

8/11/19

RE: Responsible Use of Social Media Platforms

Dear Parent / Carer,

Some students at the Academy have been made aware of an online account which is being used to share pictures and videos that are inappropriate and illegal.

At Jewellery Quarter Academy, all staff members take their responsibility to keep students safe and well extremely seriously. When necessary, we work closely with the police and other agencies to protect our young people.

Today, we have responded to an incident where some young people have tried to view and 'share' unsuitable images using a specific social media account, and we are currently working with the authorities to establish the identity of the account holder and take firm action.

Unfortunately, the ease with which modern technology allows users to share images and information quickly and often uncensored is cause for concern. It is important that we work together to make students aware of the implications of such actions.

It is important, therefore, to remind social media platform users that the viewing and sharing of indecent images of other young people, or of themselves, is classified as illegal and treated as a serious criminal offence, which is likely to lead to prosecution. Involvement in such a crime has serious implications for the life chances of your son / daughter.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of our mobile phone policy: students' phones are not to be seen or heard on site.

It is important that you speak to your son / daughter about this issue and regularly review the images and browser history and social media accounts stored on their mobile phones or devices in order to safeguard them. We will be speaking to students in form time, assemblies and lessons next week, to remind them about the importance of e-safety and the responsible use of technology.

If you have any concerns about this, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Katie Lowbridge, on 0121 729 7220, or email klowbridge@jewelleryquarter.academy.

Yours sincerely,



Mr J Barton. Deputy Headteacher.