



St Oswald's Worleston CE Primary

Church Road, Aston Juxta Mondrum, Nantwich, CW5 6DP
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Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Nicola Badger
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'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'



19th April 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I have recently been made aware that many children in Years 5 and 6 are using social media to communicate with each other, mostly WhatsApp. Whilst this is all taking place outside of school, some of the fall outs and upsets are spilling into school and affecting friendships, self-esteem and the ability to focus on learning. We have started a series of Online Safety lessons through a variety of sources including Purple Mash, the NSPCC and internetmatters.org .

The app is rated as 16+ for many reasons, including the maturity levels needed to deal with the ongoing issues around social media and communicating through apps and online.

The risks include:

- Unwanted contact
- Pressure to respond
- Inappropriate content being shared
- Location sharing
- Cyber Bullying
- Over sharing

As a school, we take online safety and bullying really seriously, and make it a priority to deal with any issues as soon as they are brought to our attention. To support us in keeping your children safe alongside out vigilance and PSHE lessons, we ask that you:

- Regularly check your children's devices/phones for messages, groups and chats
- Have regular conversations about being safe online, asking your child if they have any worries or seen/heard anything that has made them worried/upset/angry.
- Ask them what they would do if they saw or heard something they shouldn't on a device

Every child has the right to feel safe and be heard. We will work together to navigate your children through this difficult time of social media, apps and online gaming and have enquired for some external training for staff and parents to take place later this term. The NSPCC is a great resource for information, short videos and bitesize training. Here is a link to an article that I have found useful.

[Is WhatsApp safe for my child? | NSPCC](#)

In the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions, please get in touch with either myself or Mrs Fields.

Best wishes
Mrs McDonough

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16





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