



Ilford County High School

10th September 2021

Dear Year 9 Parents and Carers,

I am writing to ask for your support in managing the online conversations students are having in the evenings and at the weekends. It has come to our attention that some of these conversations are both unkind and inappropriate. Students are understandably finding their content upsetting.

Whilst I realise that these conversations are taking place outside of school hours they are impacting on students in school. We must work together to educate our students in what it is, and what isn't, appropriate to say to each other. A conversation online is just as significant as a conversation that takes place in person, and young people need to understand the impact that their words may have. Where we are aware that students have made inappropriate comments online, the school will take action; this could be in the form of education and support but in more serious cases it could result in behaviour sanctions being applied.

Please can I ask you to talk to your child about their social media accounts and review them, together, this weekend. If you find any inappropriate content, please can you remove it and explain to your son the impact and ramifications that it might have. If you find content that you feel the school needs to be aware of to support our safeguarding of students, please send copies to enquiries@ichs.org.uk or log in to the sharp system <https://ilford.thesharpsystem.com/>. The sharp system allows parents and students to tell the school about any worries or concerns anonymously.

In order to review your child's social media accounts you might find the links below helpful. We want to be able to work together to ensure all students feel safe and happy in school and online.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/social-media/>

Kind regards,

R. A. Drysdale

Mrs R Drysdale
Headteacher

Empowering to Excel By Learning Together

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