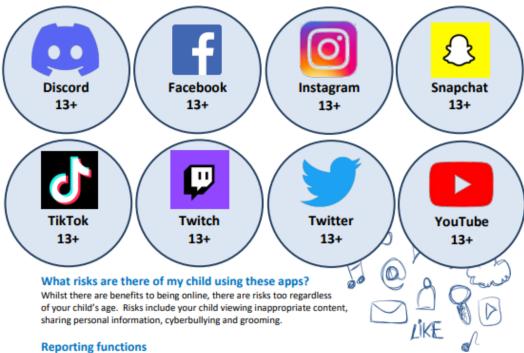*Welcome back to Hiltingbury Junior School, please keep an eye on the website for links and tips to help you being safe online. Here are some tips, hints and guides for Autumn term week 2.*

https://parentzone.org.uk/library/watch

Social Media Apps
What age should my child be to use these apps?

Discord 13+

Facebook 13+

Instagram 13+

Snapchat 13+

TikTok 13+

Twitch 13+

Twitter 13+

YouTube 13+

What risks are there of my child using these apps?
Whilst there are benefits to being online, there are risks too regardless of your child's age. Risks include your child viewing inappropriate content, sharing personal information, cyberbullying and grooming.

Reporting functions
If your child is using any of the above apps then make sure you show them how to use the reporting facilities within each app and ensure your child knows that they must tell you or another trusted adult if they see anything upsetting online. Use the apps together and explore the different security and privacy settings.

Further information
Is your child too young to use the above apps but is still asking you if they can join social media? Then you could suggest an alternative option. Internet Matters list several apps that have been created for younger children, they are grouped for ages 6 – 10 and ages 11 – 13:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids/

Age ratings

There is so much that we can do online nowadays including playing games, chatting with others, watching TV or sharing our videos/photographs. One of the ways we can help keep our children safe online is by checking age restrictions/ratings as detailed below:

- **Films:** The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) rate films. This page includes a link to a 'Parents' Guide to Age Ratings':

https://www.cbbfc.co.uk/resources/viewing-films-safely-online

- **Video games:** PEGI provides age classifications for video games. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration the chat facilities within games.
- **Apps:** Check the individual age ratings within the relevant app store. We also recommend that you download any apps and use them yourself to check their suitability.
- **Social Media networks:** All social media networks have a minimum age rating; they are all at least 13+.