



December 2017

Dear Parent/Carers

Urgent Safeguarding Notice – Hampshire Constabulary

Please see below an urgent communication which schools south of the county (M27 corridor) have been asked to circulate at the request of Hampshire Constabulary regarding a serious safeguarding matter which has been brought to their attention.

I ask that you discuss the content of the communication with your child as soon as possible. If they report to you any knowledge of the issue or if your child has had any knowledge of who the person was, what his Snapchat username, phone number or other linked social media is, or has any other relevant information, please tell the school on our safeguarding email staysafe@thehambleschool.co.uk, or the police, straight away. The latter can be done in private by telephoning 101 and using the reference 44170465274.

Communication from Hampshire Constabulary

On 29 November 2017 a schoolgirl was blackmailed into sending an indecent video of herself on Snapchat. Once the offender had the video he then distributed this online via Snapchat to many other children. If any student has received this explicit video on Snapchat or by any other means they must delete it immediately. If they show this video to someone else or forward it on to other people, they will be committing a criminal offence, which the police may investigate and potentially prosecute.

The school has regularly informed students of the need to safeguard themselves online and the steps that they need to take to do this. Students have been told never to send indecent photographs or videos to anyone online and if they are ever approached online to do this, they must always tell their parents or a teacher. We also remind them about the key messages around online safety and cyber bullying. It is not possible to know for certain whom you are communicating with online. Please reinforce these messages in your discussion with your child.

Should you have any further concerns please contact the safeguarding team at the school.

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah Pennington

Assistant Headteacher

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

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