



DRIFFIELD  
SCHOOL  
& SIXTH FORM

# CORNERSTONES

CARE - PERSEVERANCE  
RESPECT - RESPONSIBILITY

## Personal Development at Driffield School

- To ensure students understand the benefits of looking after their mental and physical health
- To provide opportunities for students to access and remember for a lifetime
- To promote equality and diversity and respect difference
- To raise aspirations to achieve personal excellence



# ONE DRIFFIELD

## BE HERE - ATTENDANCE



Summer is just around the corner, and we know many of you are thinking about sunny getaways! But before you pack your suitcases, let's make sure we're all on the same page about school attendance.

### Why Every Day Counts

School isn't just about books and homework; it's about making memories, learning new skills, and spending time with friends. Every day your child is here, they're building confidence and getting ready for the next step in their journey.

### Holidays During Term Time

Thinking about sneaking off early for that summer adventure? Here's what you need to know:

- Holidays during term time are marked with a G code: this is an unauthorised absence code.
- Exceptions? They're super rare, but if you believe your situation is exceptional, you'll need to complete an Absence from School for Exceptional Circumstances form. These are available on the school website and should be submitted as soon as possible for consideration.

### Avoid Holiday Fines (and Stress!)

Did you know unauthorised absences can come with a fine? No one wants that! Fines apply per parent, per child, so let's keep things simple: plan your holidays for when schools out!

### Let's Finish the Year in Style

Here's how you can help us make the most of the term:

- Check term dates: avoid any booking surprises by keeping holidays in-line with school breaks.
- Talk to us early: if something unavoidable comes up, let us know as soon as possible.

We are planning some attendance rewards for the summer...watch out for our updates!

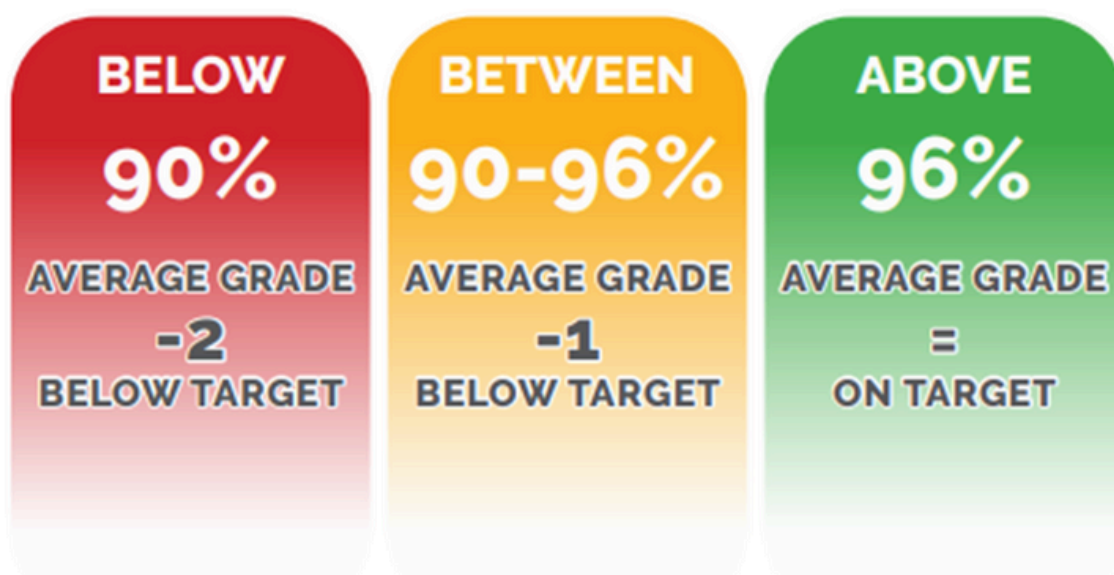
Thank you for your support in making sure every student can enjoy a strong finish to the school year. Let's soak up the sunshine and the knowledge this summer!

