



Ramsey Grammar School
Scoill Ghrammeydys Rhumsaa

RAMSEY
Isle of Man
IM8 2RG

Headteacher
Ard-er-ynsee
Mrs S Taylor

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20th September 2023

Re: Social Media Awareness

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to inform you of a matter that has recently come to our attention regarding a Year 7 WhatsApp group and other informal school WhatsApp groups set up by our Year 7 students. We have addressed this issue of concern with the students in our assembly this week. All Year 7 students have been instructed to delete school related WhatsApp groups with immediate effect and to leave any school related WhatsApp group they might be in.

To support the students in their understanding of how to behave online and to enhance their social media awareness we shall be delivering regular assemblies throughout the year as well as incorporating this topic into tutor times and the Personal General Education curriculum (PGE).

We should emphasise that Ramsey Grammar School does not condone or support the creation of social media groups for students. Whatsapp has a legal age restriction of 16 years and is not regulated by school or the Department of Education, Sport and Culture. Whilst we understand that students may be eager to connect with their peers, it is crucial that we prioritise their safety and well-being. To this end we allow access to Microsoft Teams in school that is monitored and age appropriate.

We kindly request your assistance in addressing this issue. Please discuss the matter of using social media platforms, and age restrictions, with your child. Please insist on the removal of school related Whatsapp groups and monitor your child's online activities.

Social media can be a valuable tool for communication but it also comes with risks, especially for adolescents. Cyberbullying, exposure to inappropriate content and other online dangers are very real concerns. We urge you to stay involved in your child's online life, ensuring their safety and providing guidance.

As a school, with your support, we are committed to ensuring the positive welfare of all children in our care and to helping them make responsible choices in their online use.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

Miss Johnson and Miss Garner

Head and Deputy Head of Year 7