



Sacred Heart
Catholic Primary School
Together we live and learn; we play and pray

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Headteacher: Mr Thomas Claxton

Tuesday 4th June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE/SOCIAL MEDIA USE

As you will be aware, the safety of our children is at the forefront of all we do at Sacred Heart. As part of our PSHE programme, the children are taught how to stay safe online, which also includes the government advised age limits for accessing games and social media platforms.

Unfortunately, there have been recent issues brought to our attention where children have been sending hurtful messages to other children, using the WhatsApp platform. Although these incidents happened out of school, the fall-out has continued resulting in our staff using up valuable time to deal with the upset caused.

It is vital that we – the school and parents – share a consistent message with our children to protect them from harm, whilst using online games and platforms. We would like to remind you that the advised age restriction for access to WhatsApp is 13 years old. Recent events have highlighted the importance of this age limit – younger children are just not mature enough to use this appropriately.

You may find the following websites useful, when considering the online rules you put into place in your own home to keep your children safe.

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

<https://www.childnet.com>



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