Dear Parents

At Lyndon School, E-Safety is a crucially important aspect of our safeguarding strategy, as such we are writing to raise awareness amongst our students and families on the current issues surrounding this subject.

We wish to inform parents that Snap Chat have launched a new update on their app called ‘Snap Map’. This latest feature allows users to share their location with people they are connected to on Snap Chat. 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.

Firstly we remind parents that the legal age to use Snap Chat is 13 and above. With regards to the location feature we urge parents to disable this feature on their children's phones by selecting the ghost mode on this app. We are aware that some students are connected to people on Snap Chat that they do not personally know. This facility allows a student’s location to be traced by these strangers. To enable the ghost mode, simply pinch the screen when it is in the selfie mode to bring up the Snap Map. Click the settings icon in the top right hand corner and select the ‘ghost mode’.

Students will be receiving information during form time to reinforce this message and the importance of keeping safe online. We urge parents to discuss this information to support the message we are sending out in school. The digital world changes very quickly and by working together we can ensure that we educate our young people on becoming responsible digital citizens.

Please be aware that school cannot take responsibility for inappropriate use of social media. Please also make yourselves aware of the age restrictions for all social media and those that your child may be accessing.

**Abid Butt**  
Principal  
Lyndon School, A Ninestiles Academy