# ONE DRIFFIELD

## BE HERE - ATTENDANCE

### **YOUR ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

Attending every day at school and being on time to Tutor Time and lessons has a direct link to your progress. Last year, students with the following attendance percentages made this amount of progress in their GCSEs.



### **EVERY DAY COUNTS**

When you have periods of absence, this affects the amount of independent learning you will have to do in order to catch up with your peers. Having even one day off means missing five lessons, with potentially five different teachers across five different subjects:

99%	Excellent Attendance	2 Days Absence 10 Lessons Missed
97%	Good Attendance	5 Days Absence 25 Lessons Missed
95%	Low Attendance	10 Days Absence 50 Lessons Missed
93%	Low Attendance	15 Days Absence 75 Lessons Missed
90%	Significant Concern	20 Days Absence 100 Lessons Missed

### **SUCCESS DEMANDS PUNCTUALITY**

Lateness also contributes to missed contact time with your Tutor and teacher. Being on time sets you up for a purposeful start to the day and your lessons. Wherever possible, you should avoid being late so that you do not miss important activities and learning. These numbers are calculated across a whole school year:

0	Minutes Late Each Day	0 Hours Lost Achieve Your Best
5	Minutes Late Each Day	15 Hours Lost (3 Days)
10	Minutes Late Each Day	32.5 Hours Lost (6½ Days)
20	Minutes Late Each Day	65 Hours Lost (13 Days)
30	Minutes Late Each Day	95 Hours Lost (19 Days)

# ONE DRIFFIELD

## **Adolescence – Free Parent Resources**

You may have watched or be aware of the Netflix series Adolescence that has been widely discussed over the past couple of months. The show provides a powerful, and at times difficult, look at the digital pressures young people face online and the role that parents have to play in their digital wellbeing.

As a result, there has been a lot of, at times conflicting, advice for parents and schools around this topic.

Smoothwall, our partner in digital safety, have produced some excellent, high quality resources for parents. They are packed with practical advice, conversation starters, and useful insights to help parents navigate the various challenges the series bring to light.

From setting boundaries around screen time to processing upsetting online content, the resources are designed to give parents the tools and knowledge to take the next steps in supporting their child's digital wellbeing. The resources can be found through the link below;

<https://smoothwall.com/adolescence>



# CAREERS

## Careers Update May 2025

### Year 11 Applications

All students must have applied to their next destination and have a confirmed place for September 2025. If they require another careers appointment then they can attend a drop in the Careers Office any lunchtime Monday - Thursday. All students must also attend a taster day/evening at their chosen college/sixth form/or with their apprenticeship provider.

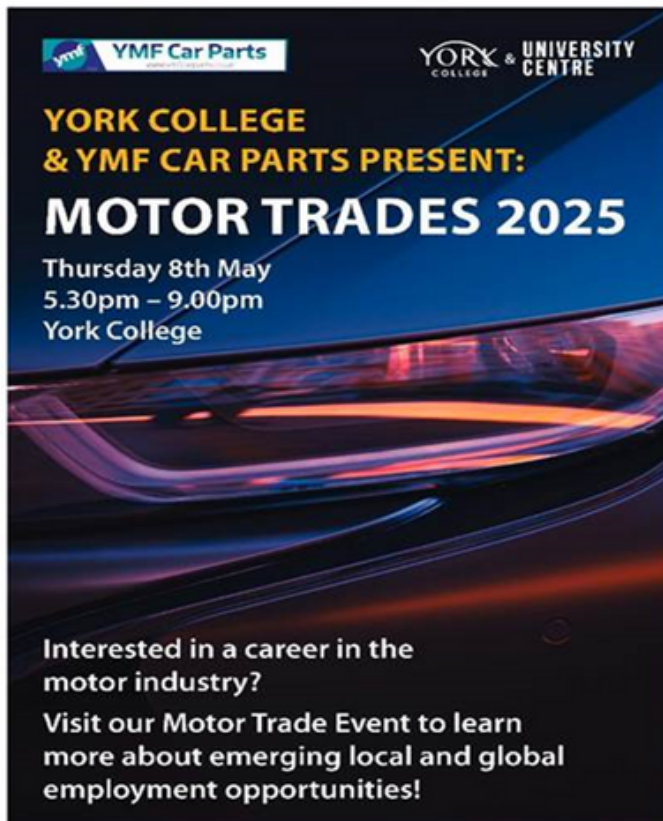
The next open events can be seen on Log On Move On – please follow this link [Latest Events](#)

