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PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL

Wednesday 21st October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Since the start of term, we have been made aware of incidents where children have used abusive and threatening language towards each other via social media. Although these incidents do not take place on school premises, they impact children's behaviour, increase anxiety, and disrupt learning during the school day.

While we cannot control children's online activity outside school, we have a duty of care to intervene when cyberbullying or harmful behaviour is reported. We will always inform parents of the children involved to work together in addressing these concerns.

The online world presents a range of risks, including exposure to harmful content, inappropriate contact, harmful conduct such as bullying, and commercial risks like scams. It is essential that children are safeguarded from these risks through a combined effort between school and home.

Please note the recommended age restrictions for popular social media platforms:

- **WhatsApp, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, Musical.ly, and Skype**, require users to be at least 13 years old.
- **YouTube** allows users to watch videos without age restrictions, but an account (needed to comment, upload, or subscribe) requires users to be 13 or older.

Experts often recommend that children wait until at least 15 years old before engaging fully with social media, depending on their emotional maturity. Regardless of age, it is vital that parents monitor what their children access online, their interactions, and screen time.

Please be aware that threatening or abusive online behaviour involving children aged 10 and above may lead to police involvement.

To support you further, we have attached a poster with additional information and resources on keeping children safe online.

Thank you for your continued partnership in safeguarding our children's wellbeing both in school and beyond.

Louise Swindlehurst
Headteacher

Friendship

Love

Forgiveness

Trust

Honesty

Faith