In The Loop

BOSWORTH ACADEMY
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Bosworth Academy • Weekly Newsletter for Parents

Weekly Update 06.11.26



Key Dates | News | Celebrations | Reminders

Keep updated through our Social Media **here**

Welcome

Weekly Newsletter for Parents & Carers

Welcome to this week's edition of the newsletter. This week celebrates the many ways our students contribute to school life. From the launch of our new Future Leaders programme to the wide range of enrichment opportunities available across the academy, there has been a real sense of students stepping forward and taking responsibility.

We also take a moment to celebrate Diwali and recognise the rich diversity that makes Bosworth such a welcoming and inclusive school. Through events and celebrations like these our students continue to learn from one another and develop the respect and understanding that are so important within modern Britain.

On Monday I was delighted to be able to contribute to the student leadership strategic planning day. I was there to discuss leadership and introduce the day and I was so proud of how the year groups worked together, how all students articulated themselves and began to work towards some important goals. I am really looking forward to seeing this group be part of positive changes within our school.

As the autumn term progresses there is plenty for students to look forward to. We are delighted to be launching our Christmas Rewards Trips to enable us to recognise those students who consistently demonstrate excellent attendance and positive behaviour. These opportunities reflect our belief that hard work and high standards should be recognised and celebrated.

For our examination year groups the trial exam period is coming to a close and additional revision and support sessions continue to grow, ensuring students have access to the guidance and resources they need to achieve their best. Alongside this, our enrichment programme featured in this edition offers something for everyone, helping students develop confidence, discover new interests and build lasting friendships.

As this newsletter is published, our thoughts also turn to Remembrance Sunday. This is an i Important opportunity for us to pause and reflect on the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and all those affected by conflict both past and present. Across the academy students have been encouraged to consider the values of courage and respect and also to reflect on the importance of peace in our communities and around the world. We will join the nation in remembering those who gave so much so that future generations might live in freedom.



Kathleen Baxter - Co-Head of School

Christmas Rewards Trip



Christmas Rewards Trip

- **Year 7 & 8 trip to Boost in the last week of term.**
- **Year 9 & 10 trip ice-skating in the last week of term.**
- **Year 11, 12 and 13 trip ice skating in the last week of term.**

In order to be eligible students have to demonstrate over the next 3 weeks (**period beginning 2/11/26 - 20/11/26):**

- 97% or above attendance
- no more than one negative log per week
- follow the Bosworth Big 3
- no serious incidents

KS3 trip to Boost is to be advised.
KS4 and 5 trip ice-skating is £19



Happy Dawali

As we celebrate Diwali, we would like to extend our warmest wishes to all members of the Bosworth community and beyond. May this special festival of lights bring happiness, peace, prosperity, and success to you and your families.

Diwali is a time for reflection, celebration, and togetherness. It reminds us of the importance of kindness, hope, and supporting one another. Across our diverse community, occasions such as Diwali give us the opportunity to learn about different cultures and traditions, helping to strengthen the understanding and respect we share with one another.

At Bosworth, we are proud to celebrate the rich diversity of our students, families, and staff. The values reflected during Diwali, including respect, tolerance, and community spirit, closely align with the British Values that help unite us all.

We hope everyone celebrating enjoys a wonderful and memorable Diwali filled with light, joy, and time spent with loved ones.



Happy Diwali from everyone at Bosworth!

Mr Khalid
Diversity Lead

Great attendance at Post-16 Open Evening

We were delighted to welcome over 900 prospective students and their families to our annual Post-16 Open Evening. The vibrant event offered visitors a look into our Sixth Form community, highlighting both our academic opportunities and the supportive environment that sets our post-16 provision apart.

Inspiring Presentations & Vision for the Future

Throughout the evening, two packed presentation sessions gave guests a comprehensive overview of our post-16 offer.

Headteacher Simon Brown opened each session by addressing the core values and ethos of our school, emphasizing our commitment to academic excellence alongside personal growth.

