

21.10.19

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to express our concern about the number of issues raised, by both parents and pupils, regarding Year 7 pupils' use of social media. It appears that there are many WhatsApp groups in use by the year group, and we have seen evidence, by some pupils, of unacceptable language and basic disrespect shown to fellow pupils, in these groups.

We would like to remind you that respect is one of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe's core principles, and we feel that the way pupils communicate with each other in these groups does not reflect the school's ethos.

We do our best to deal with any conflicts arising from WhatsApp groups, and other social platforms (e.g. Snapchat, Instagram etc.) when they are brought to our attention, but I'm sure you would agree that it would be impossible for us to monitor all these websites. We appeal to you, as parents, therefore, to support us as a school in this matter. We kindly ask you to discuss these issues with your child and to monitor their use of WhatsApp and other social media platforms.

Technology is an integral part of young people's lives today, but we hope that we can work together to ensure that pupils use social media in a safe, respectful, and responsible way. We have arranged an e-safety evening for Thursday, 24th of October at 6pm, to raise awareness of issues like these, and to support you as parents, who are raising children in this digital age. There will be experienced staff from the school as well as police officers present, and there will be opportunity given to discuss these matters and to raise any questions you may have. We would very much like to see you at this meeting.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Angharad Stephens
(Leader of Learning for Yr 7)



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