BOSWORTH ACADEMY
TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

In the Loop

26.11.2026

Weekly Newsletter for Parents & Carers

Welcome

Welcome to this edition of the Bosworth Academy newsletter.

We reach the end of a slightly shorter week today with students enjoying a long weekend due to the disaggregated training day.

Moving into December, maintaining strong attendance and punctuality will be a key focus. Every lesson matters, particularly as students build towards assessments, examinations and the opportunities that the remainder of the academic year will bring. We are looking forward to launching our December Dash attendance challenge and seeing students rise to the occasion during the final 13 school days of term.

There are also opportunities for families to become involved in the wider life of the academy, from supporting our students' contributions to the local Christmas Tree Festival through to working in partnership with us at key events for our examination year groups. These occasions remind us that education is most successful when schools, students and families work together.

Last week we took part in our LiFE MAT peer review. Across 28 lessons and extensive student voice activities, colleagues engaged openly and professionally, providing honest, constructive feedback that supports our commitment to being better than we thought we could be. The review highlighted many strengths across the school, including positive relationships, strong classroom routines, effective use of assessment and feedback, and a clear focus on knowing individual students. As we move into the next phase of our Blueprint Enquiry work, staff will be using these findings to refine practice further, ensuring that our shared expectations continue to have the greatest possible impact on students' learning and progress. Inside this newsletter you will see a school-wide strategy of 'live marking' whereby students should be receiving in-class feedback in pink and green - a way that we want students to receive in the moment feedback and act upon it.

We have our year 11 trial exam results evening on Monday and we really hope you can join us. The reason we hand results out in this way is to let students experience what it is really like on results day - opening the envelope with parents there to support. Whether the results are just what the students are expecting or not quite there yet, it is a good boost for students and adds momentum to revision.



Have a good weekend and we look forward to opening our doors on Monday.

Kathleen Baxter - Co-Head of School

In This Edition of In the Loop

Click on the title of the articles to jump straight to the stories.

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Christmas Giving: Supporting Open Hands Leicester

This Christmas, we are proud to be supporting Open Hands Leicester, a local charity working to support people in our community who are experiencing poverty, hardship or homelessness.

Open Hands provides practical support to people who may be struggling to afford everyday essentials. Through their Christmas campaign, they are collecting essential resources alongside festive treats, helping families and individuals experience a little more comfort and joy at what can otherwise be a difficult time of year.

How can you help?
We are asking students and families to bring in at least one item from the donation list below. Every contribution, however small, can make a difference.

Our deadline is **Friday 4 December.** Donations can be handed to form tutors and form leaders.

Suggested festive treats:

- Chocolate coins
- Sharing bag popcorn
- Sharing festive crisps
- Hot chocolate
- Box of sweet biscuits
- Selection box
- Cheese biscuits
- 100g bars of chocolate
- Tubes of sweets



Why should we get involved?
Christmas should be a time of kindness, generosity and community. Supporting Open Hands gives us an opportunity to put our Bosworth values and 6Cs into action, particularly Character, Citizenship and Collaboration.

It is also a chance to remember that we don't need to do something huge to make a difference. As a school community, one item from one person can become hundreds of items when we all work together.

There will also be prizes and rewards for students who get involved, so every donation could help make someone else's Christmas a little brighter and earn you a reward too!

If everyone plays their part, our Bosworth community can make a real difference to people in Leicester this Christmas.

Thank you for helping us spread a little kindness this Christmas.







Bosworth Academy Christmas Tree

Year 7 students have been busy creating Christmas decorations to go on the Bosworth Academy tree which is being entered into the annual Christmas Tree Festival at St Martin's Church in Desford.



The tree was delivered to the Church on Wednesday, ready for the start of the festival on Friday 27th November. The festival is taking place from Friday 27th November until Sunday 29th November; however, the trees are being left up for the entire Christmas period should you wish to visit the Church and take a look at what the students have created.



December Dash Starts Next Week: 13-Day 100% Attendance Streak



On Tuesday 1st December, we are launching 'December Dash: The 13-Day Streak', a festive attendance and punctuality challenge running right through to the end of term on 18th December.

