



Oakfield School

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 @SchoolOakfield

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Dear Parent/Carer

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

We know children use a variety of different social media apps and platforms/sites and there are many benefits for young people to social networking, from allowing us to stay connected to friends and family to learning and enjoying things of interest. As with most things, along with the positives there can be negatives and every now and again we are alerted to various apps or social media 'trends' that are a cause for concern.

Certain apps allow the user to send messages, photos, videos and documents, as well as creating large group chats. These apps can also allow people to message unknown users; this means your child could receive messages from people they don't know and/or receive inappropriate or hurtful messages.

Most apps have settings to allow this to be changed so that they only receive messages from people they know. With your child, make sure these settings are in place and show them how to reject requests from people they don't know.

Please could you spend some time with your child checking which apps they have downloaded on their device and researching any that you are unsure about as there are currently a number of concerning apps in circulation. A great link for parents to find out more on how they can keep their children safe online can be found on the link below.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/>

Kind regards

Leanne Middleton
Safeguarding & Multi Agency Coordinator

Headteacher: Mrs R M Davies BEd (Hons)

Oakfield School is a maintained Local Authority Residential Special School
Registered office: Oakfield School, Hopewell Road, Hull, HU9 4HD

