



Believing and Achieving Together

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Dear Parents/ Carers

I am writing to reassure you about alleged incidents that are being discussed in the playground and on Facebook. The alleged incidents are alleged to have taken place outside of school and not during the school day. We take any, and all, allegations of unacceptable behaviour seriously, no matter what the nature of the behaviour is. I can assure you that Seaton Delaval First School always deals with incidents in accordance with its policies while protecting the confidentiality of all pupils and families. We pride ourselves on our very high staff to pupil ratios, for example we usually have 5 members of staff working in Reception alone. All our staff are highly vigilant and are always watching in classrooms, around school, at playtimes and at lunchtimes to ensure pupils are "happy, safe and learning." I emphasise however that the school cannot tell parents/ families who their children can or cannot play with outside of school.

All staff at Seaton Delaval First School want to work with you to enhance the educational experience we can give your child and therefore we will always have time to listen to your concerns and we will strive to sort out any issues together. Similarly, we are always just a phone call away if you need to contact us to seek information or to ask a question. We consider it highly inappropriate and potentially damaging to use social networking facilities to discuss school, its staff, pupils, parents/carers or any aspect of its work, regardless of your privacy settings. I have been advised by our legal advisers to remind you that anything written on social media websites (eg Facebook) are publications and as such, statements made upon it are potentially open to legal challenge, especially when they are shown to be untrue or defamatory against individuals or the school.

I look forward to us all working together in the future for the benefit of all of our pupils and parents.

I would hope that if you have concerns in the future that you come into school to discuss these with me as social media is not the appropriate way to discuss concerns.

Yours sincerely

Mr O Flitcroft

