



Warren Wood Primary Academy And The Evergreen Centre (an Inclusive Provision for Language Needs)



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Dear Parents and Carers

Whatsapp and Messenger Groups

It has been brought to our attention that there are currently issues involving Whatsapp and Messenger groups between children. These issues often spill over into school and cause further problems.

The website www.nationalonlinesafety.com has several useful guides for keeping safe online and appropriate use of a mobile device. It is important to be aware that some of the apps the children are currently using are age-restricted, for example TikTok (12+) and WhatsApp (16+). Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Twitter are all 13+.

There are some things that parents and carers can do to support us and stop issues arising in school:

- A smartphone gives your child access to huge amounts of content online, but not all of it is appropriate for children. You should make use of parental control settings and regularly check the settings of any apps, for example, privacy settings. You can set extra pin codes to stop your child from accessing certain apps or content.
- The passcode for your child's phone should be known to you. **You should be checking their phone regularly to make sure that they are using it safely.**
- Regularly remind your children that talking about other children and making unkind comments and taking or using photos of another person without their permission is not acceptable and if the comment/photo is embarrassing or upsetting it could be deemed as bullying.



- Remind your child that they should always talk to a parent or trusted adult if they don't feel safe.

We would really appreciate your support in helping to resolve any issues that arise as a result of the children's mobile phone use.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Woodroof
Headteacher

