

SWANLEA SCHOOL

Respect | **Aspire** | Achieve

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Head of School: Mr K Miah BA (Hons) MEd
Executive Head: Ms B Landers BA (Hons) MA

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are seeing an increase in incidents of cyber bullying via the social media app, Snapchat across Tower Hamlets.

Children are setting up public stories, despite being underage and naming them after specific year groups from a range of schools across Tower Hamlets. This is then shared with a wide audience via anonymous/fake accounts.

The material being posted is of a highly inappropriate nature which is causing distress to the children being targeted.

It is important to speak to your child about the risks online. Please urge them to think before they post anything, as these messages which could include inappropriate pictures and videos are almost impossible to take back and are having an adverse effect on their social, emotional and mental health.

There are concerns about children posting inappropriate and sometimes indecent images of themselves and/or others online. This is putting them at risk.

The school would like to reiterate that it is illegal for children to take, share or sell indecent images of themselves and/or others.

It is everybody's responsibility to ensure that harmful content and the accounts responsible are reported online and later blocked.

Please can you support in safeguarding young people by openly speaking to your children about how to treat others online with respect and what is and is not appropriate when using online platforms.

You are advised to actively supervise your children online and ensure that their social media accounts are private and limited to associates that are known and monitored by you.

Please refer to the support links below:

National Online Safety App	https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/swanlea-school
Report Remove	https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/
NSPCC	https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/
Internet Matters	https://www.internetmatters.org/
ChildNet	https://www.childnet.com/
Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command	https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/

You are encouraged to report immediate concerns to the school so that appropriate action can be taken moving forward.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. Miah'.

Kabir Miah
Head of School

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Landers'.

Brenda Landers
Executive Head