Quite Contrary: Banning Social Media For U16s May Hurt The Next Generation Of Entrepreneurs, Says Charlie Terry

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Gina Marrs September 23, 2026

Kevin Walker, Founder and Senior Cyber Security Consultant at Black Swan Cyber Security Solutions

“I didn’t go to university – I’ve spent 30 years learning by doing, so I understand the value of teenagers trying things, finding customers and making mistakes.

“But learning to please an algorithm isn’t the same as learning to run a business. Plenty of likes won’t help if you’ve priced every job at a loss.

“After more than 20 years supporting schools, I’m uncomfortable with suggesting children need access to today’s social platforms to become tomorrow’s entrepreneurs. The opportunity matters, but so does the environment we’re asking them to learn in.

“I’d like schools and local businesses to offer more supervised enterprise projects, including digital marketing, alongside lessons in spotting scams, protecting accounts and handling customer information.

“If access is restricted, those alternatives need funding and people behind them. A ban on its own won’t teach anybody how to find a customer.

“Young people deserve a safe place to start experimenting.”