



BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Belong Believe Achieve

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Dear Parents & Carers,

ONLINE SAFETY CONCERNS

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the number of incidents relating to online safety that are happening outside of school. Over this last week we have been made aware of upsetting / alarming issues between groups of children that are stemming from online group chats...etc. These incidents are affecting many children's well being and are compromising their safety online which potentially leaves them very vulnerable. We are speaking to individual parents where necessary to share our concerns.

Whilst we spend a lot of time talking to the children in school about how they can keep themselves safe online we need parents & carers to support this at home. Parents and carers need to be extremely vigilant as to what their children are posting / being exposed to online. The poster below states the minimum ages for the various social media platforms. **Please could I ask that all parents & carers support us in keeping children safe online by deleting any of these apps from devices their children can access.**



APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+		16+	
Facebook	Snapchat	WhatsApp	
Instagram	Twitter	17+	18+
TikTok	Kik	Sarahah	MeetMe
YouNow	Yubo	YOLO	LiveMe
House Party	Monkey		

We are also aware of a character called Huggy Wuggy who appears to be from the cast of Poppy Playtime, a survival horror, logical puzzle video game on Youtube. A number of parents have shared concerns with us about how unsuitable this character is for young children. Once again, please be vigilant.

I would like to thank those parents who are sharing such concerns with us as it means we can pass these on to the wider parent community. We will also be talking to the children in school about these issues. Please could I ask that all families support us to keep the children safe by only allowing them on age appropriate apps and sites.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Claire Pocock
Headteacher



