

'A Caring Christian Family Where We Grow Together'

Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am aware that a number of our Year 5 and 6 children have their own mobile phone. With Christmas approaching this number may well increase. As a parent, myself, I am conscious that nowadays most children have mobile phones at an earlier age than previous years and with this comes the responsibility of using it appropriately and with respect to others.

Whilst it is clearly not school's decision as to when a child is given a mobile phone nor our responsibility as to what APPs the children are using, we do often see issues from irresponsible use of mobile phones coming back into school. This often takes the form of comments made on social media after school hours returning to the classroom causing upset, distress and results in lost teaching time. We do also have concerns when we hear of children using APPs which are not age appropriate, not just for what they may say to others but what someone they don't know can say to them.

We do work with the children about safe use of smart phones/internet through our RSHE sessions on a regular basis. With additional work often carried out in response to an incident.

As a school, we would like to ask for your support in ensuring that your child is using their mobile device responsibly, is not posting anything inappropriate or potentially upsetting towards another child by regularly checking their phone.

I would also like to draw your attention to the following sites which can be useful starting points when talking to your child about responsible use of social media as well as the recommended age limits for such APPs.

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/cs/groups/public/documents/webcontent/vfcon096227.pdf>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Internet-Matters-Guide-Official-UK-Social-Media-Guidance.pdf>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/1489/share-aware-parents-guide.pdf>

Age Rating	Apps
13+	Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, YouNow, House Party, Snapchat, Twitter, Kik, Yubo, Monkey
16+	WhatsApp
17+	Sarahah, YOLO
18+	MeetMe, LiveMe

Kind regards,

Nic Badger

School Principal
Executive Headteacher for RCSAT

