



KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL LICHFIELD

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Dear Parents and Carers

Social media is playing an increasingly significant role in society and whilst it can have many positive applications we are mindful that, if used inappropriately, it can also have a negative impact upon young people here at King Edwards.

It has been brought to our attention that there have been instances of unpleasant, harmful and even potentially threatening content being shared and posted to and between Y7 students via platforms such as Tik-Tok, Whatsapp and Instagram. We are aware that there are several Whatapp groups within Y7 and whilst their creation was certainly aimed at fostering friendship, there are occasions where this has been used negatively which has had a detrimental effect upon the emotional well-being of Y7 students.

Children under the age of 13 (**16 in some cases**) are not meant to have access to these platforms and we would therefore politely request that you take some time to consider whether allowing your son/daughter access to these platforms at this stage is appropriate for them. If your decision is to allow access we would then be very grateful if you would continue to be vigilant in monitoring the content being posted, shared and received by your son/ daughter

If you would like to find out more about social media safety please click on the link below:

[Net Aware: Your guide to social networks, apps and games \(net-aware.org.uk\)](http://net-aware.org.uk)

Very best regards

Mr J Whitehurst
Achievement leader of Year 7