

19th October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been brought to our attention that inappropriate contact has been made with a number of our students by a person via Instagram over the last few days. This has included obscene and highly offensive videos and images. It does seem to be predominantly Year 7 students that have been affected by this. Other local schools have also been affected by this.

The regional Police are aware and we have been in contact with them regarding the management of this situation. The advice we have been given is that if images and messages of this type arrive on your child's phone, they should not reply. If possible, a screenshot of the message thread should be taken and the Instagram account blocked. The Police have advised that he may try to alter his account details and therefore, further attempts to contact your child may happen. If this occurs, the advice is to continue to block any new accounts.

Any inappropriate images or videos should be deleted, but the Police would appreciate a small sample of the images sent to the email address below, if possible (this may involve the use of a disc or memory stick). This is not essential, as they already have a large body of evidence and the priority is to delete any inappropriate images so that the young people are not exposed to them. The screenshot of the message thread may be used at a later date by Police, if it can be saved.

I have spoken to the whole of Year 7 in an assembly this morning to give them clear instructions, as above, to ensure their safety. They have been told not to have their phones on, or reply, and to inform you as parents as soon as they return home if there has been any attempted contact through Instagram. You can then action the details above.

To help put minds at rest, the Police have informed us that the person in question is not a UK based individual, but a foreign national. The police officer dealing with this incident is DC David Asher and his contact details are below:

DC David Asher – 101 ex 3261
Secure email – david.asher@lincs.pnn.police.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr P Wilkinson
Assistant Head