



20 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you about important changes to social media laws that will take effect from **10 December 2025** under the *Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024*. These changes are overseen by the **eSafety Commissioner** and are designed to protect young people from harmful online content and practices.

### What the Law states

- Children under **16 years of age** will no longer be permitted to hold accounts on major social media platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, YouTube, and X (Twitter).
- The law requires platforms to enforce this minimum age and ensure compliance.

### What This Means for Our School

To support these changes, our school will:

- Provide **education sessions** for students on safe and responsible online behaviour.
- Share resources from the **eSafety Commissioner** with families to help guide conversations at home.
- Work with staff to monitor and support students who may be affected by these changes.

### How Families Can Help

We encourage parents and carers to:

- Talk with your child about the new laws and why they are important.
- Check whether your child has social media accounts and assist them in closing any that are no longer permitted.
- Reinforce positive online habits and encourage safe alternatives for communication and creativity.



## **Our Commitment**

We understand that these changes may be challenging for some families. Our priority is to ensure that students feel supported and safe both online and offline. Together, we can help young people build healthy digital habits and protect their wellbeing.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. We will continue to share updates and resources as they become available.

Thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our school community safe.

## **Parent FAQ: Upcoming Social Media Laws**

**Effective Date:** 10 December 2025

**Authority:** eSafety Commissioner – *Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Act 2024*

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. What is changing?**

From 10 December 2025, children under **16 years of age** will not be allowed to hold accounts on major social media platforms (TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, YouTube, X/Twitter).

#### **2. Why is this law being introduced?**

The law aims to protect young people from harmful online content, addictive algorithms, and unsafe interactions.

#### **3. What if my child already has an account?**

Children under 16 will need to close their accounts. Platforms are required to enforce the minimum age and may remove accounts that do not comply.

#### **4. Which apps are affected?**

Popular platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, YouTube, and X/Twitter. Other apps with social media features may also be covered.

#### **5. How will schools support this change?**

- Educating students on safe online behaviour
- Sharing resources from the eSafety Commissioner
- Supporting families with guidance and information



## 6. What can parents do at home?

- Talk to your child about the new laws and why they matter
- Help them close accounts if they are under 16
- Encourage safe alternatives for communication and creativity
- Reinforce healthy online habits and balance with offline activities

## 7. Where can I find more information?

Visit the **eSafety Commissioner's website** for official updates and resources:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au>

Mr Martin Gillogly

Assistant Principal, Pastoral Care