



Our ref: MIS/NJD/Mar2026/035

11th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Working Together to Safeguard Our Children Online

I am writing to ask for your support regarding an issue that is increasingly affecting young people both in and beyond school.

This week, our school has had to investigate and respond to a number of distressing incidents involving the misuse of social media and AI-generated imagery. While the content in question was created and shared on platforms outside the control of our school, the impact within our community has been significant. A great deal of staff time has been required to investigate and support those involved, but far more importantly, the level of distress caused to the young people affected has been considerable. No child should have to experience this.

We would like to remind families that the misuse of technology to falsify images or information about others can be illegal under legislation such as the Online Safety Act 2023. In addition, the distribution or possession of explicit images of individuals under the age of 18, regardless of how those images were created, is a criminal offence.

Our children are growing up in a world where they have access to powerful online platforms that may expose them to harmful content - far beyond the control of schools. As a result, safeguarding our young people requires a strong partnership between school and home. As a community, we must work together to guide and protect our children.

If your child has a smartphone, uses social media platforms, or has access to AI tools, I strongly encourage you to take an active role in helping them understand both the benefits and the potential dangers of these technologies. Regularly checking your child's device, discussing their online activity, and setting clear expectations about responsible use will play a vital role in protecting both them and others.

Next week, I will be speaking to all students in a series of assemblies about navigating the online world responsibly, focussing on how to use technology safely and responsibly, and the serious consequences that can arise when digital platforms are used to harm others.

I very much hope for your continued support in addressing these concerns so that, together, we can better safeguard our children. As a school, we are arranging for the Police to host an online workshop aimed at parents to help you better understand the online world our children are exposed to. This is scheduled to be held 14th May starting at 6pm, online. Please save the date and we will share a link to the live presentation nearer the time.

Yours sincerely

Mike Stratford
Headteacher