



Google Family Link for Android

This easy guide will walk you through setting up your child's **Google Family Link** account in Android, so you can know what sites they are visiting, apps they are using and how much time they are spending on their device, plus much more.... Its non-invasive and your child doesn't even need to know.

This android app allows you, the parent, to set up a Google account for your child under 13 and connect it to *your* Google account.

You can grant access to specific apps and tools, approve paid downloads, monitor screen time, track location, see what apps they are spending the most time in, and more.

All in all it's pretty cool 😊

STEP 1

To get started with Family Link, you'll need to first install it on *your* phone. Go ahead and do that now.

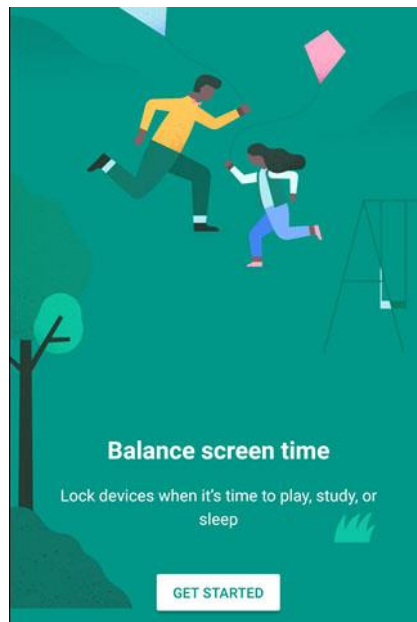


Go to the play store on your phone. Search for "*Family Link*" then select "Google Family Link" from results. To install simply select the *Install* button.

Please have your child's device to hand.

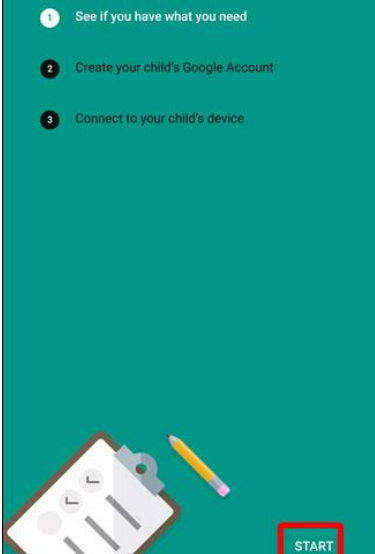
If your child already has a Google account, you'll need to set up a new one.

Start the Family Link app. It starts off with a few pages of what the app is all about. Swipe through those, then tap "Get Started".



STEP 2

It jumps right into a checklist to make sure you have everything you need.

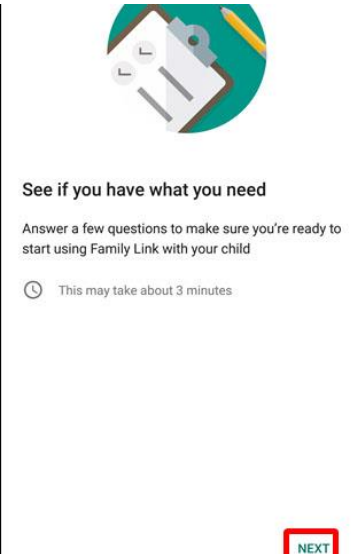


1 See if you have what you need

2 Create your child's Google Account

3 Connect to your child's device

START



See if you have what you need

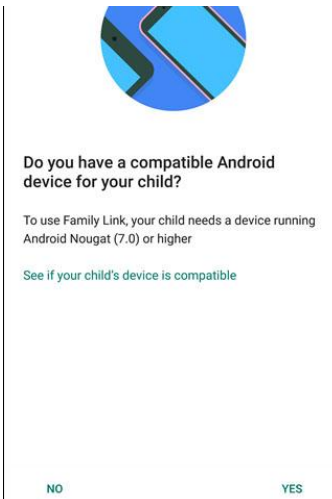
Answer a few questions to make sure you're ready to start using Family Link with your child

⌚ This may take about 3 minutes

NEXT

STEP 3

Follow the instructions and answer the questions as they show up. The first thing you'll need to do is make sure the device you plan on handing over is compatible with Family Link



Do you have a compatible Android device for your child?



