

FOXHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher - Mrs S Thomason

8th April 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Subject: Concerns Regarding Online Bullying on WhatsApp Groups among Year 6 Pupils

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to bring to your attention a matter of importance regarding the online behaviour of some Year 6 pupils. It has come to our notice that there have been incidents of online bullying occurring within WhatsApp groups involving some of our pupils. As responsible educators and guardians of your children's well-being, it is crucial that we address this matter promptly and effectively.

Bullying, in any form, is unacceptable and goes against the values of our school. Whether it takes place in the physical or digital realm, the impact on the victim can be severe and long-lasting. As we continue to adapt to the digital age, it is essential that we educate our children about the appropriate use of technology and the importance of respectful communication.

It is worth noting that the minimum age requirement to use WhatsApp is 16 years old. This means that our Year 6 pupils do not meet the age criteria for using this platform. Therefore, as parents, it is your responsibility to ensure that your child is using technology in a safe and responsible manner, adhering to age restrictions set by platforms such as WhatsApp.

I urge you to have an open and honest conversation with your child about their online activities, including their interactions on social media platforms. Emphasize the importance of treating others with kindness and respect, both online and offline. Encourage them to speak up if they witness or experience any form of bullying, and reassure them that they will be supported and taken seriously. The summer term for year 6 pupils brings it's highs and lows: exams, residential, school play, transition to high school and they are all in this together! It is so important that they support each other, pick each other up, be kind and encouraging as they complete their time at Foxhill.

As a school, we are committed to fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all our pupils. We will be taking proactive measures to address the issue of online bullying, in lessons and discussions about digital citizenship. On Tuesday 16th April Bradford Police will be coming to talk to the children about appropriate online behaviour. However, we also rely on your support as parents to reinforce these values at home.

Together, we can work towards creating a safer and more positive online environment for our children.

Thank you for your attention and support in this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Thomason

Headteacher