Head of Sixth Form Louise Holdback then outlined the tailored pathways, enrichment opportunities, and dedicated pastoral guidance available to students as they navigate their key post-16 choices.

The highlight of the presentations came from our Year 13 students, who took to the stage to share insights into their own Sixth Form journeys.

They spoke inspiringly about balancing subject workloads, and making the most of leadership roles within the school community.



Exploring Subject Pathways

Following the talks, visitors explored our various subject departments to discover the wide range of courses on offer.

Classrooms and study spaces were filled with interactive displays, course specifications, and practical demonstrations led by our passionate teaching staff.

Prospective students had the chance to meet current Sixth Formers stationed in each subject area. Guests took full advantage of the opportunity to ask questions about subject transition, coursework demands, and student life.

Thank you to all staff, student ambassadors, and visiting families who made the evening such a memorable success.

We look forward to receiving application submissions and welcoming our next generation of Post-16 learners next academic year!

Bosworth Future Leaders Take the Lead.

Our new Bosworth Future Leaders came together for an inspiring planning day, taking their first steps towards making a real difference at Bosworth Academy and in our wider community.

The day brought together Form Leaders from Years 7–10 and our six Executive Student Leaders from Year 12, giving students the opportunity to develop their leadership skills, get to know one another and, most importantly, begin to identify the changes they would like to see at Bosworth.

The day began by exploring what leadership really means with Miss Baxter. Students considered the qualities of effective leaders and challenged the idea that leadership is simply about having a title or being the person who stands at the front. Instead, they explored leadership as listening, taking responsibility, supporting others and having the confidence to make a positive difference.

Miss Watson then worked with students on public speaking and communication, helping them develop the confidence and skills needed to share ideas, present their views and make sure their voices are heard.

There was plenty of energy and laughter during the team-building activities led by Dr Stephenson and Mr Grest. These activities were particularly important as our leaders came from different year groups and many had never worked together before. Students quickly demonstrated their ability to communicate, collaborate and support one another.

- **Improving the sense of belonging across the school**
- **Supporting disadvantaged and struggling students**
- **Improving our reward and recognition systems**
- **Creating more opportunities for all students to get involved and succeed**

What was particularly impressive was the passion and thoughtfulness students brought to these discussions. They were not simply identifying problems; they were already thinking about what could be done differently and how they could be part of making that happen.

Our six Year 12 Executive Student Leaders were particularly superb throughout the day. They took on the responsibility of organising, motivating and bringing together students from different year groups, helping groups to stay focused and ensuring that younger students had the opportunity to contribute.

Their ability to galvanise students who had never worked together before was a real strength.

Staff were incredibly complimentary about the students throughout the day, with many commenting on their enthusiasm, maturity, confidence and willingness to get involved.

From Form Leaders to Future Leader Ambassadors

The planning day also provided an opportunity to identify students who demonstrated particularly strong leadership qualities.

Throughout the activities and discussions, we were looking for students who showed initiative, confidence, organisation, resilience, excellent communication, the ability to listen to others, problem-solving skills and the ability to bring people together and motivate others.

Form Leaders who demonstrated these elevated leadership skills throughout the day have been selected to become Future Leader Ambassadors. Our Ambassadors will support the Form Leaders within their year group, helping to coordinate ideas, gather student views and work with others to turn those ideas into positive action.







Taking our first steps beyond Bosworth

The planning day is only the beginning. Our student leaders will now begin turning their ideas into action.
Our Year 8 Form Leaders will be representing the views of Bosworth students at the Hinckley and Bosworth Youth Conference in November.

This will be an exciting first opportunity for our Future Leaders to take our students' ideas beyond the school gates and begin thinking about how young people can contribute to improving our wider community.

We are incredibly proud of the students who took part in our first planning day. They have already shown that they are passionate, proactive, thoughtful and determined to make Bosworth better.

We are excited to see what they achieve over the coming year and look forward to working alongside them as they help shape the future of our school and make a positive difference to the lives of other students.

Celebrating Diwali in Leicester!