To use Family Link, your child needs a device running Android Nougat (7.0) or higher

See if your child's device is compatible

NO YES


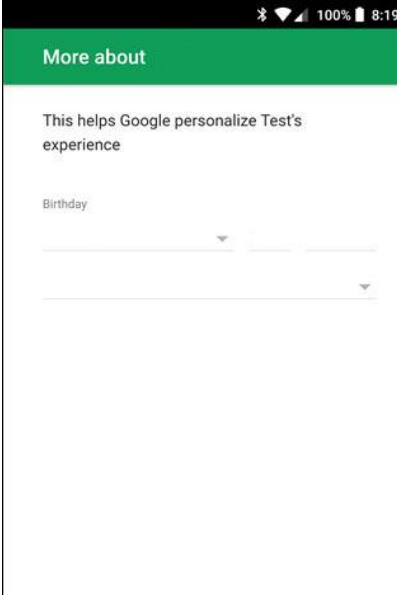
STEP 4

Next, you'll create your child's account and link it to yours. You'll sign into your account here.

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>Are you ready to create a Google Account for your child?</p> <p>Family Link lets you create a Google Account for your child that's linked to yours until they turn 13.</p> <p>You'll create this account in just a bit.</p> <p>NO YES</p> |  <p>Use Family Link with your existing family group?</p> <p>Your family already uses Google services together. When you create your child's account, it'll be added to the family group you're managing.</p> <p>Later, you can invite other family members, or add another parent to help manage your child's account. You can also create and manage more accounts for children under 13. Learn more</p> <p>NO YES</p> |
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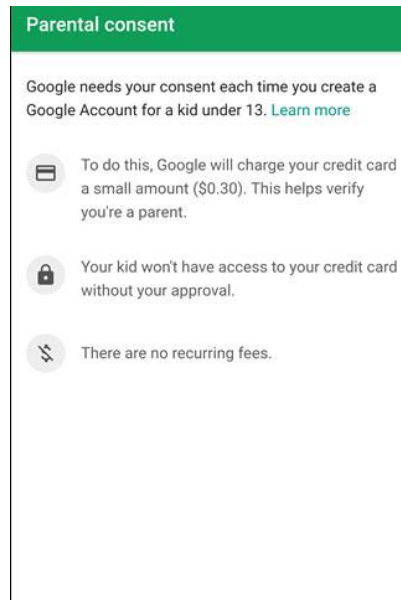
STEP 5

You'll enter their name, birthday, and gender (if you want), create their Gmail address and set up their password.

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>Create a Google Account</p> <p>Start by entering your kid's full name</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |  <p>More about</p> <p>This helps Google personalize Test's experience</p> <p>Birthday</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> |
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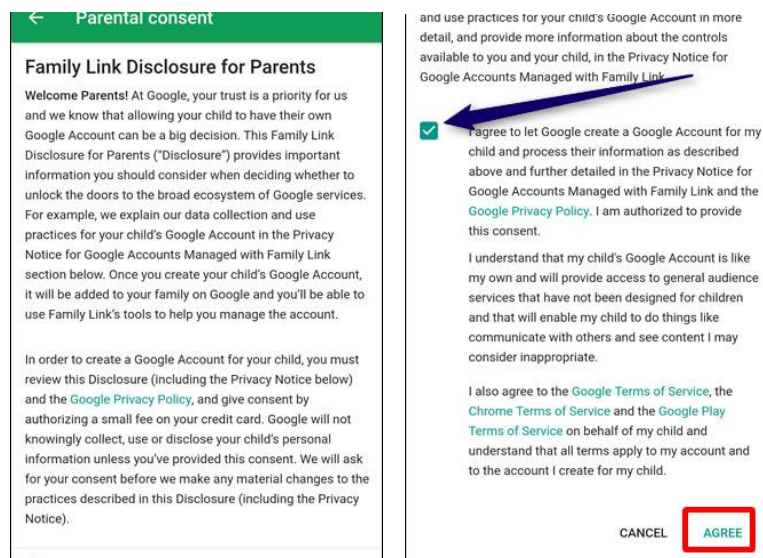
STEP 6

Then you'll have to provide parental consent, which will charge £0.24/\$0.30. If you have already have a payment method set up on your phone, it will use this. This is a one-off 24 pence payment.



