



Sir Frederic Osborn School

Achieving Success Together

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Dear Parent/Carer

Student use of social media

Recently a number of unpleasant e-safety issues involving a number of students have been brought to our attention.

The inappropriate use of social media is a serious issue and we want to raise with all parents and carers to allow us to work together to ensure the safety of all of our students. Schools are only obliged to deal with safety issues that arise in school, however we do aim to educate our students on e-safety and the appropriate use of social media and as such these are part of regular assemblies and PSHE lessons to all year groups.

Parents and carers have an important role to play in ensuring the safety of their children when using social media and I would like to highlight the following points:

- Users must be 13 years old or older to create a Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or You Tube account
- Users must be 16 years old or older to create a WhatsApp account and 17 years old or older to create a Tinder account
- Threats, racist and homophobic comments are offenses that someone can be prosecuted for
- Accounts should have all privacy settings enabled
- Fake accounts can be closed down by the social media platform if reported
- If your child is upset or worried about something that has occurred online, they need to report this as soon as possible to you, their Form Tutor or Director of learning. You may also want to report this to the social media platform.

Further information regarding e-safety can be found on our website and I have also listed some useful links below:

<http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/14plus/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Yours sincerely

Miss J Smith
Deputy Headteacher

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