

Under 16? This is no place for you!

As from today, teenagers under 16 will be **banned** from the centre of the Welsh town of Bangor at night. This is the first time a town in the UK has banned children from an entire city centre.

The aim of the new rule is to reduce crime and **anti-social behaviour** in the town centre. In the last year, the area has seen a large number of robberies committed by young people.

The new **curfew**, which applies between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., means that any person under 16 who is caught in the centre of town without a parent or adult guardian could go to jail for three months or pay a £2,500 **fine**.

Both parents and some politicians have criticized the rule, which they say treats all young people like criminals. Sports groups, youth centres, and even churches could be affected, they say.

One mother said: 'My son is 16, and he wouldn't be allowed to walk home from the bus stop with these rules.'

Another resident said: 'The idea is simply crazy.'



Glossary

1 _____

/'kɜːfjuː/ noun

a time after which people are not allowed to go outside their homes

2 _____

/'æntɪ 'səʊfl br'heɪvjə(r)/ noun

a way of acting that is not considered acceptable by other people

3 _____

/bæn/ verb

said officially that something is not allowed

4 _____

/faɪn/ noun

a sum of money that you have to pay for breaking a law or rule



Babies at the movies



In family-friendly Brooklyn, New York, where going for a walk involves pavements full of mothers pushing **buggies** and toddlers on **scooters**, cinemas have now also become a part of baby culture.

Three cinemas in the area have agreed to put on early afternoon sessions so that parents can watch the latest films with their young children and avoid calling the babysitter.

The cinemas are open to anyone at these times, though the experience may not be suitable for the average film fan. To avoid waking up sleeping babies, the sound of the films is softer than usual. Films with loud, surprising noises, such as **gunshots**, are usually not shown.

One mother, Rhonda Walsh, 32, described her visit with her four-month-old daughter, Madeleine. 'There was a chorus of crying,' she remembered.

But in spite of the **screaming** babies, she managed to enjoy the experience. 'Of course I don't remember what the movie was,' she added.



Glossary

1 _____

/'sku:təz/ noun

child's toys with two wheels that you stand on and move by pushing one foot against the ground

2 _____

/'skri:mɪŋ/ verb

crying loudly in a high voice

3 _____

/'bʌgɪz/ noun

chairs on wheels that you use for pushing a baby or young child in

4 _____

/'gʌŋfɒts/ noun

sounds of a gun being fired



Airline's new child rules cause controversy



It is a decision that adult air passengers will love – but it could annoy families who are travelling together. Malaysia Airlines has decided to **ban** children under 12 years of age from the first class cabin and the top **deck** of its A380 planes, so that adult travellers can relax without hearing crying and **screaming**.

Malaysia Airlines CEO Tengku Azmil said that the company received ‘many’ complaints from passengers who buy expensive tickets, but then can’t sleep because of crying children.

The decision means families travelling with children will only be able to sit in the economy section on the lower deck. While some have called the decision **discriminatory**, others agree with it. Travel writer Suzanne Rowan Kelleher said: ‘My guess is that many parents would opt for kid-free zones on planes when they’re travelling without their children.’



Glossary

1 _____

/'skri:mɪŋ/ verb

crying loudly in a high voice

2 _____

/'dɪ'skrɪmɪnətəri/ adj

unfair; in a way that treats one group of people worse than others

3 _____

/dek/ noun

one of the floors of a ship, bus, or plane

4 _____

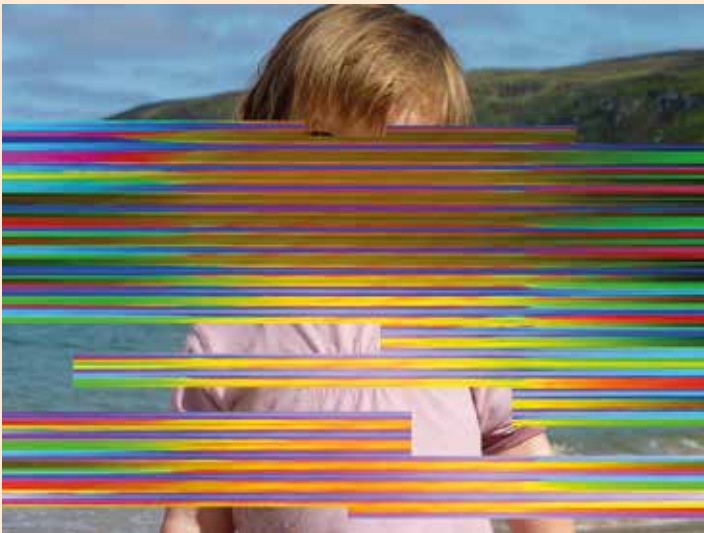
/bæn/ verb

say officially that something is not allowed

Adapted from the Daily Mail

How safe are your digital photos?

In the past, your grandmother probably kept her photos in a box, or in an old album, and sadly, over time these memories faded or disappeared. But with today's technology, that shouldn't be a problem. A digital photo lasts forever, right?



Actually, think again. Though it is still a good idea to preserve all of your photos as digital computer files, there are plenty of things that can damage or even destroy those high-tech memories.

1

Very few people realize this can happen, but if you store your photos as .jpgs (the most common **file format**), the file will actually deteriorate every time you copy or **resave** it. Experts disagree about how much damage this can do, but the damage is real.



2

Your files may be safe on your hard drive, but how long will your hard drive last? The average is just five years. Before then, one big magnet could **erase** your drive in an instant. You could back up your photos on a CD-ROM, but they don't last much longer: about 10–20 years at most, experts say.

3

Let's say all goes well and your CD-ROM full of photos lasts for 20 years. By then, will there still be any CD-ROM drives in the world that can read the disc? This is also true for **flash drives**, memory cards, and the rest. Today's high-tech storage solution is tomorrow's useless **floppy disk**.

4

People talk about saving their files in a magical place on the internet, like Apple's iCloud or Dropbox. But this just means your files are in a company's **data centre** on – guess what? – a whole load of hard drives, which could die or go bad just as easily as your own. Just recently, a summer thunderstorm hit a cloud storage centre in the US, and major sites like Netflix, Pinterest, and Instagram were knocked **offline** for almost a whole day. Thousands of files were lost.

5

Websites like Flickr and Instagram let you quickly **upload** photos and share them with others. But bear in mind that a photo site which is popular now could one day go out of business, taking your photos with it.

So what should you do? Experts say to make lots of copies of your photos and save them in many different ways – on your computer, on a backup drive, online, and even as traditional printed photos. It may be too late to save Grandma's photos, but you can still preserve yours.