This weekend, members of our Bosworth community will be celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Light. Diwali is an important festival celebrated by Hindu, Sikh and Jain communities around the world.

It symbolises the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil and is a time for families and friends to come together, enjoy delicious food and celebrate with music, dancing and beautiful decorations.

Leicester is famous for its fantastic Diwali celebrations, and there are plenty of opportunities for everyone to join in! What's happening in Leicester this weekend?

Saturday 7 November – Highcross: Free Diwali activities from 11am–5pm, including a giant Rangoli colouring wall and charm-bracelet making.
Saturday 7 November – Fosse Park: The Diwali Bazaar, with cultural performances, music, dancing and artisan stalls. Live entertainment runs from 12pm–4pm.

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 November – Belgrave: Visit the Har Har Rangoli exhibition and admire the colourful artwork.

Sunday 8 November – Cossington Street Recreation Ground: Leicester's main Diwali celebrations, featuring food stalls, a funfair, cultural performances, entertainment and a spectacular laser show.

throughout the weekend – The Golden Mile: Enjoy the beautiful Diwali lights along Belgrave Road and soak up the festive atmosphere.
Whether you are celebrating Diwali yourself or simply want to experience more of Leicester's wonderful cultural diversity, why not get involved?

From everyone at Bosworth Academy, we wish all those celebrating a very happy Diwali!

Silence in Court! Year 8 Take the Stand in Cyberbullying Mock Trials

Year 8 students recently stepped into the courtroom as part of their latest Real LiFE curriculum mission, "Everyone Matters." Focused on exploring justice for all, the year group partnered with the National Justice Museum to stage immersive mock trials centered on a high-stakes cyberbullying case.

Dressed for the part—complete with traditional wigs and gowns—students took on key legal roles, acting as judges, barristers, clerks, and ushers to keep the proceedings running smoothly.
Adding to the authenticity, the scenario was based on a real-life court case. After delivering their own decisions, students got to compare their verdicts against the actual historical rulings.

It was a fantastic hands-on experience in legal literacy—and parents will be relieved to hear that all our student defendants avoided a sentence at his majesty's pleasure!

Clubs and Revision Opportunities

At Bosworth, we believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and we are proud to offer a wide range of opportunities for students to get involved in school life.

Our lunchtime and after-school clubs provide something for everyone, whether students enjoy sport, the arts, debating, technology, or would simply like to try something new. Taking part in clubs is a great way for students to develop new skills, build confidence, make friends, and discover new interests.

We encourage all students to explore the opportunities available and get involved.

We are also pleased to share our GCSE Revision Timetable, which outlines the additional support sessions available up to Christmas. These sessions give students valuable opportunities to strengthen their practise key exam skills, and prepare for assessments with guidance from subject teachers.

Please note that the revision timetable will continue to be updated throughout the year as additional sessions are scheduled, we recommend checking it regularly for the latest information.

Both our enrichment activities and revision programme, students can continue to develop the knowledge, skills, confidence, and independence.

Useful Links -

- **Club Timetable**
- **GCSE Revision Timetable**

Cross Country Success for Bosworth

A fantastic start to the cross-country season for Millie, who competed in the first race of the Leicestershire and Rutland Schools Cross Country League this morning.

Racing in the Year 9 and 10 girls' and boys' event, Millie delivered an outstanding performance, finishing 3rd overall and 1st female runner across the line.

This is a brilliant achievement and a strong start to the season. Well done, Millie, on representing Bosworth with such determination and success. We look forward to following your progress throughout the season! 🏃‍♀️🏅

Diwali Celebration

We would like to invite students and staff who celebrate Diwali, or who would like to take part, to wear their traditional ethnic attire on Friday 13th November. It will be wonderful to see our young people showcasing the vibrant colours, cultures, and traditions associated with this special festival.

Mr Khalid
Diversity Lead

The Compass

A SPOOKTACULAR WEEK OF BOOKMARK MAKING IN THE COMPASS!

