

# What My Parents Don't Know About Social Media

and didn't like to ask 😊

**An Essential Course for Parents & Carers**

**2.00-3.00pm on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

**at Ashfield School**

**What My Parents Don't Know About Social Media is that kids really get bullied and there is a lot of inappropriate stuff and nudity.**

**What My Parents Don't Know About Social Media is that I talk to people I'm not supposed to and I have an account I'm not supposed to.**

Keeping our children safe is a shared responsibility. To help everyone deal with social media issues, I have invited StEPs (part of the St Albans Educational Partnership) into school on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May to run training sessions for teachers, the Year 5 & 6 children and also parents.

The parent session will update and up-skill you in areas such as: grooming, sexting and the law, cyberbullying, how to have difficult conversations with your child and apps. It will provide you with essential knowledge to help you keep your children safe.

It is all too easy to think that our own children wouldn't get involved in using technology inappropriately, or that they are too young to be discussing these issues, but we are being naïve. I would like to share with you part of a letter I had to send to Year 6 parents recently.

It has been brought to my attention that there is a **WhatsApp** group, which I believe is called "Leavers2018" that now has over 100 members. Since there are only 60 children in year 6, some of the members are not Ashfielders, in fact the children report that they do not know who some of the members of the group are. Unfortunately those who original set up the group have given others administration rights –this means that they can invite and include others. These children have also invited others and given **them** administration rights... You can understand just how quickly this group has grown. It seems that some children have included others from their list of contacts without their knowledge or permission and therefore shared information such as name, telephone number, age and school. Some of our children have now received telephone calls and messages from people that they don't know. These people might be other year 6 children –but then again, they might not be.

While I know you are all very busy people with work and other commitments it is extremely important that you have the knowledge that you need to keep your child safe; and I would urge you to ensure that **one parent or carer from each family attends.**

Best wishes



Carolyn Dalziel

Headteacher

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Please return the reply slip below to the school office to confirm your attendance by 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

Name of child \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm that I will be attending the Social Media Course for Parents. Please book me  spaces.

I am unable to attend the Social Media Course for Parents because:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_