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Head Teacher: Mr J Cusack, B.A. (Hons), NPQH



## BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## MARSH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Snap Chat

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear parents/carers,

There are lots of benefits to social networking for our pupils. They can allow users to stay connected with friends and family. They can also provide opportunitites to learn many different things, from make-up or gaming tutorials to making slime, or how to create their own videos.

Like most things, there can be negatives too. For children and young people, there are risks that you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe on social media.

In recent days, it has become apparent that many of our Year 6 pupils are using Snap Chat to communicate with each other outside of school hours. In some instances, exchanges between pupils have been acceptable: comments have been pleasant, kind and appropriate for the conversation. However, there have also been exchanges that could be interpreted as being unkind and inappropriate.

I am taking this opportunity to remind parents/carers that the age restriction for Snap Chat is 13+ years old. The features available within the app are: photo & video messaging, Shazam, and snaps. I strongly advise that you speak with your child about the use of Snap Chat, and monitor how your child is interacting with other pupils online if they have registered with the platform.

The NSPCC's website provides a wealth of information relating to online safety. Please visit <u>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/</u> if you require further information regarding the safe and appropriate use of social media platforms.

Kind regards,

Mrs Clover Assistant Head Teacher

