

PRESTON MANOR SCHOOL

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Monday, 12th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 6,

Supervising Children When They Are Online

I am writing to remind all families of the importance of supervising children when they are online, including when they play games or take part in group chats. I have become aware that unkind words have been used in some online conversations. Please speak to your child regularly about what they do online, who they talk to and how they speak to others. Unkind messages can lead to **cyberbullying** and can have a serious effect on a child's confidence, happiness and mental health. Please remind your child to be kind and respectful online, just as they should be in school.

Some of your children are involved in online group chats. Please remember that **WhatsApp and Snapchat have a minimum age of 13**. Children aged 10 and 11 should not be using these apps. Roblox allows younger children to play, but parents need to check the games, chat settings and safety controls carefully. I ask all families to ensure that your children are **supervised by a responsible adult whenever they are online**. Please check your child's group chats and gaming activity, know who they are communicating with, and make sure they know to tell an adult if a message upsets them or makes them feel unsafe.

There are useful websites to help you keep your child safe online and manage their screen time. You can use parental controls to limit access to apps and websites, set daily time limits and switch off devices at bedtime. I encourage all families to agree clear rules about screen time and to make sure your children have enough time for sleep, homework, exercise and family activities. Thank you for your support in helping us keep all our children safe, happy and respectful, both online and in school.

Your sincerely,

Qudsia Siddique

Deputy Head of the Lower School

Helpful links for parents and carers

- saferinternet.org.uk – help with filtering content and setting usage limits and advice on healthy screen habits and time limits.
- kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk – guidance on managing access, screen time and online safety.
- about.roblox.com – manage chat, games and screen time.
- [whatsapp.com](https://www.whatsapp.com) – minimum age information.
- help.snapchat.com – official age requirements.