

8th February 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

There have been reports recently about an e-safety incident involving children from Leeds. The incident is now being investigated by West Yorkshire Police.

It is important that we make you aware of some of the issues this incident has raised about smartphone 'apps' including [Live.ly](#), ooVoo, and [music.ly](#) amongst others. These apps are supposed to only 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.

Leeds Safeguarding Children's Board advice for parents is to ensure that children do not have access to such apps on their phone and to check that all appropriate privacy settings are switched on. This is 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 concern should be taken for reporting purposes.

At Carr Manor Community School staff will be reminding pupils about staying safe online.

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>

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Simon Flowers
Executive Principal



Jane Emmett
Principal