DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE

Parent Information

SANDWOOD NEWSLETTER

ONLINE SAFETY

SANDWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SANDWOOD LCR

www.sandwood-pri.glasgow.sch.uk   October 2020

Triller

What is Triller?

Triller is a social video platform available for iOS and Android users. It has been widely compared to TikTok as it involves users dancing or lip-synching to their favourite songs. A number of celebrities are using Triller such as Justin Bieber and Rita Ora. Users can create videos, which are then auto-edited along with the ability to add filters and personalise with text and emojis.

Triller is rated as 12+ by the App store, which means it may not be suitable for children under the age of 12.

What should I be aware of?

In app purchases:
'Gold' can be bought as an in-app purchase. Ensure your card details are not saved on your child's device and that your child understands to always ask permission before purchasing.

Direct messages/commenting
There is the ability to privately message other users as well as receive comments on your videos. This can pose a risk of receiving negative messages.

Inappropriate content:
Whilst Triller state in their Community guidelines that harmful content is not allowed and will be removed, potentially inappropriate content could be viewed.

Reporting/Blocking:
If your child does come across any inappropriate content or behavior then they can report it within the app by tapping on the three dots within the user's profile. They can also choose to block that user. Alternatively, you can email support@triller.co.

Saving:
Users are able to share other people's videos (via other social media platforms/ email/ messages/by downloading) which means somebody could share your child's video without their consent. It is important your child is aware of this.

Public profiles:
You need an account to upload content. When you create an account, it is automatically set to public. Accounts can be changed to private in profile settings, which means only the people your child approves, can view what they upload.

Further information

As always, have regular chats with your child about what they are doing online. It's really important to make sure that your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they have any concerns. You can find out more about Triller here:

- Community Guidelines: https://www.triller.co/resources/index.html
- Triller FAQ: https://www.triller.co/faq/index.html
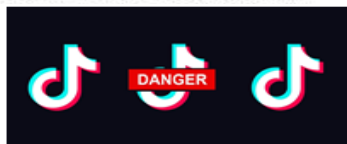- What is Triller article? https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-triller

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 1.10.20.

Instagram

What is Instagram Reels?

This is Instagram's latest feature and is being portrayed as Instagram's version to TikTok. Users will now be able to create 15-second videos using filters and music. Reels follows your privacy settings on Instagram so if your child has a public account then anybody will be able to view their reels. Users can share their reel to the 'Explore' tab where it can be seen by the wider Instagram community or it can be shared with their followers by on their Feed.

Further information

You can find out more about Instagram Reels here:

- https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-instagram-reels-announcement
- https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/what-is-instagram-reels/

GET RID OF ONLINE HATE CRIME!!!

What are Online Hate Crimes?

A Hate crime describes an incident or crime that takes place against someone based on a part of their identity e.g. their race or ethnicity or their religion. Online Hate Speech is viewed very seriously by the Police and those who post hate crime can be charged, which may lead to a criminal record and potentially a prison sentence.

What can I do?

If you see anything online that can offend or hurt somebody or you are a victim of an online hate crime then you can report it via that platform's reporting process. If you wish to take the issue further and believe the content is illegal and originates in the UK then you can report it to the Police here: https://www.report-it.org.uk/reporting_illegal_online_hate_material_to_the_p

Further information

You can find out more here:

- Hate Content: https://www.getsafeonline.org/protecting-yourself/hate-content/
- Young People's Online Hate Resource Hub: https://www.stophateuk.org/onlinehate/
- Victim Support: https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/hate-crime

DANGER

Please speak with your children about their use of Tik Tok. We have received notification that there is a video being circulated, about lying on railway lines.
Please reiterate the importance of not undertaking Tik Tok challenges which are obviously unsafe.

Supporting your child with gaming

This is a fantastic resource to help you support your child whilst gaming. It includes tips on how to help your child stay safe and how to set boundaries as well as signposting to further organisations if you require further support.

https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-gaming/

TikTok in the news

You may have saw recently in the news, a story circulating about some distressing content that was being circulated on TikTok.

Thinkuknow have produced the following article which outlines what to do if your child has seen something inappropriate online.

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-to-do-if-your-child-has-seen-something-inappropriate-online/

Do you own a Smart Speaker?

Have you set up appropriate safety settings for your Smart speaker? Find out more here:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/smart-speakers-set-up-safe-guide/

If it's unacceptable offline then it's unacceptable online.

