

8 November 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to all our parents to alert them to some issues that we are having with the use of social media.

In the past week a number of accounts have been set up, particularly TikTok and Snapchat, with unacceptable content linked to them. We have informed the Police, as the language on some of these posts are defamatory or illegal. These have included use of the school logo, name and included comments about our staff.

We held a special full school assembly this morning to remind students of the positive side to social media, as well as making clear the impact that this can have on the person posting the material, those who read it and contribute to it and on the victim.

We took this time to remind all in our community about their online safety and how they must be careful when sharing personal information and talking to people they do not know online.

We know that our students are unhappy about some of the things being posted; they have told us this. We recognise too, that this will be just one or two misguided students. We would ask please that you talk to your child/ren about their online presence. There are some useful links below that you may find helpful as you talk to your family:

https://www.buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childrenpartnership/parent-and-carers/safety-online/ https://www.net-aware.org.uk/ https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/

We have asked our students to listen out for anyone talking about posting items that are unacceptable and we would appreciate your help in asking the same too. This will be handled confidentially and sensitively.

Thank you in advance for talking about this at home. We are in touch with the social media platforms and we hope that in the coming days this content will be removed.

Yours sincerely

KEVIN PATRICK Principal

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