



Ms Alison Pope, Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

March 2026

We are writing to share an important update regarding pupil use of large WhatsApp and Snapchat messaging groups. Over recent weeks, we have become increasingly concerned about the size of some of these groups and the content being shared within them.

While many pupils use social media responsibly, large group chats can quickly become difficult to manage and may lead to situations where unkind comments, inappropriate content, or misinformation spread rapidly. This can have a significant impact on pupils' wellbeing both inside and outside of school.

Please be aware that anything a pupil does while wearing school uniform, or anything that relates to the school, pupils, or staff, is covered by our Behaviour Policy. This includes online activity. Where content shared on social media is linked to hate crime, harassment, or other serious concerns, the school has a duty to report this to the police.

To support our pupils, we are focusing upcoming assemblies and tutor time on:

- Encouraging pupils to avoid joining large social media group chats
- Understanding the risks of sharing images, messages, or videos
- Thinking carefully before posting or forwarding content
- Recognising the potential consequences of online behaviour

We will continue to reinforce these messages in a positive and constructive way, helping pupils to develop safe and responsible digital habits.

It is also important for pupils to understand that posts made on social media can have long-term implications. Many employers, colleges, and apprenticeship providers now carry out online checks as part of their recruitment processes. Content posted today— even in private groups — can reappear in the future and may affect job or training opportunities.

We would be grateful for your support in talking to your child about their online behaviour, the groups they are part of, and the potential risks of large messaging platforms. Working together, we can help ensure that all our pupils remain safe, responsible, and respectful online.

If you have any concerns or would like further guidance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Alison Pope - Headteacher

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