With just 13 school days in December, we are rewarding students who arrive on time (in tutor time by 8:40 AM) and attend every lesson:

- Random daily draws for Canteen Queue-Jump Passes, free cakes and festive treats.
- Weekly Friday Hot Chocolate treat for the highest-attending form in each year group that week.
- The 13-Day Grand Finale: Students with a 100% streak enter our end-of-term draw for £10 vouchers and festive treats.

Please help your child get off to a flying start on 1st December by ensuring an early morning arrival before 8:40 AM. Thank you for your continued support!



The Adventures of Otto: Paws for Thought at the 'Question of the Day' Board

Every morning as the school buses roll in, students arriving at our Meet and Greet area are welcomed by a familiar smiling face—Miss Hall—and, on lucky mornings, a very enthusiastic wagging tail belonging to our school puppy, Otto!

Recently, Otto has taken a keen interest in the newest addition to the entrance area: our brand-new 'Question of the Day' board. Sitting neatly beside Miss Hall, Otto can often be seen tilting his head at the whiteboard, ears perked as students gather around to read the latest daily prompt before heading off to form time.

A Fresh Spark Every Morning

With a brand-new question appearing every single morning, the board has quickly become a favourite stop on the walk from the bus. Whether it's a fun brainteaser, a light-hearted debate ("Would you rather have paws or wings?"), or a thoughtful prompt about kindness and learning, Otto loves listening to students chat and share their ideas as they start their day.



Why a 'Question of the Day' Board Makes a Big Difference

Beyond giving Otto plenty of morning company, starting the school day with a daily question brings huge benefits to our school community:

- Eases the Morning Transition: Focusing on an engaging, low-pressure question helps calm morning nerves and smooths the shift from the bus ride into the school routine.
- Sparks Immediate Conversation: It gives students an instant talking point with friends, staff, and different year groups, building a warm, connected atmosphere from the moment they step through the doors.
- Wakes Up Curious Minds: A quick puzzle or thought-provoking prompt gently warms up critical thinking and creativity before first period even begins.
- Gives Every Student a Voice: Because many questions are open-ended or opinion-based, every pupil can join in with confidence—there's no pressure to get a "textbook" answer right.
- Builds a Welcoming Routine: Pairing a daily prompt with a warm greeting from Miss Hall (and plenty of ear scratches for Otto!) ensures every student feels noticed, included, and ready for a great day ahead.

Have You Checked Today's Question?

Next time you step off the bus, make sure to say hello to Miss Hall, give Otto a quick pat, and see what's written on the board—Otto will be waiting to hear your answer!



The Performing Arts Christmas Showcase

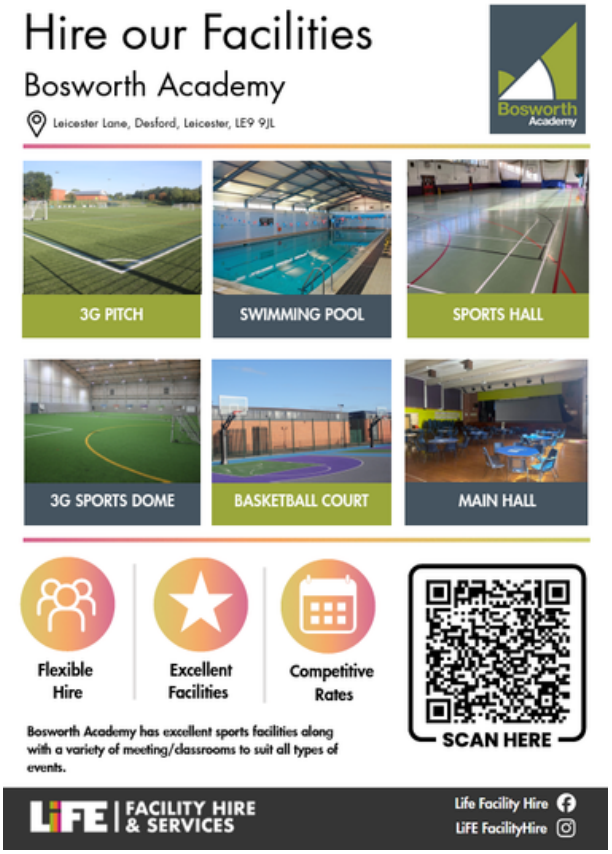


The Cultural Faculty is proud to share the fabulous work of our musicians and dancers in the Christmas Showcase on 10th December, at 6.00pm.

Tickets are available via iPay.

All proceeds will go to supporting our whole school musical 'Legally Blonde'.

Join us for an evening of music and dance in the Main Hall!



The Oaks Sixth Form Tours

Would you like to know more about what The Oaks at Bosworth Academy has to offer in the next stage of your education journey?



Join us for a small group tour of our sixth form and wider facilities to see us in action.

Click below to see the times and dates available and to book on:

https://www.ticketsource.com/life-multi-academy-trust/e-mgrplpr

Dates For Your Diary

DATES	EVENT
Friday 27th November 2026	Disaggregated Day. **School Closed.**
Tuesday 8th December 2026	**Closed** at 2pm for all students.
Friday 18th December 2026	End of term.
Tuesday 5th January 2027	First day of Spring Term 2027.

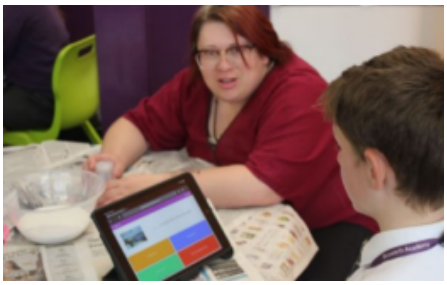
Full term dates can be found below:

[Academic Year 2026/27]

[Academic Year 2027/28]

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

Free School Meal Eligibility & Support

As you will now know, the Local Authority no longer checks eligibility for Free School Meals (FSM) 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.

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, uniform, equipment and trips.

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

https://fsm.lgfl.net/

Pupil Premium: We now have a dedicated Pupil Premium email address. If you wish to get in touch, please email: **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.



Bosworth Academy

TO LEARN TO ACHIEVE

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to invite you to our **Year 11 Trial Exam Results Evening on Monday 30th November**, an important event designed to support students as they prepare for their final GCSE examinations.

To Manage numbers we are having **two session times: 5:00pm or 5:30pm.** Please see below for your allocation

5.00pm	5.30pm
11 JRO	11 HMI
11 AWA	11 MEM
11 RPI	11 RTA
11 MAS/SPK	11 SRI
11 HCH	

During the evening, there will be a **short presentation** outlining the next steps in Year 11, including revision guidance, key dates, and how you can support your child over the coming months. Following this, students will receive their **Trial Exam Results**, giving them a valuable opportunity to experience what Results Day will feel like in August.

Key members of staff will also be available to discuss any questions, concerns, or support needs you or your child may have.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say how well our Year 11 students conducted themselves throughout the trial exam period. We are extremely proud of our students.

We look forward to welcoming you and working together to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our students.

Yours sincerely

Amy Lidbury

Deputy HeadTeacher

Jenny Jacobs

Head of Year 11

Routines for Learning: Live Marking

Mrs Patel, Assistant Headteacher (Teaching & Learning)

Vital for some, Valuable for all

What is live marking?

Live marking is one of the most powerful ways teachers at Bosworth help students to make progress and succeed. Teachers move around the classroom and give students immediate **feedback** and **feedforward** (next steps) during the lesson. We **check learning** as it happens, and guide students to improve their work straight away.

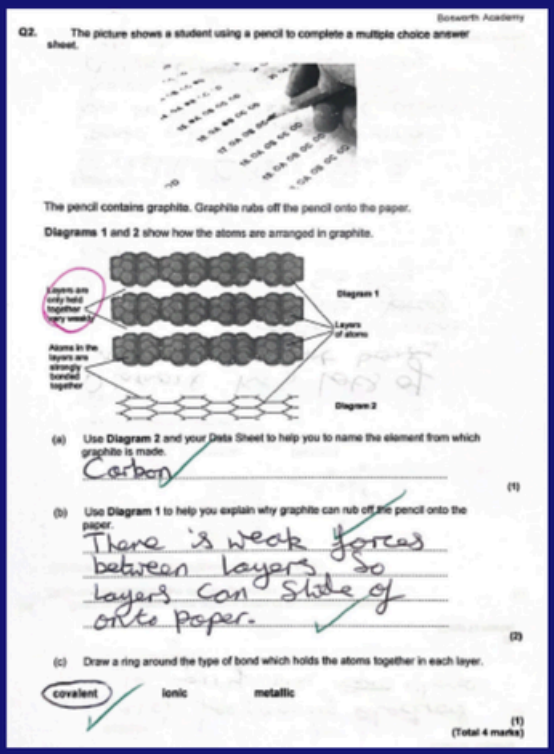
What does live marking look like?