What a fang-tastic week we had in the Compass on the run up to Halloween last week. Our spooky bookmark making events have been a real treat, with students unleashing their creativity and embracing the Halloween spirit in style.

We have seen some wonderfully wicked creations, from creepy and crawly to downright ghoulish! It has been fantastic to see students from such a wide range of year groups coming together, getting involved and sharing in the Halloween fun.

The Compass was also transformed for the occasion, with spooky decorations bringing a wonderfully eerie Halloween atmosphere to the space.



Bookmarks are always popular with our readers, and by adding their creations to our library stock, these talented students helped to spread a little Halloween magic and perhaps a few shivers!) throughout the school.



A huge thank you to everyone who took part and for helping to make these events such a success. Your enthusiasm and imagination made the week a real treat.

And don't disappear into the shadows just yet...! There will be plenty more exciting events coming up in the Compass, so keep your eye peeled for future updates. There is always something brewing!

Alongside getting creative, students were encouraged to get into the spooky reading spirit by barrowing books from our haunted Halloween display. It was lovely to see creativity and a love of reading coming together so perfectly! Even more heartwarming was seeing so many students choosing to donate their handmade bookmarks to our library collection for other students to use.



Developing Confident Readers in Years 7 and Year 8

Reading Plus for Years 7 & 8

We are excited to introduce Reading Plus for all students in Years 7 and 8 as part of our commitment to developing confident, capable and enthusiastic readers.

Why reading matters

Strong reading skills help students succeed in every subject, from English and Science to Maths and History. By improving fluency, comprehension and vocabulary, students become more confident and independent learners.

What is reading plus?

During library lessons, students will use Reading Plus to:

- Improve reading fluency and comprehension
- Develop vocabulary and reading stamina
- Access engaging online texts matched to their reading level
- Build the skills needed to succeed across the curriculum

Reading Plus Homework

Students will also be set weekly Reading Plus homework to support their progress. Regular practice, even in short sessions, helps develop positive reading habits and encourages long-term improvement.

Our Aim

Reading Plus is about more than improving reading skills. We want every student to develop a lifelong love of reading, broaden their knowledge, and gain the confidence to engage with the world around them.
Together through regular reading and practice.



Weekly Homework

Students will also receive weekly Reading Plus homework. Regular practice helps to:

- Reinforce learning from lessons
- Develop positive reading habits
- Support steady progress over time

As part of their library lessons, students will use Reading Plus to read engaging online texts matched to their individual reading level. They will answer comprehension questions and complete activities designed to strengthen their reading skills and understanding.

Our aim is not only to improve reading ability but also to encourage a lifelong love of reading. Through Reading Plus, students can broaden their knowledge, explore new ideas and gain the confidence needed to succeed both in school and beyond.
Together, we can help our students become confident readers and Future Ready learners.

Desford Christmas Market

Date: 27 November 2026
Location: Desford, Leicestershire
Time: 16:00 - 18:00
Cost: Free

Desford Heritage join with St. Martin's Church for the 24th year of the Christmas Tree Festival. There is also Santa's Workshop and Christmas Market. On **Friday 27 November,** the church opens its doors with a stunning display of Christmas trees inspired by children's television throughout the years.

Church hours:

- **Friday 4pm-8pm**
- **Saturday 10am-6pm**
- **Sunday 12-6pm**



Dates For Your Diaries

Thursday 12th November 2026	**Closed at 2pm for all students.**
Friday 27th November 2026	**Disaggregated Day- Closed all day for all students.**
Tuesday 8th December 2026	**Closed at 2pm for all students.**

Job Opportunities

If you would like to join our team, please see our current vaccancies available:

- **Deputy Nursery Manager**
- **Early Years Practitioner**
- **Catering Assistant**
- **Teaching assistant**

For more informations please click here.



LiFE Multi Academy Trust

Bosworth Academy is part of LiFE Multi Academy Trust.

"The LiFE Multi-Academy Trust offers an exciting environment that has a range of development opportunities to take on roles across the trust, to help develop your career. We are always looking for people who are enthusiastic and committed to support our 'Life long learning' ethos. If you like the sound of our Vision, Values and Ethos and would like a visit to one of our schools, please get in contact."

