

Dear Parents and Carers,

Subject: Important Safeguarding Notice – Use of Tracking Devices on School Trips

We are writing to address a safeguarding concern that has recently come to our attention and which has not arisen in previous years.

It has been brought to our notice that some students have attended school trips or residentials with digital tracking devices (such as AirTags) placed in their belongings. While we understand that this may be done with the best intentions, we must make it clear that the use of such devices is **not permitted**.

Digital tracking devices pose a significant **safeguarding risk** to the entire group. These devices can inadvertently breach the privacy of other pupils whose parents have not consented to location sharing. In certain cases, they could even compromise the safety of children who are under legal protection, subject to court orders, or in foster care. Additionally, broadcasting the real-time location of the group may increase the risk of this information falling into the wrong hands.

We appreciate that as caring and responsible parents, you want to ensure your child's safety. Please be assured that the safety of all students is always our top priority. School staff on trips are fully DBS-checked, appropriately trained, and well-known to the children. All pupils are supervised at all times, and we communicate any delays or important updates directly to parents via our usual messaging system.

Moving forward, any tracking devices found in a child's belongings on trip days will be removed prior to departure. If found before leaving, the device will be kept in the school office for collection. If discovered during a trip, it will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

We kindly ask that you check your child's bag and remove any tracking devices before they attend a school visit. If you have any questions or concerns about the safety arrangements on future trips, please don't hesitate to contact us—we are always happy to talk through the measures we have in place.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Yours sincerely, Mr Walker Headteacher