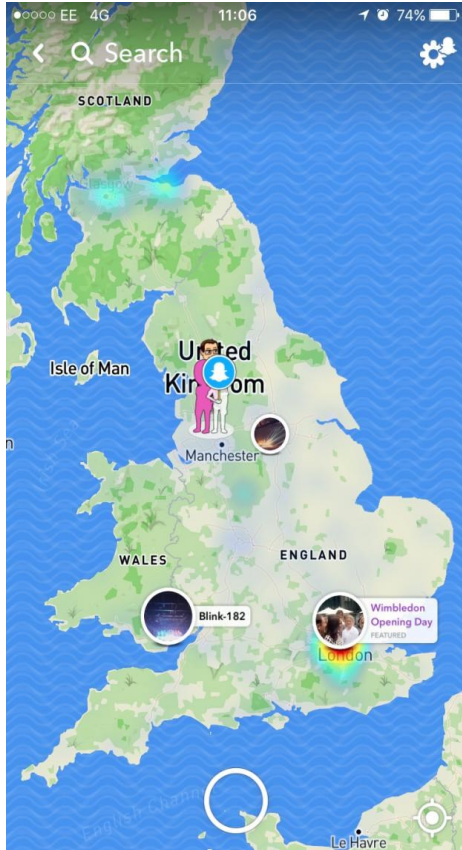


The New Snapchat Feature - EVERY Parent Needs to Know This

You may have heard about the new Snapchat feature causing concern for parents across the country. If your child uses this social media app, you need to read this.



What changes have been made to Snapchat?

The recent update to Snapchat shows publicly posted images on a searchable map. Users' 'snaps', or videos, are plotted onto a worldwide map, with anyone able to see where anyone is unless they use the private feature. Snap Map also lets people zoom in on places such as schools and see videos and pictures posted by children inside.

Snap Map is turned off by default. Children choose to opt in and who they want to share their location with. When they first open the Map, they have 3 options - either to be in Ghost Mode (where no one can see them), share their location with all of their friends, or some from their friends list.

Why are people worried?

Under the latest Snapchat update, public settings allow users to find someone's exact location. The locations can be very specific - even revealing the street where children live - they do not need to have added any of these people to get locations and the update is worldwide.

How can I switch off Snap Map location sharing?

- When in photo-taking mode, pinch the screen to open Snap Map.
- Touch the settings cog in the top right corner of the screen.
- Tap 'Ghost Mode' to switch off location sharing.
- Photos and videos posted to Snapchat's public 'Our Story' will still be discoverable on the map.