

The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School

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Internet Safety

Dear Parents/Carers of Children in Year 6

It has come to my attention that some children in Year 6 are using Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp etc) inappropriately.

If you have provided your child with internet access via their mobile phone then I strongly suggest that you monitor the content of what your child is reading, looking at and responding to. In addition to this I would urge you to review the access your child has to the internet, whether that is via computers at home, friends/families homes, or the public access places, libraries etc.

It has been brought to my attention that unmonitored access to the internet by some of our Year 6 children outside of school has resulted in them using sexualised language and some of the 'playground conversations' have been around sexuality. Worryingly, there have also been some homophobic comments. Understandably the use of sexualised language and inappropriate media content being shared has left a number of our children very upset.

The school will, as part of our Year 6 science & Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, be teaching your child SRE (Sex & Relationship Education). In advance of this, Mr Fernandez, Assistant Head, will be in contact after half term to invite parents/carers to view some of the teaching materials before we deliver the scheme to your child. Our policy on this is available on our school website at www.devonshirehill.com.

However, in the meantime I ask you to take the half term as an opportunity to discuss with your child any worries they may have re their own puberty and the changes they are going through. Also to stress to them the importance of safe and sensible use of social networking. The link below provides valuable advice about keeping your child/ren safe online: www.getsafeonline.org/safeguarding-children.

If all parents in Year 6 speak with their child about these concerns, regardless of whether you think you child is part of this or not, I will then expect to see a more mature attitude from all the children upon their return after half term.

Please note that children are NOT allowed to bring mobile phones to school.

Thank you in advance.

Julie D'Abreu
Headteacher

