

21 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Mobile Phone Safety**

I am writing to raise your awareness of two issues that have come to our attention. In response to this I would encourage you to discuss your child's phone use with them and ensure that you feel confident about the content they are accessing and any messaging apps that they are using.

### **Snapchat Groups**

We have become aware that some of our young people have been invited to join group chats by anonymous users. A small number of our students have reported receiving abusive and unpleasant messages in these chats. Our advice to all our students is to only communicate with friends they know in their real life and to block any anonymous accounts that attempt to message them. If your child receives threatening messages, I would encourage you to support them by taking a photo of the message and uploading this via an online 101 report to the police. Please find a [Snapchat factsheet](#) for parents/carers attached so that you are able to support your child on Snapchat should an issue arise.

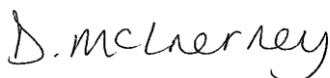
### **Pornography**

Online safety and access to inappropriate and/or illegal material is sadly a widespread national, indeed international, issue. Please be assured that our firewalls are fully secure so this is not possible. However, we receive an alert via our Network Support team, even if a site has been viewed prior to joining the network when the browser is open. We have noticed an increase in attempts to access such material on the school network in recent times.

As part of our rigorous Relationships, Health and Personal Development curriculum we educate our young people about the importance of staying safe online. We would urge you to discuss these issues at home with your child and to check what they are viewing regularly.

Many thanks in advance for the valuable conversations that you will have at home surrounding these important issues.

Yours faithfully,



Miss D McInerney  
**Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead**