



**Birley Primary Academy**

A L.E.A.D Academy

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**Dear Year 5 and Year 6 Parents and Carers,**

We are writing to you regarding an important issue that is increasingly affecting children in upper Key Stage 2: the use of social media and online apps.

Over recent weeks, we have become aware that some children are using social media platforms, messaging apps, and online gaming chats outside of school. While we understand that digital communication is a normal part of modern life, many of these platforms have **minimum age requirements of 13 or older**, meaning they are **not designed for primary-aged children**. As a result, children can be exposed to risks such as inappropriate content, unkind or unmonitored conversations, online strangers, and misunderstandings that can spill over into the school day. We kindly ask for your support in helping keep all children safe online. Please could you:

- **Check** which apps and games your child is using, and ensure they are age-appropriate.
- **Supervise** your child's online activity and talk with them about responsible and respectful behaviour.
- **Remind** them not to share personal information or communicate with people they don't know in real life.
- **Set clear boundaries** around screen time, social media use, and device-free routines.

As a school, we will continue to teach online safety as part of our computing and PSHE curriculum, and we are always here to support families. If issues arise online between pupils that affect their wellbeing or friendships in school, please do let us know so we can work together to address them.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to create a safe, positive environment for all of our pupils—both in school and online. If you would like further advice or resources on children's online safety, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dawn McAughey  
Headteacher



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