

16 May 2025

# NEWSLETTER

Dear Families,

So much to celebrate this week! From fantastic student successes to our focus on Mental Health Awareness Week. Read on for all the details!

## Key Dates:

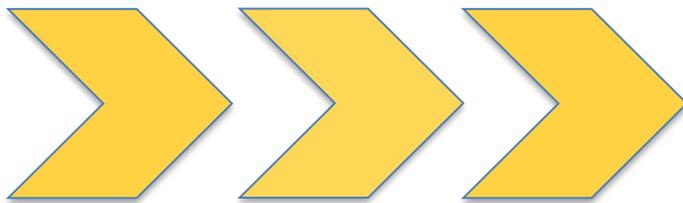
- 23 May 2025- Term 5 Ends
- 02 June 2025- Term 6 Starts

## Update

### TWS Matilda the Musical

Don't miss out on a fantastic show!  
Tickets are now on sale for our school's production of Matilda! Come along and support our talented students!

[Ticket source](#)



**NEXT WEEK IS**  
**WEEK B**  
**TIMETABLE**



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



**ON TRACK TO EXCELLENCE**

**A member of Swale Academies Trust**

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, ME10 2JS

Registered in England No. 07344732

## REMINDERS

### \*\* Respecting Accessible Parking Spaces \*\*

We kindly remind all parents and visitors to respect our designated accessible parking spaces. These spaces are reserved for individuals with disabilities who require close proximity to the school entrance.

Please remember:

- **Not all disabilities are visible.** Some individuals may have valid permits that are not always displayed.
- **Permits must be displayed.** If you have a valid permit, please ensure it is clearly visible in your vehicle's windscreen.
- **Cooperation is key.** We rely on everyone's cooperation to ensure these spaces are available for those who need them.

We understand that parking can be challenging, but we ask that you be considerate of others and refrain from parking in accessible spaces unless you have a valid permit.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making our school accessible for everyone.

### \*\* Engines Off \*\*

To help reduce air pollution, noise levels, and respect our neighbour's, please remember to turn off your engine while waiting to drop off or pick up your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

## THIS WEEK SO FAR...

### \*\* TRACK Excellence Raffle Winners Announced! \*\*

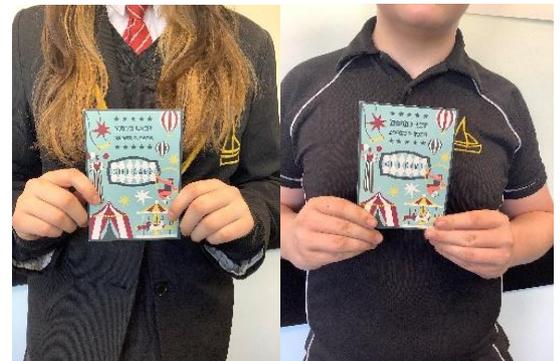
Each Wednesday, the school will run a 'TRACK Excellence' raffle with two prizes for students. To enter, students just have to have seven or more positive signatures over the two weeks. Students with negative signatures are still able to participate.

This week's winners are:

**Molly (Year 9) and Lucas (Year 8)**

We've teamed up with local businesses for amazing rewards.

This week's prize is vouchers for local book store: **Tales on Moon Lane.**



Students with their prizes in the TRACK Excellence raffle.



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**\*\* Book of Commendation- Celebrating Student Success! \*\***

We are pleased to announce the following students have been recognised for their exceptional work and have been added to the Book of Commendation.

**Science:**

- **Grace (Year 9):** Outstanding work on polymer chains.
- **Alfie, Lotte, April, Sophia, and Flo (Year 8):** Exceptionally well-written letter about insulation.

**Personal Development:**

- **Sophia and Macey (Year 8):** Thoughtful work on the importance of personal space.

**Design and Technology:**

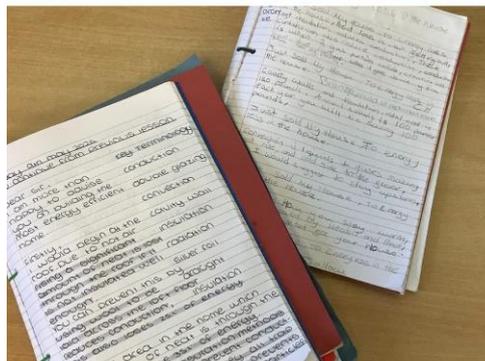
- **Harrison (Year 8):** Beautiful and innovative light design.

