Tuesday 1st April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Phone and Social Media Use**

We are writing to raise wider awareness regarding the use of social media outside of school. It has come to our attention that a very small number of children at Krishna Avanti Primary School Croydon have started to use platforms such as WhatsApp to communicate outside of school.

As you may be aware, WhatsApp has an age restriction of 13 years old, which makes it unsuitable for primary aged children. However, if you do allow your child to access social media, we strongly recommend that you actively monitor and guide their social media usage. This is especially important for younger children aged 9–14, who may not yet have developed the full awareness of the risks and responsibilities associated with online interactions.

Please note that we will be holding two parent information meetings about this. One will be in-person, and the second will be online via Teams on **Thursday 24th April 2025**. Please see details of the meetings below:

* **Thursday 24th April at 2.00pm – School Hall – in-person (face to face)**
* **Thursday 24th April at** **Online at 4pm** – Teams Link:

[**Join the meeting now**](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_Y2M4YmQ3OTYtNTIxZS00NGFmLWFkM2ItODIxN2M2MmM0Yjk4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%221c87faee-cc47-4225-91c5-86b8d6edd20d%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2262512846-049b-4666-a0c0-696f0c0304d6%22%7d)

**Meeting ID: 317 864 340 420**

**Passcode: Eh3CT7zx**

What is considered appropriate will vary from family to family, but some strategies that are known to be helpful include:

* Regular, unplanned checks of conversations or groups your child is involved in.
* Monitoring the apps downloaded on their phone to ensure they are age-appropriate and suitable.
* Enabling parental controls on phones and consoles.
* Setting clear guidelines and restrictions about the time they access devices.
* Removing their phones at nighttime and putting them away and out of reach.
* Encouraging open communication—make sure they feel comfortable discussing any issues or concerns with you.
* Talking to your child about the impact of their words online and encourage them to speak up if they see harmful behaviour.

We kindly ask for your cooperation in addressing these issues. As parents, it is your responsibility to ensure your child uses their devices and any social media platforms safely and responsibly. Please know that school staff are also working hard to support you in this effort.

While many of the challenges associated with social media use occur outside of school hours, they can significantly impact the well-being and progress of all of our children. Your support is vital in helping us create a safe and positive environment for all.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mrs Pandya

Principal

Krishna Avanti Primary School Croydon