



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

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Archdiocese of
Birmingham

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Dear Parents and Carers,

“Create, Connect and Share Respect: A better internet starts with you”.

It has been brought to our attention that some Year 6 pupils have created a 'whatsapp' group with good intentions to enable them to stay in touch on transition to high school. However some children have used this group as a means to send inappropriate messages and also screen shot pictures of Mrs Hackley and Mr Bowring which is in breach of their privacy.

This is a serious concern and one which Mrs McDonagh has followed up today in her capacity as CEOP ambassador for promoting e-safety. We all have a responsibility for the safety of the children and for educating them in their understanding of the dangers of social media. Mrs McDonagh spoke to the children concerned and explained the dangers in relation to 'digital footprint' and how they must be aware of the consequences that the written word online can have.

The computing curriculum that we teach here at St Joseph's incorporates internet safety as part of the teaching content. Every incident that takes place in school is an opportunity for us to review our practise. Due to this incident, over the coming weeks additional e-safety lessons will be delivered to all of year 6 along with two workshops delivered by the local police on transition to high school and all that that entails and also a workshop on the serious issue of Child Sexual Exploitation. We live in a very challenging world and it is our duty to ensure that our children have the understanding and confidence to speak out and to recognise the issues they are faced with and the confidence to deal with them appropriately.

We really hope that you will support us in keeping your child safe online, in school and at home. If you need any help or advice with the issues around social media then please contact either Mrs McDonagh or myself.

Yours in faith and partnership

Mrs Louise Bury

Headteacher

