



# St Joseph's CE Junior School

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**Executive Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Hardy BAEd (QTS) NPQH**

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2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Year 6 WhatsApp groups

We have been made aware that a significant number of our Year 6 pupils are on various WhatsApp groups. I have been informed that the content on these WhatsApp groups is not always appropriate, and in some cases, wholly inappropriate. The comments and polls that have been set up are derogatory and have upset some pupils. For obvious reasons, we don't check pupil's phones and have only been made aware of this when a parent brought it to our attention. I urge that you please talk with your child about chat groups and use of WhatsApp or other online communication apps such as Snapchat and Instagram. We would recommend that you check their phones/devices periodically to make sure that the content of conversations is appropriate for 10-11 year old children.

Next week is Mental Health Wellbeing and Internet Safety Day is on 7<sup>th</sup> February, and as a school we will be focusing on the appropriate use of social media.

Please note that WhatsApp is a part of Facebook and their website states: 'As of May 2018, WhatsApp's minimum age of use is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, or a country that has adopted the GDPR, as the UK has.' Please be vigilant and monitor what your child is doing on the internet or their phones. It is not an invasion of their privacy, you will be helping them to stay safe.

If you have any further queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Lisa Hardy  
Executive Headteacher

**"LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU" JOHN 13:34-35**