STEP 7

All this is followed up by the disclosure, which tells you what to expect from Family Link, including privacy statement. Read it. Tick the box and agree to it at the end. Then the account is created.

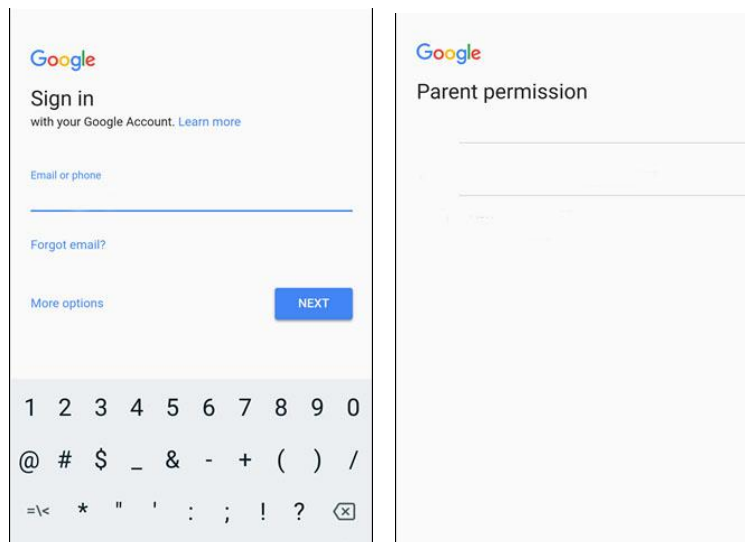


STEP 8: Set up Family Link on Your Child's Phone

The device needs to be set up from scratch, it's probably best to factory reset your device. This can be achieved through settings, then searching for "reset". Please ensure you *reset all content and settings* not just a part reset. Note: I cannot be exact with this section as many devices are different

If you share the device with your child, you can set up a new profile in settings, search for *account* or *profile* and select the "add new" option. Just remember to add a password to your profile or your little bundle of joy may just use your profile instead of their own. Note: I cannot be exact with this section as many devices are different

Then run through the setup process like normal. Since you created your child's account in Family Link, this will automatically be recognized during the setup process and you'll be asked to grant parent permission.



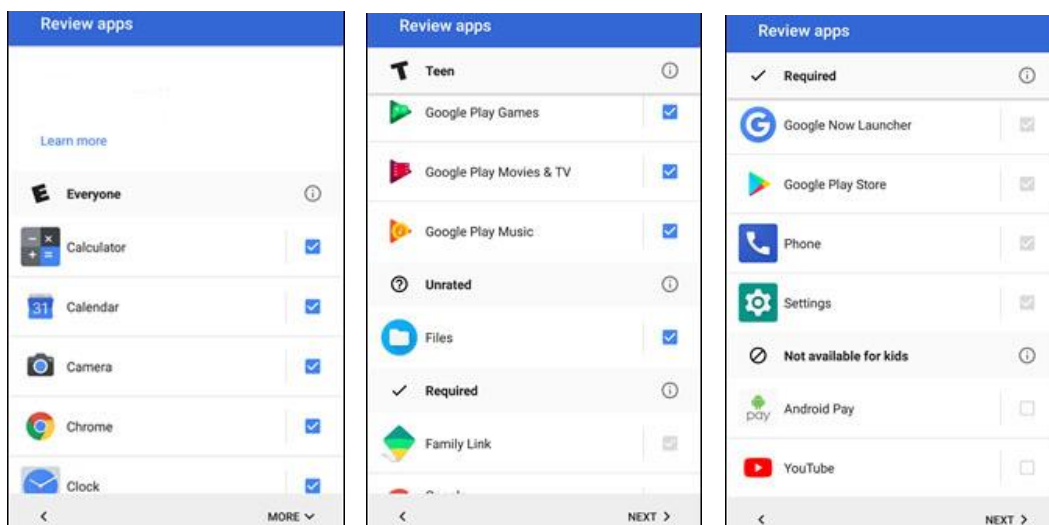
STEP 9

Once logged in, you'll be prompted to install the Family Link app on the child's phone.



