Edwinstree Middle School

Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



27th February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to make you aware of a serious 'Momo Challenge' that students are currently talking about. It is accessible through a number of social media apps including 'WhatsApp' and the hackers are deliberately threatening children. Momo is an avatar that speaks to you.

The links below explain:

 $\underline{https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6750761/Schools-warn-parents-sick-Momo-suicide-game-spliced-YouTube-videos.html}$

https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=momo&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&hl=en-gb&client=safari

Please make your child aware that the social media site is of high risk as it encourages the following:

- > Students to commit dangerous acts including self-harm and harm to others
- > Students to film their acts and send them back to Momo
- > The avatar talks to you to try to increase the acts of harm
- > Momo will challenge students and threaten them if they ignore it
- > Momo threats include coming to find students as they have their phone, Ipod, Ipad etc details

I am currently navigating the dilemma of whether I should talk to students during a Collective Worship, however I am concerned it may incite more attention. I have decided to ask you as parents and carers, to discuss this with your child at home and be vigilant about what sites your child can access.

We will monitor the situation closely at school and thank you in advance for your co-operation and support.

Yours sincerely

Jo Gant Headteacher

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