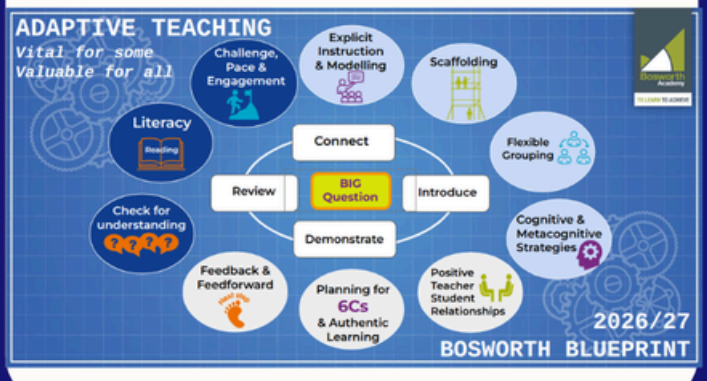
Green pen = "Good"
Ticks/highlights for strong work and accurate answers.

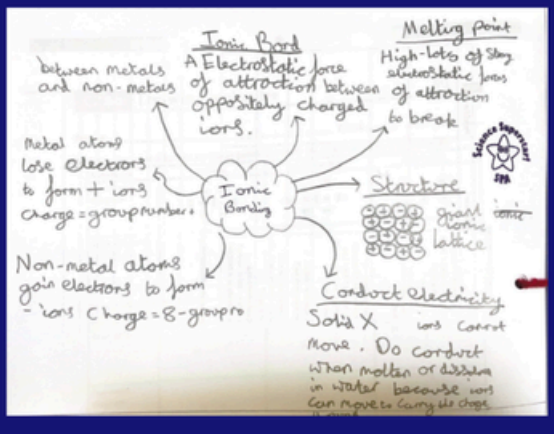
Pink pen = "Think"
Short teacher prompts used to show where students need to improve, correct, extend, or rethink their work.

Purple 'polishing' pen = Student response
Students use purple pen to act on feedback and feedforward immediately - improving, correcting, or extending their work.

Visible progress
You'll see learning strengthened across the page as students make improvements.

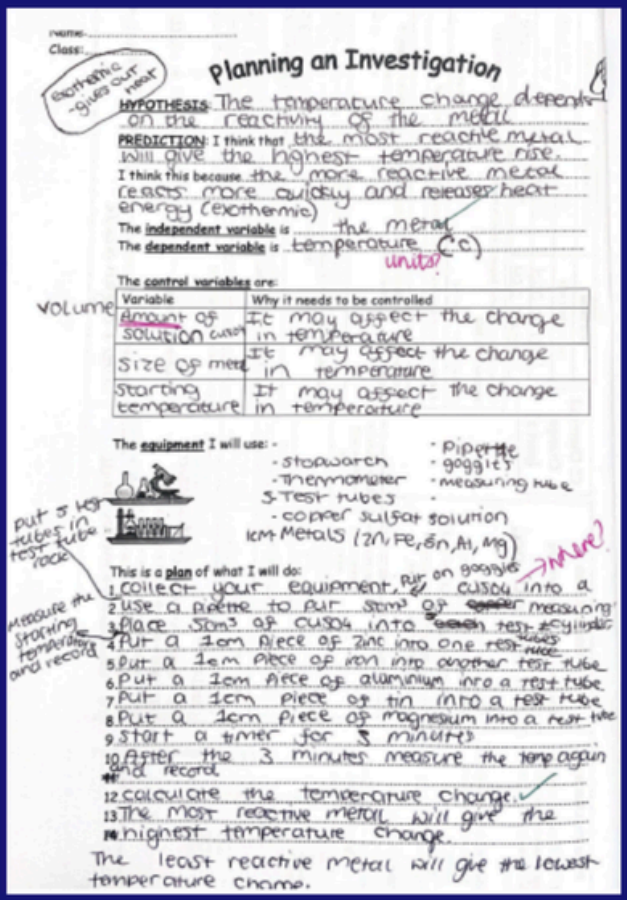






Live marking offers a range of benefits that directly support your child's learning

