



# Margaret McMillan Primary School

Inspiration • Aspiration • Determination

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## Momo Hoax

Dear Parents and carers,

You may have heard about the false rumours about a character called Momo. The character supposedly appears on social media and sets children dangerous challenges. Charities and the police say there have been no reports of anyone receiving messages and the whole thing is completely false and a hoax.

Rumours and fake stories start online and are then shared by well-meaning people who don't realise or question the likelihood of the stories being false. However, some children and parents have been concerned.

I have asked class teachers to discuss this in class with children in order to reassure them. We regularly teach children in school about how to stay safe online. We have programmes and systems in school to prevent children accessing social media or inappropriate sites. We have very robust firewalls, monitoring and internet security to prevent access to our school computers. We encourage children to speak to an adult they trust (such as a parent or teacher) if they see something online which they are worried about.

As parents the best way to protect your child on line is to understand and follow online safety rules. There is lots of advice online for parents.

The NSPCC has a lot of advice for parents and offers 4 easy steps (TEAM);

- Talk regularly about staying safe online
- Explore their online world together
- Agree rules about what is OK and what's not.
- Manage settings and controls

See the links below;

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

<https://www.childnet.com>

Lorraine Martin  
Headteacher



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