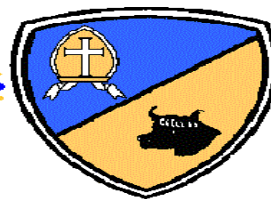


# ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr S Hardaker e-mail [enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@admin.saintlukes.wigan.sch.uk)

18 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been made aware of Whatsapp groups circulating in the local area that contain explicit content. We understand that children have been asked for personal details such as their age, school, address and name. These Whatsapp groups contain hundreds of people and the children are being added by phone numbers that they do not recognise.

We are obviously gravely concerned about the content that our children could be subjected to through these social media groups. We understand that children will have many group chats with their friends and relatives, however **we are urging parents to check their children's social media platforms immediately and at regular points.** Where parents feel that their child is put at risk from harm they should report their concerns to the Police and the social media platform. We also ask that parents inform school, so that we are aware of groups circulating and issues that affect our children.

Further information on parental online controls can be found by following this link to the NSPCC guide: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

In addition, all local schools have had recent intelligence from the local Police and High Schools that there has been an increase in situations of grooming taking place in the local area, in particularly in parks in the area, to recruit children for illegal activities. School is currently liaising with the local Police for guidance and information for parents.

We strongly urge you to discuss 'keeping safe', both online and when out playing with friends, with your children as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for your support with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any concerns regarding your child or children attending St Luke's.

Yours sincerely,

S Hardaker

Mr S Hardaker  
Headteacher



SCHOOL MEMBER

