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MOBILE PHONES IN SCHOOL

Dear Parents

I am writing following a number of instances of cyber-bullying which have been happening outside of school due to some children's use of mobile phones. Unfortunately, these issues are then being brought into school.

You may be aware that the Government has issued new guidance on the use of mobile phones (and smart watches) for primary-aged children. There have been significant issues nationally with cyber-bullying via phones, apps, watches, Play Stations, etc. A guide to the age restrictions for mobile apps is on the back of this letter.

I would like to remind you that mobile phones and smart watches are **NOT ALLOWED** in school, for safeguarding and child protection issues.

Only in exceptional circumstances would we allow Year 5 and 6 children to bring their phones into school but this has to be with prior agreement with the teacher, Miss Foyle or Miss Siriboe. The phones would then be locked away during the day and the child could have them back at the end of school.

We discuss online safety, cyber-bullying and the appropriate use of phones in school within our PSHE lessons and the issue is taken very seriously. I would appreciate it if you could talk to your children about the appropriate use of phones, as I am sure you already do.

For more information on online safety, please go to the NSPCC site <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> or to the UK Safer Internet Centre at <https://saferinternet.org.uk/>

I would be grateful too if you could please make sure that your child does **NOT** bring a phone into school, unless in exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your understanding and support with this issue.

Best wishes

Terry Smith
Headteacher
Greenfields Community School



The Department for Education published 'Mobile Phones In Schools' guidance which is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mobile-phones-in-schools>

This states that "Parents have an important role in supporting the school's policy on prohibiting the use of mobile phones and should be encouraged to reinforce and discuss the policy at home as appropriate, including the risks associated with mobile phone use and the benefits of a mobile phone-free environment."

SOCIAL MEDIA AGE RESTRICTIONS

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

16

is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.



WhatsApp



Vimeo



Telegram



Nintendo Online Account



18

is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.



Xbox Live Account



PSN Online Account

Disclaimer: This resource/information is not intended to encourage social media use and we cannot accept any responsibility for pupils that sign up to social media sites after using this resource/information.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

13

is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps.



X



Facebook



Instagram



Pinterest



Messenger



Tik Tok



Discord



Snapchat



Twitch



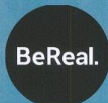
Yubo



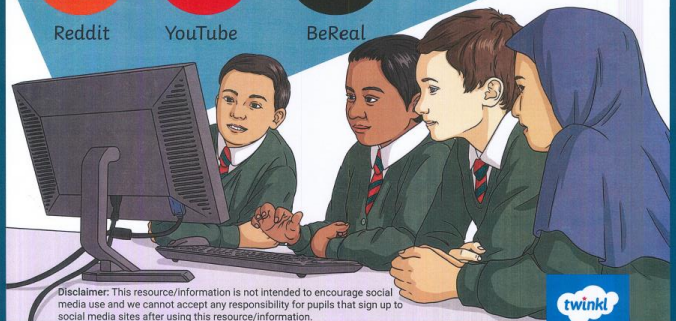
Reddit



YouTube



BeReal



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