

# RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

ripleystthomas.com  
Ashton Road Lancaster LA1 4RS



01524 64496  
admin@ripley.lancs.sch.uk

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Dear Parent / Carer

## Online Safety Update

We have recently been made aware that some of our students are accessing inappropriate websites and apps, putting themselves in potential danger. New social media apps are coming online all the time and it is difficult to keep track of them all. Here are two that are causing us most concern.



**Wink:** Wink is an app that allows people to share images and have conversations with complete strangers. Worryingly, the app seems to have a swipe left/right action similar to popular dating websites.

**Omegle:** Omegle is a website accessed through a web browser. This website actively links a person to a complete stranger where they can talk via text, audio or video. There does not appear to be any suitable verification process when using this website. This makes it easy for another person to say something inappropriate or display an inappropriate video.



We would strongly urge you to check your child's app and internet usage and review your security settings on your home wifi.

You can view the government guidance on reporting your concerns using [this link](#). Alternatively you can report an incident to Lancashire Police by telephoning 101 or logging the incident on [this website](#).

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Benter  
Vice Principal

and

Mr A Korab  
Assistant Director of Operations

*Believe.....*