



Cecil Road Primary & Nursery School

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Headteacher: Mrs C. Old

Dear Parents and Carers

2nd February 2024

It has been brought to our attention that many of our children are chatting online using apps such as What'sApp. Some of the messages sent contain inappropriate comments and are sent at inappropriate times. Please support your child and remind them that their behaviour online is the same as their behaviour off-line.

WhatsApp's **minimum age of use is 16 years old.**

Although a user cannot control who adds them to a group chat, they can always control their own participation within it – please remind them, they can leave whenever they want to.

Our children have told us they are sometimes worried about speaking to adults if they see something they don't like, as they are worried they will lose their phones or devices. Please remember we need to help children understand how to stay safe on-line now and in the future, we cannot do this if we only remove the device.

If you are allowing your child to chat or play online, please have an open dialogue about the chats they are in and games they are playing and who they are communicating with. It might be useful to look at the chat they have been having too.

Please talk to us about any issues you are having.

The NSPCC also have further information by clicking the below link:-

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games-helping-children-play-safe/>

[Is WhatsApp safe for my child? | NSPCC](#)

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind Regards

Carrie Old
Headteacher

