



4 March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Snapchat Safeguarding Risk

We have been informed by South London police that there is a current safeguarding concern regarding Snapchat that is directly involving and impacting on children in their area.

So far 11 schools in South London have been affected. The reports to Police surround:

1. Pupils being enticed to send images of themselves to others, by others who are known to them, and then these are being circulated more widely (whether for revenge or otherwise).
2. Images being taken without knowledge and circulated (less common than 1).

Students in South London have reported to Police seeing indecent images of either themselves or people known to them being circulated within a Snapchat forum.

The images that have been shared fall within the following four criminal offences:

1. Making indecent images of children
2. Possession with intent to distribute indecent images of children
3. Distribution of indecent images of children
4. Distribution of a private sexual image without consent to cause offence (not limited to images of young persons, colloquial known as 'revenge porn')

Police are working with Snapchat to try and identify the perpetrators.

Please speak with your child about the dangers of sharing images on social media and the fact that it is illegal for children to use social media (Facebook/Instagram/Snapchat, etc.) before the age of 13.

It is important to note that the messages they share may not be going to the people they think they are sending them to. Please also remind them that by sharing such images they may be committing an offence.

If you are concerned about the online safety of your child (or any child), please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

N. F Ahmed

Naveen Ahmed
Designated Safeguarding Lead

“ ... an excellent ambassador for community cohesion within the locality - **OFSTED** ”

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