

Article from 29th Dec taken from; http://policehour.co.uk/2016/12/parents-must-read-children-are-being-roomed-on-social-media-and-popular-iphone-and-android-apps/?ref=BNTMedia&utm_medium=facebook

If you believe your child is receiving messages off a stranger then contact the police or CEOP online at: <https://ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/> If you feel you need support in protecting your child/children from these issues and are unsure where to start, please pop into school and we will help you best we can.

Parents must read: Children are being groomed on social media and popular iPhone and android apps

By **Trev Sherwood** -
Dec 29, 2016

Over the Christmas period, thousands of children under the age of 16 will have received the latest iPhones & Samsung phones.

The apps within these phones are a breeding ground for grooming and sex offenders are praying on vulnerable children.

The parent of a 10-year-old girl from Teesside has told police how she was shocked to see messages from a man asking for sex on popular KIK. They picked up the girl's phone to see shocking messages such as 'when can you come and meet me' and 'i'd like to see some pictures of you with nothing on'.

This week Police Hour has spoken to the parent of an 11-year-old girl who downloaded Skype to her phone. Little did she know that a strange man would contact her requesting cyber sex and photos.

The girl named Emily (not her real name) downloaded the app to her phone so she could keep in touch with her friends. Hours later she was contacted by an unknown man requesting sex with her.

Emily alerted her mum. Her mum instantly took control of the phone and asked why the man was contacting her 11-year-old daughter.

He messaged Emily saying "I'm bored at home I'm single and looking. Have you ever had cybersex?"

Emily replied 'No I haven't' the man responded 'lol send a recent pic and let's have some fun',

Emily's mum then took control of the phone responding 'Hi this is the mum of the person you are chatting to, I'm not sure if you are aware but you are chatting to an 11-year-

old" prompting the man to respond with 'Awesome like want to send a recent pic'.

Emily's mum did not respond however 24 hours later he was back trying to contact the 11-year old girl saying 'hey' Emily's mum responded "Can I ask why you keep messaging my daughter" he replied "Talk to me like some kind of slut cutie do you like girls with huge t*ts want to 2 c some sexy t*t pic".

In another case, a father warned parents that his 8-year-old daughter was being groomed using her mobile phone via the app Musical.LY.

The music app allows children to lip sync to songs and videos and save them to their phone.

Messages were discovered on his 8-year-old Daughters phone from within the app after spotting notifications.

These messages read "You're way too pretty to be single, I like your body too. It's perfect, I wish I was your brother" another message stated "You got me feeling naughty lol" a third read "When I seen you under covers lol" and one final message read "Lol You can wake me up like that anytime lol".

Police Hour has also heard that teenagers and young children are also receiving similar messages on Facebook and Twitter.

We would strongly advise that you check the profile settings of your children on these sites and ensure their profiles are set to private.

We would strongly suggest you monitor their usage and talk to them about what they are doing online and often check their phones to ensure they are not receiving untoward messages.

However, we would suggest you go about this carefully as they may just think you're being nosey and stress the importance it's not them you are checking on and that if they receive requests or messages from people they do not know to tell you and for them not to respond to the messages.