



RICHMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL

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18th October 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As part of the school's ongoing, proactive approach to 'Internet Safety' and the safe use of digital technologies, we would like to take this opportunity to draw parents'/guardians' attention to the following;

Snapchat and Social Media

An increasing number of pupils are indicating that they have access to, or regularly use, social media platforms such as SNAPCHAT and/or FACEBOOK. We would like to remind parents/guardians that these platforms are 'AGE RESTRICTED' and **it is the view of the school they SHOULD NEVER be used by any primary school aged pupil.** It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to be fully aware of what their child is doing 'online.' The school will not become involved in situations where pupils behave inappropriately on those platforms outside of school. Should instances of online bullying and abuse be reported to the school by concerned parents, we will advise those parents of how to report the incident to the appropriate authorities. It is up to you to keep your child safe from internet bullying while at home.

We suggest to use the following **5 measures** to ensure that you can monitor your child's mobile phone to ensure their safety

- (1) Agree that you can have access to their phone whenever you want...Check the phone at least 5 times per week.**
- (2) Make sure you know what apps they are using (age appropriate) and know all their passwords for these apps.**
- (3) Look and monitor the history of their calls, messages, contacts, web-site and pictures.**
- (4) No child needs their phone after 8:30pm or before 8:30am....and definitely NO CHILD NEEDS THEIR PHONE IN THEIR BEDROOM AT NIGHT.**
- (5) At all times talk to your child regarding the dangers of social media.... Remember 1 out of 5 children talk to a stranger every day through social media.**

This is by no means to say that we agree with your child having access to social media, but if you insist on letting your child avail of it, then these points just might help to keep your child safe.

Yours sincerely,

M. D. J. Hall (Principal)

