Friday 28th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will know, social networking sites such as Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Twitter have grown in popularity over the last few years.

Most people who use social media are polite and show respect for one another in their postings and comments.

As a school, we want to ensure that parents and carers act as good role models for their children when they use the internet.

At Banks Road Primary School, we are particularly keen to ensure that no-one connected with the school uses social media to bully, intimidate or cause distress to other people.

There has recently been some coverage of cyber-bullying in the national media. These arise from prosecutions brought by the Criminal Prosecution Service following investigations by the police.

We want to encourage all parents and carers to assist with the well-being of their children. If you feel that you have any issues regarding your child's schooling, please make an appointment to come and talk to us. We are always happy to listen.

As a school, we believe we should all discourage the use of Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Twitter and other social media to criticise and to make comments about our school and the community it serves.

Banks Road Primary School is protected by current legislation, including the 2003 Communication Act, the Malicious Communication Act 1988, and the 1997 Protection from Harassment Act. However, we certainly do not want to waste time and money sending out legal letters from solicitors to parents and carers to protect the school and our staff. Therefore, if you use social media, we would ask that you model safe, respectful and responsible practice for your children to emulate in all of your online conversations.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs L Gibson and Mr S Doherty
Headteacher and Chair of Governors

We can do it!