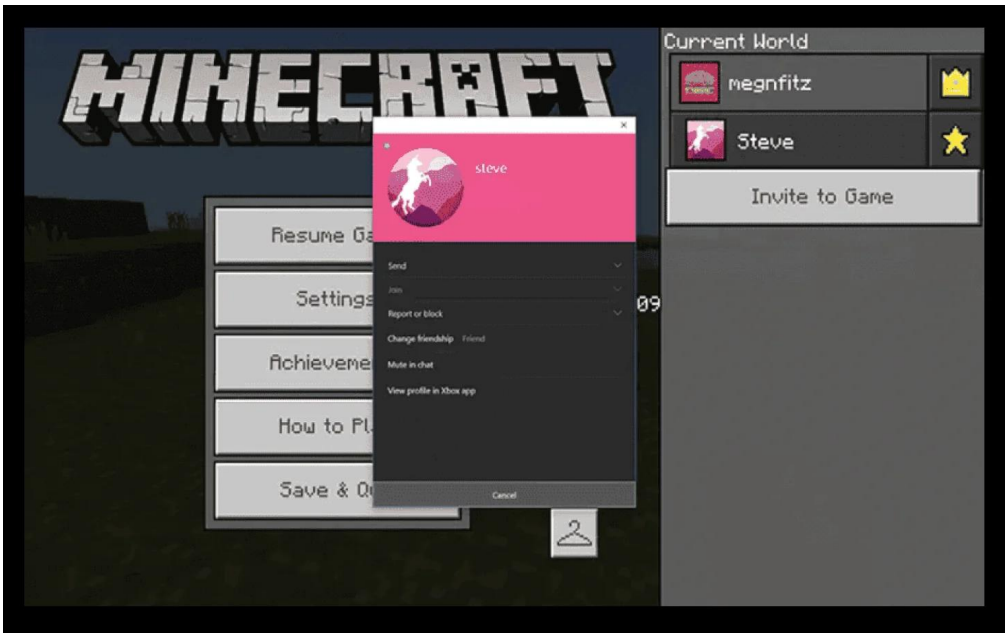
To add, mute, block or report someone:

Step 1 – While playing, access the options menu and select the player you wish to action.

Step 2 – Choose the relevant action and follow the in-game instructions.

What happens when you...

Add a player?: if you add a user, they will be able to join you when you're playing in Minecraft worlds and will show up in your invite lists.
Mute a player?: when you mute someone, you won't see any of their messages in the chat.
Block a player?: when you block someone, they can't contact you at all. You also won't see any of their messages or game invites.
Report a player?: reported messages are sent to Minecraft. Depending on the report, they can temporarily ban chat features, suspend the user from joining a game or services and more.



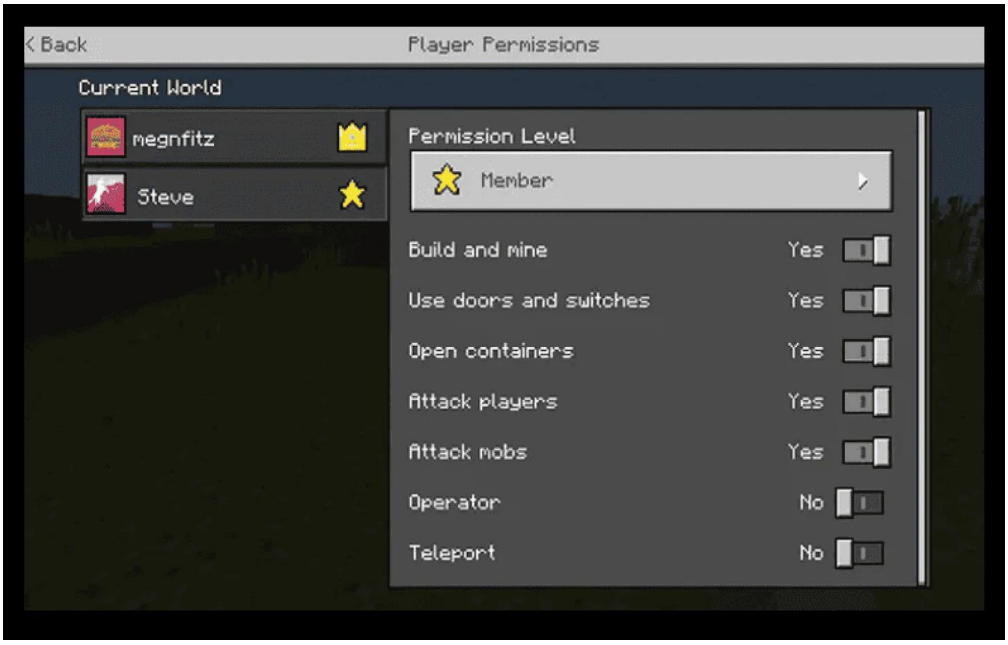
6 Where to set player permissions in-game

