



Executive Head Teacher: Mr Paul Smith

Bank Road, Pilning, South Gloucestershire,
BS35 4JG

Tel: (01454) 631137

Email: office@stpetersprimary.co.uk

Website: www.stpetersprimary.co.uk

Twitter: @StPetersPilning

Friday 15 March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Social Media

It has been brought to our attention that the use of social media such as WhatsApp, Snapchat and TikTok is being used by some of the children in school.

Whilst social media can be an exciting medium for the children to explore, there are clear guidelines outlining appropriate use and age restrictions.

I am saddened to inform you that some of the conversations the children are engaging in are quite disturbing, unkind towards their peers and has used explicit language.

I would encourage all parents/carers to check your child's mobile phone if they are using any of these social media platforms. These are the current guideline.

WhatsApp requires a minimum age of 16 but relies on the honesty of the child and family to adhere to the age restrictions. This is taken from [UK Safer Internet Centre](http://www.uk-safer-internet-centre.org).

Snapchat is rated 13 years+. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/is-snapchat-safe-for-my-child/>

TikTok has an age rating of 13 year+. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/child-safe-settings-tiktok/>

Our advice is to:

- Children at primary school should not be on any of these social media platforms as outlined in their user guidance.
- If your children do use these platforms, it is your responsibility to monitor closely your child's use of any social media activity.
- For further guidance, refer to the NSPCC website.

I'm sure we don't need to remind you that any inappropriate use of social media that targets specific people can be deemed as cyber-bullying and strictly goes against the school's anti-bullying policy and the ethos of the school.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact your class teacher or me.

Kind Regards,

Mr Baykaa-Murray.