



# In Partnership to Educate, Nurture & Empower

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Dear Parent/Carer

We have been advised by the Local Authority to make you aware of the live streaming App called House Party. Over the last few days there has been lots of misinformation over social media about this App, but it is important to know the risks and how to make sure young people, if using it, do so safely.

As with all live-streaming platforms screenshots, unsolicited messages and self-generated inappropriate imagery can put young people at risk. As such you and your child/children should be aware of the following.

- Links to 'rooms' can be shared publicly to other platforms which could lead to uninvited users joining.
- 'Rooms' should be locked to prevent uninvited guests from joining. All rooms will lock by default if a user enables 'private mode'.
- If an uninvited guest joins a 'room' they can easily 'friend' others taking part in the live stream.
- It appears that when a friend is invited, their friends can also join a 'room' without the invitation. Therefore, potentially increase the opportunity to cyber-bully and troll others.
- For those with access to the Safer Schools App, Ineqe have posted a blog and sent a push notification about it in the app. You can find this in under the News Hub menu in the app then select Safety Hub.

As always, we advise you to talk to your child about staying safe online and discussing any new online features they use so they can enjoy them safely.

You can also access a large amount of information to help you in discussing online activity which is listed below.

1. [NSPCC NetAware](#) provides a useful guide to social networks, apps and guide.
2. [National Online Safety](#) have produced a series of top tips guides to support remote learning for Parents, Children and Teachers.
3. [Thinkuknow](#) is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline for different age groups and parents.
4. [Childnet](#) has produced a Parent and Carer Toolkit which is a collection of three resources designed to help you talk to your child about their online life, manage boundaries around family internet use and point you in the direction of where to get further help and support.

Yours faithfully

*M Dixon*

Mr M Dixon  
Assistant Principal

