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Wednesday 14th October 2026

Dear Year 6 Parents

Our pupils regularly take part in learning activities focused on safeguarding and child protection. These lessons and follow-up discussions support children in making good choices regarding when and how to share information about themselves. They also provide opportunities to explore the risks associated with the use of personal information by others.

As part of this learning journey, yesterday pupils discussed leavers hoodies, and why they are not part of our uniform at Bishop Childs. Mr McCarthy explained that the firms that make the hoodies and anyone else involved in their production are:

- using our school badge without permission or approval. The school badge belongs to the school, not to any outside organisation.
- clearly displaying each child's name and making them an easy target for any stranger who would like to appear as a 'friend'.
- displaying other children's names alongside the school badge and the year group to which they belong. This makes it very easy to follow any child's movements, friendship groups, classes, etc. It also provides an easy 'in' for anyone wanting to strike up a personal conversation - using a child's name and referring specifically to particular friends, their school, class and possibly their teacher, makes a stranger appear trustworthy and makes anything else that person says seem plausible.
- often charging large amounts of money for an inferior product, at a time when many families are facing a cost-of-living crisis.

In the world of health and safety, hoodies are also a hazard in school. The hoods themselves can easily get caught in things around the building and are inevitably grabbed by other children. This can cause unnecessary injury and poses a choking hazard.

Our Year 6 pupils are very highly-valued members of our school family. During your children's final year of primary school, we expect them to be **LEADERS**, NOT LEAVERS. Today, 3 members of the class met with our local authority improvement partner and described how much they enjoy being role models when they visit classes in other parts of the school. We also know that our pupils are proud to represent Bishop Childs at events, to welcome visitors, to lead tours of the school, and so on. We have all become used to our pupils being complimented on their appearance. It builds confidence, self-esteem, aspiration and a sense of teamwork.

Please do not source/purchase leavers' hoodies for your child to wear in school.

As always, we are very grateful for your continued support,

The staff and governors of Bishop Childs Church in Wales Primary School