**Spanish:**

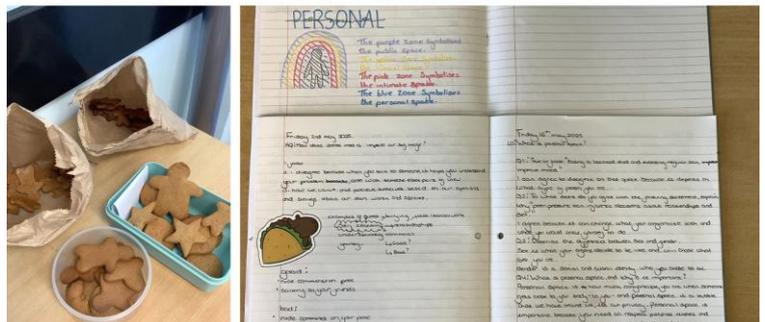
- **Sophia (Year 8):** Impressive Spanish writing skills.

**Food Technology:**

- **April, Albert, Laila-Rose, Nancy, and Seb (Year 8):** For cooking delicious gingerbread biscuits!



“  
Book of  
Commendation  
”



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The Institute for  
Research in Schools



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**\*\* Year 7 Engaged in Road Sense on the Stage \*\***

Last week, our Year 7 students participated in an informative "Safer Road Users" Road Sense session on the stage. It was great to see them engaged and learning valuable skills for staying safe!



**\*\* Crown Court Experience for Students \*\***

Over the past three months, our Citizenship Department provided an invaluable experience for our students, taking 10 students at a time to Canterbury Crown Court to observe real court cases, including jury trials! This directly links to their GCSE curriculum, bringing the functions of the courts and judiciary to life. They even had Q&A sessions with judges and one lucky student got to try on a judge's wig! On the final trip, students sat in the barristers' and solicitors' positions, witnessing fascinating criminal cases and sparking crucial discussions about our legal system.



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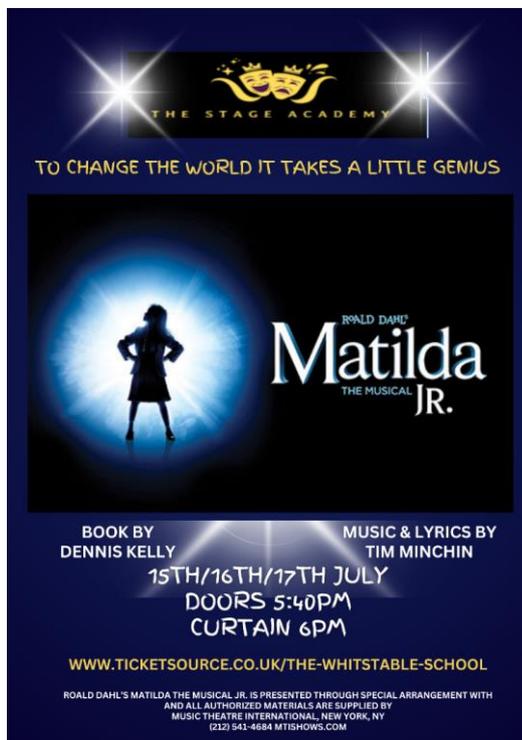
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## Year 7 Student Charlie's Wembley Experience with Whitstable Town FC!

We are incredibly proud of Year 7 student Charlie, who had the fantastic opportunity to be a flag waver for Whitstable Town Football Club at their recent match at Wembley Stadium on Sunday! This was a truly memorable experience for Charlie and we extend our congratulations to Whitstable Town Football Club as well.



Get your tickets now for our school's spectacular production of Matilda! It's going to be amazing. Tickets via: [Ticket Source](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-whitstable-school)



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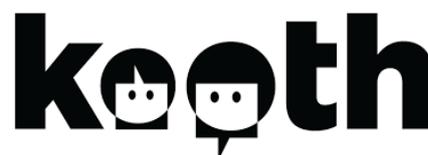
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It's **Mental Health Awareness Week (May 12th - 18th, 2025)**! This year's theme is '**Community**'. Building strong connections and supporting each other is so important for our wellbeing. Check out the resources below for young people and tips on how to cope. Let's build a supportive community together!

