



**THE HART
SCHOOL**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

HGD/SHN/RSA

2 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting students and families with online safety, we would like to share some helpful information about the use of **TikTok** and **TikTok Shop**.

We recognise that social media can be a positive part of young people's lives, providing opportunities to be creative, connect with others and enjoy content linked to their interests. At the same time, navigating the online world can sometimes be challenging, and young people may come across inappropriate content, online scams, unwanted contact or encouragement to make purchases.

Working together with families is an important part of helping our young people develop safe and healthy online habits. We therefore encourage parents and carers to have regular, open conversations with their child about their online experiences and the platforms they use. It may be helpful for parents and carers to be aware that:

- TikTok has a minimum age requirement of **13 years**.
- Some TikTok features are restricted for younger users.
- TikTok Shop is intended for users aged **18 and over**.
- TikTok's **Family Pairing** feature provides parents and carers with additional options to support their child, including managing screen time, privacy settings, messaging permissions, content restrictions and notifications.

The UK Government has also recently announced plans for further measures designed to strengthen protections for children online. As these changes develop, we will continue to share relevant information and guidance with families.

To help parents and carers feel informed and confident in supporting their children online, we will be hosting two parent workshops:

- **19 November 2026 – Preparing for the Ban**
- **3 December 2026 – Parenting in the Digital World**

These sessions will provide practical information and guidance around social media, online safety, parental controls and supporting young people to develop positive and healthy digital habits. We would be delighted to welcome parents and carers who would like to find out more, ask questions or access additional support.



If you would like any further information about the workshops, social media use or online safety more generally, please contact our Family Support Worker, **Becky Williams**, at becky.williams@hartschool.org.uk.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for working in partnership with us to help our young people navigate the online world safely and positively.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heidi', is placed below the 'Kind Regards,' text.

Heidi Goodall
Assistant Principal - Safeguarding