






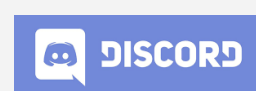

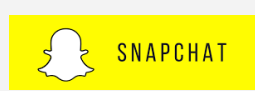

Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear Year 6 parents,

As the evenings are getting lighter, we know that many of the Year 6 children will be making good use of the local park and enjoying spending time together outside after school. We often find that as children begin to have more freedom and less supervision, they try out behaviours they would not normally do when supervised. This can include unkind words and actions. At school, we will continue to talk to the children about our expectations and what to do if they experience unkind or unsafe behaviour from other children. If you are considering allowing your child to be unsupervised in the local area, we ask that you remind them of your expectations around their behaviour and the importance of being responsible and kind.

It has also come to our attention that some of our Year 6 children are continuing to access social media platforms which have either a 13+ or a 16+ age restriction. Unfortunately, recently, we have seen the negative impact on friendships and pupil wellbeing of incidents of inappropriate online use which have occurred outside of school. We are therefore re-sharing with you some guidance around the use of social media so that you can have conversations with your child about safe online behaviours.

#### **Social Media Recommended Age Restrictions:**

| Social Media App  | Age Restriction   |  |
|---|---|--|
| This platform has a minimum age restriction of <b>16+</b>                           |   |  |
|  |   |  |
| These platforms have a minimum age restriction of <b>13+</b>                        |   |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

If you are unsure whether your child uses these apps, you may wish to check their phone or tablet. You may want to remind them that they shouldn't share private things, such as: personal information, like names, phone numbers or photos; links to other social media accounts or their school; their location and other people's personal information including photos. It is a good idea to explain to your child that, if someone starts asking them personal questions, or suggests that they speak on a different messaging platform, then they should come and tell you.

You may also wish to check if your child uses chat groups as they are easy to set up and can be used to share comments, memes and images very quickly. Often children will write comments or send images which they would not otherwise say or share. Messages and images can then easily be shared further without the consent of others. This can lead to children feeling overwhelmed, anxious and reluctant to report it to adults because of the content of messages or images posted. For further information, you may find the [parent/carers resources on the UK Safer Internet Centre useful](#).

If you have any concerns or questions about this or any other matters related to Year 6, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher, Ms Bunbury or myself.

Wishing you all a safe and restful break.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'K Beecroft', on a light grey rectangular background.

Katie Beecroft  
Headteacher