Safeguarding Snapshot – 26.01.24
Social Media

As a school, issues around social media are something we deal with on a regular basis. Unfortunately, in addition to the dangers of others online, this also includes the misuse of social media by students.

This snapshot aims to provide you with more information to be able to navigate and manage how your child uses their social media, keeping them and others safe online.

Here is a recap guide to the most popular applications.

Application	Age rating	More information
WhatsApp	16+	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/
Snapchat	13+	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/is-snapchat-safe-for-my-child/
TikTok	13+	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/child-safe-settings-tiktok/
Instagram	13+	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/keeping-children-safe-on-instagram/
Facebook	13+	https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/discover-what-facebook-is-doing-to-keep-children-safe-online/

As shared in past snapshots, open communication with your child around internet safety and appropriate use of social media is important. Setting boundaries and regularly checking your child's usage is essential.

Incidents of bullying on social media; what can we do at home?

Most websites and apps have rules against bullying and harassment, and can help if your child or someone they know has been subjected to this. Click [here] to find a guide of how to report these.

Other resources:

- Social media | NSPCC
- What are app age ratings? | NSPCC
- Managing what your child sees online. Are you worried about your child viewing harmful content on social media?
- Social Media Facts - Advice for parents | Internet Matters
- Conversations to have - advice for parents | Internet Matters