



# St. Paul's R. C. Primary School

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16<sup>th</sup> January, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am aware that several pupils are using the Social Networking Site "Instagram." As stated in the description and age restriction guidance, Instagram, along with most other social networking sites require children to be 13 years old before they can create an account.

Recently it has been brought to my attention that messages have been posted on Instagram regarding other pupils, at another school - naming pupils and commenting on incidents. Other pupils from our school have also been "tagged" in the posts. The matters being commented on are of a sensitive nature and I cannot stress highly enough the possible implications of such comments.

I therefore make a request to you as parents and carers to have a conversation with your child about the safe and appropriate use of the internet and in particular the use of sites like Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook which all have an age restriction of 13. Children do not access these sites in school and therefore parental responsibility is essential.

As you will be aware e-safety is a key area of our school's safeguarding policy as well as our computing policy; you may find it useful to refer to our school website and read our e-safety policy as well as some of the specific guidance we have placed on the site.

Many thanks for your anticipated support and action.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. S. Sinclair,  
Headteacher.