## **\*\* Mental Health, Wellbeing and Online Safety Resources \*\***

In our continued commitment to promoting mental wellbeing and online safety, we're sharing valuable resources from KOOOTH. This is particularly timely following the recent 'Adolescence' documentary, which highlighted crucial online safety concerns. KOOOTH offers support and guidance on social anxiety, low mood, and staying safe online, empowering both parents and students. To further support our community, KOOOTH has produced a 15-minute video on staying safe online, a vital aspect of our students' wellbeing. We strongly encourage you to watch this video and discuss its content with your children. Additionally, KOOOTH provides helpful leaflets with information on these topics and how to sign up for their services.

- [15-Minute Social Media and Staying Safe Online Video by KOOOTH](#)
- [Social anxiety](#)
- [Online Safety Guide Kooth](#)
- [Kooth- Navigating Depression and low mood](#)



## **\*\* Suicidal Thoughts in Young People - Papyrus \*\***



It is not uncommon for young people to experience emotional distress or turbulence as they navigate adolescence. However, any talk of hopelessness, self-harm, or suicide should never be dismissed or minimised. Suicidal thoughts are a clear indication that a young person is struggling and needs support.

Recognising the signs can be difficult. Changes in behaviour, withdrawal from others, or increased risk-taking may signal deeper concerns. It's vital to create a safe, non-judgemental space where pupils feel able to talk. These conversations can be uncomfortable, but they can also be life-saving.

Papyrus, a national charity dedicated to preventing suicide in young people, offers practical advice on how to take these concerns seriously and respond appropriately. Parents/Carers are encouraged to read and share the following resource:

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/the-importance-of-taking-suicidal-thoughts-in-young-people-seriously/>



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If you have any immediate concerns that your child has suicidal thoughts, please contact your GP, Crisis Team at QEQM or 999. The school can also support with appropriate referrals for support through Papyrus and other agencies.

**\*\* Shout- confidential 24/7 mental health service \*\***

We would like to introduce your child to Shout <https://giveusashout.org/> this Mental Health Awareness Week. Shout is the UK's first and only free, confidential, 24/7 text messaging service for young people who are struggling to cope.

Shout is powered by the charity Mental Health Innovations which also powers The Mix, a service providing free, anonymous online advice about the important issues in young people's lives.

How does the service work?

An individual will text '**SHOUT**' to '**85258**' when in need of support. This service is available 24/7 to people in the UK.

1. The texter will then receive an automated text asking them about the nature of their problem. This text will also let the individual know that they are being connected to a trained Shout Volunteer. The aim is to respond to all texters within five minutes, but wait times may be longer during busy periods.
2. Once connected, the Shout Volunteer will introduce themselves. The texter and volunteer will communicate back and forth via text message, using Shout's secure platform.
3. The Shout Volunteers use empathetic and effective active listening techniques, establish goals and discover next steps to move texters from a hot moment, to a cool calm, until the texter feels calm and safe.
4. Towards the end of the conversation, the Shout Volunteer can provide resources that provide further help and support for longer-term mental health experiences.

Shout is a de-escalation, volunteer-driven service. They work with young people in distress to take them to a calmer moment and empower them to take their next steps to feeling better and handle future issues. They help texters to plan for their safety and to use techniques that support their own wellbeing. They might signpost them to further support services or their GP so that they can get continuous and long-term support. Every conversation is overseen by a Clinical Supervisor and assessed for risk; their volunteers will never close a conversation where there is an imminent risk to someone's life. If they have been texting for a while and a texter is not deemed to be at imminent risk, the volunteer will look to recap on the next steps with the texter and warmly close the conversation. This is so that they are able to help provide their service to other people who are also in distress and need in the moment support.

