

Dear Parents/ Carers

We would like to make you aware of a social media campaign circulating nationally called "School Wars." This trend promotes harmful behaviour by encouraging pupils from 'red' and 'blue' schools to act as opposing teams, awarding points for physical assault, filming incidents, or stealing from others.

Local schools in Birmingham are aware of this online campaign. While there is no indication at present that any activity will take place, we are taking proactive steps to ensure our students feel safe, informed, and reassured.

At Swanshurst, we continue to be incredibly proud of the kindness, maturity, and sense of belonging shown by our pupils. We are pleased to share that our students have not engaged in this trend, and many have spoken openly about how such behaviour does not reflect who we are as a school community. Their actions show what it means to be an upstander: someone who chooses to do the right thing, looks out for others, and speaks up when something feels wrong. These are the values we celebrate every day, and it is heartening to see our pupils living them so confidently.

To help us continue keeping children safe, we ask for your support with the following:

- Speak with your child about staying away from any gatherings linked to this trend, and the potential risks involved.
- Continue to be vigilant regarding your child's mobile phone use; including online activity and group chats.
- Remind your child of the importance of being an upstander; not just avoiding harmful behaviour but choosing kindness and helping keep others safe.
- Encourage your child to report any information or concerns through the school's safeguarding reporting systems.
- If you, as parents or carers see or hear anything worrying, including online posts, please contact the Police via 101 and notify the school as soon as possible.

Our priority is, as always, the safety and wellbeing of all our students.

Thank you for your continued support and for reinforcing the values of kindness, respect, belonging, and upstanding behaviour that make our school community so strong.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your Year Team.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Fletcher  
**Deputy Headteacher**

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