

Parent on-line Safety Newsletter

Hello,

I wanted to make you aware of a website that we are aware of that is being used by perpetrators to groom children and young people for sexual exploitation.



The app is called YUBO.

Yubo [formerly known as Yellow] is a social media app that encourages friendship with people from all over the world.

Users swipe between profiles and live stream videos to meet new people with similar interests. This means that young people will be connecting with people they have never met, once users add each other profiles and become friends, they can then message each other.

The app has been dubbed by the media as [Tinder for teens](#).

Yubo is most popular among 13 – 25year olds, which make up 99% of it's users.

Despite being age-rated 13+, Yubo has been criticised for the way some young people have been exposed to inappropriate content and harassment.

Content

Users can upload profile pictures, and choose to add and connect with various groups, write personal information about themselves, and use Emojis. Live streaming video is one of the main features of the app, each live session can host up to ten streamers with an unlimited number of viewers, any user can start their own live stream. The app also offers a swiping feature to swipe and add other people profiles where further communication and discussions can be held in private room

Contact

The nature of the app means users will be connecting with others they haven't met, living within local or international areas. Users can swipe through a series of profiles and swipe another person's profile. Once two people have both added each other's profiles and become friends, they can message each other. The risks of which are like that of other social media including bullying, hate speech, and inappropriate contact including sexual exploitation and even scams.

Internetmatters.org have produced a Controls and Setting guide that you can find [here](#).

You can also find out more about the app [here](#).

Other useful resources for internet safety are:

CEOP - Report online sexual abuse or the way someone has been communicating with a child online
<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

UK Safer Internet Centre - <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Internet Watch Foundation - <https://www.iwf.org.uk/news-media/blogs/stay-safe-online-a-guide-for-parents-and-children/>

Kind regards,

Lucy Stephenson

SAFEGUARDING MANAGER



