



# Larkspur

## Community Primary School

4<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Further to my letter dated **18th February**, I am writing again to raise serious concerns about the continued inappropriate use of social media among some of our pupils.

We have been made aware that, in addition to indecent images being shared, there is now **evidence of online bullying** taking place within group chats. These groups involve **numerous children**, including some from our school and others from outside the school community, particularly on **WhatsApp** and **Snapchat**.

This behaviour places children at risk, and we must work together to ensure their safety.

We strongly urge all parents and carers to:

- **Remove any apps that are not age-appropriate** for your child.
- **Check your child's phone regularly**, including messages, group chats, and shared images.
- **Restrict phone and internet use**, especially during unsupervised times.
- **Discuss online behaviour** with your child, including what to do if they see or experience harmful content.

Several countries have already taken steps to restrict or ban certain forms of social media in order to protect children. While these decisions highlight the seriousness of the issue globally, we as parents, carers, and educators have a shared responsibility to safeguard our children from inappropriate content, harmful communication, and unsafe online environments.

### **Age Restrictions for WhatsApp and Snapchat**

- **WhatsApp**  
The minimum age to use WhatsApp in the UK is **13 years old**.
- **Snapchat**  
Snapchat also requires users to be **at least 13 years old** to create an account. This is consistent across major social media platforms, including Snapchat.

In addition, the UK Government is currently consulting on even **stricter rules**, with proposals to **ban under-16s from all social media platforms** in the future.

As a school, we will continue to educate all pupils about safe and responsible online behaviour, helping them to understand the risks and make informed choices.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep all of our children safe.

Kind Regards

Mrs K Anglesea  
**Head Teacher**

Mrs K Anglesea, Headteacher

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