



6 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Online Safety and Social Media Use (TikTok) for all Year 10 students.

I am writing to you today to seek your support regarding our students' safe and responsible use of social media at home.

As you know, our school operates a strict policy prohibiting the use of mobile phones on school grounds to ensure a safe, focused, and distraction-free environment for learning. However, we have recently been made aware of an increasing number of incidents taking place **outside** of school hours involving the social media platform **TikTok**.

Specifically, we are aware of several anonymous or shared accounts being created by students at home over the Summer holiday, where unkind, hurtful, and inappropriate comments are being posted. Because these accounts are created anonymously, it is often difficult to identify who owns them or who is submitting content.

While these activities take place outside of school hours and off school site, the impact inevitably spills over into school life, causing distress, anxiety, and disruption to our students' well-being and friendships.

We care deeply about the emotional safety and mental well-being of all our students, and we need your help to address this issue effectively. We kindly ask that you take the following steps at home:

1. **Monitor Account & Device Usage:** Regularly check your daughter's phone, privacy settings, and active social media apps, including TikTok. Please ensure you are aware of any secondary or hidden accounts ("alt" accounts) she may have set up.
2. **Review Age Restrictions:** Whilst TikTok's minimum user age is 13, if you feel she is not yet mature enough to navigate online interactions safely, we strongly encourage you to delay access to these platforms.
3. **Have an Open Conversation:** Talk to your daughter about the real-world impact of cyberbullying and unkind words online. Remind her that even "anonymous" posting can often be traced and can have serious social and school consequences.
4. **Utilise Family Safety Features:** TikTok offers a **Family Pairing** feature that allows parents to link their account to their child's to manage screen time, restrict direct messaging, and limit exposure to inappropriate content.

We continue to address online kindness, and safe internet use through our curriculum and assemblies. However, parental supervision at home is essential to ensuring these negative online behaviors do not take root.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our students safe online.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Taylor
Head of Year 10