



## Hall Green School An Academy

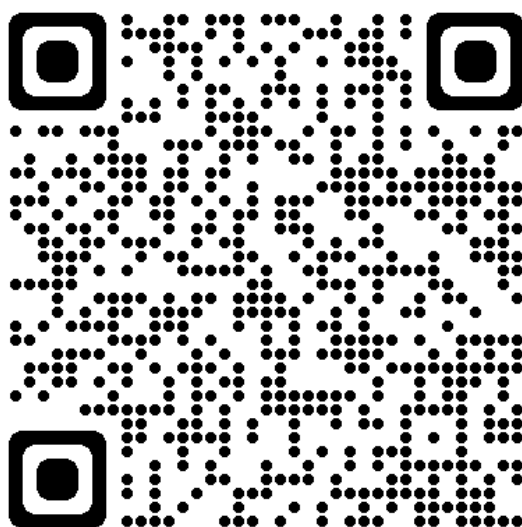
17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

We encourage parents and carers to regularly monitor your child's use of texting, WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, Twitter, and Snapchat and other social media sites. Access to these is out of the school's control when your child is not in school.

It is particularly important that you monitor your child's use of their mobile phone or game consoles. All mobile companies have designed safety features to support parents with safeguarding their children at home. Some of these features might include limiting usage time or introducing restrictions (e.g. when children try to download an application or trying to purchase something online, they will send a notification asking parents/ carers to authorise it or not). Further details in this link or in the QR code below

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>



Childnet — Online safety for young people <https://www.childnet.com/> offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support. Further guidance for parents can be found on a Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (<https://www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk/policies/> page 41).

As per our Dress Code Policy, we understand that pupils may bring a mobile phone in to school for safety purposes, but we must stress that these are brought on site at the pupil's own risk. They should be turned off and stored in the pupil's school bag out of sight. Pupils may listen to music using in-ear headphones in the school playground during break and lunchtimes. At all other times, and throughout the building at all times, the phone should be turned off and stored in the pupil's bag out of sight.

If pupils are not complying with this rule, their mobile phone and / or headphones will be confiscated and stored safely by the Head of House from where they may be collected at the end of the school day. Lunch time detentions can also be issued. Further sanctions may be issued (e.g. additional detention/isolation) if pupils do not comply with staff instructions re confiscations.

For more serious incidents (e.g. students recording another pupil or staff), further sanctions will be applied, and your child might need to hand in their mobile phone on arrival to school each day to be stored safely by the Head of House. Your child could also be suspended from school, particularly if involved in cyberbullying.

As part of our Guidelines for Pupils Users of the School Network, pupils should be aware that the sending of malicious messages via text and/or Snapchat, Facebook, BBM, Twitter, Email etc. is classed as a criminal act. Any information brought to our attention regarding behaviour out of school but involving our pupils will be treated as a police issue and parents will be advised to report the incident to their local police. Harassing, insulting or attacking others through electronic media is not permitted.

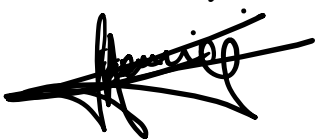
The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) launched a campaign to encourage adults to T.A.L.K to their children about the dangers online.

- **Talk to your child** - Start the conversation – and listen to their concerns.
- **Agree ground rules** about the way you use technology as a family.
- **Learn about the platforms** and apps your child loves. Take an interest in their online life.
- **Know how to use tools**, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online.

Childline has very useful advice for parents and children to keep safe online and practical guidance to follow if you need to remove any content online, including sexting. <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online/>

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school via [enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hallgreen.bham.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely



Mr J Rodriguez  
Assistant Headteacher – Pastoral Care

Green School is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England & Wales. Registered Number 7892732.  
Registered Office: Southam Road, Hall Green, Birmingham B28 0AA Headteacher: Miss K Slater Tel: 0121 628 8787



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

