



# Werrington Primary School



## Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> March 2022.



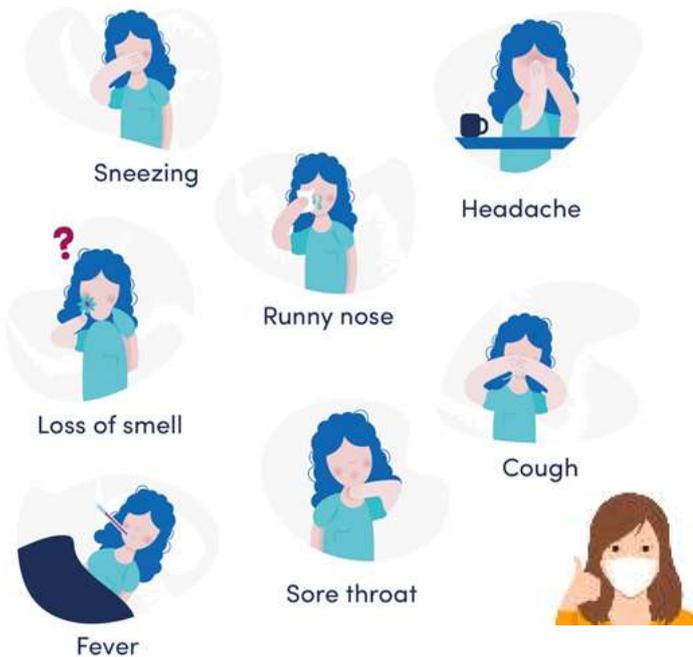
### Nursery

All 3 and 4 year olds have a free universal entitlement of 15 hours early education per week, for 38 weeks of the year (term time), which equates to up to 570 hours over a year.

As a governor-run nursery we have one intake of pupils each year, which takes place every September. If you would like your child to **start in our Nursery in September 2022**, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

### Be clear on COVID

The most important symptoms we all need to know!



### Miss. Whitmore

I am delighted to inform parents that Miss. Whitmore is expecting a baby. It is great to have such lovely news and I am sure that you will all join me in wishing Miss. Whitmore all the best during this exciting time. Miss. Whitmore will continue to teach her class until the end of the summer term.

### Mrs. Bolton

Congratulations to Mrs. Bolton, our SENCO and Forest Schools Lead, who is getting married at the end of this week. She will become Mrs. Croft.

### Photos

We are delighted to be welcoming our photographers, Tempest, in to school on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. They will be taking class photos as well as some school group photos. If your child plays an instrument in school (not including ukuleles), please can they ensure they have their instrument in school on Wednesday? We will also be taking a photo of the school choir. Please ensure children are in uniform on the day and if this is also their usual PE day, please send suitable footwear for them to change in to for the PE lesson.

### The Werrington Curriculum

Our curriculum brochures can be found on our website at: <http://www.werringtonprimary.org.uk/curriculum-statement/curriculum-subjects/>

Please do have a look at them to see what your child will be learning during this half term.

Our curriculum is carefully designed and is bespoke to our school. We have six 'golden threads' that run throughout: **Community, Innovation, Sustainability, Equality, Migration and Conflict** (resolution).



### Makaton



In school, we are beginning to follow the Makaton Language Programme. The aim of this is to support and strengthen language development across the school and to create additional opportunities for communication. The signs used with Makaton are all taken from natural sign language and are used all over the UK. This video from CBeebies (see link below), explains how Makaton is beneficial for children (and adults) of all ages and abilities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRiW0s7wWlC>  
This week, all children will be learning basic signs and each week (beginning 14/3/22) there will be a Sign of the Week that we will share on our whole school Class Dojo story. If you are interested in further information about Makaton, please visit the <https://makaton.org/> website.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a 'simple and secure way to let people know where you are'. It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers



### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.



### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.



### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.



### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.



### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.



### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.



### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



## Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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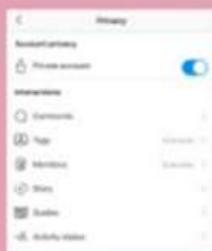
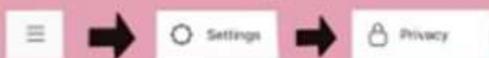
# Social Media Settings



Most social media apps are 13+ (WhatsApp is 16+) but - as we are aware some children are using them regularly - we wanted to share some important settings to keep children safe online.



## Instagram



**PRIVATE ACCOUNT:** when this is on, only followers can see your posts and stories and you have to approve followers  
**(recommended: on)**

**COMMENTS, TAGS, MENTIONS, STORY:** allows you to control who can tag you, comment on your posts, mention you in their story and control your story audience

You can also restrict, block or report a user by clicking on their profile and selecting the three dots in the top right.

You can also remove a follower using this method.



## Tiktok



**PRIVATE ACCOUNT:** when this is on, only followers can see your posts and you have to approve followers  
**(recommended: on)**

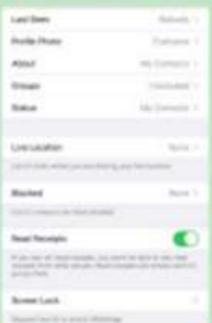
**SAFETY:** Tiktok has lots of options to restrict contact and interaction with video posts  
**(recommended: friends)**

**COMMENT FILTERS:** you can automatically hide comments that may have offensive words in  
**(recommended: on)**

You can also block, report or remove a follower by clicking on their profile and clicking the three dots in the top right hand corner.



## WhatsApp



**PROFILE PHOTO AND STATUS:** You can change who can see a profile photo and status  
**(recommended: my contacts)**

**GROUPS:** allows you to stop a contact being able to add you to groups  
**(recommended for when a friend adds you without permission)**

**BLOCKED:** can add a contact to a blocked list so they can't message you.

You can also block or report a contact/number by clicking on the chat with them, clicking on their number/name at the top then scrolling down!



## Snapchat



**CONTACT:** decide who can message you and send you snaps  
**(recommended: my friends)**

**VIEW MY STORY:** restrict who can see your story  
**(recommended: my friends)**

**GHOST MODE:** if this isn't on, contacts can see your location on a map  
**(recommended: on)**

You can also block or report a user by locating their contact, tapping and holding their name and clicking more

Together we succeed.