

19 March 2024

Use of mobile apps/online bullying in Key Stage 2

Dear Parent or Carer,

School has been made aware that several pupils have been involved in online bullying of their peers. This is generally linked to social messaging and chat apps. Many of these are not suitable for pupils of primary school age. While the bullying is taking place out of school, this is impacting the wellbeing of pupils in school.

In school, we have recommended that any pupils affected by online bullying tell a trusted adult. We have also asked them to block anyone who is making unkind or offensive comments. We are also offering pastoral support for pupils.

I am however also writing to you to ask for your support. I am asking that parents check their children's devices to ensure that apps are age-appropriate and that parental restrictions are set up. School has requested support from the local authority so that we can provide workshops for any parents who require assistance to do this. I am also asking that you promote appropriate use of technology and support any sanctions given where pupils are found to be bullying others.

Finally, if you are worried that your child is being bullied, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. Where issues spill into school, bullying and other behaviour is covered by our behaviour policy and we will apply this to manage any pupils who are not following our expectations.

Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,
Mr C Metcalfe
Principal