



'Spurring each other on with love'

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Headteacher: Mrs Tameka Hue Hamilton

16 January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year Five Parental Communication

We appreciate your ongoing support and commitment to the well-being and development of our pupils at Bickleigh Down Church of England Primary School.

Recently, it has been brought to our attention that some parents have been using social media messaging platforms to address concerns about alleged incidents of bullying involving their children. While we understand the deep concern and care you have for your children, we would like to emphasise the importance of handling such matters through the appropriate channels. We have also been made aware that some parents have shared the messages with their children at home by sending them screenshots of the messages. This has created another layer of problems for us to manage in school as pupils who have been exposed to these messages are having regular discussions about them and have been extremely upset to see what parents have written about them and their families.

Naming children on social media platforms in connection with alleged incidents of bullying can have a lasting and detrimental effect on the well-being of all the pupils involved as well as being damaging to our school family relationships. We kindly request that parents who have a habit of doing this refrain from doing so and instead bring your concerns directly to the attention of the school. Our doors are always open and we are committed to addressing and resolving any issues promptly.

It is crucial to remember that, when incidents are brought to our attention, we thoroughly investigate the matter. However, it is also important to acknowledge that, sometimes, after investigating, your child has a part to play and there is more to the issue than parents have been made aware of. Our duty as educators goes beyond addressing the immediate concerns; we are here to provide guidance and support to help children manage their behaviour, emotions, develop self-control and empathy towards each other. We believe in teaching resilience and providing strategies for children to navigate challenges they will face in primary school and beyond. Our dedicated staff spend a significant amount of time daily checking



on the well-being of our pupils and addressing any issues that arise. We can assure you that we take every concern seriously and work diligently to create a safe and supportive environment for all pupils. As parents and carers, we understand that emotions can run high when it comes to our children, but we kindly request your cooperation in refraining from spreading inaccurate narratives about the school's response to incidents of bullying. The well-being of our pupils is our top priority, and we are committed to fostering a positive and inclusive school community. You also play a part in this as parents and carers.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's well-being or any incidents at school, please do not hesitate to contact us directly. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that our school remains a safe and nurturing environment for all our pupils.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs T Hamilton
Headteacher