- **Instant feedback** — Students know straight away what is going well and what needs improving.
- **Avoiding misconceptions** — Mistakes are caught early, before they become habits.
- **Feedforward guidance** — Teachers give quick prompts, visual scaffolds and guided next steps that help students to improve.
- **Greater focus & engagement** — Students know their work will be checked during the lesson
- **Improved behaviour** — Teachers are actively circulating, rewarding effort, and reinforcing expectations.
- **Stronger progress** — Small improvements made "in the moment" accumulate into big gains over time.
- **Personalised support** — Teachers respond to what individual students are thinking right there and then. Teachers can adapt explanations, challenge confident learners, and scaffold for those who need it.
- **Deepens understanding** — Teachers use targeted questioning to stretch thinking and challenge students.
- **Purposeful student responses** — Students act on feedback immediately, building stronger learning habits.
- **Whole-class feedforward** — If several students need the same support, teachers can adapt the lesson in real time.
- **Positive relationships** — Live marking creates more positive interactions between teachers and students.
- **Motivation boost** — Students want live marking because it allows them to experience success.


Planning an Investigation

HYPOTHESIS: The temperature change depends on the reactivity of the metal

PREDICTION: I think that the most reactive metal will give the highest temperature rise.

I think this because the more reactive metal reacts more quickly and releases heat energy (exothermic)

The independent variable is the metal

The dependent variable is temperature (°C)

The control variables are:

Variable	Why it needs to be controlled
Amount of solution	It may affect the change in temperature
Size of metal	It may affect the change in temperature
Starting temperature	It may affect the change in temperature

The equipment I will use:
- stopwatch
- thermometer
- 3 test tubes
- copper sulfat solution
- 1cm Metals (Zn, Fe, Sn, Al, Mg)
- pipette
- goggles
- measuring tube

This is a plan of what I will do:
1. collect your equipment, put on goggles
2. use a pipette to put 5cm³ of CuSO4 into a measuring
3. Place 5cm³ of CuSO4 into test cylinder
4. Put a 1cm piece of Zinc into one test tube
5. Put a 1cm piece of iron into another test tube
6. Put a 1cm piece of aluminium into a test tube
7. Put a 1cm piece of tin into a test tube
8. Put a 1cm piece of magnesium into a test tube
9. Start a timer for 3 minutes
10. After the 3 minutes measure the temp again and record
11. calculate the temperature change.
12. The most reactive metal will give the highest temperature change
13. The least reactive metal will give the lowest temperature change.



How can parents/carers help?

Please ensure that your child has a **purple pen** as part of the equipment that they bring to school daily.

Reinforce that **improving work is a normal, positive part of learning** and encourage your child to take pride in their **purple-pen improvements**. Talk to your child about what they have learnt and ask how they have responded to feedback.



The IMPACT



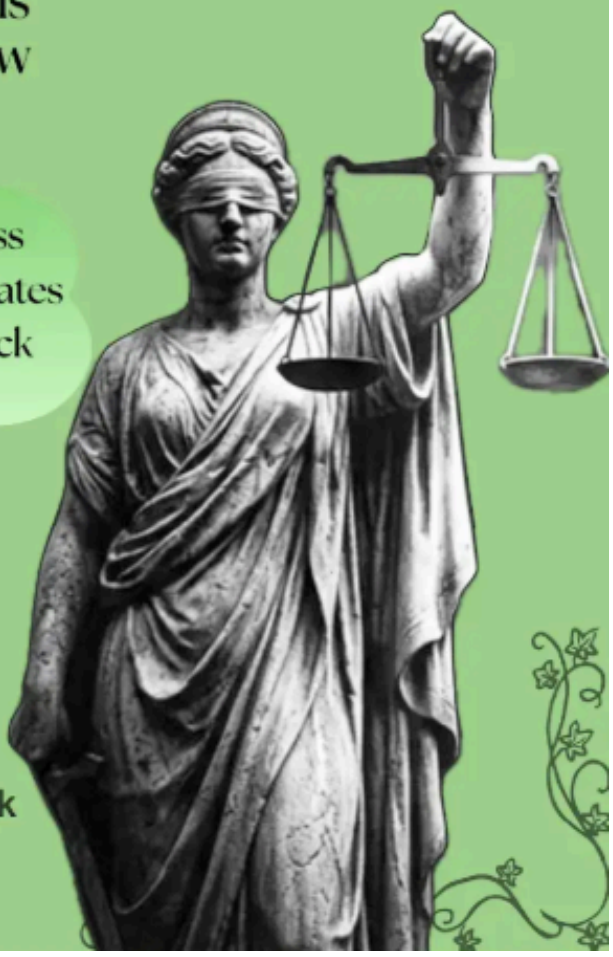
Live marking helps us create classrooms where students feel confident, supported, and motivated. It strengthens learning, improves behaviour, and builds positive relationships.