### East Riding Libraries Poetry Competition

Congratulations to all our students who entered this competition. Driffield School and Sixth Form have won as a school and we will be welcoming into school the Poet Laureate Cassandra Parkin who will be running a workshop with students. Cassandra will talk about her career as a successful author, poet and speaker as part of this workshop.

### Motor Trades Event 2025 Thursday 8 May at York College

This is suitable for students from Y9 – Y13 or students that have left school. This area is very fast changing due to the emergence of different types of electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles and hydrogen powered vehicles.



YMF Car Parts  
YORK & UNIVERSITY CENTRE

**YORK COLLEGE  
& YMF CAR PARTS PRESENT:  
MOTOR TRADES 2025**

Thursday 8th May  
5.30pm – 9.00pm  
York College

Interested in a career in the motor industry?  
Visit our Motor Trade Event to learn more about emerging local and global employment opportunities!



**MOTOR TRADES 2025**

We are delighted to invite students in Years 9 – 13, and parents and carers to our York College and YMF Motor Trade Event 2025.

This event, held in association with the Institute of the Motor Industry, is ideal for students who have an interest in the motor industry and would like to learn more about emerging local and global employment opportunities!

**EVENT SCHEDULE**

5.30pm - 5.55pm	Institute of Motor Industry talk
6.00pm - 6.25pm	York College Motor Vehicle opportunities and progression routes
5.30pm – 9.00pm	A chance to meet 45 motor vehicle specialists and dealerships and view our state-of-the-art Motor Vehicle workshops

This event will provide students with a full knowledge of how the motor industry is developing, to help with their future career choices.

There is no need to book, just come along, attend our talks and visit the manufacturer stands.

Find out more 



MKT2926/03/25

# CAREERS

## Bishop Burton College Sustainable Futures Event Friday 27th June

This is for students in the current Y10 who wish to try out from the following subjects:

Agriculture  
Animal Care  
Countryside Management  
Engineering  
Construction  
Travel and Tourism

Students need to sign up with Holly Robinson in the Careers Office at break or lunchtimes. There are limited places.

Countryside Careers Evening at the Showground Thursday 22 May 4-8pm Free Entry and Free Parking

This is an excellent event suitable for all year groups, parents/carers and those students that have left school who are looking for an apprenticeship or employment. It is helpful for students who are also looking for a summer job or to network for their potential future career.

We encourage students to walk round and ask relevant questions linked to the business, ask about future potential training/apprenticeships and employment. It would be useful to discuss the types of roles of offer in their workplace. We encourage them to ask the exhibitors about their own career in the company and how their role has developed and changed over time. It is useful to talk to as many exhibitors as possible as there are many opportunities with companies that students may not know about.



**COUNTRYSIDE  
CAREERS  
EVENING  
AT DRIFFIELD SHOWGROUND**

**Thursday 22nd May 2025 4pm - 8pm**

**Could a career  
in the  
countryside  
be for you?**

- Over 50 regional, national, and international companies confirmed to attend the event.
- All companies are based in rural East Riding of Yorkshire.
- All participating companies & businesses are looking to recruit skilled professionals in the fields of agricultural, science, and laboratory work, as well as digital technology & IT.
- Real employees able to offer face-to-face promotion of opportunities, offering advice & guidance on career pathways.
- Information on further & higher education opportunities, & apprenticeships also available.
- Hot and Cold refreshments available.

