

Welcome to the Ercall Wood Safeguarding Bulletin

Issue 1

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For the uninitiated, usually by lip-synching or dancing along with top songs. You can share the videos you create with friends, or with a wider circle of TikTok users. Every few years, a new app redefines the way we use social media. 2020

is looking like the year that TikTok takes over. TikTok is still undiscovered territory for anyone over the age of 25. Extremely popular with [Generation Z](#), TikTok is a glimpse into what it means to be growing up in today's hyper-connected world. The vast majority of [users on Facebook today at aged 40 plus](#), while Instagram is more popular with users aged 20-40. TikTok is named Douyin in China, and currently has a userbase of over 250 Million users. In the rest of the world, the app is called TikTok and is available in 154 countries worldwide.

The kids love it. Everybody else says it's a waste of time. But there's no denying its popularity. The biggest draw of TikTok is the ability to post about anything. Humor, hobbies, fitness, travel, music, photography, dance; every category is open and gaining huge attention. Each area is offering exposure for those that can adapt their content to the short-form video model.

What should I look out for?

User profiles which talk about 'trading' or swapping pictures/videos

Use of emojis that are commonly considered to be sexually suggestive (such as the aubergine)

Hashtags, such as #trade4trade, which clearly suggest the user is looking to trade illicit content

The lyrical content of some songs – parents have raised concerns that it's not always age-appropriate

Users cannot exchange images and videos via in-app messaging, but once they've made contact they move on to another platform to trade, such as Snapchat.

TikTok has taken steps to remove users who it suspects are soliciting underage users. However, there are still many suggestive profiles and TikTok has committed to almost doubling the number of content moderators it employs to 10,000 to address this.

Parent support sheet –

<https://safeguarding.thekeysupport.com/factsheets-and-briefings/child-safety-tiktok-parent-factsheet/>

Acronyms

CSE – Child Sexual Exploitation

ICPC – Initial Child Protection Conference

LADO – Local Authority Designated Officer

Rapid support for children and young people affected by the coronavirus crisis (Barnardos/DfE)

Barnardos has launched a new scheme to help young people affected by the coronavirus crisis. The See, Hear, Respond Partnership will quickly identify and support children, young people and families who are struggling to cope with the impacts of coronavirus. Its aim is to provide early intervention before these children reach the threshold for statutory intervention.

See, Hear, Respond does not replace your usual referral process for children who meet a statutory threshold for significant harm: such referrals must be made to your local authority safeguarding team using your usual safeguarding procedures.

Barnardos say they 'especially want to invite referrals for families who are most isolated from support due to Covid-19, including:

- Under 5s with a specific focus on under 2s
- Those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and where there are concerns about their welfare e.g. online safety
- Children and young people experiencing anxiety, stress and other mental health difficulties
- Children who may be at increased risk of abuse, neglect and exploitation inside or outside of the home
- Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee children who experience barriers to accessing services
 - Young carers

You can find more information and a referral form here:

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/s...>

parent sends their child with COVID-19 symptoms to school? (GP Online)

The situation with Covid-19 is extremely fluid and full of unknowns. I've just taken my son back to University, so goodness know how that will pan out.

I came across this article from the magazine, GP Online, which gives an 'insider's' view on doctor's options 'if parents are refusing to follow advice on testing and self-isolating and continuing to send their child to school despite them having symptoms of COVID-19'.

Read the article here: <https://www.gponline.com/gp-dilemma-i-parent-sends-child-covid-19-symptoms-school/article/1695092>

KIDS in Tayside and Fife could be buying gummy bear sweets containing cannabis, according to Kinross police.



Cops have confirmed they are looking into the latest drugs trend, after 'CBD gummies' became popular in other countries.

Cannabidiol (CBD) is one of 144 identified cannabinoids found in marijuana plants.

It's often used in oil form or as an edible for pain relief or to ease mental health issues like anxiety, stress and depression.

While some of these products are legal in Scotland, there are fears drug bosses are substituting cheap and illegal synthetic marijuana for natural CBD in vapes and foodstuffs like gummy bears – which have proven particularly popular with children.



Yours sincerely,

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