

Haileybury Turnford

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23rd June 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to inform you of significant new government measures designed to strengthen the protection of children online, following the publication of a national guidance on 15 June 2026.

These new rules introduce important changes that will directly affect how children and young people access and use social media and online platforms and these new measures are likely to be introduced by the government in the coming months.

The UK government has announced that children under the age of 16 will no longer be permitted to use social media platforms. There will be stronger and additional safeguards put in place for all young people under 18, including:

- Restrictions on strangers contacting children online
- Controls on live streaming features which can pose safeguarding risks

These measures are designed to reduce children's exposure to harmful content, online exploitation, and unsafe interactions.

While further details and guidance for implementation are expected, schools will play a key role in supporting these changes. We anticipate that this may involve:

- Reviewing expectations around students' use of social media outside of school
- Reinforcing online safety education in our PSHE and computing curriculum
- Supporting families to understand and apply the new rules at home

We encourage you to begin considering how these changes might affect your child's current use of apps and platforms, and to have open conversations about safe and responsible online behaviour.

You may find it helpful to support your child by:

- Checking the age restrictions on apps your child currently uses
- Reviewing and adjusting privacy settings together
- Keep devices in shared family spaces where possible
- Talk regularly about online safety, kindness, and risks

Further Information - You can read the full government fact sheet here:

[New rules to protect children online – GOV.UK](#)

We will continue to keep you updated as more details emerge and will provide further guidance on how we will support students in school.

If you have any questions or would like support around online safety, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our young people safe.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Goodes
Senior Vice Principal



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