



College Town Primary School

Branksome Hill Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 0QF
Tel: 01276 31933 email: secretary@collegetownprimary.com
www.collegetownprimary.com Ofsted no:109828
Head Teacher Mrs Trudi Sammons MA

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you regarding an important safeguarding topic that affects children as they become more independent online: the sharing of intimate or inappropriate images.

As children move towards secondary school, their use of smartphones, messaging apps, online games and social media often increases. While many online interactions are positive, there is a growing national concern about children being asked to send, receiving, or sharing images that are private or inappropriate. This can sometimes happen without children fully understanding the risks or consequences involved.

It is important for parents and carers to be aware that:

- Children may feel pressure to share images as part of friendships or dares.
- Images can be shared further without consent, causing distress and harm.
- Even if taken or shared between children of a similar age, creating or sharing intimate images of under-18s is illegal.
- Children may be reluctant to tell an adult if they are worried, embarrassed, or afraid of getting into trouble.

In school, we regularly teach children about online safety, respectful relationships, consent, and how to seek help if something makes them uncomfortable. We emphasise that they should never feel ashamed to speak to a trusted adult and that their safety is always our priority.

We strongly encourage you to continue these conversations at home. Helpful points to discuss with your child include:

- The importance of keeping their body private and respecting others' privacy.
- That they should never share images of themselves or others.
- What to do if they receive an image that makes them uncomfortable (do not share it, save it, or respond; tell a trusted adult).
- Reassuring them that they will be supported if they ask for help.

If you have any concerns about your child or would like advice on how to approach this topic at home, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We are here to support both children and families.

Thank you for working in partnership with us to keep our children safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sammons

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