Where to set player permissions in-game
You can set custom permissions for each player in your world or Realm, or use pre-set permissions levels.

To set player permissions in-game:

Step 1 – While playing, pause the game and click on the player's username.

Step 2 – Customise the permissions. You can limit the actions they can take like attacking others.



7 How to access family-friendly servers

How to access family-friendly servers
You can access family-friendly servers with the help of volunteers who monitor the Minecraft world for any inappropriate language, inappropriate content and bullying. Websites like leahnieman.com maintain private servers that are family-friendly.

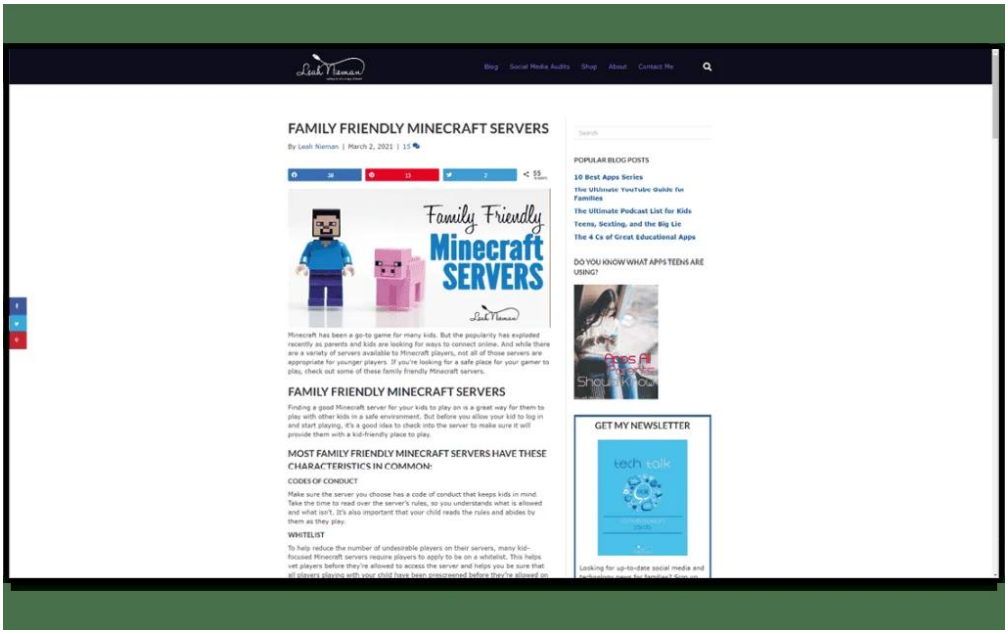
To access family-friendly servers:

Step 1 – From the above website or ones like it, find the server address for the one you would like to access. One example is Towncraft's address, which is play.towncraft.us. Make note of the address you choose.

Step 2 – In Minecraft, from the main menu, select Multiplayer, read the message and Proceed.

Step 3 – The next screen will show all the servers your child has joined. You can delete any that are inappropriate and add new ones that you approve. Select Add Server.

Step 4 – Enter the Server Address in the bottom field and select Done. Select the new server and then choose Join Server. Your child can start playing within the server you've added.




MINECRAFT
JAVA EDITION
Java 16 + 1 = 17?!
Singleplayer
Multiplayer
Minecraft Realms
Options...
Quit Game
Minecraft 1.19.2
Copyright Mojang AB. Do not distribute!


Edit Server Info
Server Name
Minecraft Server
Server Address
play.towncraft.us_
Server Resource Packs: Prompt
Done
Cancel



8 Customise or turn off in-game chat

Customise or turn off in-game chat
Minecraft parental controls aren't just about limitations; the game also has settings to help make the chat more accessible for your child.

