

Hawthorn Tree School
Head Teacher: Mr J Kelwick

BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH

Email: Enquiries@Hawthorn-tree.lincs.sch.uk



website: www.hawthorntree.co.uk

Toot Lane
Boston PE21 0PT

Phone: 01205 363031 Fax: 01205 355037

'Live to Learn, Learn to Live'



8th October 2018

RE: Parents' use of social media

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you regarding a small number of defamatory posts or what the school considers to be comments of a threatening nature that have been posted on social media about other parents, pupils, members of staff, governors or the school since our return in September.

Hawthorn Tree school understands and appreciates the benefits of social media; however, whilst there are many positive benefits to using social media; there are also significant negative impacts, such as damaging the reputation of schools, its community and staff as well as cyber bullying, which the school does not tolerate.

In order for us to set the best example possible to pupils at our school, we would like to invite parents and carers to do the same. In November, the school will be releasing its new 'Social Media Code of Conduct for Parents Policy', which outlines our expectations for Parents/Carers on how to act when using social media.

At Hawthorn Tree school all staff are dedicated to giving all children the best possible education and caring properly for their health, safety and welfare at all times. We are committed to working closely with parents/carers and believe that school and parents/carers must work together in partnership, each carrying out our own particular responsibilities to help pupils gain the most from their time in school. We also desire to have good relations with our neighbours and the wider community. We believe that any if you feel that something is not going quite as you would like, that we are doing something that you are unhappy with, or not doing something that you feel we should, please tell us about it in a face to face conversation or via the phone.

Should Hawthorn Tree School's pupils, members of staff and/or governors be subject to any online abuse, we will take the appropriate action. This will include considering our legal options to deal with any defamatory or libellous activity made against the school and its stakeholders that have been posted on social media.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Kelwick'.

J. Kelwick
Head teacher

