

SAFETY ALERT – THERE IS A NEW SNAP CHAT FEATURE – SNAP MAP



Online safety is a crucially important aspect of our safeguarding programme at Pershore High School and we aim to inform and educate our pupils, parents and staff on the current issues surrounding this subject.

SnapChat have launched a new update on their app called 'SnapMap'. This latest feature allows users to share their location with people they are connected to on SnapChat. The feature displays a map of people they are connected to, showing their latest location using a smartphone's GPS sensor. Users of the app can also display public photos and videos sent by people from those locations. We are aware that some students are connected to people on SnapChat that they do not personally know. This facility allows a student's location to be traced.

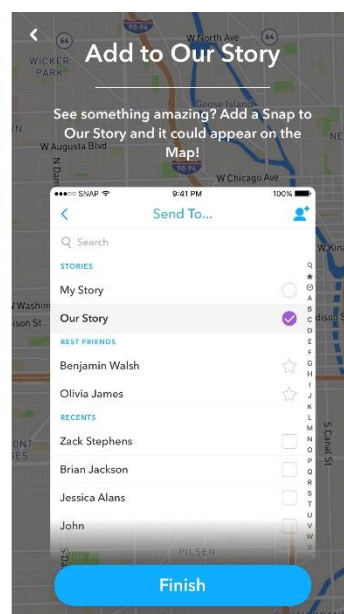
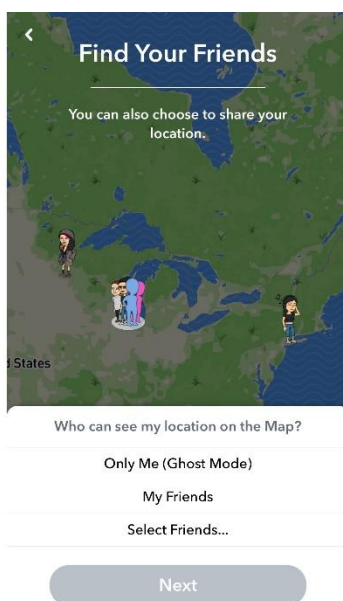
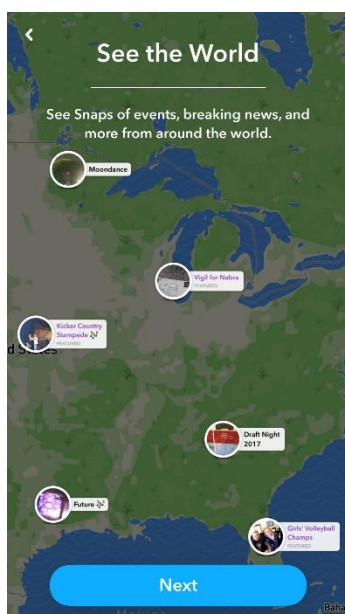
Given how specific this new feature is on SnapChat - giving location to a precise pinpoint on a map - we would urge parents/students to disable this location feature on the phones by selecting the ghost mode on this app. Ghost Mode means that you are the only person who can see your location on the map. To enable the ghost mode, simply pinch the screen (as if zooming out from a photo) when it is in the selfie mode, to bring up the SnapMap. Click the settings icon in the top right-hand corner and select 'ghost mode'.

This link gives a demonstration on how to disable the SnapChat maps: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggaW7TPw1l1#t=02m01s>

If you require any further information on this worrying app, or need any advice or support regarding online safety, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the House or Safeguarding Teams.



ONLINE SAFETY



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