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Monday 31st October 2016

E-Safety & Monitoring at Home

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you to express my concern about our pupils' use of social media applications such as WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, usually on their mobile phones. As an example, it has been brought to my attention that some children are experiencing bullying and receiving abusive messages on WhatsApp. As a school we cannot police how children use their phones or computers at home.

I want to request that you speak to your children about the seriousness of sending unpleasant messages online and the effect that it can have on others. I'd also urge you to be aware of what is on your child's phone and make sure that they tell you if they receive anything that makes them feel upset.

At our school, we teach children about the importance of being safe online so that they will have the tools to know what is and isn't acceptable. The way that children use social media is changing quickly and we need to work together with parents to protect them.

As a school we take bullying incredibly seriously and want all children to feel safe and happy. My hope is that we can work together on this to make sure that social media is only used in a positive way and brings benefits to our pupils.

We would to thank you in advance for your support with this matter.

Kind regards,

Verity Carter
Headteacher