

## **Sandgate Primary School**

Coolinge Lane, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3QU enquiries@sandgate.kent.sch.uk

Tel: 01303 257280 Headteacher: **Mr M Green** 

16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 6 children

We have recently received reports of incidents related to the misuse of WhatsApp chat groups that have involved several Year 6 children. As you are no doubt aware, WhatsApp is a chat application which can be used on a mobile phone or tablet and allows users to send messages, images and videos to either individuals or groups.

This letter is to make you aware that your child may be using WhatsApp, the minimum usage age for which is 16, without your knowledge.

We will be continuing to highlight the importance of online safety with the children in Year 6 but would also ask that you carefully discuss with your child and monitor what they are viewing online, and that they are reminded that they must tell you if they receive anything inappropriate from any application.

In line with the minimum-age expectations set in place by the GDPR, we would particularly ask for your support in removing the two main chat groups currently being used by the children, one called "Sandgate Primary School" and one called "Crush's" as well as WhatsApp from any devices they may be using.

If you need further advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Jamie Evans Deputy Headteacher