



# Kelvin Grove Primary School

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@KG\_Sydenham

12<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents/carers of years 5 and 6,

Over the past few weeks of this term, it has come to our attention the extent to which children in years 5 and 6 are using online messaging services such as Whatsapp. This is through the use of their smartphones outside of school.

Our school believes that there are great benefits to using online tools to make and maintain friendships – such is the norm in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, it has come to light that many of our children feel uncomfortable with some of the messages that they are receiving from their peers. This may be due the language contained in the messages or the pictures and other links that are posted without consent.

This letter is to highlight our concerns as some issues are impacting upon relationships within school and we feel that it is our duty to alert you to this. Please talk to your children about their use of messaging services and give them an opportunity air any concerns that they may have.

Kelvin Grove takes the issue of online safety and responsible use extremely seriously. As such we will deliver a workshop for year 5 and 6 parents next half term to update you on latest research and the best possible advice.

Please look out for more information regarding this.

If you need any immediate advice, the following websites contain useful information on the potential risks on using online tools and also how to instil good online habits.

You may also meet with Mr Clark who is our E-Safety Officer in school.

Thinkuknow: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Your sincerely

Ian Hyde  
**Headteacher**