Bosworth Law Society



Are you interested in a career in law? Everyone is welcome to join our law society!

Come along to discuss famous cases, hold debates and participate in mock court trials!



Room: L7
Thursday Week 1
Lunchtime

Any questions email:
20mtipler@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine Society



If you are interested in a career in medicine, dentistry or veterinary science, or would like to find out more about these careers and other jobs in the healthcare sector, then the Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine Society might appeal to you!

We will be sharing any opportunities of potential work experience placements, competitions, olympiads etc. to help improve university applications for these careers.

In addition, we will have enriching conversations and debates about current themes that are relevant in healthcare. There will be chances to look into other professions in the healthcare sector (eg. nursing, optometry) if the main three aren't for you.

We may have guest speakers in to discuss their careers and how they find it and also mini practical activities can try to be arranged - for example, first aid training, topical debates/discussions in groups and manual dexterity tasks such as soap carving.

Even if you've only briefly considered a career in healthcare, come along to our society, everyone is welcome!

Time: Monday Week A, second break

Room: S12

Start Date: 7th December



Any questions please email:
21ahardman@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Human Society

Beyond AI: Human Minds, Human Connections, Brighter Futures

Working with others... problem solving... debating... learning new skills: do any of these sound like something you would want to spend your second break doing?

Albert Einstein didn't have AI, nor did Shakespeare. They weren't puppets to AI, what they were was human!

This is the Human society, where we nurture young minds. No matter how hard or far away you think your future aspirations are, the society will anchor your creativity and leave you feeling much more confident. Human society doesn't need you to be an exact copy of everyone else: it needs your ideas and voice. We will have many, many opportunities for everyone to share their ideas; a simple recognition and chance to speak up can lead to great things!

Inspiration: we can listen to public speakers, local MPs and young stars...

Everyone is welcome, so anyone can come second break Week A, Thursdays! Our first session will be held in S12 (in the science corridor) on Thursday 3rd December, second break; Week A... Hope to see you there with friends!

Email me for more information: 25tkarunaharan@bosworthacademy.org.uk

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!

From ACEs to Action

Building brighter futures across Leicestershire

OXFORD BRAIN STORY

ONLINE WORKSHOP FOR

Parents and Carers

Workshops: Thursday 21st January, 9am-10:30am
or 28th January 2027, 6pm-7:30pm

Oakfield Short-Stay School warmly invites parents and carers from across Leicestershire to join our Oxford Brain Story workshops.



Using simple, relatable ideas, the workshop explores how childhood experiences and relationships can shape lifelong health and wellbeing, and the positive difference that safe, supportive relationships can make. **Professor Louise Dalton and Professor Elizabeth Rappa** will bring the science to life and share practical ideas that can help children, young people and families thrive!

