



Archdiocese
Of
Birmingham

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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'Following
Jesus in all we do'

Momo

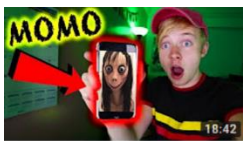
While scrolling through the news or social media, you may have glanced an image depicting a stretched, disfigured face with bulging eyes and large smile, attached to a bird's body. This freakish creature has become the mascot for an obscure urban myth called the Momo Challenge, a game which allegedly encourages children to perform acts of self-harm. There is currently a lot of misleading information swirling around the web about the challenge and it can be difficult to separate fact from myth.

What is the Momo Challenge?

The Momo Challenge is a game played over WhatsApp where participants contact the character Momo and are then told to do a series of challenges, with the final challenge allegedly being suicide.

How do children get to know about it?

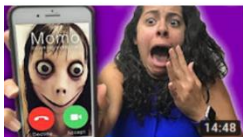
Despite people having to use WhatsApp to partake in the challenge, that is not how most people find out about it. Many prominent YouTubers create videos of themselves trying to reach out to Momo which get many views through, for example, sharing on social media. There is also a game on 'Roblox', which I know many of our children play.



THE MOMO CHALLENGE (Hoax or Real?) | 3AM CHALLENGE

Sam Golbach • 997K views • 2 months ago

GET THE MERCH: <https://fanjoy.co/samgolbach/> I try calling/texting Momo on Facetime and it worked!
This is considered a 3am ...



Texting Momo *SHE Facetimed Me!* (Mystery Gaming)

The Skorys • 2M views • 1 month ago

For Mystery Gaming, Gabriella looks into Momo and even uses Whatsapp to message her! What do you think? Is Momo real or is it ...



DO NOT ASK MOMO THIS QUESTION AT 3AM!! *MOMO CALLED ME BACK* (GONE WRONG)

ImJayStation • 2.6M views • 3 months ago

Download CreepyPasta Amino: <https://aminoapps.onelink.me/4eRT/9f712165> *Follow me: ImJaystation
DO NOT ASK MOMO THIS ...





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Why would children be drawn to it?

Children who see their favourite YouTuber doing the challenge might be drawn to trying it themselves in order to follow their example. It should be noted that a lot of the people making videos about this are capitalising on the mysticism surrounding the challenge and might be deliberately trying to blow it out of proportion to add drama.

Do I need to worry about it?

Although a lot of the information about the Momo Challenge is rather concerning, the number of reported cases of children harming themselves because of the game is extremely low. The challenge has alleged ties to three cases of teens killing themselves in Asia and South America, but there is nothing that proves that it was the direct cause.

How do I keep children safe from it?

- ✓ Check to see if your child is accessing age appropriate Apps, sites and content.
- ✓ Ensure that any privacy settings available are suitably configured
- ✓ If a child comes across any content that is upsetting or threatening then ensure they know to report it immediately to a trusted adult.
- ✓ If necessary, the child or child and adult together can report and block the user where the communication originated.
- ✓ If the content originated from somebody the child knows then the child or child and adult together can make them aware of how the content has been upsetting and ask them to refrain from sharing such content in the future.
- ✓ As a parent, if your child has made you aware of content that you feel provides a threat to your child's safety then report it to the police or CEOP.
- ✓ Ensure your child is very careful whom they connect with online and whom they share personal information with, it is always a good idea to check with a trusted adult first.

