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## MARSH HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 18, 2022

Dear parents/carers,

There are lots of benefits to social networking for our pupils. They can allow users to stay connected with friends and family. They can also provide opportunitites to learn many different things, from make-up or gaming tutorials to making slime, or how to create their own videos.

Like most things, there can be negatives too. For children and young people, there are risks that you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe on social media.

In recent days, it has become apparent that many of our Year 6 pupils are using TikTok to communicate with each other outside of school hours. In some instances, exchanges between pupils have been acceptable: comments have been pleasant, kind and appropriate for the conversation. However, there have also been exchanges that are unkind and inappropriate.

It also seems that a number of fake accounts have been created using our school's name within the account title. I would like to take this opportunity to state that we do not have an official TikTok account for school.

As a reminder to parents/carers, the age restriction for TikTok is 13+ years old. I strongly advise that you speak with your child about the use of TikTok, and monitor how your child is interacting with other pupils online if they have registered with the platform.

The NSPCC's website provides a wealth of information relating to online safety. Please visit <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/social-media/</a> if you require further information regarding the safe and appropriate use of social media platforms.

Kind regards,

Mrs Clover Assistant Head Teacher





















