



Apollo Avenue, Fairfields Milton Keynes, MK11 4BA  
01908 410330 • [enquiries@fairfieldsprimary.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fairfieldsprimary.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Matthew Shotton

[www.fairfieldsprimary.co.uk](http://www.fairfieldsprimary.co.uk)

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### Year 5 & 6 – Safeguarding

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you are aware we have an unwavering commitment to safeguarding at Fairfields Primary School and we work hard to ensure that, through our curriculum, we give our children the knowledge, skills and confidence to keep themselves safe both inside and outside school and online.

As parents, you will make your own choices about the amount of responsibility and 'freedom' you give your children and the age at which you do that. With this in mind we have had one or two incidents over the last week that have prompted me to remind the children in Year 5 & 6 about keeping themselves safe and I thought it a good idea to share with you, as parents, the messages I have given so you can reinforce them at home.

#### Social Media

Social media plays an increasingly huge part in all our lives and the children, we know, are no exception. When asked many of the children said that they had got their **own** accounts on some of the following social media sites e.g. youtube, tiktok, whatsapp, Instagram, etc. Whilst we appreciate that it is your choice as a parent to give permission for this, below is a reminder of age restrictions for these platforms and we ask that parents are particularly vigilant in regularly monitoring your child's use of these platforms and ensure that your child is not posting or subject to viewing inappropriate material should you give consent for them to be used.

We have had examples of some children posting videos where the way in which they are dressed could be considered inappropriate or wearing their school uniform, with the school logo in view or filming has taken place in bedrooms. Some videos have included inappropriate language and some children have been filmed and their images posted without consent.



We have spoken to the children again about Online safety and what could potentially happen if they do not protect themselves. Many children said that their parents check their account or have a link to their account which is very reassuring but the key to the success of this is regular checking by parents.

## Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

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



Sourced from NSPCC website October 2019



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### **Out and about in the Local Area**

Many of our children are now allowed by their parents, to walk home with their friends and to visit the park or meet up with and play with their friends in the local area. We have spoken to the children about ensuring that they stay with their group of friends whilst they are out and not getting involved with others they are not familiar with. If they feel uncomfortable in any situation then they should, wherever possible, remove themselves from the situation and make their way home or to a safe place.

We have also reminded them about being considerate, respectful citizens whilst they are out in the community as we have had reports that some children have been knocking on people's doors or ringing door bells and running away.

As mentioned above, all these points have been discussed with the children and their thoughts, views and opinions have been shared and listened to and we hope that you will support and reinforce our messages at home.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Tagg  
Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead