



NOWER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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30399/LV/JM

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Dear Parents and Carers

E-safety alert – Snapchat

We have been alerted today to the fact that as part of a new software release, Snapchat have recently implemented a new mapping feature to their app called **Snap Map** which shares a user's location and means that 'friends' can easily see exactly where a person is, including the address. This is obviously a threat to a young person's safety, as anyone they are connected to is able to locate them exactly at any time.

Please talk with your child about this feature, and sit with them to turn on the **Ghost Mode** setting which disables this feature and helps keep them safe. This can be done using the instructions below or by using the attached guide:

How to switch off Snap Map location sharing

- When in photo-taking mode, pinch the screen to open Snap Map
- Touch the settings cog in the top right corner of the screen
- Tap "Ghost Mode" to switch off location sharing

Please note that photos and videos posted to Snapchat's public 'Our Story' will still be discoverable on the map.

This is a timely reminder that we all need to talk with our young people about how to keep themselves safe online, by not becoming friends with anyone they have not met or do not know well, not sharing personal details and reporting anything that makes them feel uncomfortable. It is also a timely opportunity for me to remind you about our E-safety evening, this coming Monday 3rd July at 6pm in the school hall. We are very fortunate to have secured Lorin LaFave from the Breck Foundation, and mother of Breck Bednar, to speak at our evening. We do hope you will be able to join us.

Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for the weekend.

Yours faithfully

Louise Voden
Deputy Headteacher
Student Support