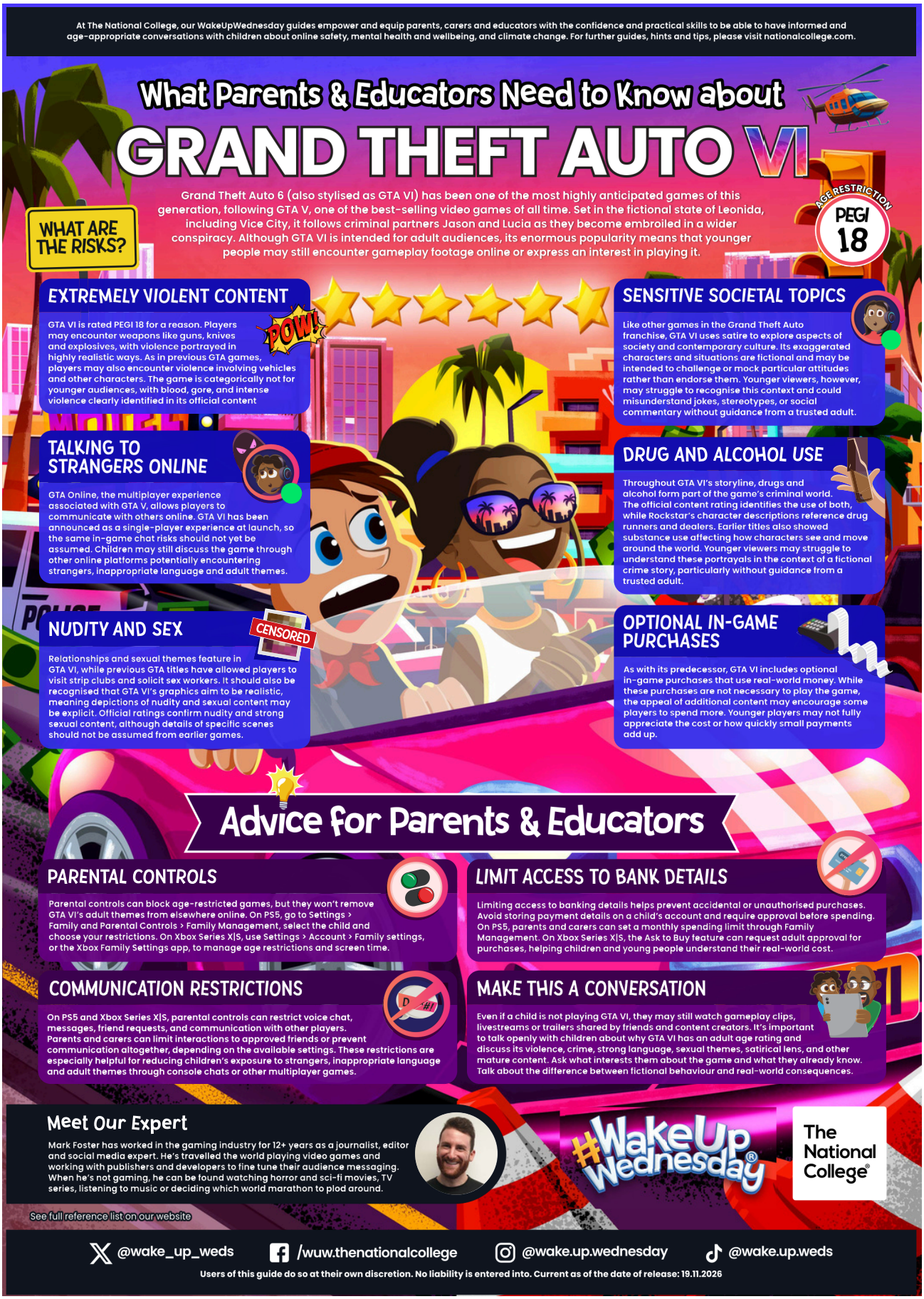
Thursday, 21st Jan 9am – 10:30am



Thursday, 28th Jan 6pm – 7:30pm



Workshop Enquiries & Peer-Training Opportunities
oakfieldsecondary@leics.gov.uk


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
GRAND THEFT AUTO VI
Grand Theft Auto 6 (also stylised as GTA VI) has been one of the most highly anticipated games of this generation, following GTA V, one of the best-selling video games of all time. Set in the fictional state of Leonida, including Vice City, it follows criminal partners Jason and Lucia as they become embroiled in a wider conspiracy. Although GTA VI is intended for adult audiences, its enormous popularity means that younger people may still encounter gameplay footage online or express an interest in playing it.
AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 18
WHAT ARE THE RISKS?
EXTREMELY VIOLENT CONTENT
POW!
GTA VI is rated PEGI 18 for a reason. Players may encounter weapons like guns, knives and explosives, with violence portrayed in highly realistic ways. As in previous GTA games, players may also encounter violence involving vehicles and other characters. The game is categorically not for younger audiences, with blood, gore, and intense violence clearly identified in its official content
SENSITIVE SOCIETAL TOPICS
Like other games in the Grand Theft Auto franchise, GTA VI uses satire to explore aspects of society and contemporary culture. Its exaggerated characters and situations are fictional and may be intended to challenge or mock particular attitudes rather than endorse them. Younger viewers, however, may struggle to recognise this context and could misunderstand jokes, stereotypes, or social commentary without guidance from a trusted adult.
TALKING TO STRANGERS ONLINE
GTA Online, the multiplayer experience associated with GTA V, allows players to communicate with others online. GTA VI has been announced as a single-player experience at launch, so the same in-game chat risks should not yet be assumed. Children may still discuss the game through other online platforms potentially encountering strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes.
DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE
Throughout GTA VI's storyline, drugs and alcohol form part of the game's criminal world. The official content rating identifies the use of both, while Rockstar's character descriptions reference drug runners and dealers. Earlier titles also showed substance use affecting how characters see and move around the world. Younger viewers may struggle to understand these portrayals in the context of a fictional crime story, particularly without guidance from a trusted adult.
NUDITY AND SEX
CENSORED
Relationships and sexual themes feature in GTA VI, while previous GTA titles have allowed players to visit strip clubs and solicit sex workers. It should also be recognised that GTA VI's graphics aim to be realistic, meaning depictions of nudity and sexual content may be explicit. Official ratings confirm nudity and strong sexual content, although details of specific scenes should not be assumed from earlier games.
OPTIONAL IN-GAME PURCHASES
As with its predecessor, GTA VI includes optional in-game purchases that use real-world money. While these purchases are not necessary to play the game, the appeal of additional content may encourage some players to spend more. Younger players may not fully appreciate the cost or how quickly small payments add up.
Advice for Parents & Educators
PARENTAL CONTROLS
