

*'Eager to learn
Live to learn'*

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Year 5 Social Media

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to address an important issue regarding the use of social media among some of our Year 5 pupils. Recently, we have received several complaints from parents and observed safeguarding concerns raised by children. Unkind and inappropriate interactions on social media platforms are causing significant upset amongst some of our pupils and is now causing disruptions within our school.

To clarify, many popular social media platforms have minimum age requirements that children in Year 5 are not yet old enough to meet. These include:

TikTok: 13+

Instagram: 13+

Snapchat: 13+

Facebook: 13+

YouTube: 13+ (YouTube Kids is available for younger users)

WhatsApp: 16+ (in the UK)

These age restrictions are in place to help protect children from risks such as inappropriate content, online bullying, and exploitation.

We understand that social media can be a fun way for children to connect with friends, but it is clear that its misuse is having a negative impact on friendships, emotional well-being, and the learning environment at school.

As a school, we will continue to educate our pupils about online safety through our curriculum, whilst reinforcing the importance of kindness and empathy in all interactions. For any child that is affected, we will continue to support and by working together, we can ensure that social media does not negatively impact our children's mental health, friendships, or learning.

Warm regards,

Mrs Wilden
Headteacher