



**St. Mark's C.E. Primary School**

Talbot Village, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH10 4JA

Headteacher: Andrew Bright

Friday 4 October 2024

**RESPONSIBLE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently been managing issues related to the increase in use of social media, particularly WhatsApp, among our younger pupils.

At St Mark's, we are committed to nurturing respectful and responsible children. The use of social media by younger pupils can have both positive and negative impacts. While it offers a platform for communication and learning, it also presents challenges and risks, especially when age restrictions are not followed.

Please remember that many social media platforms, including WhatsApp, have age restrictions in place for safety reasons. It's important to adhere to these guidelines. If you choose to allow younger children to use social media apps, despite age restrictions, it is crucial for you to take responsibility for monitoring your children's conduct online. Ensure that your children use these platforms safely and respectfully.

Please discuss the importance of privacy, respectful communication and the potential consequences of their online actions with your children.

Whilst we can support with safeguarding concerns, we are limited in what actions we can take during times when children are under the supervising care and trust of their parents and carers.

Thank you for your continued support with our school community.

Andrew Bright  
Headteacher