Letter No: 080/2023

28th November 2023

Dear Families,

Device Filtering and Monitoring

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) is statutory guidance schools follow in order to ensure effective safeguarding is in place to support all students in our care. Core to this is the requirement for schools to limit children's exposure to risks from the school's IT systems. Blocking harmful or illegal content and creating user policies that address Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) terms of use are key to KCSiE compliance.

Since we have operated a BYOD programme the school has deployed advanced filtering and monitoring tools to ensure students are safe when using their own device connected to the school WiFi or a device owned by the school.

As filtering and monitoring tools continue to evolve, we are planning to make some changes to one of the tools we use for monitoring devices as part of our BYOD programme. Later this term we plan to deploy a tool by NetSupport called classroom.cloud to all devices. With the exception of Chromebooks, all other tablet devices will need to have a client (application) installed. During a morning registration later this term, we will work with students to install the required application on their device.

Students will not notice anything different about the operation of their device since this client runs in the background. The filtering and monitoring of device activity will only ever be in operation on school days and during school hours.

The cost of this application is covered by a school level subscription and will not be passed on to families.

We remain committed to ensuring students make safe use of technology not only through systems such as this but also the education we provide through the delivery of the Computer Science and Personal Development curriculum.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Allday
Acting Deputy Headteacher