

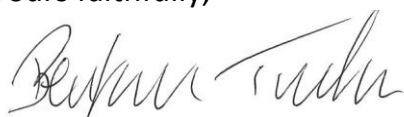
Dear Parent / Carer,

On Friday we were made aware of inappropriate posts referring to our school and members of staff on TIK TOK. This is part of a new wave of inappropriate and concerning social media activity which is apparently evident in many schools across Bristol and is something the Police are aware of. We will be speaking to our pupils today about the consequences, both legal and moral, of getting involved in such activity.

We would be grateful if you could reinforce with your son/daughter that they should avoid accessing these posts: if you have any information which may help us identify those who are responsible please contact your child's Head of Year.

Please find overleaf an information sheet explaining what TIKTOK is, and guide from the National Online Safety organisation as to how you can ensure your child is using the app safely.

Yours faithfully,



Ben Tucker  
Principal

## Grit, Honesty and Team Spirit

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## What should parents be concerned about?

When you download the app users can see all the content without creating an account although they are not able to post, like or share anything until they've set up an account on the app. You can set up your account by using your existing Google, Facebook, Instagram account, via email or phone. By default, all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send them messages. Users can like or react to a video, follow an account or send messages to each other. There is the risk that strangers will be able to directly contact children on the app. Children may be tempted to take risks to get more of a following or likes on a video so it's important to talk about what they share and with who. To delete an account, you have to request a code from the app using a phone number.

## Does TikTok have any safety features?

Like Facebook and Instagram, it has a digital wellbeing element (which is password protected) which alerts users who have been on the app for more than 2 hours. You can also turn on 'restricted mode' to filter out inappropriate content on the app. Also, you can set an account to be private so that all videos can only be seen by the creator and no one else on the platform. With a private account, you can approve or deny users and limit incoming messages to followers only.

Please note that even with a private account, your child's profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform. You can manage who can comment, duet and direct message your child on the app.

## How to report inappropriate content on the TikTok app?

You can report content that doesn't follow TikTok's community guidelines within the app, click here to find out how to do it on the app. You can delete followers or 'Fans' by choosing the fan you'd like to remove and selecting 'Block' from the menu of options.

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