



**Head Teacher: Mr A Simms BSc (Hons), PGCE**  
**Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs P Baker B Ed (Hons)**

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

**Subject: Online Safety and Recent Social Media Posts**

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have seen reports in the media or communications from other local schools regarding social media posts encouraging young people from different schools to meet and engage in organised fights after school. These posts are sometimes referred to online as “school wars”. Today has been noted as a potential risk for pupils meeting after school.

At present, we have no information to suggest that Hazel Oak pupils are involved, and there have been no incidents connected to our school. However, as some local schools have written to parents about this trend, we felt it was appropriate to keep our community informed.

Many of these posts originate on platforms such as **TikTok** or **Snapchat** and are designed to attract attention and encourage young people to share them. Police and schools are advising that **sharing or forwarding these posts can unintentionally give them more visibility**, even when people are trying to warn others.

As always, our priority is the **safety and wellbeing of our pupils**. Staff are aware of the situation and we will continue to monitor anything that could affect our school community.

You can help by:

- Encouraging your child to **come straight home after school** as usual.
- Reminding them **not to engage with or share worrying content online**.
- Letting the school know if you become aware of **any messages or posts that specifically reference Hazel Oak or our pupils**.

If you have any safeguarding concerns relating to this issue, please contact the school and ask to speak to a **Designated Safeguarding Lead**. Where there is an immediate safety concern, please contact the police.

There will be a heavier staff presence at the gates today as a precaution.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us to keep our pupils safe.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Simms', written in a cursive style.

Andy Simms

**Head Teacher**