



Archbishop Temple School

A Church of England Specialist College

10th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to make you aware of a recent Safeguarding Alert regarding a viral TikTok Video that was sent out via the Safer Schools App, in case some parents and carers have missed it. A recent video originating on Facebook Live depicting a man dying by suicide has made its way across popular social media platforms. Here is the information in the Alert sent by Safer Schools:

The Facts

- The video was **originally broadcast last week** on Facebook and shows a man ending his life
- The video shows the graphic depiction of his death and the emergency services responding. It will likely **distress anyone who watches** it, particularly children and young people
- Our team have reviewed a number of viral TikTok videos discussing the man's death, using pictures from the original video – there appears to be a number of accounts **asking where they can find the video**
- We have concerns that some TikTok users are **discussing how they 'felt nothing'** after seeing the video, which may push users toward the video to compare how they felt
- Links to the full video are **being circulated via TikTok and Instagram**

What you can do

- It's almost impossible to shield older children from news about traumatic events online, but you can show them the control they have in **managing what they see and how they react**
- Older children may be particularly skilled in finding information quickly, talking to them about how graphic content can spread quickly will **help them understand how viral content works**
- You should discuss **'any stories'** a young person may have seen today – **without directly naming the viral video**
- You should also talk about the **importance of being sensitive online**, and **not sharing** any graphic or distressing content for others to see
- If a young person is aware of the video, you should explain the benefit of **staying offline for a few hours** until the event passes
- Talk about what a young person would do if **they needed support for their mental health**

<https://ineqe.com/2020/09/08/tiktokalert/>

To download the Safer Schools App please visit the Apple App store and select download, then enter the pin code 7675.

Yours faithfully

Mrs McLean

Online Safety Coordinator

Faith + Nurture + Service

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