



Dear Parents/Carers

We have been notified by Dudley safeguarding team about a new app called Monkey. It has been highlighted to be an extremely dangerous app which allows users to have video calls with strangers. The platform markets itself as 'an alternative to Omegle, with a TikTok vibe'. The online safety experts reviewed and tested this platform, have found that it contains large amounts of inappropriate, disturbing, and harmful content transmitted via web cameras.

In order to keep your children safe:

### **Safety and Privacy Settings**

If a user sees something harmful or inappropriate, they can use the reporting tools. Users are then told that 'you have reported successfully'.

**Users can also report a profile. Users are asked what was inappropriate and given four options:** Underage, Inappropriate Content, Spam and No Reason. Users are then thanked for their reporting.

**Users can block profiles.** This will remove any of the history you and that account may have had.

Users can **turn off features** such as 'Knock Knock' as well as hide their 'Online Status'.

### **Top tips for talking to your child about online risks:**

- Engage young people in a conversation **about keeping safe online and who they would talk to if someone made them feel uncomfortable online or if they see something online that worries or upsets them.**
- When talking to a child or young person, it's best not to mention the app or website by name. If you do, it is likely that the child or young person will check out the platform on their own if they haven't done so already. **Instead, ask them what kind of new sites/apps they are using with their friends.**
- **You should support children to understand the implications of sharing content that is explicit, particularly if this involves images or chats with other children.**
- You can also submit an online report to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP) <https://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-reporting/>
- **If you have concerns about the immediate safety of a young person, you should contact the emergency services on 999 (emergency number)**

Thank you for your continued support

Yours Sincerely

Mrs R Keen  
Headteacher

