

23 February 2021



Ralph Allen School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Social Media Update

Following on from our recent communication regarding kindness and social media usage, we would like to let you know about another form of communication that we have been made aware of.

Some online quizzing platforms such as "Gafla Quizzes" allow our young people to generate questions and send **anonymous** messages and 'pranks' via social media platforms.

We would like to remind our young people about being kind and respectful in their social media use. As with all social media, caution is advised over your child's digital footprint, particularly the content (photos, videos and messages) that students choose to share. Nearly all social media services require users to be a minimum of 13 years of age and **WhatsApp's minimum age requirement to use the service is 16 years**. Please check your child's use of social media carefully and be vigilant.

The following links offer advice and support when talking to your child about their use of social media:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/whatsapp/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

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

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email and I will get back to you as soon as possible h.fleming@ralphallenschool.com.

Thank you for your continued support

Best Wishes

H Fleming

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