



Hayle Academy

February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Education Safeguarding Team has been made aware of a growing number of websites claiming to offer children the opportunity to meet or chat virtually with celebrities. These sites are not legitimate. They are designed to draw children into online environments where unknown adults can initiate direct contact.

These platforms often mirror the format previously used by Omegle, a website known for high-risk random video-chatting, which closed in 2023. Since that closure, multiple copycat and imitation sites have emerged. These websites may appear credible and child-friendly, but they host unmoderated live-chat features that expose children to significant harm.

Nature of the Risk

Recent examples shared by safeguarding partners indicate that:

- Children accessing these sites have been matched with adults posing as celebrities.
- These adults use the “celebrity” premise to begin conversations and build trust quickly.
- Some children have been exposed to high-risk behaviours, including inappropriate or exploitative communication initiated by adults.
- The design of these sites encourages children to remain online without recognising the danger.

This presents a substantial safeguarding concern. The risks mirror those associated with other forms of online grooming, where offenders deliberately seek contact with children through platforms that appear safe or entertaining.

Children and young people may be drawn to these sites because:

- They promise exclusive access to celebrities or influencers.
- They appear fun, exciting, or endorsed by public figures.
- Many children are unaware that the identities shown are fabricated or misrepresented.
- They often operate without age verification, moderation, or safety controls

Please may we ask all parents/carers to:

- Talk to children in a calm, non-judgemental way about safe online behaviour.
- Explain that no genuine celebrity uses random video-chat platforms to meet fans.
- Reinforce that children should speak to a trusted adult if anything online feels wrong or uncomfortable.
- Supervise online activity, particularly when children are using video-based platforms.
- Check and adjust parental controls and privacy settings.
- Ask children which sites or apps they use, and explore them together where appropriate.

If you have any concerns around your child's use of digital technology, please go to [Online Safety and Digital Literacy - Hayle Academy](#) or contact a member of the safeguarding team in school.

Kind regards

Rebs Wilson

Rebs Wilson

Assistant Headteacher

Strategic Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Designated Teacher

CEIAG Lead

3 High Lanes, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4DN enquiries@hayle.tpacademytrust.org 01736 753009

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Jan Woodhouse Head of School: Mrs Melissa Lock

Hayle Academy is part of Truro and Penwith Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company number: 08880841

Registered office: Academy House, Truro Business Park, Threemilestone, Truro, TR4 9LD