



16 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

E-SAFETY TIKTOK FOLLOW UP

As a follow up to our recent communication home regarding WhatsApp and TikTok, please see below some additional information regarding TikTok accounts. There are a growing number of TikTok accounts that are emerging nationally, as you may have read about in the press. TikTok allows people to upload their videos/images for the public to view. Nationally, whilst the vast majority of these videos are not offensive, threatening or discriminatory, it is recognised that a growing minority do breach the Malicious Communication Act 1988.

In order to ensure our students are well informed about the implications of downloading, commenting on or following TikTok accounts, it is vitally important that your child understands what the Malicious Communication Act of 1998 is, (please see below).

Any person who sends to another person:

- (a) *a letter, electronic communication or article of any description which conveys—
 - (i) a message which is indecent or grossly offensive;
 - (ii) a threat; or
 - (iii) information which is false and known or believed to be false by the sender; or*
- (b) *any article or electronic communication which is, in whole or part, of an indecent or grossly (really) offensive nature, is guilty of an offence if their purpose, or one of their purposes is to cause distress or anxiety to the recipient or to any other person to whom he intends that it or its contents or nature should be communicated.*

We are certain that the vast majority of our students do not have a TikTok account and certainly do not upload or comment on inappropriate images or videos. We would **strongly advise** all students that if they have made or are following TikTok accounts, tagged a friend or have commented on an image or video, our advice is for them to 'unfollow' these accounts and delete the comments. This will ensure your son/daughter is not dragged into any police action following a video that breaks the malicious Communication Act 1998.

If under the age of 18, TikTok users must be supervised by a parent or carer.

Thank you for your continued support. I have again attached the TikTok parent guide.

Mr D Vile
Assistant Head teacher