



# APP INSIGHTS

OCTOBER 2020

## SPECIAL DATES

5 Oct World Teachers' Day  
10 Oct Mental Health Day  
24 Oct - 1 Nov Children's Week  
Cybersecurity Awareness Month



## Hola

Fake GPS locator



3+



4+



17+

Deception to parents  
Grooming possibilities

### WHAT IS IT?

“Hola” lets kids as young as 3 change their GPS location to anyone they wish, including their parents. Note this is one of the many versions of this app including “Change my Location”, “Location Picker”, “Location Faker” and many more.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

As with any app that hopes to deceive people (especially care givers) the real app dangers includes your child changing their location to go meet up with someone or somewhere that poses a danger to them.



## PARENT TIPS

**Why does Google Play usually have age ratings for apps that are much lower than Apple's App Store?**

*It comes down to the developers ticking boxes when they upload the app to the store – they want the biggest age range possible for their apps so there are more potential customers. Even apps in Apple's store change after there has been a backlash or complaint, but in the first instance the developers will always try to get as many uploads as possible. Don't trust their age rating for your child.*



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## Hola Random Video Chat



12+



17+



17+

Chat with strangers  
Sexual content  
Grooming possibilities  
Bullying  
Subscription fees

### WHAT IS IT?

Please note this is one of the many types of random video chat generators such as "Vimo" "Sociable" "Tumile" and the more well-known app "Houseparty". Users can chat to random people all over the world, play games in real time with them and send messages and photos to each other.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Playing a 'Russian roulette' style game with strangers across the globe has the potential to invite paedophile and grooming organisations directly into your home. Even though users think they are chatting to a like-minded friend, you can never be too sure who is behind the camera.

## ! PARENT TIPS

*A video of a man self-harming recently went viral on numerous social media platforms including TikTok, Facebook, Snapchat and YouTube. The video reached millions of people across the globe in a matter of minutes.*

*The companies scrambling to remove*

*and delete the horrifying video were no match for those promoting the video. This incident should serve as a timely reminder about the apps we allow our children to download on their devices. The consequences can be extremely perilous.*