

14th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

E-safety and awareness

Yesterday lunchtime it was brought to our attention that an inappropriate video, which we believe to have been filmed outside the UK, had been downloaded by one of our students onto their personal iPhone.

We want to reassure all parents and carers that, due to the high smoothwall security and e-safety filters the academy uses, it is never possible for students to download inappropriate footage whilst in the academy. This footage was downloaded outside the academy.

Unfortunately, we believe that the footage may have been 'air dropped' to the personal iPhones of other students and we are therefore encouraging you to speak to your child about the dangers of downloading and watching inappropriate footage from the internet.

Yesterday, I held a whole school assembly at 2:55pm to speak to all students about the incident, the dangers of social media, and to remind them about how to keep themselves safe when using their phones and iPads. Again, this morning at 8:55am I have addressed all the students and staff during my weekly PMI (Plus, Minus, and Interesting) to reiterate the message I gave yesterday.

Please be assured that we are investigating the incident fully and our primary objective is to always keep our students safe and to educate and protect them from the dangers that access to social media can pose. Please could I ask you as parents and carers to support in keeping your children safe by regularly checking your child's phone and viewing history, encouraging them to disable the air drop facility on their phone, and ask them to seek further support and guidance from our safeguarding and E-safety team in the academy if they are unsure about how to use social media safely.

If you need any further support or require any more information about this incident as ever, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Aian Dave

Mrs Siân Dover Principal

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