



17.11.22

## Message from the Head teacher

Dear All,

I would like to thank you all this morning for your cooperation, there is never a right time for a power cut and a power cut at 8.22am was not helpful.

After contacting the National Grid and our Electricity provider - we were told that they could not guarantee power soon, giving us a prediction of 10am, with this in mind and with no means to heat the building, fire alarm the building and cook the school dinners I had to make the unfortunate decision to close the school, and I am sure that you all appreciate that this was not an easy choice to make.

I had been looking forward to celebrating 'Children in Need' with the children; anticipating a fun packed afternoon with music, dancing and singing in the school hall. The event will still go ahead, and the school council will lead the celebrations on **Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> November**, please come to school dressed in your spots!

Once again thank you for your support and understanding today.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards

Mrs Dedman

## Dates for the Diary

Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	TRUST INSET DAT: SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2022	Children in Need Bring a pound and any spare change and Come dressed in your spots!
Thursday, 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	SEND Parents Forum @ 3.30 p.m.
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	CAFOD Bring a £1 wear non uniform and help to raise money for CAFOD
Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	2.00 p.m. Advent Mass
Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Year 5 Parents to join us for dinner. More information to follow.
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022	Non-Uniform day - bring a food / toiletry item for the gift hampers. 7.30 p.m. Menphys Concert at De-Montfort Hall
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	9.30 a.m. EYFS Christmas Nativity FOSJ Christmas Disco
Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December	3.15 p.m. School closes for the Christmas holidays



## Safeguarding

As you will be spending the next couple of days at home, please keep a close eye on how your children are communicating online. Check out the posters, included in this letter, as we continue to educate and support our children in learning how to build a safer digital world.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide houses one page of every child's before trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) for further advice, tips and links for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a super space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without an internet connection. While the platform has a strict age-restriction policy (users must be at least 18 to create an account and a verified age of 18), children can still find inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

## CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with others (usually unknown to them). Account holders can leave comments on any video they have seen, as well as connect with other users. Connecting with strangers online, and with little care, can be risky. Children are being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to grooming and sexual predators.

## SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched. These recommendations can be helpful but can also lead to inappropriate content. Children are being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to grooming and sexual predators.

## ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from recommending content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual content) to children. To prevent your child from changing Restricted Mode, you need to log in as the parent. We would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on all devices your child uses to access YouTube.

### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media profiles. Encourage your child to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier for them to understand the risks. Encourage your child to follow a particular creator. It also helps to ensure that your child is aware of the creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### Meet Our Expert

Chris Gordon (aka: LondonVox) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2016, providing reviews with expert commentary and gaming guides. This is the career of a young person who has been working on video games and gaming since they were a child.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) @nationalsafeschoolsafety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide houses one page of every child's before trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) for further advice, tips and links for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

Snapchat is a photo- and video-sharing app which allows users to chat with friends via text or audio. Users can share images and videos with specific friends, or through a story (documenting the previous 24 hours) visible to their entire friend list. Snapchat usage rose during the pandemic, with many young people using it to connect with their peers. The app continues to develop features to engage an even larger audience and emulate current trends, rivaling platforms such as TikTok and Instagram.

## CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

Even if your child only connects on the app with people they know, they can still connect with strangers. Snapchat's link with apps like WhatsApp and Instagram has increased the possibility. Accepting a request means that children are sending personal information through the story, Snapcode and Spotlight feature. A child could be persuaded to give their trust for their own purposes.

## EXCESSIVE USE

There are many features that are attractive to users and keep them hooked. Snapcode, app, Snap streaks encourage users to send snaps and Spotlight Challenges give users the chance to obtain money and online fame, and the Spotlight feature a series of challenges that can lead to spend hours watching content.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some videos and posts on Snapchat are not suitable for children. The app's content is determined by the user's age and the content they are viewing. Discover function lets users swipe through snippets of new stories and trending content that they can watch. There is a 'Discover' button on the app which is currently a way to turn off this feature.

## ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

### TURN OFF QUICK ADD

The Quick Add function helps people find new friends. It uses a list of function words based on mutual friends or whether someone's number is in your child's contacts list. Explain to your child that this feature could potentially make their profile visible to strangers. We recommend that your child turn off Quick Add, which can be done in the settings (accessed via the cog icon).

### CHOOSE GOOD CONNECTIONS

Snapchat has recently announced that it will be adding a new feature called 'Close Friends'. This will allow users to select a small group of people they are closest to and share snaps with. This is a good idea as it allows users to share snaps with people they trust and are comfortable with. We recommend that your child only adds friends they know and trust.

### TALK ABOUT SEXING

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and it is) but it is important to talk openly and non-judgmentally about sexing. Discuss the legal implications of sending, receiving or sharing explicit images or videos. Emphasise that your child should never feel pressured into sexing. If they do, they should tell a trusted adult straight away.

### CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

Talk to your child about what is and isn't appropriate to share. Snapchat (a social media app) doesn't post explicit images or videos, or display identifiable content like their school uniform. Remind them that once something is posted, it can be seen by anyone. Snapchat's 'Spotlight' feature has a challenge where it's all about your child's content. It's important to have a conversation about the potentially harmful consequences of taking part in these challenges.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr. Sarah-Jane Hill is a social media consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written several academic papers and consulted on research for the Australian government concerning internet use and online safety of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) @nationalsafeschoolsafety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide houses one page of every child's before trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) for further advice, tips and links for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TIKTOK

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-synching and dancing to popular songs or soundclips. Often for comedy, TikTok has become a place where users can share their own content. It has become a place where users can share their own content. It has become a place where users can share their own content.

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most content on TikTok is light-hearted and amusing. However, there is a small amount of content that is not suitable for children. This can include drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual content. Children are being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to grooming and sexual predators.

## EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-synching and dancing to popular songs or soundclips. Often for comedy, TikTok has become a place where users can share their own content. It has become a place where users can share their own content.

## TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities. Charli D'Amelio and Li Hua, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok. They have millions of followers and are being promoted by the app. Children are being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to grooming and sexual predators.

## ADVICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they are watching. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they should give up personal details in videos and why they should be careful about who they follow. Encourage your child to follow a particular creator. It also helps to ensure that your child is aware of the creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

'Family Pairing' lets parents and carers link their own TikTok accounts to their child's. Through this, you can control your child's safety settings, restrict their ability to change messages (and with whom) and block a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

### Meet Our Expert

Purnima is a social media expert and digital media consultant who has provided expert advice and guidance for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media world and has worked with many organisations to help parents and children thrive in a digital world.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) @nationalsafeschoolsafety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide houses one page of every child's before trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) for further advice, tips and links for adults.

# ONLINE CONTENT

## 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.

- MONITOR VIEWING HABITS**  
Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.
- CHECK ONLINE CONTENT**  
Understand what's being shared or what seems to be trending at the moment.
- CHECK AGE-RATINGS**  
Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age limit.
- CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS**  
Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.
- SPEND TIME ON THE APP**  
Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.
- LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE**  
Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.
- LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK**  
Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.
- ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING**  
Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.
- KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE**  
If a child is expressing distressing material online, listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.
- SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT**  
If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com](http://www.nationalsafeschoolsafety.com) @nationalsafeschoolsafety

If you are concerned about the safety and welfare of a child in Leicester, please contact us using the details below:

Telephone: 0116 454 1004 (24-hour service) or contact the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Visit: Customer Service Centre, 91 Granby Street, LE1 6FB to call us from a free telephone.



