MARY IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL
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Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Online Gaming, Wellbeing and Attendance

As part of our commitment to safeguarding pupils, we would like to remind families about the importance of monitoring online and console gaming.
Gaming can be enjoyable and social. However, excessive gaming, particularly late at night, can affect sleep, concentration, behaviour, homework and school attendance. Pupils who do not get enough sleep may arrive at school tired and find it more difficult to learn.
Online gaming can also expose young people to inappropriate content, bullying, contact with strangers, grooming, scams and unauthorised spending. We encourage parents and carers to check what their child is playing, who they communicate with and how much time they spend online.

Grand Theft Auto VI

There is considerable publicity surrounding the release of Grand Theft Auto VI (GTA VI). The game focuses on criminal activity, violence and other adult themes. It is rated **PEGI 18** and includes strong language, violence, sexual content, nudity, and drug and alcohol use.
As our school serves pupils in **Years 7–11**, every pupil is below the game's age rating. **GTA VI is therefore not considered suitable for any of our pupils.**

We encourage families to:

- check age ratings before purchasing games;
- discuss online safety and responsible gaming;
- set clear limits for gaming and screen use;
- maintain appropriate bedtime routines; and
- use parental controls to manage content, communication and spending.

We would also like to thank parents and carers for their continued support in ensuring that education remains a priority. We know that our families recognise the importance of attendance and share our expectation that pupils should not miss school to play a newly released game, no matter how eagerly anticipated it may be.

Supporting pupils to attend school **on time, rested and ready to learn** sends a powerful message about the value of education, responsibility and future success. The habits young people develop now, including good attendance, healthy routines and self-discipline, will help them achieve their ambitions.
Thank you for continuing to monitor your child's gaming and online activity. By working together, we can help our young people use technology safely and responsibly while supporting their wellbeing and educational success.

Yours faithfully,

Mr T Price
Assistant Headteacher