

Monday 6th February 2023

Dear Year 4, 5 & 6 Families,

Re: Inappropriate Social Media Use

We wanted to write to you to remind you of the importance of carefully monitoring your child's use of mobile devices. Increasingly, staff at school are dealing with incidents of inappropriate online behaviour which have occurred outside of school. These incidents have caused distress which has then affected children's learning in class. Many of the apps children are using have an age restriction of 13+ as they contain user-generated content, which may include inappropriate content, like swearing and graphic language and images.

This is why at school, the internet does not allow anyone to access social media accounts. Please find below a list of popular apps, with the legal age restrictions for each.

Social Media App	Age Restriction
SNAPCHAT SNAPCHAT	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+
DISCORD	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+ (although it does not verify users' age upon sign-up)
twitter	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+
J TikTok	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+
(S) WhatsApp	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 16+
O Instagram	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+
facebook.	The platform has a minimum age restriction of 13+

On Wednesday the school will be celebrating **Safer Internet Day 2023** with learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. Each year this is an important opportunity to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

In the meantime I ask that you take time to speak with the children at home, look at their devices and delete accounts on Discord, Instagram, TikTok, SnapChat, Twitter and any other social media apps that are inappropriate for their age. If you would like further information on the dangers of appropriate app use, the Safer Internet Centre has excellent advice here.



If you have any questions or concerns about this important issue, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

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Matt Trahair Headteacher