



Head Teacher: Mrs D Reynolds - BSc Hons QTS NPQH

Aim High

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Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Year 5 Parents/Carers,

Important Information Regarding Online Safety

We are writing to bring to your attention some concerns we have recently encountered regarding children's use of online platforms such as WhatsApp and Snapchat. While these platforms can be useful for communication, they also come with risks that can impact your child's well-being and safety.

We have become aware that some Year 5 children are using WhatsApp and other messaging services, which have an age restriction of 13+. As a result, many children may be engaging in conversations and sharing content without fully understanding the potential risks involved.

Key Concerns Include:

- **Inappropriate Language and Content:** Some groups may include messages that are unsuitable for children and could expose them to harmful language or media.
- **Peer Pressure and Group Chats:** Large group chats can sometimes lead to unkind behaviour, exclusion, or bullying.
- **Privacy Risks:** Children may inadvertently share personal information, putting their privacy and security at risk.
- **Emotional Well-being:** Unmonitored online interactions can sometimes result in anxiety, stress, or conflicts that spill over into school life.

We strongly encourage you to speak with your child about their online activity and ensure they are using age-appropriate platforms safely. Here are some helpful steps you can take:

- **Open Dialogue:** Regularly talk to your child about what they are doing online and encourage them to share if something is worrying them.
- **Privacy Settings:** Review the security and privacy settings on your child's devices to ensure they are set to the highest protection levels.
- **Monitor Activity:** Where possible, supervise your child's use of messaging platforms and social media.
- **Promote Positive Online Behaviour:** Remind your child about being kind, respectful, and thoughtful when communicating online.

Our school is committed to promoting online safety, and we will continue to provide guidance and support to pupils as part of our computing and PSHE curriculum. If you have any concerns or would like further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our children safe online.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Reynolds
Head Teacher

