

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025

**Re: Mobile phones and online communication**

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been brought to our attention that some children in Y6 have had access to inappropriate material online, mainly through Tik Tok and Instagram. They are quoting “Italian Brainrot” phrases. This is a meme based on AI generated characters given pseudo-Italian names. On one level, this may appear harmless, however, some of the phrases being quoted include Islamophobic lyrics, swearing and misogyny, all of which is entirely inappropriate in a primary school setting (and in wider society too).

We regularly talk to all the children about staying safe online and appropriate behaviour online and what to do if they come across material that is not aimed at children of their age. Please note that both Tik Tok and Instagram require users to be at least 13 years old due to the material that is published on these sites along with age appropriate marketing adverts that pop up. We also always reiterate the need to behave in the same way as you would face to face (kind and respectful) when communicating online via whatever means, be it text messages, social media platforms, voice messages or games consoles.

The best advice that we are given by the police and other agencies working with children and young people around online safety is to regularly talk to your children about their online use, check devices (and let them know that you are checking it) and, whenever possible, have an open door policy to use of technologies in your house – i.e. anyone could come into the room at any time whilst they are on their devices.

Please do be vigilant when your children are playing games or communicating with each other and do also let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Hardy  
Head Teacher

Nicole Ramsey  
Deputy head

Guy Willatt  
Deputy head