



21st April 2026

PJN/tmi

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am writing to you as Head of Year 7 to share an important reminder regarding online safety and the use of social media and messaging apps, particularly WhatsApp.

As our students continue to grow in independence, we are increasingly aware of the impact that large group chats can have on young people. While many online interactions are positive, large WhatsApp groups can quickly become overwhelming and, at times, lead to unkind behaviour, misunderstandings, inappropriate language, or messages being shared without adult awareness. For children of this age, navigating such spaces can be challenging and upsetting.

We strongly advise that Year 7 students should not be part of large WhatsApp groups. These groups are difficult to supervise and can expose children to content and conversations that are not age-appropriate. Even when a group begins with good intentions, situations can escalate quickly and cause distress.

We would also like to emphasise the importance of regular parental monitoring of mobile phones. We encourage parents and carers to know which apps your child is using and regular check messages and group chats. Furthermore, it is advisable to discuss with your child what is appropriate online behaviour and language.

As a Catholic school, we aim to nurture young people to treat others with kindness, respect and dignity, both offline and online. Supporting your child in using technology responsibly is a vital part of this shared mission between home and school.

If you have any concerns about your child's online experiences, please do not hesitate to contact the school. By working together, we can ensure that our students feel safe, supported and valued as they grow.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

P. Nice

Ms P Nice

Head of Year 7 and 9