To find out more about the trust, please click here

Movember

“#TeamBosworth: here is how you can join.
There is a place for everyone in #TeamBosworth. Choose one, or do them all.

- Grow: staff, parents and sixth formers can grow a moustache for the month.
- Move: walk or run 60 miles across November, on your own or as part of a team.
- Donate: sponsor a member of #TeamBosworth.
- Talk: have one proper conversation with a friend, a family member or a colleague. Ask "How are you, really?" and listen to the answer.

Students are warmly invited to join in through Move and Talk. Fundraising is for staff, parents and carers, and nobody is expected to raise money.
Sign up now at #TeamBosworth so that you are ready for 1 November.

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Free School Meals Support

Students who receive Free School Meals can be supported in a number of ways, which may include a contribution towards the cost of uniforms, equipment and trips. If you believe that your children may qualify:

- Leicester (City)
- Leicestershire (County)

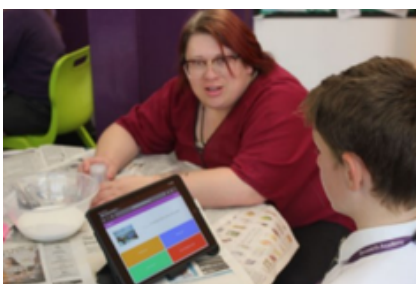
Pupil Premium: We now have a dedicated Pupil Premium email address that you can contact for any queries.

pupilpremium@bosworthacademy.org.uk
Pantry: We also have a supply of food in our pantry. Please email pantry@bosworthacademy.org.uk if you would like further details.
If you have further queries about Free School Meals and the support we offer, please contact the school.



SEND Information Report

We are happy to share details about our SEND provision in **Bosworth Academy’s SEND Information Report.**



If you have any queries about the report please feel free to contact the SEND department.
Mrs Jones, SENDCo

Between the Lines

STAFF SPOTLIGHT Mr Grest

Head of Key Stage 3



Homage to Catalonia - George Orwell

"I love the way Orwell tells the story and is so matter of fact about the situations he finds himself in. Also, the incredible personal sacrifice to join the Spanish Republican militia to fight Franco's facists. Orwell was definitely an upstander, not a by-stander. No pasarán!"



KS3 BOOK RECOMMENDATION

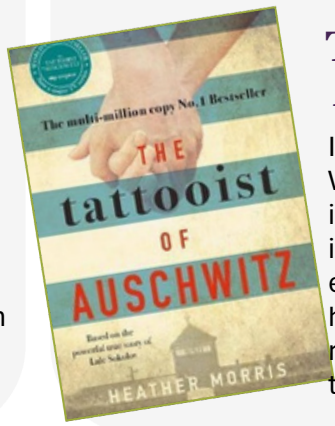


War Horse

Michael Moprpurgo

When Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army during the First World War, he finds himself caught in the horrors of battle. A moving story of courage, friendship and hope, told through the eyes of a horse who experiences both sides of the conflict.

KS4/5 BOOK RECOMMENDATION



The Tattooist of Auschwitz

In the darkest days of the Second World War, Lale meets Gita inside Auschwitz, where both are imprisoned. Inspired by real experiences, this powerful historical novel explores love, resilience and the determination to survive unimaginable cruelty.

PARENTS OF YEAR 7 AND 8

reading plus

Ask your child to show you their new Reading Plus account and see the range of texts and tasks available to them to support improving their reading skills

THE WORD NERD CHALLENGE!

THIS WEEK: BOOK TITLE ANAGRAM

Rearrange these letters to reveal a famous book title:

DELIGHT FOR HORNETS

Answer in next week's issue!

BBC Children in Need

Children in Need BAKE SALE

Friday 13th November 2026

During both breaks

In the Bridge

All cake donations welcome!

Cakes range from 20p - £1

See you all there!

Curriculum Overview

What is your child studying next half-term?

