



ISSUE 24 / COVERAGE 1-31 DECEMBER 2025

Age assurance becomes a platform responsibility

Australia's social-media minimum-age regime begins; UK digital-identity provisions also advance.

10 December 2025 / Australia

Under-16 social-media restrictions begin

Australia's regime requires age-restricted social-media platforms to take reasonable steps to prevent under-16s from holding accounts. Responsibility falls on covered platforms, rather than penalties on children or parents. The measure is not a ban on every online service used by a child.

COMMENCEMENT

1 December 2025 / United Kingdom

Digital verification framework provisions begin

The UK's commencement plan records the start of statutory digital-verification framework provisions on 1 December, another stage in implementing the Data (Use and Access) Act.

COMMENCEMENT

THE MALAYSIAN LENS

Our Malaysian lens is the design trade-off: age and identity checks can protect users while also collecting sensitive information. Services operating across borders need a defensible scope assessment, a proportionate verification method and a process for mistakes. Overseas rules should not be presented as Malaysian law.

QUESTION TO ASK

What is the minimum evidence needed, how long is it retained, and how can a wrongly excluded user appeal?

WATCH / NEXT STEP

Check whether a service is covered before imposing blanket restrictions, and review privacy implications alongside access controls.

READ THE ORIGINAL SOURCES

eSafety Commissioner · Social-media age restrictions and timeline ↗
UK Government · Data Act commencement plan ↗

Reconstructed and published 20 September 2026. Selected developments, not an exhaustive digest. Facts relate to the coverage period; maintained sources may contain later updates. The Malaysian lens is MAATIN editorial analysis.

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