




Tudor Grange Academy
Kingshurst



 Sixth Form

Sixth Sense

Which Week?

This Week: Monday 5th Nov (Week 2)

Next Week: Monday 12th Dec (Week 1)



Be More Like 'Japan'?

As the 2022 World Cup continues to progress and we find ourselves (at the point of writing), through to the Last 16 countries (fingers crossed for Sunday/yesterday!), I wanted to celebrate the mens football team from Japan for not just their standard of football (beating Germany 2-1 to go through to the last 16 also!), but for the standard of the behaviour that they have demonstrated also.

Having reflected on the **kindness** of the site team for setting up decorations in the Common Room last

week, again, something that was requested from the Student Voice group, it was disappointing to find some damage to some of these decorations whilst monitoring this space last week, that is not reflective of everyone's behaviour.

PLEASE remember that this is YOUR space, and one that we deliberately seek to provide you with independence and a degree of privacy within. In order to earn this, we require exceptional behaviour from you and an ability to work COLLECTIVELY to solve issues where everyone is responsible for putting their own litter in the bins or informing us of any accidents.

To return to the original focus of the Japanese football team, they received tremendous attention during the week for the manner in which they left their changing room following their match against Germany, and as such, **enhanced the reputation of the team and thoughtful and well behaved manner of the team members through the changing room being left absolutely spotless condition in addition to the thoughtful nature of leaving several origami 'peace cranes' on the table in the centre of the room**, a symbol that has a strong identity in both Japan and indeed globally for symbolising peace and dates back to the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima in 1945.

Reputation matters and good behaviour matters, wherever you are and whatever you are doing, and as ever, it costs nothing to demonstrate this through taking our coats off indoors, opening doors for one another and being responsible for our own items.

Digital Footprint

Massive thanks to Mr Bartlam for leading one of our most recent assemblies regarding 'digital footprints' that coincides brilliantly with the current focus on remaining safe online for all students within the Academy.

An electronic copy of this will be available via the Sixth Form Newsletter page on the TGAK website at: <https://www.kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-newsletter/>



**National
Online
Safety®**

At the moment, all Academy staff are in the process of completing an online course to demonstrate our commitment to this. Remaining safe online

involves a variety of skills to identify risk and remain 'safe'. As we approach the Christmas holiday, where all of you will have greater time using your own devices, we will be offering a series of information on Page 2 of Sixth Sense over the next few weeks in order to provide you, in addition to parents and careers with this information to enable everyone to stay safe. These are designed with all year groups in mind by NOS, that will be evident when you look at this information.

For any feedback, please email: (Yr12) Mr Curran: ccurran@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk, (Yr13) Miss Foster: jfoster@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk;

(Learning Mentor) Ms Akhtar: norakhtar@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk, Mr Bowers: jbowers@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk (Director of Sixth Form)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

TikTok is a free social media platform that lets users create, share and watch short videos ranging anywhere from 15 seconds to 10 minutes in duration. The app gained notoriety for its viral dances, trends and celebrity cameos and can be a creative, fun platform for teens to enjoy. Now available in 75 languages, it has more than a billion active users worldwide (as of spring 2022) and is most popular with the under-16 age bracket. In fact, a 2022 Ofcom report found TikTok to be the most-used social media platform for posting content, particularly among young people aged 12 to 17.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's "Following" feed only displays videos from users someone follows, "For You" is a stream of clips based on their previously watched content. Most videos on a child's "For You" feed will therefore be light-hearted and amusing, but it could potentially surface something unsuitable. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the sheer volume of uploads mean they aren't manually monitored and vetted.

18

CENSORED

DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Due to TikTok's immense popularity, some young people have unfortunately been influenced by videos challenging them to perform harmful, criminal or even deadly acts. One extreme example was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. It led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With around 1.1 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or youngsters using a false date of birth) are set to public by default. This not only means that someone's profile is visible to everyone else on the app; it also lets their videos be suggested to others and enables anyone to comment on them or download them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase emojis in the app. These emojis are then sent as rewards (retaining their monetary value) to other users for videos they've created. Coin bundles range from £9.99 to an eye-watering £99; TikTok's policy is that they can't be bought by under-18s, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birthdate.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social networking platforms, TikTok can be addictive; figures show that young people are investing increasing amounts of time in it. In the UK, children with TikTok spend an average of 102 minutes per day on the app, versus 53 minutes on YouTube. This compulsive repeated use can interfere with their sleep patterns – leading to irritability – and distract them from other activities.

TIKTOK NOW

Introduced in late 2022, the 'TikTok Now' feature lets users post a daily video or photo at the exact same time as their friends. Users receive a synchronised notification at a random time of day, giving them three minutes to take a video or real-time photo. This addition can not only be a distraction to young people but could lead to them inadvertently sharing private content such as their location.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account with their child's and control their settings remotely. Parents can then, for example, turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content); set screen time limits; and manage their child's ability to send messages (and to whom). Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

MAKE ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Although under-16s will have their TikTok account set to private by default, bypassing this setting is relatively easy. However, parents have the ability to manually set their child's account to private – meaning that their videos won't be visible to strangers and they won't be able to exchange messages with people who aren't on their friends list.

LIMIT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter the settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend that you enable this feature, as it's quite easy for a young person – without realising what they're doing – to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins so they can unlock more features of the app.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If your child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's crucial to talk about the potential risks in this type of app. For example, ensure they understand not to share any identifying personal information – and that they realise they could be exposed to inappropriate content. Thinking critically about what they see on TikTok can help children become generally more social media savvy.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something inappropriate or upsetting that they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the possible signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as are failing to complete homework or regularly not eating meals.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



National
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#WakeUpWednesday



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