



13th January, 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Firstly, happy new year to you all and thank you for supporting your children to make such a positive start in the new term. We welcomed the whole school back just over a week ago and did a full uniform inspection on the main playground. Students conducted themselves impeccably and their uniform was excellent. The overwhelming majority of students have continued to make a positive contribution to our school community and embrace the opportunities that are available to them.

I wanted to share some concerns we have around a rise in anti-social behaviour out in the local area and share some further information on social media and how we can work together to keep our children safe.

Unfortunately, we are hearing reports in the media of a huge rise in "Doxxing" - Doxxing means someone on the internet has posted private information about someone else for the world to see. This information is personally identifiable and therefore sensitive. As such, someone can use it to figure out who someone really is, where they live and how to contact them. Being doxxed is a form of cyberbullying. The information can be the victim's real name, home address, phone number, email address, photos or other personal information. You can read more about this and how to keep your children safe here: [Doxxing](#)

On our website [here](#) you can watch a video that we produced a short while ago giving parents and carers advice about Social Media platforms. If you are new to us or haven't recently watched it, I do believe it is a worth watching - there are some awful pitfalls for young people out there and unfortunately, they often know a little more than we do, but aren't as careful as we would want them to be with all the knowledge they have. We will be updating this over the coming weeks with any new information we want to share.

We have also recently been made aware of some worrying activity on the gaming platform "Roblox." You can read more about the details of this [here](#).

There is some additional advice for parents and carers about keeping children and young people safe online from the [NSPCC](#).

It has come to our attention that there have recently been some incidents in the local area where young people are being targeted and threatened to give up personal possessions such as phones and money. The police are aware of these incidents and we continue to work closely with our police liaison officers.



school
achievement award
department for education and skills



Schools Curriculum Award
2002



arts colleges



Healthy School



NABC



Let's get
cooking
Accredited
2011



RECOGNITION
of QUALITY
"Supporting Excellence in Education"



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



Bronze

Please speak to your children about how they should respond in the event of them being approached by someone. To try and keep our children safe we advise that they;

- Do not carry valuable possessions with them (or keep them away and not out on show)
- Stay in groups
- Try to stay in well-lit areas
- Pay attention to their surroundings at all times
- Be home on time (time agreed with parent/carer)

As always, we would recommend if your child is involved in an incident like this or approached in this way then you should report this to the police immediately.

For your information we have recently made some changes to our Safeguarding team. Mrs Dyer, Deputy Headteacher, remains our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) with Mr Price, Assistant headteacher, and Mrs King, PAL Co-ordinator, continuing to be Deputy Safeguarding leads (DDSL's). Mr Warry, Deputy Director of Sixth Form and Mrs Wrate, HLTA, now join the team with a wealth of knowledge and experience as two further DDSL's.

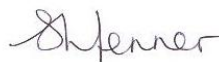
If you have any further questions regarding any of the above information then please do not hesitate to contact your child's Year Progress Leader or any of the safeguarding team. Please continue to encourage your children to talk openly about anything that may be concerning them and there is always someone at school such as their academic mentor or Year Progress Leader who they can go to. Please do remind your children that we have the iamnotok@rodingvalley.net email address available for all children to use at any time - this email goes directly to our safeguarding team who can then work out how to best support your child.

As always, please do keep in touch,

Yours faithfully



Mrs S Dyer
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs S Jenner
Headteacher

