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Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: Ensuring Online Safety for Our Children – Emphasising the Importance of Age Restrictions on Apps

I trust this letter finds you well. In an age where technology is an integral part of our children's lives, it becomes increasingly crucial for us, as parents and carers, to address the importance of online safety. One key aspect of this is emphasizing and enforcing age restrictions on apps to ensure a secure and age-appropriate digital environment for our children.

As our children navigate the digital landscape, they encounter a myriad of applications designed for entertainment, education, and communication. While these apps offer valuable opportunities, it is essential to recognize that not all content is suitable for every age group.

Enforcing age restrictions on apps is a proactive measure to protect our children from potential risks associated with inappropriate content, interactions, and privacy concerns. Here are a few reasons why age-appropriate restrictions are vital:

1. **Content Suitability:** Age restrictions help filter out content that may not be suitable for the cognitive and emotional development of our children. This ensures they have access to age-appropriate material that aligns with their needs and interests.
2. **Privacy Protection:** Young minds are often unaware of the importance of online privacy. Age restrictions contribute to safeguarding their personal information and minimizing the risk of unintentional sharing in online spaces.
3. **Cybersecurity:** Enforcing age restrictions reduces the chances of children encountering cybersecurity threats, scams, or inappropriate communications, providing a safer digital experience.
4. **Balanced Screen Time:** Age-appropriate restrictions encourage a healthy balance between online and offline activities. It promotes a mindful approach to screen time and encourages children to engage in a variety of learning and recreational pursuits.



Thriving to Achieve our Best – Together  
Head Teacher: Dr D Craddock PhD MA BSc (Hons) NPQH



As parents and carers, your involvement is pivotal in fostering a safe online environment for our children. We encourage you to:

- Be aware of the age restrictions recommended by app developers and platforms- see, below

13 years	14 years	16 years	17 years	18 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Twitter</li><li>• Facebook</li><li>• Instagram</li><li>• Snapchat</li><li>• Pinterest</li><li>• YouTube (with parental consent)</li><li>• Google +</li><li>• Tumblr</li><li>• Reddit</li><li>• Ask FM</li><li>• Musical.ly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LinkedIn</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Whatsapp</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Path</li><li>• Blender</li><li>• Tinder</li><li>(13 years with parental consent)</li><li>• Youtube</li><li>• Keek</li><li>• Foursquare</li><li>• WeChat</li><li>• Kik</li><li>• Flickr</li></ul>

- Regularly review and discuss the apps your child is using.
- Set age-appropriate guidelines for screen time and online activities.
- Encourage open communication with your child about their online experiences.

By working together, we can create a supportive community that prioritises the well-being and safety of our children in the digital realm. Thank you for your commitment to ensuring the best possible environment for our young learners.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding online safety or age restrictions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,



Dr Craddock

Headteacher