



Pendle Community High School & College

Oxford Road, Nelson
Lancashire. BB9 8LF
01282 682260
reception@pchs.lancs.sch.uk
www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk

Rated **Outstanding** in all areas **Ofsted** 2017

Headteacher: Dr C Lingard (Mrs)
Deputy Headteacher: Miss J Bayliss
Deputy Headteacher: Miss D Grogan

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Online Safety – MoMo

Dear parents/carers,

It has come to our attention that some of our students have been talking about a game called 'MoMo'. This can be accessed via websites such as WhatsApp, Facebook and is present on some videos on YouTube.

MoMo is a sinister looking female avatar. It is understood that the child may need to create an account to access MoMo fully. MoMo gives instructions to the player as part of the game which start off quite innocently but then the instructions become more extreme, encouraging the player to harm themselves or others. The real threat MoMo possesses is unclear, which is why we need to be vigilant. There is much information reported in the media, however the actual risk is hard to gauge.

Even without the game downloaded, MoMo references and images can be found on sites such as YouTube and through search engines, so an awareness of what your child is doing online is essential in protecting them. The key here is that children **should not be left unsupervised** when accessing online content. In agreement with NSPCC we strongly recommend that you speak to your children about keeping themselves safe online and you may also want to check your parental controls and search histories. If you need any assistance with setting up parental controls or adjusting privacy settings, please contact school and we can help with this.

Our online safety page on our website has lots of excellent links, resources and guides aimed at keeping our young people safe online. Take a look at www.pchs.lancs.sch.uk/online-safety.

Please encourage your son/daughter to refer to the 5 smart rules we teach in school when online:

Yours sincerely,

Dr C Lingard (Mrs)
Headteacher

Be **S**afe

Don't **M**eet strangers

Don't **A**ccept people you don't know

Don't take **R**isks

Tell an adult

