



Richard Coates CE School

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Headteacher: Mrs Heather M. Cape

Monday 11th June 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

As a school we continually work to ensure our pupils are aware of the benefits and the dangers of the internet and social media. As part of our PHSE and E Safety curriculum, we explicitly tackle the issues young people face such as cyber bullying, online peer pressure and sexting.

Unfortunately, we have been made aware that a compromising image of one of our Key Stage 3 pupils has been shared amongst some the peer group. This is clearly a safeguarding concern and is therefore being dealt with in line with our Child Protection Policy and the guidance set out by the 'UK Guidance for Child Internet Safety'.

I would like to ask for your support in dealing with this issue and in protecting your own children against the damage this can cause. Please can you:

- Check your child's phone/devices and ensure that any inappropriate images sent or received by your child have been permanently deleted from the device and all apps. Please remind your child that young people who share sexual imagery of themselves or peers are breaking the law.
- Ensure you talk to your children about the dangers of sharing images with "friends" on line, and how these images can never be recalled.
- Ensure you are aware of your child's online activity and their interactions with each other. As in this case, the vast majority of issues arise outside of the school day and when children are in their home environments. Once these images have been shared, or inappropriate comments made, it is very difficult for the school or police to take control of the situation.

If you require any further help, the following websites contain advice for parents and children:

- www.nspcc.org.uk
- www.saferinternet.org.uk
- www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/

If you would like more information about how the school approaches E safety, please refer to the school website <http://richardcoatesceprimary.co.uk/e-safety/>

Thank you for your support with this matter. If you have any information, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Heather Cape
Headteacher