

13 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to make you aware of a serious safeguarding concern that has recently come to our attention involving the use of messaging platforms such as WhatsApp and Snapchat among some of our students.

It has come to light that certain group chats involving students are being used to share indecent and explicit material. Worryingly, we also have reason to believe that some of these groups are being controlled or influenced by adults outside of the school community. There is evidence that these individuals may be offering gifts or incentives to young people in exchange for engagement within these groups.

We understand how fast the online world changes and how difficult it can be, even for the most vigilant of parents and carers, to keep up with the latest apps, trends and risks. We want to work in partnership with you to help protect our young people from online harm.

We strongly urge all parents and carers to check their child's phone regularly - particularly apps such as *WhatsApp* and *Snapchat* - and to speak openly with them about who they are communicating with and what kind of content they are viewing or sharing. It is vital that young people understand the risks and know how to speak up if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

Please rest assured that we are taking this matter very seriously and working closely with relevant safeguarding authorities. Our priority is, as always, the safety and wellbeing of our students.

If you have any concerns or would like further advice or support, please do not hesitate to contact the school's safeguarding team.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr Morton

Deputy Headteacher