VAUXHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Article 17 (access to information from the media)
Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

Wednesday 22nd September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our ongoing online safety work at Vauxhall Primary School, we wanted to remind families about the age restrictions for social media.

The UK Government has announced plans to restrict children under 16 from using social media, with the new measures expected to come into effect from 2027. Until then, the existing age restrictions set by individual platforms continue to apply.

Most major social media platforms have a **minimum age of 13,** including:

Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, Facebook, X, WhatsApp and YouTube (13+ for an independent account)(

For our primary-aged children, this means that most pupils are currently below the minimum age for creating their own social media accounts.

We encourage parents and carers to check the apps and services children are using, review privacy and safety settings, and talk regularly about their online experiences. Please remind children that they should always speak to a trusted adult if something online makes them feel worried or uncomfortable.

We will continue to teach online safety, responsible use of technology and respectful behaviour as part of our Computing and wider curriculum. We will also keep our guidance up to date as online safety advice and legislation

For more information about individual apps, age restrictions, safety features and parental controls, please visit:

Internet Matters – Social Media Advice

Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our children safe, both in school and online.

Matthew Sime

Computing Operations Manager

On behalf of Vauxhall Primary School