



Lady Elizabeth Hastings' CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents & Carers

Internet safety for children

Please see below a message from the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board.

“There are reports in the media today about an e-safety incident involving primary age children from Leeds. The incident did not take place in school or through an ‘app’ approved by school, but was reported to the school by concerned parents. The incident is now being investigated by West Yorkshire Police.

This incident has highlighted a number of safeguarding issues raised recently about smartphone ‘apps’ including [Live.ly](#), [LoVoo](#), and [music.ly](#) amongst others. These apps are only supposed to be able to access contacts on the user’s phones, but it appears that quite quickly unknown individuals are able to join group chats. Therefore, these apps are not safe for children to use, as there is a significant risk of inappropriate contact by unknown individuals.

Our advice for parents is to ensure that their children do not have access to such apps on their phone and to check that all appropriate privacy settings are switched on, to make sure that children are protected when using any internet site. If a child experiences or expresses concerns about online activity, it must be reported to the police using 101 and <https://ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/>. Wherever possible, a screen shot or a mobile phone picture of the issue should be taken for reporting purposes.

There is some useful information on the LSCB website about online safety with some useful tips for parents here <http://www.leedslscb.org.uk/Parents-Carers-Wider-Family/Keeping-children-safe-online>”

You can also find information and links to other sites on internet safety on the school website, at <http://www.ladyhastings-thorparch.leeds.sch.uk/parents-carers/internet-safety>.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Ulyett
Headteacher