

Dear Parents/Carers

Following much media hype this week regarding Momo via YouTube, Whats App and a number of social media platforms I felt it important to send some information to all parents and carers to make you aware of the hype around this matter.

Momo has been around for the last 18 months and is not new. The media have managed to whip up a bit of a frenzy amongst parents. It was originally an app but that has been removed and it is now scary videos that are being distributed via WhatsApp, YouTube and online gaming (live streaming). Many have now been removed, however, plenty still remain.

It is scary. Even I was sitting on the edge of my seat watching it, and for an 11-year-old? - yes, it would scare them. A **simple tip** is to **turn off 'auto play'** on YouTube and ensure that your **contact details are hidden on WhatsApp**. Make sure the **'no fill' option is 'on' within Fortnite** and all **settings within your Xbox and PlayStation are closed**.

Although MOMO is not nice, I agree with the article linked below, that the media have over-dramatised it. You should be aware that there are much worse things on YouTube than this – including graphic adult content, attacks, muggings and shootings.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-47393510>

Don't spread the panic about Momo – get involved and supervise what your children are watching, whatever it may be. Open the conversation about what your children are doing on their devices and talk to them about making the right choices with regards to such content.

At Archbishop Temple School we strive to produce resilient users of technology, this involves continued conversations as to what to do when faced with nasty content such as this. Please find attached a Momo Online Safety Guide for Parents.

Kind regards

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