

11<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

**RE: Telegram App**

We have recently had communication from Suffolk Constabulary who have asked that we raise awareness of the instant messaging app **Telegram**, this app has an age rating of 17+. Suffolk Constabulary have been made aware that there are a number of large-scale group chats between children from various schools in the local area, the content of these group chats have been looked in to and on occasions there are discussions around the selling and buying of illegal drugs within the local area.

I have attached a Parent/Carer advice sheet recently published by The National College titled 'What Parents and Carers need to know about TELEGRAM.' You can also find personal online safety advice and information on the Suffolk Constabulary website - [www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/cybercrime/2-personal-online-safety](http://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice/cybercrime/2-personal-online-safety)

I am aware that the majority of students will not be engaging in this type of behaviour and activity, however it is still important that they are aware of what to do should they find themselves in a difficult situation.

If you have any further questions or information to share, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Yours sincerely,

Miss C Hankers  
Safeguarding Manager / Online Safety Lead