

The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School

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All Parents/Carers

Mobile Phones – age appropriate use

Dear Parents/Carers

It has come to our attention this week that some children have been using social networking on their mobile phones in a very worrying way. I am aware of one case whereby a child asked another child to send an inappropriate photograph, and another whereby a child was using sexualised language. The respective parents have been notified. This all happened outside of school but the children were talking about it in school.

This issue is highly worrying, if you have bought your child a mobile phone or they have access to one I urge you to ensure that they use it in an age-appropriate way. There is currently a huge media campaign about this very thing on the radio and television to raise awareness of these serious and very dangerous situations that some children are getting involved in.

I have recently written to you to remind you that the policy in this school as set and agreed by the Governing Body (Online Safety policy, available on our website at www.devonshirehill.com) is that children are NOT allowed to bring their mobile phone to school. Disappointingly, some children are still bringing in mobile phones and yesterday, in line with our policy, I had to confiscate 6 mobile phones from Year 5 & 6 children, their parents have been notified.

All of our older children have had awareness sessions in the safe use of technology and last year we ran a workshop for parents. We are happy to organise more parent awareness sessions but to make this cost effective we would need a commitment from parents to attend. Please call the school to confirm a) your interest in attending a session and b) a time that would suit you to attend. We will then try to facilitate this to suit the majority. Please call by close of the school day on Wednesday 1st March.

Yours sincerely

Julie D'Abreu
Headteacher

cc Steven Lock, Chair of Governors

