



Love . Hope . Courage

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Dear Parents

Online Safety.

We have been made aware, through various sources, of a challenge which is currently circulating online and we feel it is only right to draw it to the attention of our parents. It is known as the Momo Challenge.

Facts about Momo

- The Momo challenge has come up in the last 10 days or so.
- Momo is horrifying for young people. If you google it, the person wearing the mask is what people are greeted with via the Momo profile, this could be any social media platform including Whatsapp. What Momo does is exploit your private information by stealing the information you post publicly or hacking very easy passwords and stealing personal conversations/photos etc.
- The person then threatens the user, saying they will expose them if they don't self-harm.
- What's even more graphic is the fact they will then (on occasion) send pictures and instructions to self-harm in certain ways.
- Threats are then made about providing proof of self-harming e.g. if you don't provide proof of self-harming then you will be exposed.
- There is an article published by Northern Ireland police on the BBC website today. The link is below

This link will give you more information: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-47359623>

Another concern that has been brought to our attention is an app called TikTok where children are being groomed by paedophiles. Please use this link to find out more:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6738691/Parents-warned-children-young-five-groomed-paedophiles-TikTok-app.html>

The reality of our children being contacted is **EXTREMELY** slim. It is genuinely thought to be one person BUT there are thousands of copy-cats operating now too.

Please be vigilant about your child's online activity and put in checks to ensure your child is safe.

These checks include:

- Ensure they know what their children can access online
- Ensure children understand the importance of not giving personal information to anyone they do not know
- Tell your children no-one has the right to make them do anything they do not want to do
- Use parental controls to keep children safe.

In light of this information we, as a school, have decided to relay this information to parents directly rather than sensationalising Momo and TikTok with the children in an assembly.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Jearrad
Headteacher