For more information please visit <https://giveusashout.org/>



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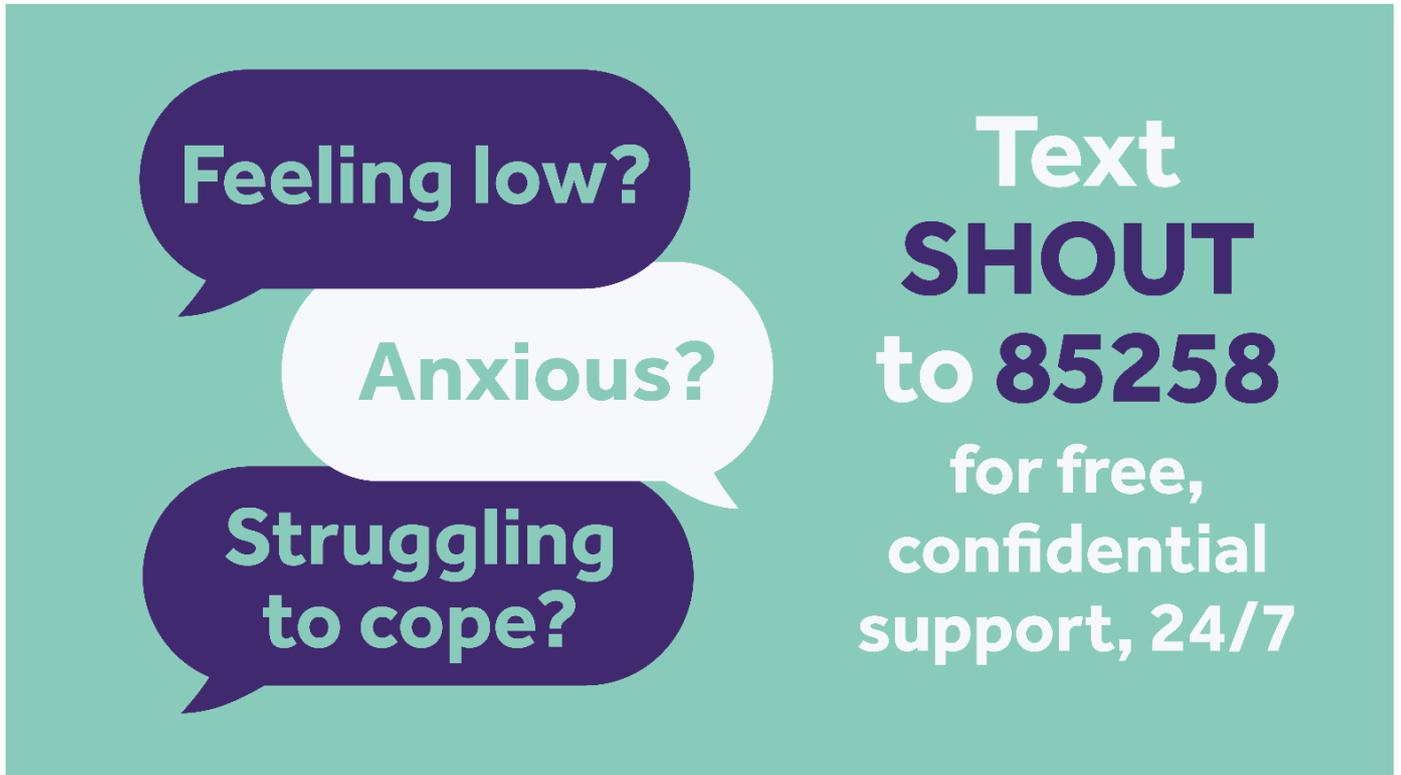
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**Feeling low?**

**Anxious?**

**Struggling to cope?**

**Text SHOUT to 85258**  
for free, confidential support, 24/7

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### \*\* Year 8 DofE Introduction Evening! \*\*

Calling all Year 8 parents, carers, and students! Interested in learning about the nationally recognized Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award?

Join us for an introduction evening on **Thursday, 22nd May 2025, from 5-6pm on The Stage.**



Find out about the DofE expectations, amazing achievements from previous year groups, exciting expeditions and trips, and get all your questions answered.

Students can start their DofE journey in Year 9, so there's plenty of time to enrol even if you can't make this evening. We hope to see you there!



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## \*\* UCAS Discovery Event for Year 12 \*\*

As our Year 12 students begin to explore their post-Sixth Form options, we are excited to offer them a valuable opportunity to attend a **UCAS Discovery event in Maidstone on Tuesday, June 3rd**. This event goes beyond university applications, providing students with information on apprenticeships and connections with potential employers. Students will have the chance to network with apprenticeship providers, specialists from various employment sectors and university representatives. Our aim is for this day to be both informative and inspiring, encouraging students to consider their future aspirations.

If you would like your child to participate in this trip, please provide consent via Parentpay. For further information, please contact the KS5 Progress Leader, Ms O'Flaherty at [tws\\_admin@swale.at](mailto:tws_admin@swale.at)



## \*\* Important Notice for Year 10 and Year 12 work experience\*\*

**Week of: June 30th - July 4th, 2025 (5 days)**

**Work experience is a valuable opportunity for students to:**

- Gain exposure to the professional world and explore different career paths.
- Develop essential skills desired by employers, such as communication, teamwork and problem-solving.
- Boost confidence and build personal and social skills.



