

December 2017

Dear Parents

LIVE STREAMING

You may have heard or read recent news articles concerning live streaming on the internet. Live streaming has now gone mainstream and is attracting a younger audience as video can be broadcast from a smart phone. Lots of apps allow users to easily 'live stream', including Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, Twitch and musical.ly. As the video is live, anything goes and there is no editing involved.

It is important for parents to be aware of these apps due to the risks involved. Now that it is more widely available, it is more likely that teens will get involved, especially when it appears as a new feature on an app they already use. Live streaming could lead teenagers to share far too much personal information/images to strangers. As well as the dangers of streaming live video of themselves, most of these apps allow viewers to like, share or comment on the video being shown. Anyone can comment and teenagers may get feedback they weren't expecting or serious bullying comments.

Below this email is a link to CEOP information on live streaming. Attached to the email, is a document Upton Hall School have received from Merseyside Police. I would encourage you to read the document and link to make yourself aware of this feature and understand the risks.

Mrs L Smith
Head of ICT and CEOP Ambassador

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/live-streaming-responding-to-the-risks/>