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19/03/24

URGENT

INAPPROPRIATE PUPIL MESSAGING AND LANGUAGE ONLINE – KS2

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to address an urgent matter that is presently concerning staff, myself, pupils and parents / carers.

It relates to a recent escalation in issues surrounding online pupil interactions, particularly on platforms like WhatsApp, TikTok, Playstation and XBOX.

Over the past few weeks, we have observed a significant increase in conflicts, reports of inappropriate language and hurtful messages exchanged amongst the children outside of Academy hours. Unfortunately, these interactions have spilled over into the classroom environment, causing disruptions to our teaching and learning processes. As a result, valuable staff time has been redirected towards resolving these conflicts, thus impacting the overall progress and focus within our classroom settings.

More importantly, these negative interactions on social media / gaming platforms have taken a toll on the mental well-being of several of our students. We have noticed increased levels of stress and anxiety among those involved, which is deeply concerning to us as educators.

In light of these developments, I urge you, as parents and carers, to increase the active role you play in **monitoring your child's mobile phone /social media / gaming usage**. It is crucial that we work together to create a safe and respectful online environment for all our students. Here are a few steps you can take to support us in addressing this issue:

- **Open Communication:** Have regular conversations with your child about their online activities. Encourage them to share any concerns or issues they may encounter on social media.
- **Set Clear Boundaries:** Establish clear guidelines and rules regarding your child's social media usage. Monitor their accounts and ensure they understand the importance of respectful communication.
- **Supervise Content:** Take time to review the content your child is consuming and sharing on social media platforms. Help them understand the potential impact of their words and actions online.

- **Be Vigilant:** Keep an eye out for any signs of distress or changes in behaviour that may indicate your child is experiencing difficulties related to social media interactions.

By working together, we can create a supportive and nurturing environment for our students both in and out of school. I greatly appreciate your cooperation and support in addressing this issue promptly.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. Your partnership is invaluable as we strive to ensure the well-being and success of all our students.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Kind regards,



Mr S. P. Bate
Head Teacher



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