### **Finding Your Placement:**

Students are responsible for finding their own work experience placement. This allows them to explore interests and connect with potential career fields. We will be providing support through **Unifrog**, a platform that helps track and manage placement search.

### **Have Questions?**

If you have any further questions about work experience, please don't hesitate to contact:

- Email: [tws-workexperience@swale.at](mailto:tws-workexperience@swale.at)



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## Attention all business owners and employers



Are you able to support a Year 10 or 12 student develop valuable employability skills? We are seeking work experience placements for our students during the week of **Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July 2025**.

We manage our Work Experience program through Unifrog, which handles all the necessary administration, including risk assessments, health and safety policies, and parental/carer consent. If you can offer a placement during this week, we would be incredibly grateful. Please complete the short form to express your interest or scan the QR code:

Form: [Work Experience Placement Form](#)

Alternatively, you can contact us directly at: [tw\\_s-workexperience@swale.at](mailto:tw_s-workexperience@swale.at)



**We thank you in advance for any opportunities you are able to provide.**

## NOTICE BOARD



THE WHITSTABLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB

# Start Your Day Right

Come to the Restaurant from 8:20 - 8:35 everyday  
Bacon or sausage rolls, croissants, waffles, pain au chocolate and pain au raisin Prices from £1.55  
Free porridge available to all students everyday



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Coming soon:  
**SWALEFEAST**



**2025**

Patience. Precision. Perfection.  
Ready when you are, chefs!

07.05.25  
Hosted at: The North School

Swale  
ACADEMIES  
TRUST

- 7 schools
- 7 cooking teams
- 21 students
- Cuisine in honour of VE Day

Ready when you are, chefs!  
The timer is ticking.

*"The standard was very impressive with confidence high, even though the ingredients to be used were only known that morning!" - Head Judge, SwaleFeast 2024*

Swale  
ACADEMIES  
TRUST

**Prom Bake Sale**

Fundraiser

Hosted by:  
Year 11  
Miss Butler  
Miss Clements

FRIDAY  
BREAK AND LUNCH AT  
THE REWARDS SHOP

**50p - £2**

- Cupcakes
- Brownies
- cookies
- and more!

For more information visit Miss Butler in upper creative



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**FREE FAMILY EVENT**

canterbury city council

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday 12 July 2025**  
**10am to 4pm**  
 at Canterbury Rugby Club, CT4 7DZ

Your chance to **'GIVE IT A GO!'** with various sports from around the district.  
 More information coming soon!

Canterbury City Council, in partnership with Canterbury RFC, is hosting a fantastic FREE event called 'Give It A Go!' This is a brilliant opportunity for everyone to try out a variety of sports and activities, from Football and Rugby to Dance and Judo. There will also be health and wellbeing stalls, plus visits from Kent Police and Kent Fire & Rescue Service. Stay tuned for more details on a free shuttle service from Canterbury City Centre!

The BRIT SCHOOL Canterbury College wk



## BRIT KIDS

**SATURDAY COURSES IN CREATIVE, MEDIA & PERFORMING ARTS FOR 7-18 YEAR OLDS AT CANTERBURY, KINGS CROSS AND CROYDON**

**WHAT DO WE DO? MORE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE**

TO FIND OUT MORE, GO TO [BRITKIDS.ORG](http://BRITKIDS.ORG)

FOLLOW US ON:   

## RAF HERNE BAY TOWN SHOW

**30<sup>TH</sup> MAY - 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE**  
**10:00 - 17:30**



Get ready, Herne Bay! The RAF is landing near you for an unmissable event of adventure, excitement, and hands-on activities for all ages. Whether you're an aviation enthusiast, a thrill-seeker, or simply looking for a fun family day out, there's something for everyone.

Step inside an RAF aircraft and capture the moment as you imagine life as a pilot. Test your agility and determination with our high-energy challenges or learn essential life-saving skills in one of our workshops.

Curious about where a future with the RAF could take you? Chat with our friendly team about the wide range of exciting careers and opportunities across engineering, logistics, medical, and more. We'll also have interactive activities and youth engagement experiences designed to spark inspiration and ambition.

