

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
SOUTHBOURNE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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WhatsApp

Re: WhatsApp Groups

Dear Year 5 and 6 Parents and Carers,

Recently there have been several incidents related to the misuse of WhatsApp. I wanted to inform you that these incidents are involving several Year 5 and 6 children being part of chat groups, calls and sending of images.

WhatsApp is a chat application which can be used on a mobile phone or tablet, it lets you send messages, calls, images and videos to friends. You can have one to one and group conversations. This letter is to make you aware that your child may be using WhatsApp without your knowledge and you should be mindful that the minimum age for WhatsApp is 16 or over.

We have spoken to the children about the inappropriate use of WhatsApp and other messaging apps and the impact this can have on them and the people involved. We ask that you carefully monitor what your child is viewing online, what messages they are sending and receiving and that they are reminded that they must tell you if they receive anything inappropriate from any application.

We have spoken to the children in great depth, over the course of their time at Southbourne Juniors, about online safety, appropriate use of technology and reporting procedures. We have a robust online safety monitoring system in school.

As a school we strongly advise you to remove the chat groups involving other children.

If you need further advice, please come and speak to me.

Kind regards

Mrs L Gasser

