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With God, all things are possible.

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Dear Parents & Carers,

With regret we need to inform you that we are being forced to deal with an increasing number of issues resulting from the children's use of social media and online gaming. Whilst these are happening outside of school, we feel obliged to address this with you as children are often bringing their concerns and anxieties to the attention of staff. These issues are also causing a knock-on effect with regards to their ability to focus and concentrate within lessons. To clarify; the school's policy, in line with NSPCC guidelines, will always be that we cannot condone children accessing age-inappropriate programmes, apps, software or material online. However, as we are aware that an increasing number of parents have consented to their children having access to them, we ask that parents please consider the following:-

1. Your child's online access whilst outside of school or its related activities is not the responsibility of the school or its staff.
2. Children should be supervised at all times when accessing the internet for both gaming and messaging purposes. We regularly discuss with the children that their e-safety is of paramount importance and is ultimately a parental responsibility whilst they are minors.
3. Maintaining permanent access to your child's use of the internet, and talking regularly and openly with them about it, is both supportive and responsible.
4. Be aware of how your child interacts with others online. If you have any concerns, take photographs or screenshots as documented evidence.
5. If you have concerns regarding your child's welfare online, we encourage you to remove them from potential harm as you would do in a real-life situation. Most social media sites operate a 'block' function that takes effect instantly and may help you to remove your child from a conflict or potentially distressing situation.

We want to ensure that children have every opportunity to be happy and thrive, both in and outside of school. Whilst we recognise that online access is part of everyday life nowadays; we trust you will support us in encouraging all children to use it safely, appropriately and happily.

Thank you for your support on this matter.

Mr Feeley
E-Safety and Acceptable Use Lead



2019-2022

Truth - Fairness - Justice - Joy