**Driffield AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**FREE AND OPEN TO ALL**



The Showground, Kelleythorpe, Driffield, East Yorkshire, YO25 9FB • Web: [www.driffieldshowground.co.uk](http://www.driffieldshowground.co.uk)

# CAREERS

## Inclusive Careers Health and Social Care Expo

This is being run at the MKM Stadium from 4-7:00pm on 22 May. This is particularly useful for students in KS4 and 5 looking for an apprenticeship or parents/carers wishing to re-train.



**INCLUSIVE CAREERS HEALTH & CARE EXPO** Navigating Health and Care

**What's Involved?**

- ✓ Explore a wide range of careers in healthcare, social care, and allied professions
- ✓ Meet industry professionals and employers looking for interested people
- ✓ Learn about training, apprenticeships, and career pathways

**22nd May 2025**  
**4:00pm - 7:00pm**  
**Kingston Suite, MKM Stadium Hull**

**BOOK NOW**



## Parents/Carers VIP Careers Evening at the MKM Stadium 1 July 5:30-7:00pm

This is open to all parents/carers to listen to talks from top employers in our region. It will inform you of future apprenticeship opportunities and the different types of apprenticeships and training on offer. You will also learn about areas of skill shortages in our region and how these shortages impact on future pay and prospects.



**Hull & East Yorkshire CAREERS HUB** | **THE CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY**

### VIP PARENTS EVENING

Join us for an exciting Parents' Evening where our Cornerstone Group of Employers will be sharing insights into career pathways, skills for the future and opportunities in various industries.

FEATURES	EVENT DETAIL
✓ Hear from top employers about careers in diverse sectors.	 <b>Tuesday 1st July 2025</b>
✓ Explore information stands for apprenticeship insights.	 <b>Start at 5:30pm - 7:00pm</b>
✓ Learn about in-demand skills.	 <b>MKM Stadium, Hull. HU3 6HU</b>
✓ Get expert advice on how to support your child's journey.	

**BOOK YOUR SPOT**



# CAREERS

## **Free Online Choice Magazine**

This is a useful career magazine and guide for parents/carers to learn about apprenticeships and technical education. Follow the link here to access the Choice Magazine [April 2025 - Choices](#)

## **Free Army Careers Newsletter**

Follow the below link for careers update for the army, this includes local and regional opportunities.  
[April25-Soldier-Newsletter-Hull.pdf](#)

# PERSONAL AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

We are very proud of our personal and character development curriculum that is delivered through a number of sources; APEX, assemblies, tutor programme and through cross curricular themes within other subject areas. This curriculum supports young people become the best adults they can be and prepares them for future life and opportunities that will come their way.

It was particularly pleasing that was recognised in our recent Ofsted inspection;

*Students receive a great deal of support in their personal and character development. This is leading to excellent destination data, with several students going on to Russell Group universities. The personal development programme for pupils, which the school calls APEX (Achieving Personal Excellence), is strong. Pupils know how to stay safe and keep away from harmful behaviour. Pupils have been involved in national campaigns to support charities, such as those dedicated to improving mental health.*



# SCHOOL NEWS



## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK NEWSLETTER

### WHY IT MATTERS

#### LET'S TALK. LET'S LISTEN. LET'S CARE.

Mental Health Week is a time to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote mental well-being in our school community. This year, we're focusing on **self-care, connection, and building healthy mental habits.**

### SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Sometimes we all need extra support. Social prescribing can connect young people to activities, groups and further support in the community to improve overall wellbeing. We work in a person centred way, focusing on strengths young people already possess.

Referrals can be made via:


★ Your local GP


★ TEAL schools


★ Self referral via  
YHPs website.


