

# **Bredon Hill Academy**

# **Safeguarding and Wellbeing** Newsletter



Autumn Term

2020

# Safeguarding Our Children Together

Welcome to the third edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter. With our pupils spending an increasing amount of time on an electronic device, we would like to share with you some useful information with you about how to keep you and your family safe online.

We recently carried out a hands up survey with some of our students asking them:

#### "Do your grown ups have an app that allows them to monitor your device use?"

The results showed that only 17% of pupils surveyed were aware of an app their parents had that monitored/controlled their device usage. We are aware that this is a topic that divides many of us, however in recent months we have seen an increase in potential grooming cases due to lockdown and increased vulnerability of some families and young people. Monitoring electronic device usage plays an extremely important role in keeping young people safe online.

### **Parental Control Apps**

Many parents and carers monitor their child's device use in ways which suit and work for them. Research shows that having an open and honest relationship with your child about what they do online is the best way to keep them safe, however Parental Control Apps can support this by allowing parents and carers to both monitor and restrict what is downloaded on to a device, limit screen time and even check messages. Some of the following apps have been recommended to us:

**Google Family Link:** 





Qustodio:



### BBC Panorama: Is TikTok Safe?

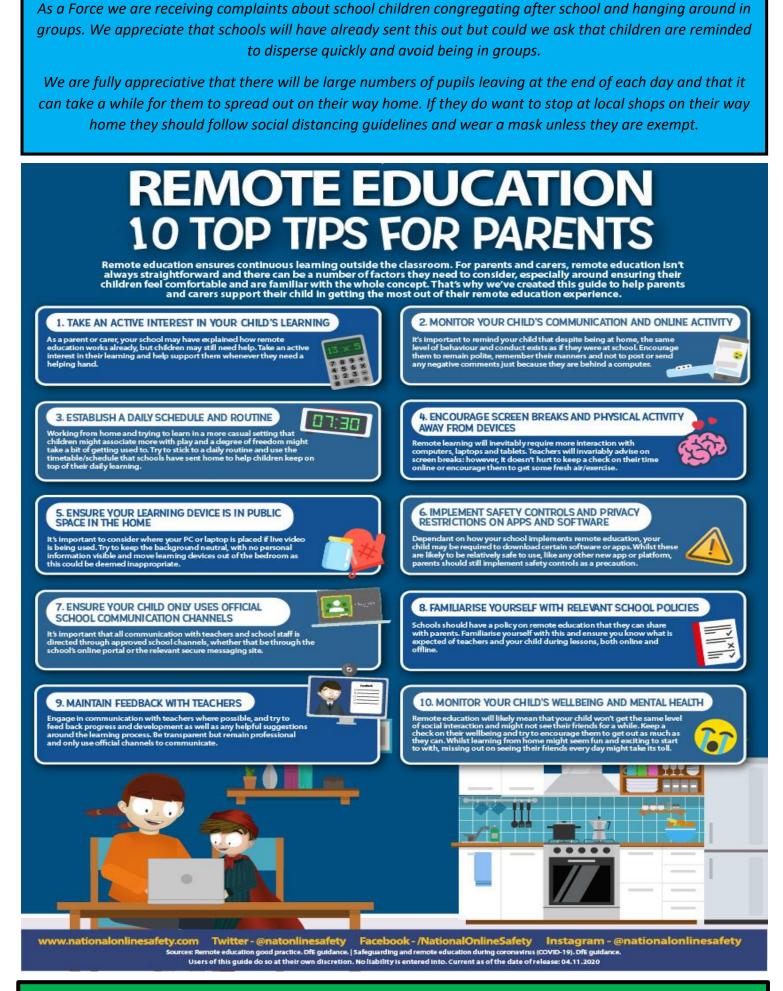
Whilst many of us support the safe use of Social Media, there are some platforms that are more dangerous than others. The Chinese based app TikTok (banned in some countries) has been subject to a BBC Panorama investigation as many of its users can get exposed to violent, pornographic and ageinappropriate videos through clever use of artificial intelligence. Although videos can often be playful and funny to watch, users have very little control over what content is shared with them and within seconds content can very quickly become inappropriate. To watch the full episode on the BBC iPlayer, click on the following link:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b006t14n/panorama

\*\*REMINDER, AGE RESTRICTION ON TIKTOK IS 13\*\*

**Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs K Dunkley** 

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Miss D West and Mr S Timpson



Message From West Mercia Police

BOLICE

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs K Dunkley

POLICE

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Miss D West and Mr S Timpson