With live music from a RAF band as they fill the town show with energy and atmosphere, the atmosphere will be vibrant from start to finish. So, rally your family, bring your friends, and join us for an unforgettable event of discovery, energy, and connection. We'll see you at Herne Bay!

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR FREE TICKET NOW!



OR CLICK HERE TO BOOK

**ROYAL AIR FORCE**  
REGULAR & RESERVE

**NO ORDINARY JOB**



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## SEND Support and Parenting Support Drop-In

For all parents/carers, young people, and children (0-25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities (diagnosed and undiagnosed) and for any parents/carers needing general parenting advice.



### SEND Support

We can help you with understanding your child's needs, and offer tips and strategies to help at home, signposting to local SEND support services and getting the best from your child's education.

### General Parenting

We can help you with understanding your child's needs, managing behaviour, and offering different strategies to support with parenting at home.

#### Kingsmead Family Hub

**DATE:** 1st Friday of the month:

- 4th April
- 2nd May
- 6th June
- 4th July
- 1st August
- 5th September
- 3rd October
- 7th November
- 5th December
- 2nd January
- 6th February
- 6th March

**TIME:** 9:30am - 11:30am

**VENUE:** Kingsmead Road, Canterbury, CT2 7PH

#### Whitstable Family Hub

**DATE:** 2nd Tuesday of the month:

- 8th April
- 13th May
- 10th June
- 8th July
- 12th August
- 9th September
- 14th October
- 11th November
- 9th December
- 13th January
- 10th February
- 10th March

**TIME:** 9:30am - 11:30am

**VENUE:** Tower Parade, Whitstable, CT5 2BJ

#### Herne Bay Family Hub

**DATE:** 3rd Wednesday of the month:

- 16th April
- 21st May
- 18th June
- 16th July
- 20th August
- 17th September
- 15th October
- 19th November
- 17th December
- 21st January
- 18th February
- 18th March

**TIME:** 9:30am - 11:30am

**VENUE:** Memorial Park, Kings Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5RG

Visit your local Family Hub today

[www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub](http://www.kent.gov.uk/familyhub)



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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. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

**SNAP STREAK**  
\$7 DAYS

**AGE RESTRICTION**  
13+

Snapchat is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

**PREDATORS AND SCAMS**  
Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them and will post them unless they're paid. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – on this app or others. This likely isn't helped by 'SnapMaps' – a feature which highlights your exact position in real-time. This is meant to help friends keep track of each other, but could be used for more sinister reasons.

**MY EYES ONLY**  
Snapchat has a hidden photo vault called 'My Eyes Only'. Teens can conceal sensitive photos and videos from parents and carers in this folder, which is protected by a PIN. You can check for this by clicking on the icon which looks like two playing cards. This takes you to the 'Memories' folder which stores photos, stories and the My Eyes Only folder.

**SCREEN TIME ADDICTION**  
Snapchat prioritises user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight', which show tailored content to each user. However, this could also be seen as an attempt to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore, constant notifications can lure people into using the app.

**INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT**  
Some content on Snapchat simply isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's 'disappearing messages' feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

**ONLINE PRESSURES**  
Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beauty' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy in younger users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

**UTILISE PARENTAL CONTROLS**  
Snapchat's 'Family Centre' lets you view the details of the child's account – their friends list and who they've spoken to in the last week – and report any concerns. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. To keep the child's location hidden on the app, go into settings and turn on 'Ghost Mode' and 'Hide Live Location', and ensure they know not to share their location with anyone.

**FAMILIARISE YOURSELF**  
Before you allow a child to download Snapchat, download it yourself and familiarise yourself with the app. Snapchat has produced a parents' guide to the app to help you understand how it works and any protections they have in place. A link for this can be found in the sources below.

**BLOCK AND REPORT**  
If a stranger does connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

**ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS**  
Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. For example, discuss My AI's responses to questions and how reliable they are. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

#WakeUpWednesday  
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

@wake\_up\_weds | www.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: 27.11.2024



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## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide exploring the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

**AGE RESTRICTION PEGI 7**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

**SCARY ELEMENTS**  
While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of digital LEGO, certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

**GRIEFING**  
Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally turns someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

**ADDICTIVENESS**  
Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

### PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

### ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices, however, the full game requires a one-off purchase, which is typically around £16. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

### HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

### TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or dishonest people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

### RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's scary stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

### PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 8 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.

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