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## **Cwmfelin Primary School**

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10th April 2024

## **IMPORTANT E-SAFETY NOTICE FOR PARENTS**



Dear parent/carer,

Recently, we have been made aware of several incidents relating to the misuse of WhatsApp. I am writing to inform you that these incidents involve some of our Year 6 children who have been using a Class 6 WhatsApp group inappropriately.

This has been discussed with the children today, many of whom have informed me that they have left the group due to the following reasons:

- A constant stream of messages and notifications
- Messages being sent very late at night i.e. after 11pm
- Unkind comments directed towards group members
- The use of unacceptable language
- Conversations which are inappropriate and have made them feel uncomfortable.

During the past few months, we have dealt with an increasing number of incidents concerning comments on the group which are affecting pupils' self-esteem and wellbeing. As Safeguarding lead for the school, I wanted to inform you of the existence of this group and to make you aware that your child may be using WhatsApp without your knowledge.

I would like to remind parents and children that the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 13 or over and urge all parents to regularly monitor your child's mobile phone and/or online activities involving social media. I am highlighting these issues and concerns with you so that you can hold important conversations with your child about what is and is not acceptable when it comes to social networks.

Below is a useful link providing information on how to make sure your child is well equipped to deal with using WhatsApp and other platforms on the internet.

What is WhatsApp? A safety guide for parents | Internet Matters







Please be vigilant and carry out regular checks in order to keep your child safe.

I would appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Hedwards

Mrs J Edwards Acting Headteacher Cwmfelin Primary School





