

APP - SARAHAH

A mobile phone app called Sarahah lets bullies send abusive messages anonymously. And it's already spreading like wildfire across our schools - countless children's lives are being made miserable right now [1].

It is like putting a bully in their pocket !

The dangerous app has hit the headlines this week after one mother spoke out about how bullies were using the app to target her child suffering from cancer.

A massive public outcry could force the makers of Sarahah to take their dangerous app out of children's hands.

As Sarahah's popularity has grown in recent months, so have concerns about young people's safety.

A fourteen year old girl suffering from depression was anonymously told to commit suicide by users of the app. Whilst a twelve year old cancer patient was teased for his appearance after chemotherapy.

PS: Any parent who wants advice on keeping children safe online can contact the NSPCC and O2 helpline on 0808 800 5002.

NOTES:

[1] Manchester Evening News: What is the Sarahah app and why are parents worried about it?:

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/uk-news/sarahah-anonymous-messaging-app-iphone-13455117>

The Times: Warning over Sarahah app used for bullying:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/warning-over-sarahah-app-used-for-bullying-xhkkbrvmb>

Daily Mail: 'Cut yourself to death': Sick cyber bullies using 'anonymous feedback' app Sarahah taunt schoolgirl, 14, to kill herself after just two minutes of her posting that she was feeling down:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5266395/Teenagers-warning-anonymous-cyber-bullying-app.html>

Daily Mirror: What is Sarahah and should parents be worried? Everything you need to know about honesty app amid cyberbullying fears:

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/tech/sarahah-popular-honesty-app-bullying-11051162>

[2] Daily Post: My son never got upset during cancer treatment but cried when he saw what bullies wrote about him online:

http://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/kaiden-pritchard-caernarfon-bullies-cancer-14154213?_ga=2.247488135.1839778378.1516187190-244116214.1516187189

[3] The Journal.ie: Controversial 'bullying' app SimSimi goes offline in Ireland:

<http://www.thejournal.ie/simsimi-offline-ireland-3314458-Mar2017/>

38 Degrees: Stop bullying app SimSimi:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/stop-bullying-app-simi-simi>

[4] Metro: Has the Sarahah app become a tool for cyberbullying?:

<http://metro.co.uk/2017/07/20/has-the-sarahah-app-become-a-tool-for-cyberbullying-6793667/>

[5] See note 1 and 2

[6] The Telegraph: Exclusive: Sayat.me app, that allows cyberbullying, at centre of police investigation into teenager's suicide:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2017/05/18/exclusive-sayatme-app-allows-cyberbullying-centre-police-investigation/>