



Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents,

We have been made aware about a new challenge called MOMO. This has previously appeared under different guises for example 'Slenderman' and 'The Blue Whale Challenge'. Information suggests numerous children are now being exposed to the 'MOMO Challenge' on a daily basis.

We need to make you aware that children can be convinced by this challenge to contact a number via Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp or any platform that connects to someone running the challenge.

Additionally, there are now numerous copycat situations where despicable people are posting 'MOMO Challenge Videos' embedded in seemingly okay YouTube videos that are directed at children, such as Peppa Pig and other cartoons. Children are then told that they will die unless they follow through a challenge. Many of the challenges involve self-harm and suicide. Some of the sketches depicting suicide are horrific.

Please remember to ensure you speak to your children about the online dangers and what to do if something upsets them. Please remind your children that they can speak to you or any adult in school if they come across anything that remotely links to this situation or indeed anything that links to 'suicide advice'.

Please also remember that your children need to know they can raise these issues with you without having an immediate ban from electronics etc. for their honesty.

If you need any advice or support regarding any Online Safety issues, please do not hesitate to contact me through school.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr K Stephens  
Digital Technologies, Computing and Online Safety Lead



Microsoft School