

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Caution re graphic social media posts**

As you are aware, when children are using social media or the internet, it comes with an inherent risk which requires safety precautions and supervision.

I am writing to you as it has come to my attention that there is currently an increased risk of your child being exposed to a violent and disturbing video that is currently trending.

It is being spread maliciously by trolls inserting the video into seemingly harmless clips to trick people into watching it. Social media platforms include Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Instagram and YouTube.

It is a timely reminder of the importance of monitoring your child's online activity. Please remember your child may still be able to access graphic videos through your home computers, tablets or personal mobile phones. As trolls are known to spread graphic content such as this, it may be time to have a discussion with your child about being safe online.

The eSafety Commissioner has advised that you avoid raising awareness of the video with your child who may not have heard or been exposed to it. Drawing undue attention may cause unnecessary worry or distress and increase exposure.

Should your child inform you that they have viewed something disturbing, they may experience emotional distress and require psychological assistance. Please know your child can access their school student wellbeing team to discuss this or provide referral options.

Other services that anyone may wish to use are:

- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Mental Health Access Line: 1800 011 511
- Parent Line: 1300 1300 52
- Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800
- eHeadspace: 1800 650 890

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely

Brigid Taylor  
Acting Principal