For younger children you may want to turn chat off, while older children might benefit from customised settings like a solid background behind the text.

To customise in-game chat settings:

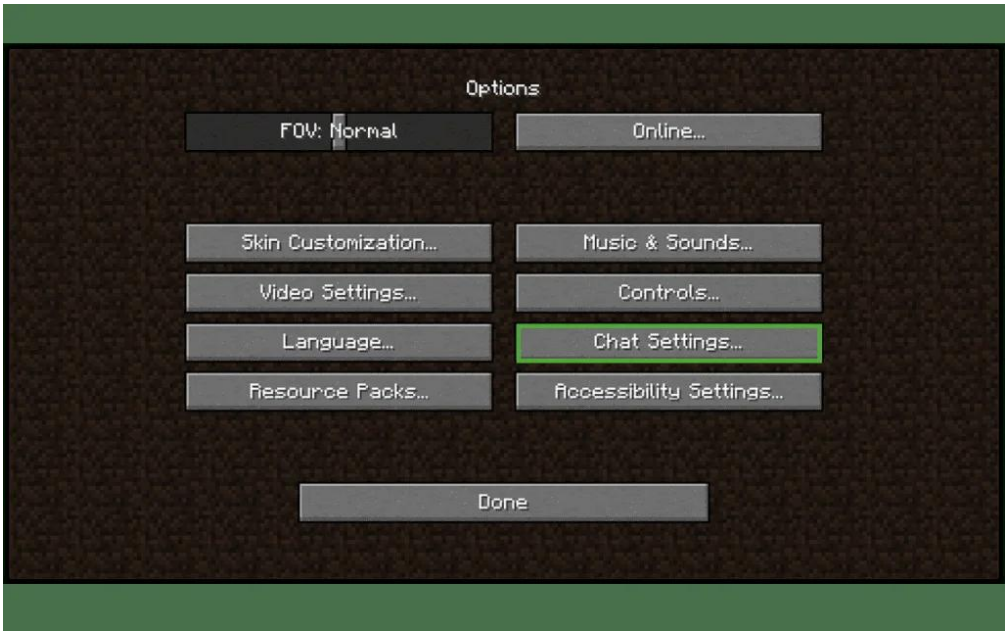
Step 1 – From Minecraft's main menu, select Options... and then Chat Settings...

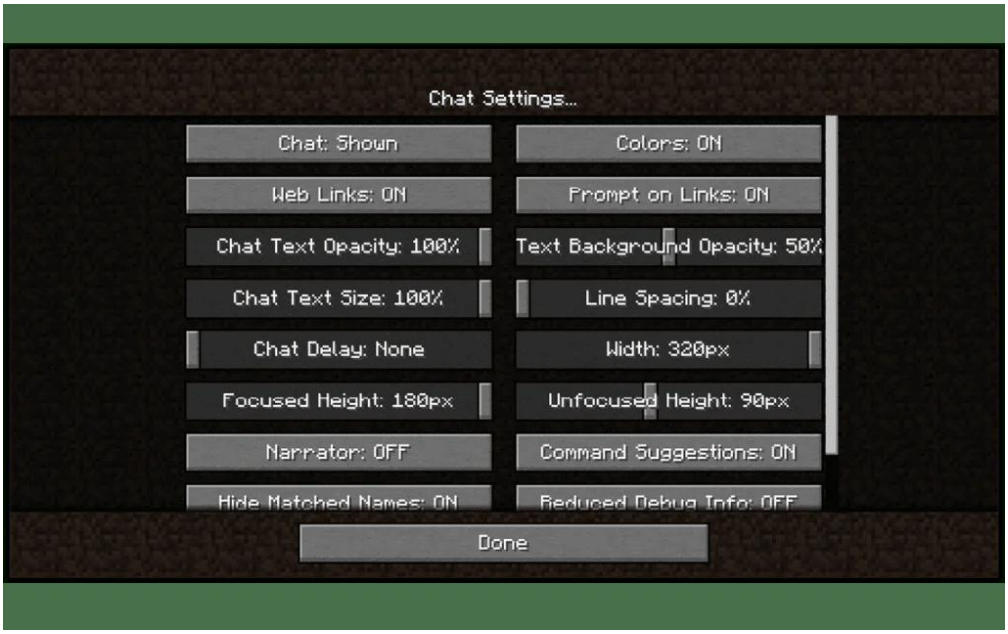
Step 2 – Switch Chat to Commands Only or Hidden to protect your child from unexpected language or from oversharing.

