



Safeguarding News



Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy

Headteacher: Miss B Minor

Date: 17/07/20

Issue: 20

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Tik Tok



Despite only launching in 2018, TikTok has enjoyed a dramatic rise to become one of the most popular social media apps on the planet. Young people, in particular, love its short-form video focus, and it is now one of their favourite tools of expression. There's a good chance your child is either using it already or asking to be allowed on it – but what exactly is it, and are there any risks you should be aware of?

Like most social media platforms, TikTok requires its users to be at least 13 years old, although there's no robust age-verification in place. You can find videos relating to almost all interests on TikTok, from DIY tricks and make-up tutorials to gaming and sports. People are allowed to let their imagination run wild on TikTok, as there isn't really a 'right' or 'wrong' type of content. Your child might use TikTok to pick up new skills, learn how to play an instrument or even connect with people they share an interest with.

Are there any risks? **Data collection:** Fortunately, TikTok doesn't require users to give much personal information to join the app anymore, but it's a good idea to minimise the amount of data your child stores on the app and turn off personalised ads in the settings. **Contact with strangers:** TikTok introduced a feature that prevents under-16s from both sending and receiving private messages – but nothing stops young users from faking their age. Be sure to adjust the app's settings and let your child know that they can come to you if they've had a bad experience which has involved being contacted by a stranger. **Risky challenges:** The social media platform is famous for spawning viral challenges which are a big draw for many users.





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Help and Advice in the Holidays

We all know how stressful the school holidays can usually be but this year could be especially difficult for many families. Some children have already been at home for many weeks with families facing many different challenges.

The Wakefield Early Help Directory has been set up to help signpost parents to help and advice so that they have somewhere to turn to outside their homes. It is very user friendly, is in alphabetical order and has a wide variety of information and numbers listed.

Should you feel you need anything in the holidays, while schools are closed, please take a look using the link below (this can also be found on the school website) – it could be just what you need!



<http://earlyhelp.wakefield.gov.uk/early-helpdirectory/>

Finally, make sure you enjoy the time at home with your families and we will see you in the new academic year!

SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS

As always, keeping our children safe online is vitally important and taking the steps outlined above will help you to do so. Remember if you wish to discuss anything regarding safeguarding then please use our email address safeguarding@stjamesacademy.co.uk or contact Miss Minor, our Designated Safeguarding Lead. You can also contact Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Butterworth, Mrs Hambleton or Miss Hirst with regards to this.

