HOUSEPARTY APP: GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS

Please see the following advice for students which came from the Leeds City Council Education and Safeguarding Team with regards to the House Party App and how to ensure students are safe when using it:

The Education Safeguarding Team have had numerous queries and safeguarding concerns raised about an APP called House Party in respect to live streaming.

The house party is taking social media by storm. It's from the same company that created Fortnite. As with all live-streaming platforms, screenshots, unsolicited messages and self-generated sexualised imagery **can put young people at risk.**

Links to 'rooms' can also be shared publicly – to other platforms which could see uninvited users joining.

If an uninvited guest joins a room they can easily 'friend' others taking part in the live stream. It appears that when a friend is invited, their friends can also join a 'room' without the invitation. Therefore potentially increase the opportunity to cyber-bully and troll others.

In order to manage this risk:

- ***'Rooms' should be locked to prevent uninvited guests from joining – remember all rooms will lock by default if a user enables 'private mode'.***