Step 3 – Set Web Links and Prompt on Links to Off. This will mean they can't receive links in-chat that could lead to scams like phishing.

Step 4 – Customise appearance of the text, colours and more to help support your child's needs.


MINECRAFT
JAVA EDITION
Java 16 + 1 = 17!
Singleplayer
Multiplayer
Minecraft Realms
Options...
Quit Game
Minecraft 1.19.2
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Options
FOV: Normal
Online...
Skin Customization...
Music & Sounds...
Video Settings...
Controls...
Language...
Chat Settings...
Resource Packs...
Accessibility Settings...
Done



9 How to set up realms for your child and their friends

How to set up realms for your child and their friends
If you want to manage who can play on a server, Minecraft realms is a safe way to do this. You can set up realms for your child and up to 10 of their friends. However, you will need to purchase this.

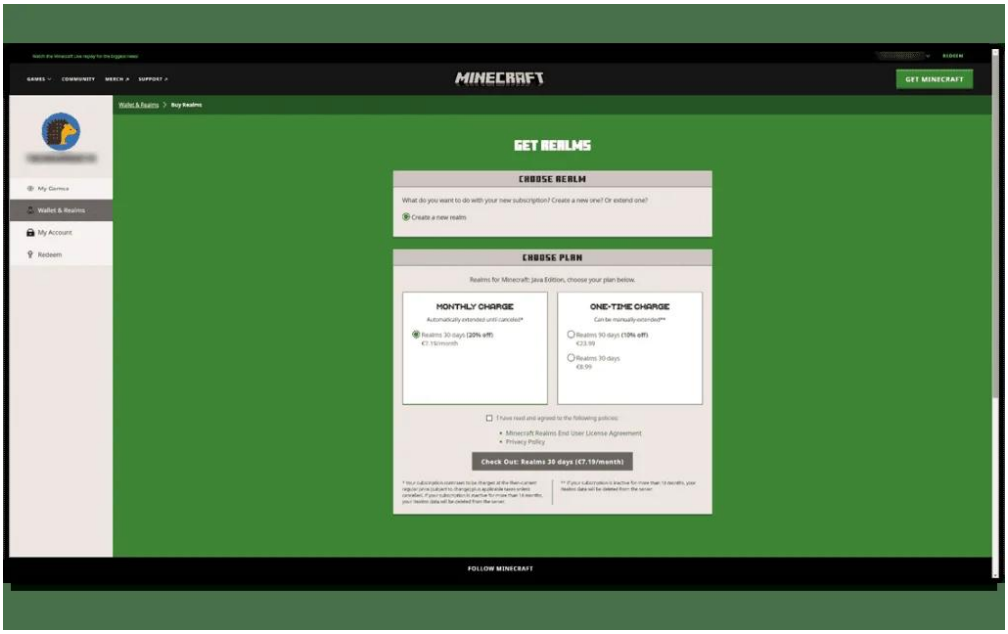
To set up a realm:

Step 1 – From Minecraft's main menu, select Minecraft Realms. Then, select Buy a realm!

Step 2 – In your device account, you will see the purchase options for the realm. You can choose a one-off purchase or a subscription. You may want to work with the parents of your child's friends to spread the cost among each other for a collaborative way to keep your children safe on Minecraft.


MINECRAFT
JAVA EDITION
Java 16 + 1 = 17!
Singleplayer
Multiplayer
Minecraft Realms
Options...
Quit Game
Minecraft 1.19.2
Copyright Mojang AB. Do not distribute!


MINECRAFT
REALMS
Realms is a safe, simple way to enjoy an online Minecraft world with up to ten friends at a time. It supports loads of minigames and plenty of custom worlds! Only the owner of the realm needs to pay.
Get a trial!
Buy a realm!
Play
Back



10 Minecraft on YouTube

Minecraft on YouTube

The Minecraft community is extremely active outside of the game. For instance, many players use YouTube to discuss their projects. It is worthwhile to add parental controls to your YouTube account if your child is a fan of Minecraft. See our YouTube parental controls guide to help.


YouTube