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Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to bring to your attention to ongoing concerns regarding the use of WhatsApp class groups and associated sub-groups involving pupils from this class.

We have been made aware of repeated incidents where the language used within these groups is wholly inappropriate and, at times, threatening whilst also raising concern as to what some children are accessing online. As a result of conversations taking place outside of school hours, some children are arriving at school feeling upset, anxious, and distressed. This is having a direct impact on their wellbeing and their ability to engage positively in learning.

While the school cannot prevent children from having access to smartphones or social media platforms, we strongly recommend that parents and carers regularly monitor their child's phone usage. This includes checking group chats, messages, and the type of content being shared or accessed. Open conversations at home about respectful and responsible online behaviour are vital.

It is also important to be aware that digital footprints are lasting. Online behaviour can be reviewed as part of future recruitment processes, college applications, and other opportunities. It would be deeply unfortunate for inappropriate or threatening content to form part of a child's digital record and potentially limit their future aspirations.

This is a recurring issue within this class, and if the situation does not improve, I will have no option but to consider implementing a smartphone-free approach. This would ensure that content generated outside of school does not continue to be brought into school, disrupting learning time and affecting pupils' emotional wellbeing.

We appreciate your support in addressing this matter promptly and working with us to ensure a safe, respectful, and positive environment for all children, both online and in school.

Mrs D Douglas
Headteacher.

