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Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another school year I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for working alongside the safeguarding team to ensure we are as proactive as possible in keep all of our pupils at Farlingaye safe.

Meet up feature on Snapchat:

Online Safety is a key part of Safeguarding at Farlingaye and I feel it is important to make you aware that I have recently been informed of a new feature within Snapchat called 'Meet up.' This features allows users to get directions to their friend's exact location. It pairs with Apple Maps and Google Maps, and shows how long it would take someone to walk, drive, or use public transport to reach their address or where they are at that particular time. Anyone is able to gain access to someone's workplace, school, or home address and can be informed of the fastest route to get there.

'Meet Up' is accessed by visiting a user's profile to look at their location on Snap Map - a feature that is on by default and needs to be disabled or put on 'ghost mode' by the user if they do not want to be located. Once on the map, a user can access Meet Up by pressing the user's Bitmoji (a cartoon version of the user that appears on their live location on the map) and choosing directions from either Apple or Google Maps.

This feature is only available to use between in-app 'friends'. Random users are not able to access this. However – users are not informed when another user is searching for their location with meet up.

For more information on how to manage privacy and location settings on Snapchat please visit the following website: <https://www.onlinesafetyuk.com/snapchat/>

Signposting for all students and parents/carers:

I have attached a copy of a document which will be sent out to all pupils before the end of term. (This document has already been sent out to year 11 and year 13 leaves) The document outlines a number of agencies and apps pupils can access for support independently if they are struggling with their mental and physical health over the summer period, or if they find themselves in a difficult online safety situation.

Also, please remember that any member of the public can contact the following agencies over the Summer holidays and at any time of the day:

Customer First: If you are concerned about the welfare of a child in your community then please ring Customer First – 0808 800 4005 and report this information. Customer First is the first point of contact for

social services in Suffolk. Please do not ring this number if a child is at imminent risk of harm such as injury or abuse, in this situation you should call 999 immediately.

Suffolk Constabulary: You can report non-urgent crimes via ringing the police non-emergency number – 101 or by going on the Suffolk Constabulary website: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something>.

You can also ring the police non-emergency number if an online safety offence has been committed, an example of this could be if your child is being asked to share sexually explicit pictures of themselves or of someone else. If someone is in immediate risk or danger then you should call 999.

If you would like any more information on anything mentioned in this letter please do get in contact with myself by emailing [chankers@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:chankers@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk)

Kind Regards,

*C Hankers*

Miss Claire Hankers  
Safeguarding Manager / Online Safety Lead.