



**CITY
ACADEMY**

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Headteachers: Karen Slater & David Bailey

 @COREeducate  @COREeducate

23rd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer.

It has come to my attention that many Year 8 students are using social media platforms and apps that are not age suitable. Each platform/app has a minimum age for users and some examples are as follows:

WhatsApp – 16 years

Facebook – 13 years

Snapchat – 13 years

Minimum ages are in place to safeguard children. We regularly find ourselves dealing with incidences in school that are linked to comments and videos posted on these platforms/apps outside of school time. We have recently been made aware of a large WhatsApp group involving Year 8 students called 'City Central students' that is posting unpleasant, disrespectful material. Whilst we sanction students in school if we believe they have broken our code of conduct, it is vital we have your support in monitoring your child's use of their phone. We appreciate apps and platforms develop rapidly with children often more expert than ourselves but there are plenty of resources available to support parents with lots of good advice on the NSPCC website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

If you require any further support with this please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor or Head of Year.

I wish you a happy, healthy, and safe half term. Students return at the normal time on Monday 2nd November.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Minto
Head of Year 7 & 8