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Dear Parents/Carers

At The Nicholas Hamond Academy our main priority is the safeguarding of our students and we have a whole team who are dedicated to ensuring they are safe within the academy and know the potential dangers outside.

**Safer Schools App:** We wrote to you in the summer and in September about the Safer Schools App that you can download for free. A lot of our students may be given their first smart phone or tablet or given an upgrade over the Christmas period. However, as parents/carers are you aware of all the different platforms that our children are a part of and the dangers associated to them? Were you aware that Tik Tok has different versions depending on what the age is of the person using it? The Safer Schools app is available to all students and parents/carers and gives age related support and guidance, from Mental Health Awareness to Scams, Social Media and Gaming. All the information on the app is true and gives great advice on how to tackle very sensitive or difficult issues. The app also has a special section called 'First Phone' (inside the online safety centre tile) that shows adults and children how to set up a first phone using the safety features.

If you require any further information, please visit our website: <https://tnha.attrust.org.uk/students/keeping-safe/>

**Support at Christmas Time:** Although Christmas can be a wonderful time of the year, it can also be very difficult on individuals and families. Norfolk County Council have a fantastic support scheme available to all. Please find attached a poster with further information on the scheme or you can visit <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/winter-covid-support-scheme> or call 0344 800 8020.

If you are a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic child, young person, parent or carer, affected by Covid-19, there is a dedicated Helpline that you can access. Please either visit <https://helpline.barnardos.org.uk/> or call 0800 1512605. There is also a live webchat function on the website.

We will be contacting you all regularly regarding Safeguarding updates throughout next year. If you have any questions or queries, please feel free to contact us.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Take care.

**TNHA Safeguarding Team**

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Determined to be...

'the best that we can be'

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