



Dear Parents and Guardians

Snapchat has recently released a new feature called '[Snap Map](#)', that lets users track other people's location in real time.

This new feature is of concern to many parents and child safety experts as, if the proper settings aren't applied, it allows all "friends" of a user to see their exact location as a pinpoint on a map. The only way to prevent other users from viewing your location through the app is to enter 'Ghost Mode'.

Given that a lot of our students use Snapchat, I would encourage all parents to speak with their children about this feature and why they should be wary about sharing their location with people online.

There is a simple way to switch off the 'Snap Map'.

1. Open the Snapchat app
2. Tap the circle at the bottom that will open up your camera
3. Zoom 'out' (use thumb and finger and drag towards the centre of the screen, i.e. a pinching motion) this will bring up the 'Snap Map'
4. Tap the settings cog wheel in the top right corner
5. Slide 'Ghost Mode' on

Please note that the 'Snap Map' is only available from version 10.11.1.0 (released on 22 June 2017). If you haven't updated the app, this new feature won't be available. But remember, if you do update the app in future you will need to enter 'Ghost Mode' to prevent your child's location being shared.

For more information about child safety on Snapchat please visit: <https://www.snapchat.com/safety>

Kind regards

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