Senior Head of School: Mr Paul Arnold
Assistant Head of School: Mr Colin Randall
Assistant Head of School: Mrs Sarah Rama-Dominguez
Assistant Head of School: Mrs Karen Rust

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Dear parents/carers,

At Beechwood Primary Academy we take a proactive approach to keeping children safe online through our Computing and Online Safety lessons. The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that school, parents and carers work together to ensure that children have the skills and knowledge they need to manage these risks. New government legislation called the Online Safety Act 2023 sets out to minimise these risks, placing new legal duties and responsibilities on online service providers to keep children and young people safe online, but it has been slow to have any real impact.

With social media apps now becoming more commonplace, and smartphone use increasing among younger children, we thought it would be helpful to advertise the age restrictions on the most popular apps used today. Most social media apps require users to be at least aged 13 or over, but this rule is not yet being enforced by the companies themselves.

Some of the most popular social media apps used today.

Our new e-safety posters on the newsletter are a great starting point to discuss online safety, but if you are looking for more information, there is a wealth of guidance and support online at the following recommended websites, including how to report any harmful content:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/

https://saferinternet.org.uk/

Kind regards,

Mr D Poole
Year 6 Teacher
Computing Subject Leader