



3 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

Misuse of social media

I am writing to raise some important concerns regarding the use of social media within the year group. Recent incidents have highlighted behaviour on platforms such as TikTok and Snapchat that has caused upset and distress among students.

Please be aware that the minimum age for creating accounts on these platforms is 13, and Snapchat requires parental consent for users under the age of 17. While much online activity takes place outside of school, it can have a real impact on the wellbeing of students and sometimes comes to the attention of staff.

Some of the issues that have recently been reported include:

- Students taking photographs or videos of others without their permission and sharing them online
- Frequent use of phones late at night
- The use of foul language or abbreviations for swearing in group chats
- Racist or discriminatory language being used in online interactions
- Anonymous TikTok accounts posting hurtful or upsetting content about students

I am particularly concerned about the use of anonymous accounts to share harmful content. If your child becomes aware of such material, they should not engage with it and should report it directly to the platform.

We also want to provide some context regarding incidents that occur outside of school hours. When behaviour happens online during evenings or weekends, the school is not in a position to take formal disciplinary action. In these situations, parents may wish to consider the steps available to them, including reporting serious racist, threatening, or abusive comments to the appropriate authorities if they feel it is necessary.



We ask that all parents and guardians continue to monitor their child's online activity and reinforce expectations around respectful and responsible communication. Online actions can have serious emotional and legal consequences, and it is vital that students understand the impact of their words and behaviour.

At school, we will continue to educate students about responsible social media use and make our expectations clear. Our aim is to ensure that all students understand how to use technology safely, respectfully, and positively.

For further support, concerns about online behaviour can be reported to CEOP via the CEOP Safety Centre. Guidance for discussing online safety with children is also available from the Ineqe Safeguarding Group.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and respectful online environment for all students.

Yours sincerely,

J. Baxter

J Baxter (Miss)
Head of Year 7

