



President Road | Aylesbury | Buckinghamshire | HP18 0YA
Tel: 01296 326320 | e-mail: admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk
Website: www.greenridgeacademy.co.uk | Twitter: @GreenRidgeR2

Headteacher: Mrs. Jen Fraser, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

Thursday, 6th February 2025

WhatsApp and Social Media Usage – Upper Key Stage Two

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have become increasingly aware that children within our Year Five and Year Six cohorts are using WhatsApp messenger to create group chats. Whilst these are taking place outside of school, and are therefore beyond our jurisdiction, they are being discussed in school and we are concerned at some of the content children are sharing with us. Children have spoken about other students being removed from groups unfairly, content being shared with groups without an individual giving their consent, and children being added to multiple group chats which some have described as being overwhelming. Staff have been responding to incidents by discussing online safety with children and reminding them of how to stay safe – these messages are embedded throughout our PSHE and Computing curriculums, including online safety starters, and WhatsApp will also be a focus within our Safer Internet Day activities next week.

We wanted to reach out to parents and carers to share these concerns so that you can continue to monitor any content that your child/ren are being exposed to on these platforms outside of school. Further useful information in relation to keeping children safe on WhatsApp can be found [here](#). It includes an explanation of WhatsApp's recommended age of 13 and offers a range of useful tips for adding additional privacy and security measures to your children's devices.

As a school, we are committed to safeguarding all our children and strongly advise parents/carers to closely monitor their children when using devices and ensure that strict parental restrictions are turned on. If you require any further advice on this matter, then please speak to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leaders at the school. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Tom Arnold
Assistant Headteacher and Online Safety Lead