It's important to talk to your child about how they behave online, if they choose to use technology to call somebody names or spread hurtful rumours then they are involved in online bullying. Talk to your child, ask them how they would feel if the same was said or done to them?

What are your children saying online?

It can be very easy online for children to behave in a way that they wouldn't if they were face to face with each other. Talk to your children about how they are speaking to others online. Childnet have some great advice in response to two key questions your child might ask:

What makes a good friend online?
https://www.childnet.com/young-people/primary/get-answers/what-makes-a-good-online-friend

What should I do if someone online is mean to me?
https://www.childnet.com/young-people/primary/get-answers/what-should-i-do-if-someone-online-is-mean-to-me/

What can I do if my child is getting bullied?

Explain to them what to do if somebody is mean to them online, explain that they shouldn't respond to them. Show them how to use reporting tools and emphasise they should always talk to a trusted adult. NSPCC have listed their tips on how to cope and what you should do: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/#support

Further information

There is a lot of information available online containing lots of advice and where to seek additional support.
- https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html
- https://respectme.org.uk/adults/online-bullying/
- https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/
- https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/online-bullying/
- https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/cyberbullying

#BeKind

Video games

Video games are rated using the PEGI system. PEGI rates games across 5 different age groups, these are 3, 7, 12, 16 and 18. So if a game is rated as 16, it means that the game is not suitable for those under the age of 16. The PEGI rating considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. [Source: https://pegi.info/] In addition, PEGI rate the game based on the features of the game and provide icons to easily identify what type of content is within the game, for example drugs, bad language or gambling. A full description of each 'content descriptor' is available here: https://pegi.info/what-do-the-labels-mean.

Apps/Social Media

Apps and Social media platforms are all age rated so you can check whether your child should be using them. Age ratings are clearly labeled within the App store and Play store but it is important to be aware that it can be the developer that sets the age rating so remember to review the app yourself.

What can I do?

Age ratings are there to protect your child and ensure that your child is only playing games suitable to their age and reduce any potential risks. Talk to your child about why games and apps have an age rating and set clear ground rules. In addition:

- Use parental controls to help protect your child.
- Use https://www.commonsensemedia.org/app-reviews to see their reviews on lots of different apps.
- You can download the PEGI app so you can quickly search for games to find out what age they are suitable for. https://pegi.info/app
- Use https://www.taminggaming.com/home to find suitable games for your child to play.

Further guidance

- https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/age-content-ratings-apps-games/
  https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming-whats-appropriate-for-your-child/

Fortnite

Fortnite continues to be very popular with lots of young people. It is rated PEGI 12 for frequent mild violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age. It is also important to bear in mind that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the chat features of a game which Fortnite does include.

What is Fortnite?
There are different versions of Fortnite, including a free-to-play Battle Royale game (although money can be spent within the game) where up to 100 players compete against each other. The aim is to battle against each other to be the last player standing!

What do I need to be aware of?

Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language: Fortnite contains voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour: https://www.epicgames.com/help/en-US/fortnite-c75/battle-royale-c93/how-do-i-report-bad-player-behavior-in-fortnite-a3276.

In app purchases: All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through the game. This currency can be used to purchase items in the Fortnite store so make sure you don't store your payment details within the game/device and restrict purchases. More information about what in-game purchases are can be found here: https://pegi.info/page/game-purchases

Parental Controls
Fortnite includes a number of parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. Find out more about parental controls here: https://www.epicgames.com/fortnite/en-US/parental-controls. Also, remember to set up age appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on as well.

We always recommend playing the game with your child so you can see what they are playing and monitor the sort of chat that they are listening to/contributing to. Remind your child that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they have any concerns.

Further information
For further information about Fortnite, follow these links:
- https://parentzone.org.uk/article/fortnite-everything-you-need-know-about-online-game
- https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/fortnite-battle-royale/

Supporting children and young people with SEND online

Internet Matters have produced this document which outlines some advice for parents and carers to help children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) stay safe online.

https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Internet-Matters-Guide-supporting-children-with-send-safer-gaming-online.pdf

Further advice can also be found here:

https://www.internetmatters.org/inclusive-digital-safety/advice-for-parents-and-carers/supporting-children-with-send/connecting-and-sharing-online/

ZIP IT
Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.

BLOCK IT
Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.

FLAG IT
Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

How to protect your child's personal information

CEOP and Parent Zone have produced this article about personal information and how you can help your child protect their personal information and recognise the risks.

https://parentinfo.org/article/your-childs-personal-information-and-how-to-protect-it-online-secondary