

Newtown Primary School Church of England (voluntary controlled)

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Monday 5th January 2026

Dear Year 5 Parents and Carers,

We are writing to ask for your support in monitoring your child's use of mobile phones and messaging apps, particularly WhatsApp.

Recently, we have become aware of some inappropriate use of WhatsApp among a small number of pupils, including unkind messages and participation in group chats that are not age-appropriate. As you may be aware, most social media and messaging platforms, including WhatsApp, have a minimum age requirement of 13.

We understand that mobile phones and messaging apps can be helpful for staying in touch. However, children of primary age still need close guidance to use them safely and kindly. We would be grateful if you could:

- Check your child's phone regularly, including group chats
- Discuss with them what is appropriate to send or share
- Remind them never to post unkind comments or share images without permission
- Encourage them to tell an adult if they see or receive something that worries or upsets them
- Consider whether your child needs access to WhatsApp at this stage

Please also remind your child that behaviour outside school, including online, can have an impact on relationships and wellbeing in school. We will continue to address online safety and respectful communication as part of our curriculum.

If you have any concerns or would like advice about setting controls or supporting your child online, please do contact us. We value working in partnership with you to keep all children safe and happy, both in and out of school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Ms. C. Oakes

Assistant Headteacher: Teaching and Learning

Year 5 and 6 Leader