

# Keeping your Children Safe Online

## What Should Parents Know

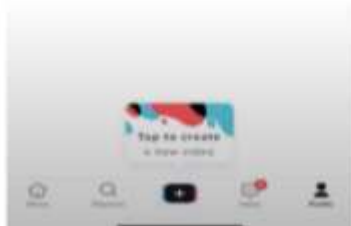
- Don't be fooled by the parental controls. Plenty of profane, explicit, suggestive, and toxic content makes its way through the parental controls.
- TikTok's algorithm is smart. It can quickly learn the users likes and what videos they interact with most, and suggest more of similar content.
- TikTok allows direct messages (DMs).
- There can be pornographic videos and images on the app.
- There is plenty of foul language and explicit lyrics.
- Challenges and Trends. There are constant 'trends' which flood the 'for you' page and it is a very easy way of getting likes and follows. Some may be innocent and funny, but there will be some that are dangerous – especially to kids.
- The app's creator says age 13+ only.
- Wherever the kids are is where the predators are. For public accounts, there are always going to be trolls.
- Deleting the app. There are a few extra steps beyond just deleting it from your phone and this will actually delete the account. Manage My Account → Add phone number (if needed) → Thinking about removing your account? → Send Code → Enter number → Continue (two times) → Delete Account. Also remember that if your child is using an Apple device, that they will still have access to the app in the Cloud. The most foolproof way to ensure that it is not downloaded again is to turn off the app store.
- TikTok relies on #hashtags. Certain words will be banned, but a way to get around this is by spelling them differently, for example, #nudez and #p0rn.
- Songs can have explicit lyrics.
- There are in-app purchases. Be sure to toggle off "In-app purchases" in Screen Time.
- You can link with other social platforms. This is significant, since once that link is made, TikTok gains access to a ton of information, including contacts.
- TikTok collects a TON of information about its users:
  - Information you give us. Name, age, gender, address, email address, social media login details, telephone number and financial and credit card information is all stored when an account is created
  - Information you choose to share from your social networks. Linking other social media accounts will also give access to that information.
  - Technical Information we collect about you. When using the platform, information like IP address, browsing history, Cookies, your mobile carrier, time zone setting, mobile or device information including the model of your device will be collected.

# Checking What your Kid Likes

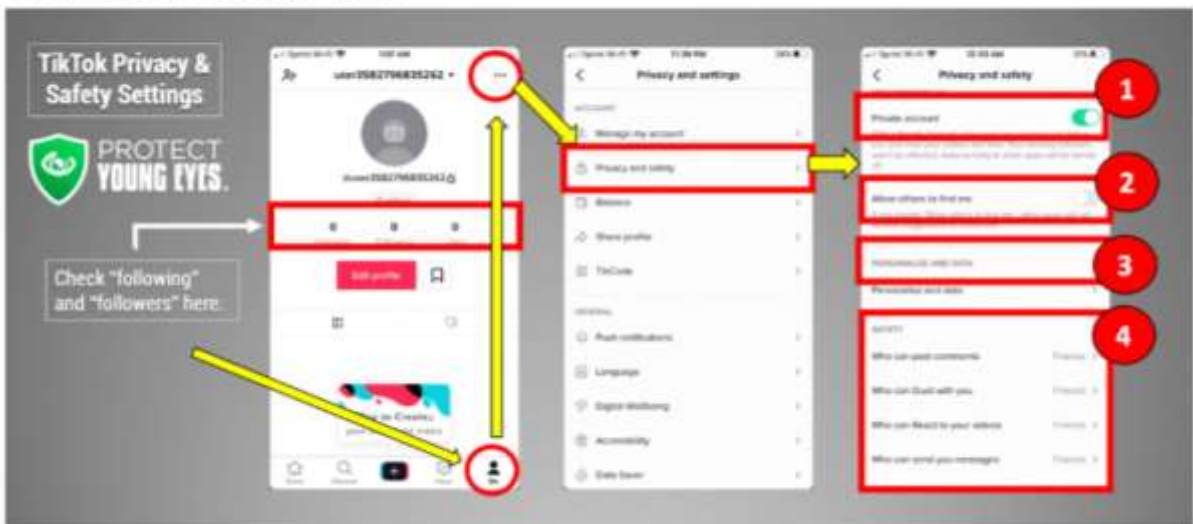


If you go onto your kids device and then onto their profile, you can click the heart icon and it will show every video your child has liked.

