

HYDESVILLE TOWER SCHOOL

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Dear Parents

Safeguarding information – APP: Live Me

Safeguarding children is a huge priority for everyone at Hydesville Tower School. When we are made aware of concerns that could permeate into life outside of school, we want to share this with parents and carers, so we can all act to reduce the risk of harm for the children. The information given will be more relevant to the older children in the school with access to mobile technology, but we also wish to keep parents aware of the risks generally.

I have been notified by our local Safeguarding Board that a Walsall school has become aware of a potential risk posed for young people using this APP and I am writing to you so that you are aware of risks that could be associated with using this site.

Live me - is a popular live streaming mobile app Live.me. The app allows its users to post live broadcasts and receive “tips” from other users for completing specific tasks during live broadcasts. These “tips” are in the form “gold coins” and can be exchanged for money. Users then have the ability to either delete the recording of the live broadcast or post it on their profile. The app also does not have any restrictions on the age an individual needs to be to create an account.

Understandably, this app has attracted young people who may not be equipped to understand the dangers of recording and sharing sexual videos or engaging in sexual activity while streaming live video feeds. **They need to understand that anyone on the other end of the live feed can capture a still image or video of them engaged in that activity – all without their knowledge.**

There is a section on our website of Apps to be aware of and this will be added to our list.

Yours sincerely

Gillian Whitehouse
Deputy Headteacher (Head of Prep School)