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Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to inform you that we have had recent experience of students who have been contacted on Snapchat by adults – potentially from abroad - that have then proceeded to send inappropriate contact. We have liaised with parents and the police regarding this.

Snapchat is a messaging app that is popular with teenagers which allows them to share user-generated photos, texts and videos which only last on screen for a matter of seconds, these are called ‘snaps’. Once a snap is sent to someone else, it can last on the screen of the receiver for between 1 and 30 seconds before disappearing. Users can also add images or videos to their story for their followers to see for 24 hours.

Whilst not wanting to alarm you, if your child has Snapchat I feel you should check their profile and friend groups to ensure they know the people that they are in contact with. If a child is in a group with other friends, a friend can add anybody to the group and that person will have instant access to the other people – direct messages, pictures etc. I recommend your child blocks any followers/friends that they do not know personally. This guide ([https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/snapchat-checklist-2023.pdf?\\_=1697637951](https://swgfl.org.uk/assets/documents/snapchat-checklist-2023.pdf?_=1697637951)) explains how to report concerns, block users and access further support.

If you do find any harmful content that has been sent to your child, please report it to the police by calling 101.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony Logan

Deputy Headteacher