Headteacher: Mrs H Barnes, BA (Hons), NPQH

1st December 2025 Our ref: OHF/hsa

Dear Parents/Carers,

Subject: Important Online Safety Alert – Year 7 Group Chats

We have recently been made aware of a concerning situation involving some Year 7 students. A group chat has been created where students have been added alongside over 500 strangers. This poses a serious safeguarding risk.

Please note:

- Year 7 students should not be in any group chats outside of those monitored by school, Teams etc.
- The legal age for WhatsApp is 13 years old.
- We strongly advise parents to check phone settings to ensure your child cannot be added to groups without your consent.

We ask that you:

- 1. Speak to your daughter about online safety and the risks of interacting with strangers
- 2. Remind her to leave any group chat immediately if it contains people she does not
- 3. Regularly review privacy settings and monitor app usage.

Your support is essential in keeping our students safe online. If you have any concerns please contact us.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

Kind regards,

Mrs O Foster (Formally- Miss O Donnell) Head of Year 7 St Bernard's High school





