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23rd April 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Important Information TikTok App – NATIONAL RAPE DAY – 24th April 2021

We have been made aware that the social media platform TikTok is being used to promote sexual violence and assault. Pupils in some of the local secondary schools have seen this video on TikTok and North Wales Police, NSPCC and Barnardos are already involved.

Primary schools, along with Wrexham Children Services, are opposed to KS3 children having access to any social media platforms until they meet the minimum age requirement, and they are mature enough to safeguard themselves appropriately on the platform. At this time, the age restriction on TikTok is 13. However, we are aware that some of our pupils have either direct access to this app on their own device, or use a sibling's device, and as such we ask that you are extra vigilant and check your child's phone regularly.

We have spoken to all children in KS3 about the dangers of using social media and have asked that they inform a trusted adult, either at home or in school, if they see something that causes them to feel scared, uncomfortable or confused in any way. We have not shared the specifics of this awful campaign as we do not want to scare the children or encourage those who may be curious, to try and locate the video.

If your child does have the TikTok app, there are permissions that can be set up to try and restrict some of the content that they see. I have also included a link to a report from the BBC that shows how to link your account (if you have a TikTok account) to your child's account so you can monitor and control what they see. However, there is no guarantee that this will stop all inappropriate video feeds to their account. The overall feeling from the relevant children's charities, is that TikTok is not an appropriate platform even for children aged 13.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-51561050>

If, after reading this, you wish to delete the TikTok app you can do this by: Opening the **TikTok** app. Tap the profile button in the bottom-right corner of the app and select the three-dot menu in the right-hand corner. Tap Manage my account and then **Delete** account at the bottom of the page.

If you have any concerns relating to your child using social media and would like some advice or support, please contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Slinn Headteacher

