



Redbrook Hayes Community Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been made aware that several of our children are using apps called Musical.ly and Tik Tok. These apps allow people to record themselves singing or dancing along to their favourite songs. Both apps have a minimum age of 13 but also state that if you are signing up you have parental permission if under 18. This is because the apps are also being used for the wrong reasons.

The dangers of using these apps are listed as:

- 18+ content in the song's lyrics. Swearing and adult concepts in the provided music.
- Pornography, graphic content, suicide notes.
- Musical.ly users can search for other users to view or follow near their own location/city. **This means that adults can find children in their area.**
- User generated videos can be viewed and shared onto other social media and messaging apps increasing exposure.
- Bullying in the comments.
- Users can publicise their messenger usernames or social media profiles on their Musical.ly profile
- Live.ly **live streaming is not private even if you have the privacy settings set up.**
- Using live streaming Musical.ly app Live.ly may mean larger exposure with unkind comments, interacting in real time with viewers.
- Many fake user accounts, used to hijack views or set up to bully.
- Hacking of accounts by promotional accounts (Free Musical.ly Crowns) within the apps.
- Not easy to report accounts for being fakes or underage inside the app.
- Many underage accounts with large amounts of followers.
- Easy for users to create multiple accounts and hide them from their parents.
- Fake Tik Tok and Musical.ly apps on the app store that charge for download or offer followers.

Please check whether your child is using these apps and if so we strongly recommend that you delete them. Please also discuss the dangers of downloading these apps with them.

With very best wishes,

Mr C Gaffiney
Headteacher