



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL

Aspiring & Achieving Together

HEADTEACHER: MR CARLTON BRAMWELL *BEd (Hons), MSc, NPQH*

16th November 2021

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am writing to you to bring your attention to an issue that is affecting all schools nationally at the moment.

As a school we have had a number of offensive videos that are defamatory and offensive, targeting members of school staff. They have been posted on the social media platform TikTok.

The TikTok videos include material making highly insulting and unfounded allegations and abuse to staff in the school. These posts contravene and breach the TikTok community guidelines but in some cases the comments and videos fall into the category of hate speech and are abusive.

As a result we are investigating each video to identify the perpetrators and get the videos removed. We currently have 2 individual cases that the police are dealing with as criminal offences and information has been passed by them onto the Cyber Crime Unit.

We are asking for your support in this matter. Firstly to raise awareness of the current situation we are facing, and also with the linked issue of the fact some of our students are making comments about the videos and some are again derogatory and defamatory towards staff.

Any student found to be making defamatory comments publicly online will be subject to school disciplinary procedures and any student found to be creating defamatory videos will be permanently excluded from the school.

If you do see any posts of this nature please report to both school and TikTok.

I would like to thank you again for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Carlton Bramwell
Headteacher