***“To be the best we can be every day, in every way!”***

ST PATRICK’S PRIMARY SCHOOL

10, Annaghmore Coalisland, Co. Tyrone. N.I. BT71 4QZ

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Monday 22nd June 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

RE: ON-LINE CHILD PROTECTION

I hope this letter finds all of you and your families well and in good health. It is unconscionable to know that there are individuals out there who are using a world health pandemic, Coronavirus, as an opportunity to exploit our children and young people on-line.

Today, I received the following email from PSNI,

*Please be aware that a local Coalisland P7 primary pupil has been contacted on Instagram over the weekend by a person portraying themselves as a 15yr old male using name “confessions5741” and “confessions\_aus1”. After very short conversation local female pupil was asked to send pictures of her “belly and pants” which she did, although thankfully did not expose her face. Luckily her mother monitors her accounts and contacted PSNI with concerns. She told police that other young people in the area have also been contacted on Instagram, couldn’t name anyone but would be concerned about them.*

*Incase this comes to your attention or you want to warn parents what has happened with gentle reminder from police to have regular conversations with their young people, keep an eye on exactly what their young people are doing online.*

 *PLEASE, if anyone has been contacted or maybe struggling because they have already sent inappropriate images and are now frightened, Please contact me if you want further advice/ guidance, or pass my contact details onto parents.*

Sue is the Education Officer for this area and our pupils have met her on multiple occasions in the past few years at school.

Her contact details are:

 Susan.Wright@psni.pnn.police.uk

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Tel: 101 Ext. 53075

Please, your children have one formidable line of defence from such people – you, their parents. Please, check their phones now, and explain to them why and keep asking and keep checking.

Take care of yourselves and your families,

With very best wishes,

Anne Mc Guinness

Principal