



Saltford
CofE Primary School

Saltford CofE Primary School
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September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Since the start of term we have become increasingly aware that some children in Year 5 and 6 are using social messaging apps such as 'WhatsApp', 'Snapchat' 'house party' and 'TikTok' and even though the minimum age to use these services is 13 years old according to their sites' terms and conditions. In addition, we have also been made aware that there are Year 5 and 6 group chats set up across some of these services, which we feel has potential E-safety implications for the children. We have a finite amount of time available in the school and therefore we do not want to find that issues that arise from the underage use of these platforms are brought into school.

Our school is committed to safe and responsible use of technology, and as such, feel that it is our responsibility to raise this as a concern. This follows discussions that we have had with the children, when we talked about how the children were using the Internet and what they are doing to keep themselves safe online.

Social media and communication devices are not used in school, and our Internet access is filtered so that such sites are blocked. Outside of school hours, parents are responsible for what children access and how they interact online, and we would strongly recommend that you discuss with your child what they are using and monitor their online activity.

E-safety is an important part of the school's computing curriculum, and you can see the kinds of activities the children take part in on the "Computing" section of the school's website.

We appreciate your support in encouraging your children to use their technology safely and responsibly. We have an [at a glance](#) available here with all the ages limits for apps. If you would like more information on age limits for apps, the following link has an easy-to-follow guide:

<https://safesmartsocial.com/app-guide-parents-teachers/>

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Sage
Headteacher