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9

Year 10

Year 11

Keep an eye out at the end of each half-term for updated subject information!

BOSWORTH ACADEMY

AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!

Help Set Up BOSWORTH ACADEMY'S First SOCIETIES!

Do you want to be part of an exciting opportunity?
Would you like to help to set up Bosworth Academy's first societies?



We want students from **ALL YEAR GROUPS** to get involved in this fun and rewarding challenge of setting up our first school-wide organisations that will help to foster student-led super-curricular activity and discussion forums.

But how are societies different from clubs?

These groups will help you develop **ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE** and **INTERESTS** outside of lessons.

Linking to **FUTURE PATHWAYS** you might be interested in, for example, Medicine or Law.

What kind of things do you do in a society?



You might hold a **DEBATE** about a key story that was in the news recently.

Or perhaps work towards a **COMPETITION OR OLYMPIAD** that is open to students across the country.

What are the benefits of joining a society?

BOOST YOUR 6 Cs

- communication
- citizenship
- critical thinking
- collaboration
- creativity
- character

- Meet students from across the school
- Deepen your knowledge and interest in a specific field
- Explore career ambitions and areas for future aspirations



For students in Post 16, it will also be **VERY ADVANTAGEOUS** for your applications to jobs, degrees or apprenticeships in various sectors.

If you are interested, please complete this expression of interest form.
We will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 2nd November in O2 at 8.40am for anyone who wants to find out more. All welcome.

Please email cstephenson@bosworthacademy.org.uk if you have any questions' - Click HERE

Routines for Learning: Starts of lessons

Mrs Patel, Assistant Headteacher (Teaching & Learning)

Vital for some,
Valuable for all



Why are routines for learning important?

At Bosworth Academy, **'Routines for learning'** are key aspects of lessons that support all students to engage fully in their learning, and achieve their potential.
When students know exactly what is expected of them, and what to expect in lessons, they feel more confident, focused and ready to learn.
Routines can also help to **reduce cognitive load**. Cognitive load refers to the amount of information that the brain can process at one time. When **classroom expectations are consistent** and predictable, students do not need to spend mental energy working out what to do. Instead, they can direct their attention towards the most important task - **learning new knowledge and skills**.
Strong routines support positive behaviour, independence and resilience. They create a sense of security and belonging where students are enco uraged to **'be better than they thought they could be'**.

What does the 'start of lesson' routine look like?

When students arrive at lessons, they are expected to be:

- on time 
- in the correct uniform 
- fully equipped 

Students are welcomed by their teacher at the classroom door, before entering calmly, taking their seat and beginning a **'Do Now'** task straight away.

Teachers play an equally important role in these routines. Through a warm **meet-and-greet**, clear instructions and carefully planned activities, learning can begin quickly.

Consistency across classrooms reinforces clarity of high expectations, and **maximises valuable learning time**.

The 'Do Now' task

The 'Do Now' task is a **vital** part of the 'start of lesson' routine for learning. It supports students to settle quickly into meaningful learning from the moment they arrive.

This activity is designed to engage students in their **learning immediately**, and create a **purposeful atmosphere** from the very start of the lesson.

Students are rewarded when they demonstrate positive character through their effort and participation.

A 'Do Now' task might include **retrieving knowledge** from a previous lesson. By doing this regularly, students are more likely to **retain important knowledge** and **make connections with new learning**.

Teachers can **'check for understanding'** to identify what students remember, where misconceptions exist and what may need revisiting before moving on to new content.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ADVERTISEMENTS AIMED AT CHILDREN

WHAT ARE THE RISKS

Children are particularly vulnerable to the persuasive effects of advertising because of their still-developing critical thinking and impulse control skills. Children are regularly and passively exposed to advertising online, whether through influencers, paid advertisements, or sponsored content. Although 92% of 12–17-year-olds felt confident recognising online advertising, only 37% correctly identified sponsored adverts in search results.