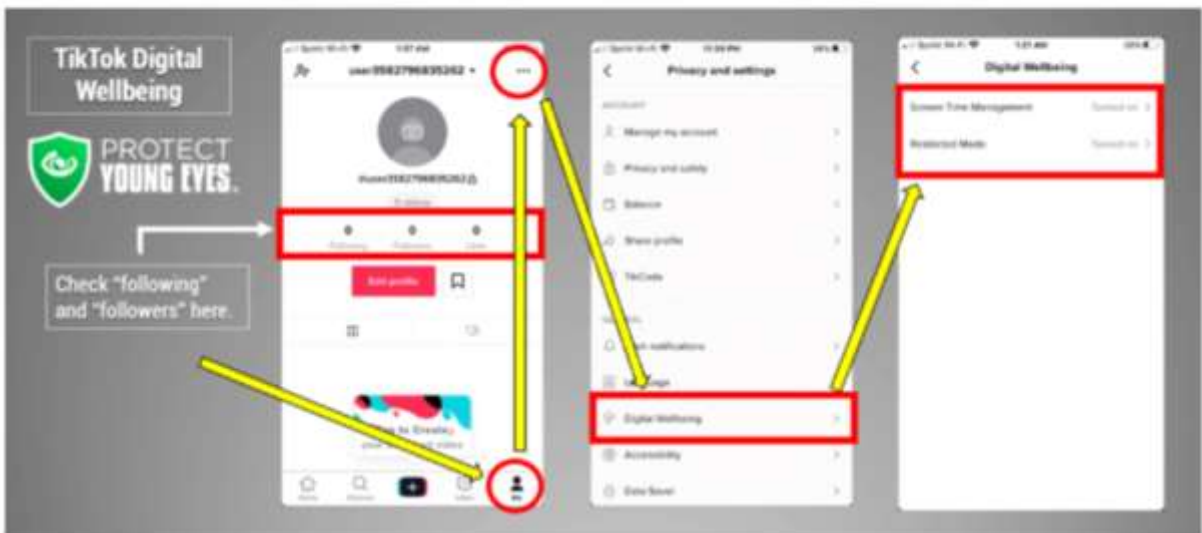
Anyone can go onto your kids profile and view their likes. This can be turned off in the privacy settings so only the person who owns the account can view them.



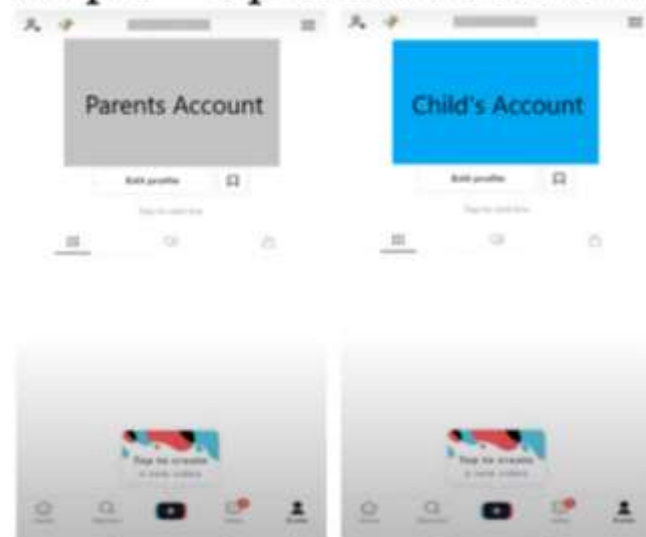
# Adding Privacy and Safety Settings to your Child's Account