### HELPFUL RESOURCES

These apps and websites are designed to support your mental health in fun ways:

 Calm Harm

 Headspace

 [Youngminds.co.uk](http://Youngminds.co.uk)

 [Themix.org.uk](http://Themix.org.uk)

### LOCAL SUPPORT

GOOLE - IN YOUR CORNER

HULL - THE WARREN, TIGERS  
TRUST

DRIFFIELD - DRIFFIELD YOUTH  
ACTION

BEVERLEY - LOLLIPOP LGBT  
SUPPORT

EAST RIDING - YOUNG LIVEWELL  
GYM PROGRAMME

### FILL YOUR CUP



HERE ARE EASY, EVERYDAY WAYS TEENS CAN PRACTICE SELF CARE:

☀️ **Get outside:** A 10 minute walk can lift your mood

📱 **Digital Detox:** Unplug for an hour daily

👤 **Connect:** Talk to a friend or family member

🛌 **Sleep hygiene:** Aim for 8-10 hours of sleep - your brain will thank you!

### NEED TO TALK?

Remember it's ok not to be ok. If you're struggling, reach out. You're never alone.

**Text:** SHOUT to 85258

**Call:** Hopeline on 08000684141

**Contact:** Childline 121 chat on their website or 0800 1111



# DRIFFIELD SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

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# NEWSLETTER

## HALF TERM 4

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### What will pupils be studying in APEX this half term?

#### Year 7:

##### **Mental Wellbeing**

Students will learn about mental health and well-being (including physical health and fitness) alongside discussions of physical changes and healthy lifestyles.

#### Year 8:

##### **Mental Wellbeing**

Students will learn about mental health and the importance of balancing physical and mental well-being with the ability to perceive, judge everyday situations rationally and make sound decisions.

#### Year 9:

##### **Mental Wellbeing**

Students will learn about the continued emphasis on mental health and well-being, alongside physical health and fitness. They will look at the effects of excessive screen time, eating disorders and negative body image on a healthy lifestyle.

#### Year 10:

##### **Healthy Living and Relationships**

Students will learn how to take care of their own health and well-being. This unit will focus on alcohol and binge drinking, drug abuse and self-harm. Students will learn about what behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable in a relationship. This unit will explore consent, harassment and domestic violence.

#### Year 11:

##### **Healthy Living and Relationships**

Students will learn how to take care of their own health through lessons on cancer prevention and screening as well as the learning about blood, stem cell and organ donation.

Students will further develop their knowledge on how to stay safe in relationships as well as choices around pregnancy and parenting.

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### Upcoming Events in APEX this half term:

This half term we have launched our unit on Mental Wellbeing. These lessons will build on the valuable work we have already done and introduce practical strategies that students can use in school and at home to support their emotional and mental wellbeing.

Throughout this last week, we have welcomed The Road Safety team from Humberside Fire and Rescue into Driffield School. They have delivered assemblies to all students explaining the importance of driver safety, even when you are a passenger.

Last week year 8 students took part in an educational session with the RNLI and Humberside Fire & Rescue to learn about the dangers of the water environment, with a focus on river jumping. They learnt what to do if they ever find themselves in a dangerous situation in water, especially if they are unable to get help immediately. The students thoroughly enjoyed this practical session and learnt some valuable, lifesaving skills.

Following on from our work with Kingsmill Sixth Form, we took two year 7 classes to Kingsmill main site, where they toured the facilities and explored the differences between the two schools. This visit built on our ongoing work around character and respect. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience, which was made even more special by a fantastic performance from the Kingsmill signing choir.

# SPOTLIGHT ON...

## BETH WING

I am so excited to be the new Head of Holtby. Since starting at Driffield School I have been a proud tutor of a Holtby form and have seen the house go from strength to strength and I am looking forward to leading Holtby to success in all areas. My first love was for teaching history, but as I have progressed in my career and have had the opportunity to work at some great schools and with the most amazing staff, I feel like I am ready to take on a new challenge in this pastoral role, supporting students in all aspects of school life.

Holtby have had a great Head of House in Mr Davison and I look forward to taking the baton and driving Holtby forward to be the best they can be and to achieve whatever they desire. I am a firm believer in always trying your best, that is all I can ever ask of the students and with this attitude I think the students of Holtby can go on to achieve great things.

I will always have an open door and a listening ear, and I can assure you that I will always do my best to support and guide you through your time here at Driffield School. I look forward to seeing you around school.



