

## **Bishop Wordsworth's School**

Exeter Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EDTelephone:01722 333851Fax:01722 325899E-mail:admin@bws.wilts.sch.ukWebsite:www.bws-school.org.ukHead Master:Dr S D Smallwood BSc (Hons) PhD NPQH

22 September 2019

**Dear Parents/Guardians** 

We understand that a considerable number of Year 7 students have been involved in a group chat on WhatsApp with other Year 7 students from BWS and other local schools. In this group, there have been reports of very unpleasant communications and that many students have shared personal details such as their addresses and 'phone numbers with the group.

Please can I ask you to take this opportunity to talk to your child and to reinforce the importance of online safety to them. It is important that you are aware of what your child can access online and that measures are in place (such as parental controls) to minimise the risk of their exposure to inappropriate material. It is also important to note that WhatsApp has an age restriction of 16, and many other social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat are restricted to age 13.

In Year 7 we will be teaching our students about these issues both through the curriculum and in assemblies and we ask for your support in reinforcing the message of how to be safe online.

Kind regards

Jeremy Rogers Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead Daniel Brown Head of Lower School