



Safeguarding and Mental Health Newsletter

March 2023



Welcome to our first edition of The Skills Hub Newsletter. Our aim is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you. In this issue, we talk about Safer Internet Day, outlining some invaluable guidance and advice about how to keep your children safe online.

We would like to take this opportunity to stay engaged with you all through our community and share vital information.

Please let us know about any areas of information that you would like us to share with you in the future.,

The Community Hub

On Families Day, April 19th, we will be using this opportunity to gain information and feedback from Parent/Carer's about our parental engagement initiative. We would welcome your feedback so we can start launching our Parental Hub once a term for you all.

TIKTOK NOW – NEW FEATURE RELEASED

TikTok has released a new feature within their app called 'TikTok Now'. Safety experts from INEQE have investigated what TikTok Now is and if there are any safeguarding concerns.

TikTok describes the new feature as: *'TikTok Now invites you and your friends to capture what you're doing in the moment using your device's front and back camera. You'll receive a daily prompt to capture a 10-second video or a static photo to easily share what you're up to'*

What are TikTok Now's Safety features?

- By default, TikTok Now posts are private and only shown to friends and followers.
- The option to show to everyone is not available to users under 18 years old.
- To 'protect against unwanted interactions', TikTok say people between 13- to 15-years-old will only be able to post comments on their friends' photos or videos.

However, online safety experts have found that accounts for under 18-year-olds could view, comment, and interact with strangers' posts.

What are the Safeguarding risks?

- Pressure from Peers
- Oversharing
- FOMO
- Weak age verification
- Interactions with strangers

For more information see

<https://ineqe.com/2022/11/28/being-real-on-tiktoknow/>

Attendance

Attendance is an essential component to a student's academic success. We want to do our best to work with you to ensure that your child can achieve their best attendance possible.

Punctuality is Key

Students are expected to arrive at **9.15-9.45**
Breakfast is provided to all students that arrive on time.

Free tuck is available each breaktime for students that arrive on time.

If your child has arrived at school on time, they will be entered into a **merit** draw every morning to win a **£10 voucher** every Friday.

Traffic Light System



Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Every day is important. Good attendance

Contact details of support services for parents/carers of students with SEND

Groups and organisations

Hillingdon SENDIASS – is a free, confidential and impartial support service for parents and carers, children and young people up to 25 years old, where the child or young person may have special educational needs

Contact (previously known as Contact a Family) - a national charity that supports families of disabled children.

Hillingdon Parents Carers' Forum - a group of parents and carers of children and young people with learning difficulties, disabilities or additional needs, who aim to represent the views of parents and carers to help influence the way local services are delivered

Hillingdon Autistics Care and Support (HACs) – a charity providing support for children with a diagnosis of autism and their families.

CAAS Centre for ADHD and Autism Support - CAAS provides support and understanding in a safe and non-judgemental environment. As well as having relevant qualifications, the personal experience of staff along with empathy and understanding, allows our clients to feel a sense of belonging when they access the centre. We provide a comprehensive service that acknowledges that clients need support pre- and post- diagnosis. We believe in early support rather than crisis management and our holistic approach encompasses the whole family.

Website: <https://adhdandautism.org/>

Programmes and workshops

Expert Parent Programme - maps out the current health system specifically to the needs of children and young people with special needs or disabilities (diagnosed or un-diagnosed) and enables parent/carers to better understand and navigate it.