# SPOTLIGHT ON...

## OLIVIA WINDMILL

I'm absolutely thrilled to be joining the Johnson team as 'Head of House'! I have been a teacher for nine years working in English after being inspired to teach by our very own Mrs Loftus when she taught me for my A Level in English Language at South Hunsley. I'm now so excited to be taking on a new challenge and supporting students in this pastoral role.

A few facts about me: I'm a massive 'Swiftie' (so you can expect Taylor lyrics dropped into assemblies!), I have two gorgeous Border Terriers called Tiggy and Dexter, and I love baking – especially if there is a competition or charity bake sale to take part in. I can be very competitive and I will be bringing this energy into everything we do as a House. I want Johnson house to be the best it can possibly be – in kindness, in team spirit and in winning sports day!

I can't wait to get started and get to know all the students, parents and staff who make Johnson house so special. Let's show the rest of the school what we're made of!



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION  
**13+**

Instagram remains one of the world's most popular social media platforms, especially among teens – with around 70% of 13 to 17-year-olds using it. Owned by Meta, Instagram allows users to share photos and videos, create interactive 'stories', broadcast live, send private messages and follow others. With regular updates and new features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about how children are using the app – and what the risks are.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

### AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

### RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

### THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

### SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

### EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

### OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

### SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

### BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Adults tend to associate online videos with YouTube – but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a stream of short clips tailored to users' interests, based on what they've already watched. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while much of the content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where youngsters "were most likely to encounter a potential harm".

## AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

While TikTok's following feed only displays videos from familiar creators, for you is a collection based on a user's previously watched clips. Most of these videos will probably be inoffensive, but the app could potentially show something unsuitable. If children then engage with this content, more like it will follow. TikTok's guidelines prohibit the sharing of illegal or inappropriate content, but the huge number of uploads means that a small amount inevitably slips through.

## BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

According to Ofcom, most online harms for teens are body image related for girls (promoting unhealthy eating, body shaming and so on) and dangerous stunts for boys. Both are prevalent on TikTok. One extreme example of the latter was the 'blackout' trend, which encouraged users to hold their breath until they passed out from a lack of oxygen. This led to two families filing lawsuits against TikTok over the tragic deaths of their children.

## IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but users have the option to buy TikTok coins, which can be used to purchase gifts for content creators. Coin bundles range from £6.99 to an eye-watering £99, while that may not sound appealing, the app still generated £7.5 billion in user spending in 2023. TikTok's policy is that under-18s can't make in-app purchases, but it's possible to bypass this with a fake birth date.

## CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With more than 1.5 billion users globally, the potential for contact from strangers on TikTok is high – especially as accounts created by over-18s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and enables anyone to download or comment on them.

## MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

Although the short videos on TikTok tend to be more frivolous than the longer ones on YouTube, clips can still influence impressionable minds in a negative way. Not only is there plenty of dangerous misinformation on TikTok, but Ofcom reports that nearly a third of 12 to 15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source – so you should be wary of misogynistic, racist or conspiracy-themed material shaping how they see the world.

## ADDICTIVE DESIGN

With its constant stream of eye-catching videos, TikTok can be addictive to young brains. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the app, that's twice as much as in 2020. Excessive use can interfere with young people's sleep patterns – often leading to irritability – and distract them from other, healthier activities. The instantly skippable nature of bite-size videos may also impact children's ability to maintain focus.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's, and control settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen-time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children can't alter these settings without parental approval.

### DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure that they don't share any identifying personal information, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's also worth talking about misinformation and propaganda, and how to identify it.

### BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

If a child is using an iPhone or Android device to access TikTok, you can alter their settings to prevent them from making in-app purchases. We'd recommend enabling this feature, as it can be quite easy for a young person to spend a significant amount of real money buying TikTok coins to unlock more features of the app – sometimes without even realising.

### READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



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The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page 66 <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/tiktok-2025>



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**BELIEVE • ACHIEVE**  
**ONE DRIFFIELD**