



Wombwell Park Street Primary School

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Chief Executive Officer of the ECM Trust: Mrs G Foster-Wilson

Headteacher: Mrs C Lawson

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Wednesday 13th September 2021

RE: Squid Game

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, there is a new programme trending on Netflix called 'Squid Game', which has a viewing rating of 15 years and above. This is due to high levels of violence, aggression, sexual activity and suicide within the series. In the programme, a number of games are played for a massive cash prize but it also features violent and gruesome scenes. Players who fail to win a game are killed in one manner or the other.

Today, it has been brought to our attention that some children in Key Stage 2 have been discussing the game and have begun to act out versions of 'Squid Game'. In these games they are acting out scenes from the series, which is a concern when many of the scenes are extremely gruesome and not appropriate for any children to see / be acting out. Following further investigation, we are most certainly not the only school who has experienced this.

Please can all parents be vigilant around 'Squid Game'. It may not be that parents/carers are necessarily allowing their children to watch the programme but more so that the popularity of it is meaning that it is a hot topic on social media and in friendship groups. As well as the concern regarding the programme, we have also heard that there are potential links between 'Road Blocks' and 'Squid Game', which is something to also be mindful of as a parent.

As a school we will be strongly encouraging children to **not** watch 'Squid Game' or re-enact scenes from it in any way and would be incredibly grateful if parents could reiterate such key messages, in an age appropriate way, at home. Staff in Key Stage 2 will be addressing this matter with their teams this week and if there are any issues in other year groups, we will discuss the matter in an age appropriate way with them too.

Following on from this letter, if we have any incidents relating to this matter in school, a member of the Senior Leadership Team will individually contact parents/carers of children involved.

Thank you in anticipation of your ongoing understanding and support with this matter.

Mrs C Lawson
Headteacher

Mr A Fidment and Mrs L Firth
Online Safety Leads