

# Privacy Policies



Flip

V.S.



VoiceThread

Flip, formerly flipgrid, is an asynchronous video discussion app where students can record video responses.

[Privacy Policy](#)

VoiceThread is similar to flip, allowing students to record and share videos in a “walled garden.” [Privacy Policy](#)

Both privacy policies make explicit that they do not sell or rent data. For both apps collect activity data including IP address, time on the app, and interactions between users. Flip collects more personal data including location of where the app is being used. VoiceThread is more directed at education, and less personal data is collected. For example, school location data is collected by not individual students' zip codes. Both apps report data retention after the account deletions. 30 days for flip and 60 days for VoiceThread. VoiceThread is subscription based, so data is automatically deleted after 60 days of a license expiring. Flip is not and has no indication of automatically deleted but states that data is deleted “30 days in our archive after you ask for your data to be deleted.” (My emphasis). This presents a red flag since likely a user will forget about the service and not delete their account so data will be retained.

Flip makes explicit that they share information with law enforcement when requested. VoiceThread makes no mention of this.

VoiceThread has made the “[Student Privacy Pledge](#).” Which sets a high standard for data privacy.

Flip makes no mention of this pledge. They do have a section regarding Children's Privacy in which they outline special steps for users under 13. In this case parent consent must be obtained. In the case of a group created by a school, it seems as though flip is engaging in some “hand washing” and relinquishing responsibility. The policy states that consent can be given by the school or teacher. There is a link to a printable parent consent form, but there seems to be no compliance check, thus putting all liability on the school.

Both companies indicated that data will be transferred or shared in the case of acquisition and with parent companies. For flip this means Microsoft. VoiceThread has no parent company.