Parental controls can block age-restricted games, but they won't remove GTA VI's adult themes from elsewhere online. On PS5, go to Settings > Family and Parental Controls > Family Management, select the child and choose your restrictions. On Xbox Series X|S, use Settings > Account > Family settings, or the Xbox Family Settings app, to manage age restrictions and screen time.
LIMIT ACCESS TO BANK DETAILS
Limiting access to banking details helps prevent accidental or unauthorised purchases. Avoid storing payment details on a child's account and require approval before spending. On PS5, parents and carers can set a monthly spending limit through Family Management. On Xbox Series X|S, the Ask to Buy feature can request adult approval for purchases, helping children and young people understand their real-world cost.
COMMUNICATION RESTRICTIONS
On PS5 and Xbox Series X|S, parental controls can restrict voice chat, messages, friend requests, and communication with other players. Parents and carers can limit interactions to approved friends or prevent communication altogether, depending on the available settings. These restrictions are especially helpful for reducing children's exposure to strangers, inappropriate language and adult themes through console chats or other multiplayer games.
MAKE THIS A CONVERSATION
Even if a child is not playing GTA VI, they may still watch gameplay clips, livestreams or trailers shared by friends and content creators. It's important to talk openly with children about why GTA VI has an adult age rating and discuss its violence, crime, strong language, sexual themes, satirical lens, and other mature content. Ask what interests them about the game and what they already know. Talk about the difference between fictional behaviour and real-world consequences.
Meet Our Expert
Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 12+ years as a journalist, editor and social media expert. He's travelled the world playing video games and working with publishers and developers to fine tune their audience messaging. When he's not gaming, he can be found watching horror and sci-fi movies, TV series, listening to music or deciding which world marathon to plod around.
See full reference list on our website
#WakeUpWednesday
The National College
@wake_up_weds
/wuw.thenationalcollege
@wake.up.wednesday
@wake.up.weds
Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.11.2026

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 first week on rotation.
K.Ford



From The Archives



Want to look up an old article?
Our most recent 'In The Loop' Newsletters are available **here** for you to access.

Important Contact Details

KS3 Assistant Head Teacher:
Liam Grest lgrest@bosworthacademy.org.uk
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Assistant Head of Year 7:
Wendy Sessions wsessions@bosworthacademy.org.uk
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Head of Year 10:
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Assistant Head of Year 10:
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Head of Year 11:
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Assistant Head of Year 11:
Laura McQuaid lmcquaid@bosworthacademy.org.uk

KS5 Assistant Head Teacher:
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Head of Year 12:
Alison Woolley awoolley1@bosworthacademy.org.uk
Head of Year 13:
Chloe Stephenson
cstephenson@bosworthacademy.org.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Nikki Whitaker nwhitaker@bosworthacademy.org.uk
Report a safeguarding concern:
DSL@bosworthacademy.org.uk
Student Support:
studentjusttalk@bosworthacademy.org.uk
Attendance Support:
attendance@bosworthacademy.org.uk