

Safeguarding Briefing for Parents/Carers

07/07/17

SnapMaps

Another week, another app raising a safeguarding concern.

Last week SnapChat, used regularly by many children and young people, launched a new feature. SnapMaps allows users to see the location of their contacts. This feature allows others to accurately pinpoint where you are.

Although I know many adults don't use these apps on a regular basis, if we are to protect children, we need to have at least a working knowledge of the risks and uses of such apps.

This location based map allows users to see where in the country their Snapchat contacts are, as well as seeing location based photos and videos. The Snap Map shows a user's Bitmoji, their cartoon avatar within Snapchat, pinpointed on a world map. Users can then zoom into the map to see the exact location of their friends.

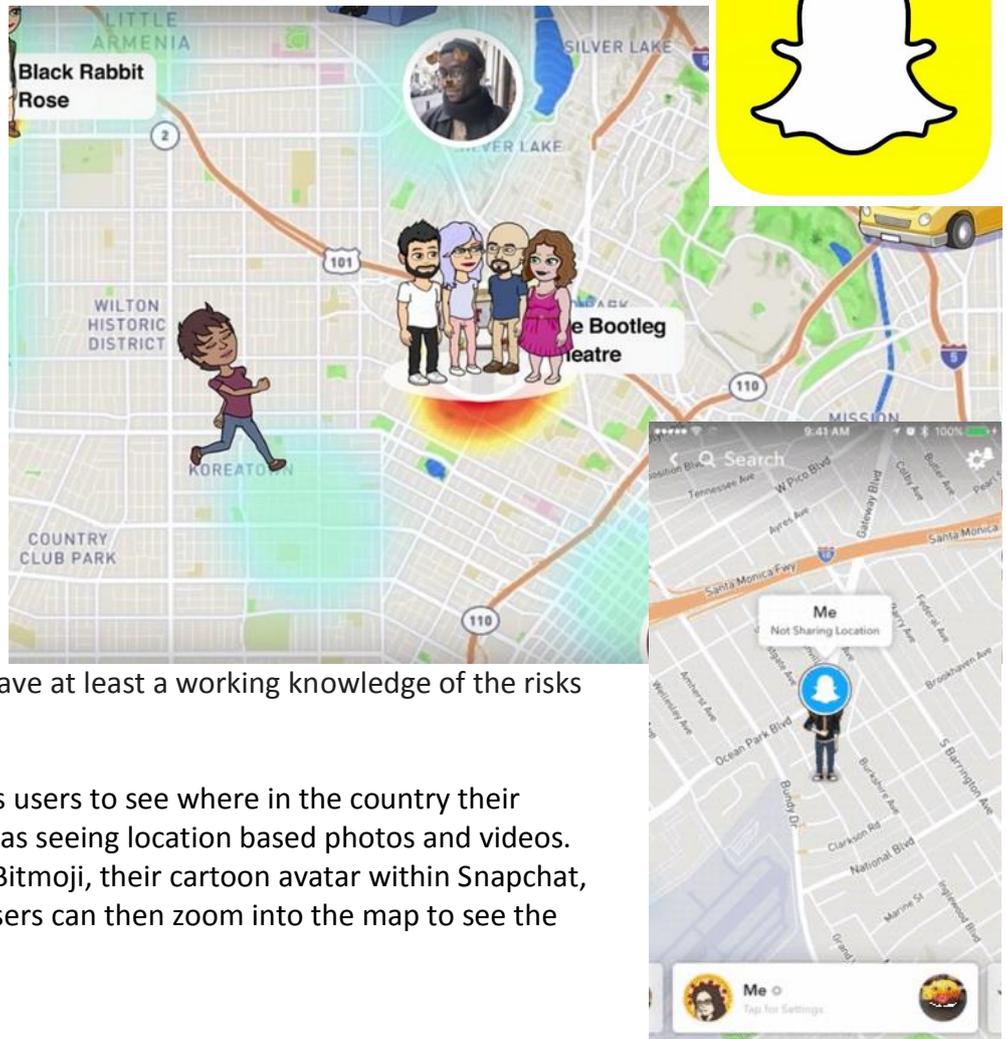
How to access Snap Maps

To access the Snap Map in the latest update of the Snapchat app, users need to go to their camera screen within Snapchat and zoom out using two fingers. This will then launch the Snap Maps screen and will allow a user to see their friend's locations.

Choose who can see your location

It is important to be careful about who you share your location with, as it can allow people to build up a picture of where you live, go to school and spend your time.

There are three settings for sharing your location on the map, these are; Ghost mode, My Friends, and Select Friends. But what do these settings mean?



- **Ghost Mode**
Ghost Mode means that you are the only person who can see your location on the map. Within Ghost Mode you can still see the locations of your friends but they will be unable to see you. This setting will ensure that you have complete control over who knows your location.
- **My Friends**
My Friends means that all of your contacts on Snapchat can see your location.
- **Select Friends**
This setting allows users to look through their friend list and then decide which of their friends they want to be able to view their location. This setting gives users the opportunity to control who can view their location.

Secret Piano



Secret piano seems to be making its way round again as well as secret calculator. This decoy app looks like piano keys or a calculator but it actually conceals passwords, notes, photographs, videos, contacts, messages, audio, downloads, to-do lists and the locations of contacts.



SEXTING

Great news for young people wanting to report an image of themselves



IWF can only enforce the removal of sexting images where the child in question is under 18. Where age is not obvious even to experts, young people wanting to report an image of themselves have previously needed to engage with authorities to prove their age, which can cause distress and put them off wanting to report.

But now the IWF and Childline are using an age verification app called [Yoti](#) (other such apps exist; this is not an endorsement) to help young people under 18 report images and prove their age at a click (or a few anyway). They can use the app to scan their passport or other ID, compare with a selfie and therefore add age verification to any report. **Great news that will change lives!**



Tell your child to check out our website for more details under the [Safeguarding and Well-being button!](#) Reports can be made either via the IWF or Childline website – spread the word!

Safeguarding
& Wellbeing

'Apps'



The “Send this Instead” app empowers kids giving them a voice when they are under pressure to send intimate images of themselves online.



A company asked all the funny people they knew, “What would you say if someone asked you to send images you didn’t want to?”

They took their answers and made posters and developed this app. The posters are witty, sarcastic and meant to help get the point across – using humor as a strategy.



The ‘Send This Instead’ app has been developed to help children combat **sexting** from peers. The app gives a range of optional images with humorous messages so that children can send these as a response to sexting, putting them **back in control**.

The World Changes, Children Don't!

A brilliant video for parents regarding online safety is here; please watch it! It's just over a minute long!

[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Romeo and Juliet/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Romeo%20and%20Juliet/)

I think this just about sums it up!

Happy Summer everyone, take care of each other.

Regards, Paula

Paula Rippingham-Smith (Assistant Principal, College Academies Trust)

Resources: #DITTO; Andrew Hall Safeguarding Consultant; PSmith; Google; Staffs police; News; Dawn Casewell (Education support SSCB)