

Date/Dyddiad 11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Learning and Skills  
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My Ref/Cyf PH/JMJ

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Dear Parent / Carer,

## **TikTok**

You may have seen in the media that there appears to be a new trend on TikTok which encourages inappropriate behaviour of children and young people in schools. This 'TikTok challenge' encourages vandalism, theft and criminal behaviour which is then posted on social media.

In the Vale of Glamorgan, we have already encountered a few incidents which have been deeply disturbing. These have included highly offensive videos of individual teachers which have been extremely upsetting and have resulted in disciplinary action to the young people involved. I am sure that at the time of posting the videos, the young people concerned did not consider the impact their actions would have on them, their families, and the wellbeing of staff.

As you will be aware, children below the age of 13 should not be accessing TikTok, could I please urge you that as parents and carers, you reinforce this with your child and talk to them about the importance of not participating in these negative social media challenges and emphasise the potential impact and consequences that involvement in such behaviours could have. Disciplinary action may include permanent or fixed term exclusion, police involvement or recovery of costs in the case of damage to school property.

We want our children and young people to be proud of the schools they attend in the Vale of Glamorgan and be respectful of each other, staff, and the school itself. I am sure that with your continued support, we can work together to minimise and prevent any future incidents. If you have any questions or queries regarding this issue, please contact your child's school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paula Ham'.

**Paula Ham**  
**Director of Learning and Skills**