Dear Parents / Carers

LANDAU FORTE ACADEMY MOORHEAD

Safeguarding

We have had two safeguarding issues brought to our attention:

Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board have asked us to make you aware of the risks associated with two apps - <u>Musical.ly</u> and OOVOO, both of which are popular with children, following information received from the Police.

The apps allow users to post videos of themselves on both public and private forums, and both apps have raised serious concerns because of their misuse by paedophiles. Typically, children and young people have been asked to enter into private chats with other users, often posing as children/teenagers themselves, and have then been asked to send inappropriate images and videos. We have been informed that there have been two separate incidents reported to the police in the Derby/Notts area this month, so this is a local issue.

If your children have any access to these or similar apps, could we ask you to reinforce the message about keeping themselves safe online? For example, not sharing personal information, not entering into private chats with anyone who is not known to them in person, and reporting to an adult anything which makes them uncomfortable or unsure.

If you have any concerns with regards to your child's internet safety, or would like further information or support, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Some of you may also already be aware of the incidents that were in the Derby Evening Telegraph of a man approaching a 13-year-old girl at Alvaston Park at around 6pm on Saturday. The girl described him as being aged between 25 and 30 and said he was tanned.

This is being linked to an incident in which a man in a silver car approached a group of children in Primrose Meadow, Midway, and offered them sweets, which happened on Sunday afternoon. A spokesman for the police said he was described as being aged between 32 and 50. The children ran off and told their parents and the police were called.

Students are advised not to engage with this person and we would be grateful if you would reinforce this message. Any suspicious activity should be reported by ringing the police on 101 or on 999 in an emergency.

Yours faithfully

Fiona M Smith Headteacher

Did you know you can contact the school regarding any aspect of your child's education by email – parentcontact@lfadm.org.uk