

ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents,

Keeping children safe online

Many of you may be aware of recent reports in the media about harrowing videos currently circulating on TikTok. Young people across the country have unfortunately been exposed to these images resulting in high levels of distress.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-54069650>

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

We are aware that some children at St Anne's are accessing social media apps so would like to take this opportunity to remind you that whilst the internet is an amazing tool for learning and communication, it is vitally important we ensure that children are protected from the unscrupulous individuals who wish to exploit us all. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of parents to decide what children access online whilst at home.

We have sent out many letters, guidelines and links explaining how to keep your children safe when online. We would urge you all to revisit this guidance and carefully monitor how the internet is being used at home and what your children are accessing.

We would also like to remind you all that the minimum age for using many of the internet or social media platforms are well above primary school age. According to each sites terms and conditions:

TikTok/Instagram/Twitter/Snapchat/Skye minimum age is 13

WhatsApp minimum age is 16

Please see below links to very helpful and informative sites to support keeping your child safe when online:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/what-age-can-my-child-start-social-networking/>

Kind regards,



Mrs H Murphy
Acting Head Teacher



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