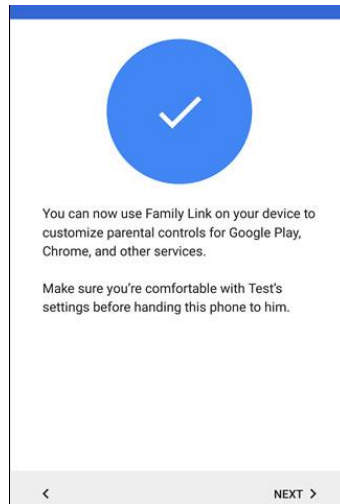
STEP 10

After it installs, you'll give the phone a name and review the built-in apps you're okay with them having.



STEP 11

With all that confirmed, both devices should display the Connection screen.

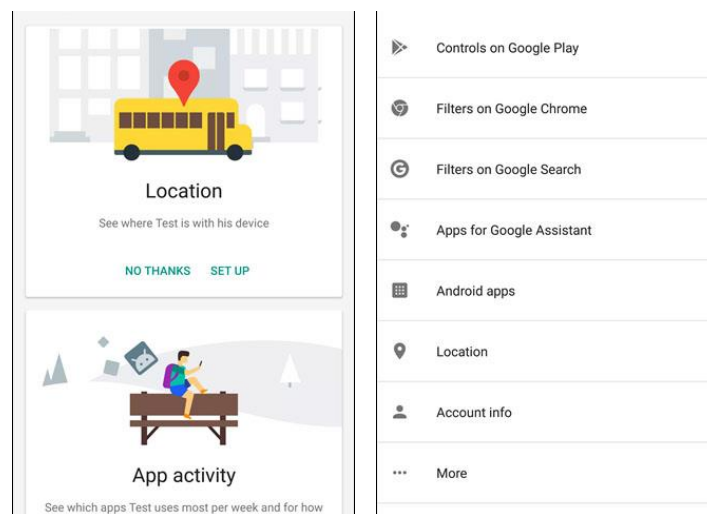


STEP 12: Configure Family Link

Time for the settings, from the Family Link app on your phone, you can completely control what your child installs, looks at, and a lot more.

Settings

Go into is the Settings menu by tapping "Manage Settings" along the top.



Google Play: This is where you'll control purchase approvals and content restrictions for apps in the Play Store.

Google Chrome: Block any website you want from being accessed in the phone's browser.

Google Search: A simple SafeSearch toggle, which blocks certain sites from appearing in Google search. Leave this on.

Google Assistant: It allows you to control whether or not your child's Google Assistant can interact with non-Google apps.

Android Apps: This is where you'll allow or block access to apps that are installed on the phone. You can block apps.

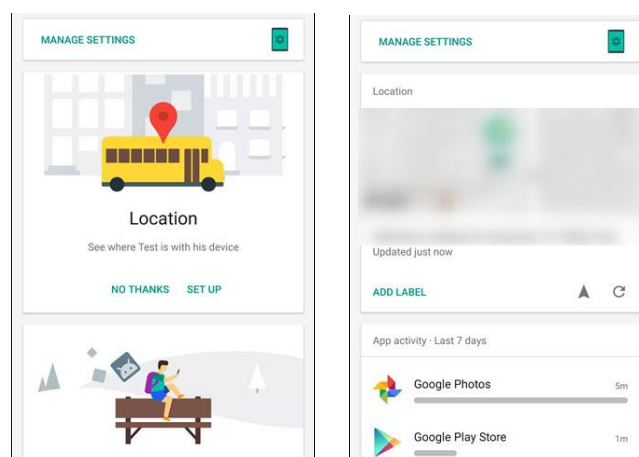
Location: A toggle to keep an eye on where your child is.

Account Info: Change the name, birthday, and gender, as well as password. You can also delete the account too.

More: Google Photo sharing and activity management are both found here.

