



# Portway Junior School

*Creating life-long learners*

5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past few weeks, a number of concerns have been brought to our attention regarding pupils' use of mobile phones, social media and online group chats. As a school, safeguarding our pupils remains our highest priority, and we are writing to ask for your continued support.

Please ensure that you are regularly checking and monitoring your child's phone, including messages, group chats and any social media activity. We have been made aware of inappropriate use within group chats - including language, comments and the sharing of videos - which is unacceptable and must stop immediately.

We have also become aware of fake profiles being created. This is completely inappropriate and should not be happening under any circumstances. We ask that you speak with your child about the seriousness of this and ensure it does not continue.

For clarity, staff will **not** accept friend requests or follow requests from pupils on any platform, nor should pupils be attempting to connect with staff in this way. It is not appropriate and is not permitted.

The bottom line is that pupils of this age should not be using these platforms or participating in online group chats. Even when things begin as "jokes" or "banter," they often go too far and result in upset, conflict or unkind behaviour. Unfortunately, a significant amount of senior leadership time is currently being spent investigating incidents that occur outside of school but have a negative impact within school.

We are asking for your full support in monitoring your child's online activity and reinforcing responsible, respectful behaviour. Working together, we can ensure our pupils and staff remain safe, both in and out of school.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Kind regards,

§ Team Portway