



Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18

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6th March 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

Important notice relating to Social Media use outside of school

Every student at Woodrush should feel safe and supported across their time with us; this is a fundamental principle and duty for us as a school.

From time to time, we are made aware of inappropriate content that may be shared between our pupils. This can bring both risk and criminality if shared inappropriately. With this in mind, we will always report this and any social media accounts being used to the [Professional Online Safety Helpline](#) and will also make police aware if we believe that criminality is involved.

If you are ever concerned that your child has been exposed to any inappropriate or distressing content or communication, we can support and signpost sources of support or you can directly access advice from [Distressing online content | NSPCC](#).

Similarly, we believe that all students should be able to enjoy the benefits of age-appropriate social media platforms through the giving and receiving of kind and positive posts. It is important to reassure you and your child[ren] that any persistently unkind or harmful comments made by a Woodrush student via social media targeting another student or individual associated with our school will be sanctioned as per our acceptable social media use and behaviour policy.

Staying Safe Online

As a school, we give students guidance on how to stay safe online through our assemblies, Computing and PSHE lessons and through one-to-one conversations and classroom opportunities. We will also share information with parents and carers through our weekly newsletter and through our Parent Forum. We will continue to do this to minimise risks or exposure to harmful online content for your child or others.

Most social media apps are for pupils 13 years and over. If you do allow your child to access social media, we ask for your vigilance. Just like their interactions in person, online interactions require supervision and support. What is right will vary from family to family but some strategies that are known to be successful include:

- Monitoring your child[ren]'s phones for the apps that are downloaded
- Enacting parental controls on phones and consoles
- Reviewing the messages they send on platforms and apps – making monitoring part of a daily or weekly routine
- Setting expectations about what space (preferably communal) and times they have access to devices
- Encouraging them to share or discuss with you what they are doing.

Headteacher: Mr J Barber, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH
Deputy Headteacher(s): Mr D Monk, BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH; Mrs M Holtom-Brown, BA (Hons), GTTP; Mr I Wright, BA (Hons), PGCE
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Please click [here](#) to reference our expectations of the use of social media in our home school agreement policy.

Thank you for taking time to read this important message and, as always, for your on-going support. If you do wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to get in contact with your child's pastoral team.

For Reference

Please also find some helpful guidelines keeping your child safe online:

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

[Social Media Parental Controls and Privacy Settings | Internet Matters](#)

[Parents and carers | CEOP Education](#)

School website:

Parents, Carers and students can also refer to our school website for further support and guidance:

[Woodrush High School - E-Safety & Social Media](#)

Any incidents or concerns can also be reported via the Sharp system on website or by clicking on link below:

[The SHARP System](#)

Yours Faithfully

Mr D Monk
Deputy Headteacher & DSL