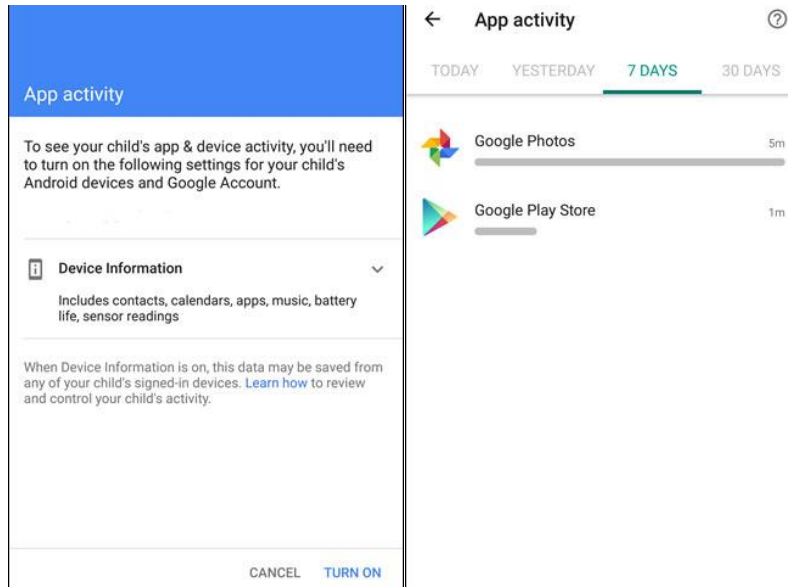
STEP 13: Location

From the main menu, you can also tap the big "Location" box, which is basically the same toggle as the Location option in the Settings menu—just turn it on or turn it off. If it's on, the device's location will show up on the main page of the Family Link app.



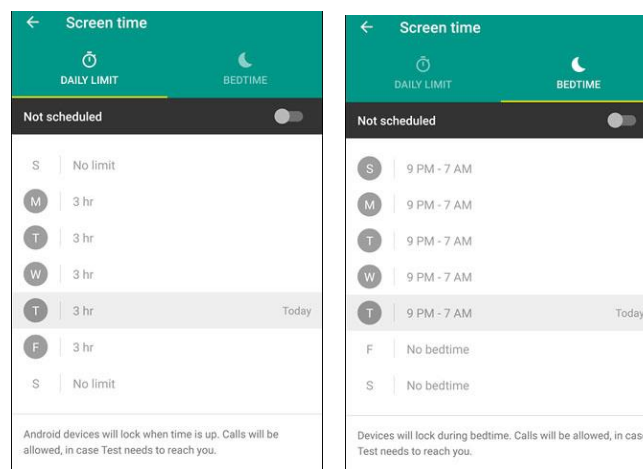
STEP 14: App Activity

Further down on the main page, you'll see the App Activity setting. This will monitor what has been used.



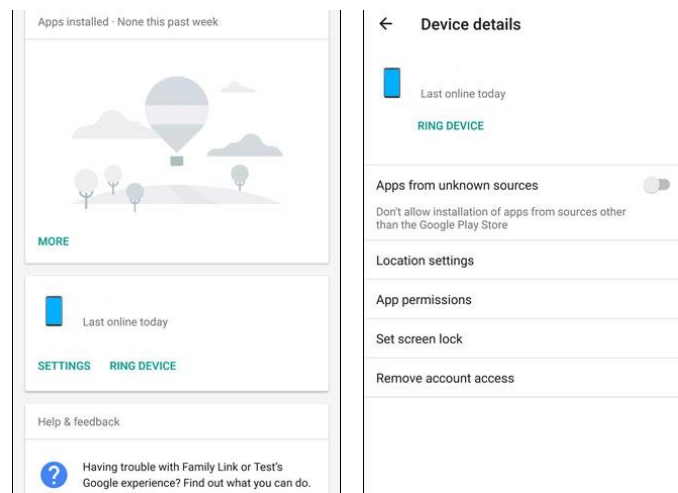
STEP 15: Screen Time

This is where you'll set limits on screen time. You can set this schedule on a per-day basis, as well as specify a bed time.



STEP 16: Other Options

Finally, the last few options on the main page will let you see what apps have been recently installed on your child's device, ring it if it's lost, and control more advanced features like app side loading, location settings, app permissions, and lock screen status. You can also completely remove account access from the phone if it's lost forever.



These last few options are probably the most important ones, I recommend spending some time here to make sure everything is configured how you'd like for it to be.

It's also worth mentioning that your child will be able to see of these settings in the app on their phone, but they won't be able to change of them.