**Tinder**

**What is it?**
Tinder is one of the most popular dating apps among young people. Tinder gathers a user’s basic information and matches them with potential candidates that are most likely to be compatible based on geographical location, number of mutual friends, and common interests. If both users swipe right, a “match” is made and a direct chat function becomes available.

**What is the age requirement?**
Users must be at least 18 years of age to sign up for Tinder.

**Where can I learn more?**
help.tinder.com/hc/
gotinder.com/safety

**Reporting/Blocking**
To avoid contact with someone on Tinder, users can ‘unmatch’ with others to stop communication. Options are also available within profile settings for reporting suspicious behavior.

**3 Things Parents Should Know**

1. Users can sign up for Tinder using either a Facebook account or phone number. Verifying people’s identity from an app can be difficult, so it’s important to start a conversation with older teens and young adults about using caution when giving out personal information.

2. Tinder has free and paid versions of its service. TinderU can be used by college students to search for other students in their area or on campus. To use TinderU, a student email address is required. Tinder Gold and Tinder Plus are in-app premium feature subscriptions offering the ability to look at profiles across the globe or boosting your profile to the top in your area.

3. Matches on Tinder often lead to in-person meetings, so parents should proactively discuss safety practices with teens such as first meeting in public places and sharing their plans with friends or a family member.