INFLUENCER MARKETING

Influencers are an increasingly prominent part of children's online experiences, with four in ten 3–17 year olds who watch online videos reporting that they watch influencer content as entertainment. Influencers can appear credible, relatable, trustworthy and aspirational. Although seven in ten 12–17 year olds recognised a paid partnership, some believed products were promoted because influencers liked or thought they were 'cool'.

PARENTAL PRESSURE TO PURCHASE

Children's exposure to online advertising can pressure parents to buy products they see advertised. When told no, children may feel upset, treated unfairly or left out when comparing themselves with peers. With children potentially seeing up to 40,000 adverts a year, parents cannot meet every request. This can lead to arguments and put strain on family relationships.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Advertising often focuses on the positive effects of a product, which can create unrealistic expectations among young people. Children may be particularly susceptible to these claims when they do not recognise the persuasive intent behind them. They may be more likely to believe that a cream will 'transform' their skin, clothing will help them fit in, or protein powders will quickly build muscle. Repeated exposure to adverts such as beauty content can normalise unrealistic expectations and create material dissatisfaction or body image concerns.

HARMFUL ADVERTISING

Children can encounter online advertising through games, videos, social media and links, meaning they may see content that is inappropriate for their age. This can include products or messages that influence attitudes towards body image, health or behaviours such as gambling. Repeated exposure to beauty content can normalise adult-oriented beauty routines and psychological pressure.

UNINTENDED PURCHASES

Online advertising can encourage young people to make purchases. Ofcom found that 58% of 8–17 year olds had spent money online, with 27% saying adverts encouraged them to spend and 22% influenced by influencer content. Despite this, a third of the children regretted an in-game purchase, while almost half said they were unclear about what they were buying. This can lead to children spending more than intended or making purchases without fully understanding the cost or product, adding pressure on parents to spend.

LACK OF ADVERTISING TRANSPARENCY

Advertising is not always obvious to children, particularly when influencers promote brands, products or services without clearly stating that it is an advert, or when advertising is embedded within entertaining content and uses positive language. Children may not realise that the adverts are promoting something, making the recommendation seem more trustworthy and more influential.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO SPOT ADS

Help children to recognise when content is trying to sell them something. Teach them to look for signs such as '#ad', 'sponsored', 'paid partnership' as well as promo codes or product links attached. Explain to your child that these adverts can be embedded within videos, social media posts, games or influencer posts and are not always obvious to identify. Helping children recognise these advertisements can make them less likely to be influenced by them.

ENSURE PAYMENT DETAILS ARE LOCKED DOWN

Avoid saving your bank card details on children's devices, games or apps wherever possible. This can help reduce the risk of children making accidental or impulsive purchases following seeing an advert. Check the purchasing settings on games and social media accounts and use parental controls or purchase approval settings where possible. Talk to your child about the importance of asking before making a purchase online.

DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

It is important to encourage children to question what they see online rather than automatically believing it. Encourage them to stop and think before clicking. Have them ask themselves, 'Why am I seeing this?' and 'What are they trying to get me to want/buy?'. Remind them that adverts and influencers only highlight the positive aspects of a product. By developing these skills, children will begin to recognise, question, and respond to manipulative marketing practices.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

While it is important to set age restrictions on games and social media, inappropriate adverts can still slip through. Talk regularly with your child about adverts or influencer content they see online. Open communication makes it easier for your child to come to you if they have any questions about products or inappropriate content. It also helps you understand what your child is being exposed to online and where they may need support.

Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an education consultant and digital safety expert, with a background in primary teaching. She combines her PhD research in cyberbullying with hands-on experience, delivering impactful digital wellbeing workshops and policies for schools across Australia and now in the UK.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 30.10.2026

Free School Meal Eligibility & Support

As you will now know the Local Authority no longer checks eligibility for (FSM) Free School Meals and this is now completed at a school level.

