

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Queen's Jubilee

All pupils enjoyed a day celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee today, and had a crown competition, Jubilee picnic lunch, and took part in an aerial photograph which will be released on Twitter, Facebook and our website. Good fun was had by all! To find out about other Jubilee events in Bradford, visit whatson.bradford.gov.uk/.



### Half-term Holiday

As you will know, today is the last day of this half-term, and our school is **closed for 2 weeks**. We re-open on Monday 13th June. We look forward to seeing all children back in school on this day.

#### Parents in the Lead

Today a group of parents with children 3 and under organised a 'Jubilee Cook and Eat' session. If you would like to be part of planning future 'Parents in the Lead' events, please ring Ludmila on 07398 671291 or speak to Miss Eley in the office.

#### Jubilee Circus Fun

On Thursday 2nd June, Better Start are organising a FREE 'Jubilee Circus Fun' event with a circus show, and workshop, with activities for the Under 4s, at Parkside Park, BD5 8PT from 2-4pm.

#### New After School Clubs

You will know that our new set of after school clubs starts after the holidays – there are still some places left in some clubs. Please speak to Miss Byrne or Miss Howarth in the Office if your child would like to attend.

We hope you have a wonderful half term holiday together with family and friends.



Mr Elcock (Deputy Head)



We are now beginning to hold Celebration Collective Worship (Assemblies) on Friday mornings. We hope that in a few weeks we will, once again, be able to invite parents to join us in celebrating our pupils' achievements. We will let you know when this will happen. Well done to all our Superstars below...

	Nursery
Morning: Bella	Afternoon: Leonardo
	Reception
Spinners: Maryam & Aila	Twisters: Safiya & Shaima
	Year 1
Delius: Latin & Kacper	Hockney: Qasim & Fatima
	Year 2
Forster: Cherish & Ruby	Lister: Zayna & Essa
	Year 3
Bronte: Samira & Mariya	Haworth: Sophie & Helen
	Year 4
McMillan: Humza & Tanqeer	Priestley: Mason & Haniyyah
	Year 5
Salt: Areez & Emilia	Jowett: Anowa & Eliza
	Year 6
Appleton: Arash & Ruhma	Cartwright: Muhammad S & Raihaan

Last week'	s attendance and punctuality	
	Nursery	
Morning: 86% & 4 Lates	Afternoon: 81% & N/A	
	Reception	
Spinners: 81% & 4 Lates	Twisters: 91% & 8 Lates	
	Year 1	
Delius: 91% & 4 Lates	Hockney: 86% & 5 Lates	
	Year 2	
Forster: 89% & 6 Lates	Lister: 87% & 4 Lates	
	Year 3	
Bronte: 90% & 6 Lates	Haworth: 95% & 9 Lates	
	Year 4	
McMillan: 92% & 5 Lates	Priestley: 97% & 7 Lates	
	Year 5	
Salt: 97% & 10 Lates	Jowett: 93% & 7 Lates	
	Year 6	
Appleton: 92% & 8 Lates	Cartwright: 85% & 7 Lates	

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

# WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

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# BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

# **EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION**

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

# INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

CENSORED Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

# SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

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# **UNKNOWN MEMBERS**

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

# NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be 'pinged' with an alert: potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

**Advice for Parents & Carers** 

# **CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS**

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child *does* upset a member of their group chat support them to reach out sho their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### **PRACTISE SAFE SHARING**

# GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being pickéd on.

# BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

## SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're śharing and who might potentially seé it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

#### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

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# Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

Sources: https://www.thinkuknow.couts/11\_13/lets-talk-about/socialising-online/group-chats/[[https://www.nspccorg.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/chat-apps/









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