



WAVERLEY ABBEY C of E JUNIOR SCHOOL



Executive Headteacher: Ms K Redman

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been brought to our attention that there has recently been a significant on-line safeguarding issue in the local area across different Key Stages. This occurred through the online game 'Fortnite', although it was through the community of Xbox Live, rather than the game specifically, where continued contact was made. The understanding is that someone posed as a child via Xbox Live and, through the Xbox 'Friend Lists', managed to infiltrate a reasonably large group of children/pupils. This included requesting indecent images and trying to befriend some children on Instagram. The police and other relevant safeguarding agencies have been informed and we believe an investigation is underway. If you think your child maybe involved and you have any further information please contact either myself as the lead Designated Safeguarding Leader for the school, Mrs Downs as Safeguarding Lead and E safety lead, or the police.

The information is that the perpetrator went by the names/gamertags: "Arthur" or "Arty R" Xbox tag lino2009, and Instagram tag _zillion._ or _arthur2009. We feel it would be prudent for you to use this incident as a reason to check in on your child's contacts making sure that your child is only friends on-line with people that they actually know in person.

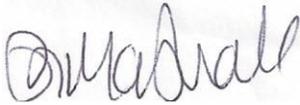
Whilst this incident is hugely worrying we do not want to cause alarm but simply raise the importance of being aware of internet safety and not becoming complacent. It is important to remember that it is not an isolated occurrence and that the perpetrators are skilled in gaining access to children through the use of



technology. This is something that our children may be faced with in this digital era. It remains a high priority across our curriculum and will be an on-going focus in school.

This is a good time to check your privacy settings and if you are unsure of how to do this and would like assistance, please do not hesitate to let the office know.

Kind regards,



Mrs Rebecca Marshall

Head of School