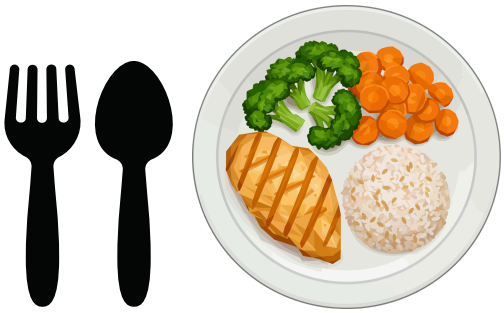
Thank you to those parents & carers who have already completed their check or contacted the school for help doing this.

Please if you have not done so already use the link below to check your eligibility.

It takes 2 minutes, you only need your Date of Birth and National insurance number and it could result in extra support in school for your child through, Pupil Premium Funding, Free School Meal Funding and help towards the cost of school buses.

https://fsm.lgfl.net/

LGfL Free School Meals Eligibility Checker



Free School Meal eligibility changes from 1st Sept 2026

Check if your child is eligible for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium funding using this link: https://fsm.lgfl.net/

Targeted FSM

Eligible pupils receive:

- Free School Meals
- Pupil Premium

Expanded FSM

Eligible pupils receive:

- Free School Meals

Ever 6 FSM

Eligible funding:

- Pupil Premium

Continues to attract funding for 6 years.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, they have access to the following. Please email their Head of Year for more information or Mrs E Cotton (SLT Pupil Premium Lead).

- Uniform contribution of £30
- Free equipment (pencil case, pens, highlighters, rubber, ruler)
- Revision guides in Year 10/11
- A reduction in the cost of trips
- Extra support for English/Maths if required in KS3
- Extra English/Maths tuition in Year 11
- Access to our food pantry

Lunch Menu

We will now be having the lunch menu on a three- week rotation. Please see below for the menu for next week which is the second week on rotation.
K.Ford

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Bolognese Spaghetti Pasta Broccoli & Carrots Garlic Bread	Cheesy Mashed Potato Pork Sausage Baked Beans	Pepperoni Pizza Herby Diced Potato Sweetcorn & Peas Fresh salad bar	Roast Turkey & Stuffing Roast Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Yorkshire Pudding	Cheese Burger Seasoned Potato Wedges Corn on the Cob
Mac & Cheese Broccoli & Carrots Garlic Bread	BBQ Chicken Breast Cheesy Mashed Potato Baked Beans	Three Cheese Pizza Herby Diced Potato Sweetcorn & Peas Fresh salad bar	Roast Beef & Stuffing in Gravy Roast Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Yorkshire Pudding	Jumbo Hotdog Seasoned Potato Wedges Corn on the Cob
Vegan Bolognese Spaghetti Pasta Broccoli & Carrots Garlic Bread	Vegan Sausage Mashed Potato Baked Beans	2 OPTION DAY	Vegan Fillet & Stuffing Roast Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Yorkshire Pudding	Vegan 1/4 Pounder Seasoned Potato Wedges Corn on the Cob
Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day	Dessert Of The Day



Filled Baguettes, Sandwiches, Wraps available Daily
Week 1 Nov 2026

If you would like information on which foods contain allergens please ask a member of the catering team who will be happy to help

Want to look up an old article?

Our most recent 'In The Loop' Newsletters are available **here** for you to access.

Important Contacts

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)
Assistant Headteacher KS3: Liam Grest
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Assistant Head of Year 7: Wendy Sessions
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Head of Year 8: Omais Khalid
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Assistant Head of Year 8: Gary Fox
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Key Stage 4 (Years 9, 10 and 11)
Deputy Headteacher KS4: Amy Lidbury
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Head of Year 9: David Mowbray
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Assistant Head of Year 9: Caroline Tallis
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Head of Year 10: Georgia Devlin
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Assistant Head of Year 10: Ellen Wright
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Head of Year 11: Jenny Jacobs
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Assistant Head of Year 11: Laura McQuaid
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Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13)
Assistant Headteacher KS5: Louise Holdback
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Head of Year 12: Alison Woolley
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Head of Year 13: Chloe Stephenson
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Designated Safeguarding Lead: Nikki Whitaker
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Report a safeguarding concern:
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