



## St Jude's Online Safety Newsflash



### *Snapchat: over a third of young people add strangers online*

The NSPCC is warning children and parents about the potential risks of Snap Map, Snapchat's controversial location feature. The charity has drawn attention to a recent survey saying that over a third of young people have added a stranger online in the last six months, and says Snap Map could leave children vulnerable to stalking, grooming and bullying.

The new Snapchat feature allows other people to see exactly where you are in real time, on an interactive map detailed enough to show not only what street you're on, but also whereabouts on that street you are.

However, Snap Map has still attracted a lot of criticism.

"Even limiting Snap Maps to the 'friends only' setting is risky if those contacts include people you don't know," said NSPCC child safety online expert Rose Bray.

"This highlights why it's vital government forces social networks to offer Safe Accounts to under 18s, with the highest privacy settings and location settings locked off".

Source: The Independent

