



Cleeve Meadow School

24th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing as we have been experiencing high levels of incidents coming in to school, whereby students have been arguing over text messages, calling each other and leaving answerphone messages and issues/arguments when playing on PlayStation and Xbox games.

These incidents have included some students playing games with people they do not know and are being told are of a similar age. We send out regular online safety updates, which you will have seen show how vulnerable young people are to grooming. Our students with SEND are even more vulnerable to this.

This is causing lots of upset and distress for our students, who are all trying to navigate through school and adolescence and learn how to manage these situations.

These incidents have taken huge amounts of staff time, such as holding restorative meetings and trying to help resolve and build relationships back that have been destroyed over a text message or game.

We have spoken to some of the students and made them aware that during lessons and whilst they are eating their lunch we do not want to hear about the games they are playing, who they have argued with, or who they want to play against that evening.

We are acutely aware that the situation over the last year will have impacted students, especially with social contact and anxiety levels and want them all to feel safe and ensure their wellbeing is looked after.

We need all of our parents and carers to support us with this. Can you please keep an eye on what your child is doing on their phone, tablet or gaming console whilst they are with you at home. No phones are allowed in school, they are placed in safe boxes as soon as they come in, to avoid distractions.

Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Paula Smith
Deputy Head of School

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