



### **Social media awareness and advice for parents**

Access and use of social media is common these days and has become second nature to many of us. Please do remember that the context in which an interactive dialogue takes place online is quite different to other communications. Cases of defamation, inaccuracies and misrepresentation are now commonly reported in the media, comments made online are not safe and secure and should never be considered as such. Even if ill-advised comments are deleted there is no guarantee that they have not been picked up or read by others. We need to set the best example for our children so I would urge you to think before you type/ post.

I would also ask that, if you, as parents and carers, have any concerns about matters taking place at school, you address them through the appropriate channels, i.e. a discussion with the class teacher, or the head teacher, rather than expressing your concerns online. In this way, the school can work with you to address any concerns that you may have.

Violence or the threat of violence expressed online is completely unacceptable and potentially criminal. Under the Communications Act 2003 it is an offence to send a message using a public electronic communications network if it is grossly offensive. 'Cyber bullying' is not a matter authorities or the school takes lightly.

The school has an e-safety policy which can be found on our website. The think you know website has useful information about being safe online. It can be found at <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Please contact school if you have any concerns or would like any more information or advice.