

King's Academy College Park

A King's Group Academy

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## **Social Media**

I am writing to you regarding the increasing concerns surrounding children's use of social media and the potential risks they may face. As technology continues to evolve, social media platforms such as TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram and WhatsApp have become a significant part of young people's lives. While these platforms can be used positively, they also present serious risks, including exposure to inappropriate content, online bullying, and potential exploitation by strangers.

It is essential that parents are aware of these dangers and take proactive steps to monitor their child's online activity. Many social media platforms have a minimum age requirement of 13; however, we are aware that children younger than this are frequently accessing them. Without proper supervision, children may engage in inappropriate behavior, share personal information, or be exposed to harmful content.

Furthermore, we would like to highlight an important legal aspect: in the UK, children aged 10 and over can be held criminally responsible for their actions. This means that if a child engages in cyberbullying, harassment, sharing inappropriate images, or other forms of online misconduct, they could face legal consequences. It is crucial for children to understand that their online actions have real-world implications and that they must behave responsibly when using digital platforms.

We strongly encourage parents to:

- Regularly discuss online safety with their children.
- **Set clear boundaries** regarding social media use.
- Monitor their child's activity on social platforms.
- **Encourage open communication**, so children feel comfortable discussing any concerns they may have.
- **Educate their children** about the potential risks and legal implications of inappropriate online behavior.

At King's Academy College Park, we are committed to educating students about responsible internet use and will continue to provide guidance on online safety. However, parental involvement is crucial in ensuring that children navigate social media safely and responsibly.

If you have any concerns or would like further guidance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe online.

**Best Wishes** 

Rearly &

Mrs Carlyle