



## **Hardy Mill Online Safety Newsletter – Autumn 2019**



This is the Tiktok special edition of our Online Safety News Letter – read on to find out more about this increasingly popular, free app, which a number of Hardy Mill pupils use. Here's what it's all about, according to our Digital Leaders.

### **What is Tiktok?**

Tiktok is an app where people can video themselves and add popular music in the background to make a funny, entertaining piece of digital creation, so people appear to be lip syncing. This has previously been known as Music:ly.

### **Age restriction and privacy settings**

To have a Tiktok account, children **MUST** be aged 13 or over, with parental permission. This rating is put in place to keep children safe online, especially in online areas where there are lots of teenagers and adult content, such as swearing. Tiktok have created a kids friendly section, where content is appropriate for children. To access the child-friendly section, children simply need to enter their correct birth date, which will block any adult content from their view. **If your child is using this app, please check that they are using their correct date of birth or they may be able to access adult content that is inappropriate.**

If children are using an account, this should be set to private to ensure online safety. To make an account private, follow these steps:

1. Click on edit profile
2. Click the 3 dots in the corner
3. Manage my account and privacy settings
4. Make a private account (slide across to select) This means people can request to follow an account, but the account holder will be able to accept or decline followers.

Comments can also be turned off, to avoid any unpleasant messages from others. If someone is commenting in a way that makes users uncomfortable, Tiktok users can click the inappropriate comment, select the report option, then select why this needs to be reported.

### **Find out more**

Common sense media have some useful information on Tiktok, please visit <https://www.common sense media.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-musically> to find out more.

### **Recommended, safe accounts to follow**

If your child is using Tiktok, there are a number of safe accounts for them to follow, including:

@Shaune, @iamjordi, @sebastianbailes, @laurengodwin, @philwgreen

These account mime different, funny songs, using costumes, with appropriate language. Some complete pranks, so make sure these are watched rather than repeated!