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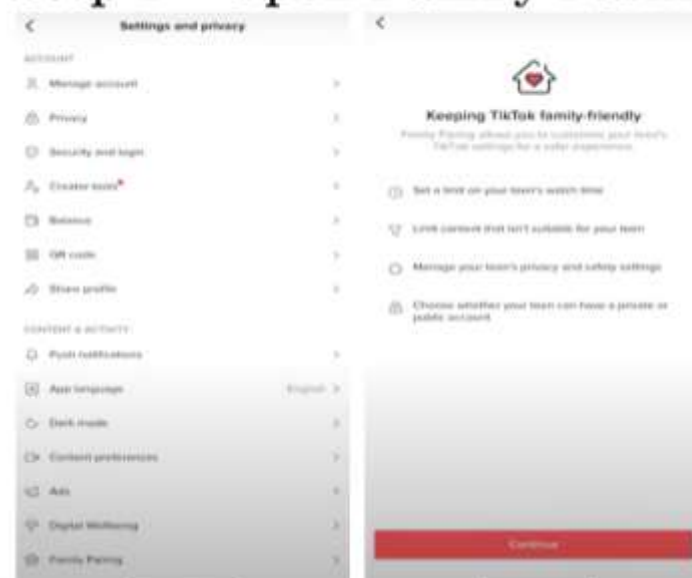


## Step 1 – Open Both Accounts



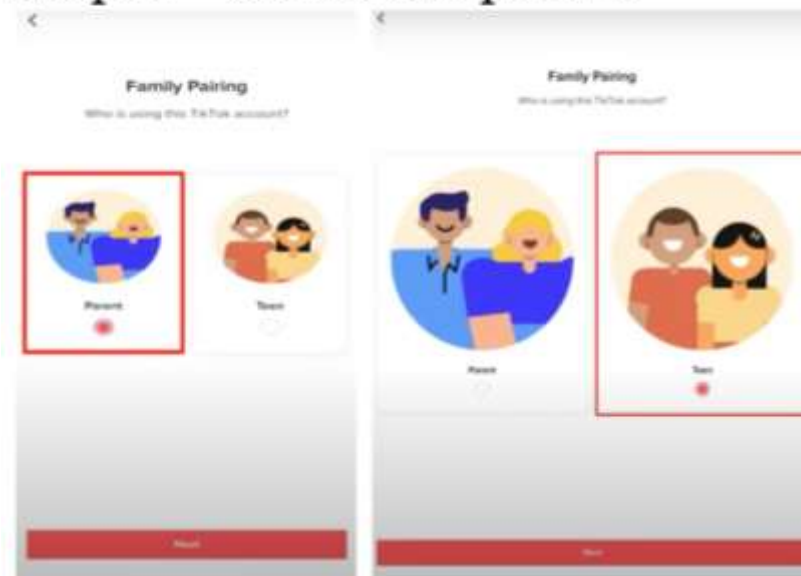
- Go on both your (parents) and your child's accounts and go onto the profile
- Click the three lines on the top right to bring up the settings

## Step 2 – Open Family Pairing



- On the settings and privacy page, scroll down and click on 'Family Pairing' which will be in the 'Content & Activity' section

## Step 3 – Select the profile



- This will then be brought up. Click the one the account belongs to (parents account for the parents and the teens account for your kids. Then click next

## Step 4 – Scan the QR Code



- The grey box on the first photo will have a QR code
- Using your kids device, scan the QR code and once scanned, it will come up with prompts asking if the found QR is connected to the right account. If yes, continue, if it's not, re-scan

## Step 5 – Set the Controls



- The accounts will now be linked and using your (parents) account, you can begin to set controls and restrictions.
- Screen time management is limiting how long your kids can use TikTok
- Restricted mode is to block certain videos using certain language, images etc.
- You can stop the ability for your kids to search for specific videos
- Privacy and Safety will limit certain people from interacting with your kids (commenting on videos and messaging them)
- To edit or change them, repeat step 1 and 2

