



17/11/2022

**Very important- Please read fully**

Dear Parents /Guardians/Students

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

I would like to commend the excellent effort that is being made by all our students and teaching staff at the Friary.

It has come to my attention that a 'WhatsApp' group of 2<sup>nd</sup> year students is in existence and a large number of 2<sup>nd</sup> year students are participants in this group. It has also been brought to my attention that inappropriate content has been posted on this group without permission which is in Breach of new legislation called, 'Coco's Law'. <https://sellors.ie/cocos-law/> Please go to link for information and watch video here [https://youtu.be/chD0CxK9\\_F8](https://youtu.be/chD0CxK9_F8).

I have not seen this content and I am also not aware who created the app or who posted the inappropriate content however I am appealing to every single parent/guardian to sit down with their son/daughter and to ask them to show them their Whatsapp groups and ensure the content is appropriate.

**This is not a school sanctioned, endorsed or monitored forum** and my advice is that if your child is a member of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year group chat that you would ensure that they remove themselves from it. I have no doubt that it was set up with good intentions but I feel that if there has been inappropriate content posted that it is best to nip this in the bud for everyone's safety

I would also ask each parent/guardian to please;

1. Check your child's mobile phone and monitor that there is no inappropriate material on their phone or being distributed. This includes pictures, videos, Snapchat, WhatsApp and all other social media app's /forums. Helpful guidance and tips can be found on the web wise website. <https://www.webwise.ie/parents/explained-managing-the-risks-of-mobile-phones/>
2. Check the School App regularly.
3. Please familiarise yourself with the school code of conduct and all other policies. <https://www.staugustines.ie/about-us/school-policies>

If you have any queries or concerns or if we can be of any help or support to you please contact the school.

Kind regards

Michael O' Sullivan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael O' Sullivan'.

