# Tavistock College Newsletter

Dartmoor Multi Academy









🚹 💟 🛚 @collegetavi

04/12/2023

### **Child Protection**

Your child's safety is of paramount concern to us. If you have a concern which involves the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person, please contact Mrs Hazel Blackmore (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Mr Jack Brokenshire or Miss Rachael Squire immediately.



If the concern is outside College hours, please contact MASH on 0345 155 1071

(email: mashsecure@devon.gov.uk) Children's Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) on 0845 6000 388 or Police on 101 (non-emergency) and 999 (emergency).



## alk to us in confidence... TAV1 [+ your message] To: 07860 021 323 Report via SMS or visit: https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/tav1/







As another year draws to a close, I would like to thank you for all the support you have given this year so far. With the continued support of our Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust colleagues, we continue to celebrate our successes and strive for the next steps in our school improvement journey to ensure we are;

'Working together to ensure all can succeed in......'

This new way of looking at our work with our fantastic young people, will ensure that everyone in our school community really understands our purpose. This starts with relationships, with young people, parents and the community. It has been fantastic to see so many of you take us up on our offer to come into school already this academic year. Through parents evenings, open evenings, Christmas wreath making workshops, our school production or other community events, we have had more parent and community members through our doors than we have in years, long may it continue.

### End of term arrangements

Our last College day for this term is Friday 15th December. On this day the College will have an earlier finish of 14.10. Students will attend normal lessons until the end of Period 4. They will then have lunch which will be in our usual split format. Students will then be dismissed from lunch or tutor at 14.10. Buses have been arranged to pick up students at the earlier time of 14.20.

### **Public Service Buses**

Having checked each of the public service bus timetables we recommend that students catching these services leave at the following times:-

### Stagecoach Bus 87A (TAV185) to Bere Alston

Students will need to catch this bus from Tavistock Bus Station at 14.10. Timetable available at <a href="www.stagecoachbus.com">www.stagecoachbus.com</a> Students will need to leave college at 13.50.

### Go Cornwall Bus 79 to Callington serving

Gunnislake/Calstock/St Anns Chapel/Harrowbarrow/Callington

Students will need to catch this bus from Tavistock Bus Station at 14.20. Timetable available at

### https://www.gocornwallbus.co.uk

Please note the 14.20 service does not stop at the Lay By stop. If this stop is required please contact the college. Students will need to leave college at 14.00.

### Dartline 118 (TAV 118) serving Okehampton/Lydford/Brentor/Mary Tavy

Students will need to catch this bus from Tavistock Bus Station at 14.20. Timetable available at <u>www.dartmoorline.com</u> Students will need to leave college at 14.00.

The College will be closed for the festive holiday from Friday 15th December 2023 to Wednesday 3rd January 2024 and therefore members of staff will be unavailable during this time. If you have any questions or concerns please direct them to <a href="mailto:office@tavistockcollege.org">office@tavistockcollege.org</a> which is checked periodically during the holidays.

### Beginning of Spring Term 2023-24

Following the winter break, the College reopens to students on Wednesday 3 January 2024. Students should arrive at the College ready for 08:35. Students will then be directed to their tutor group rooms for a tutor session and assembly focusing on our values, expectations and the year ahead. There will be no line-ups on Wednesday.

Please can I take this opportunity to reflect on our uniform changes this year and recognise how smart many of our young people look each day in their uniform. For any student who does not meet our uniform expectations in January, our behaviour policy will be followed. Our uniform policy can be found on our website here: <u>Uniform Policy</u>

For those students who we welcome from schools mid-year, we have created a helpful onboarding manual with lots of information about the College. This student onboarding manual is really helpful for everyone in establishing our values, our expectations and what life is like at the College. Please find the link here: <a href="Student Onboarding Manual">Student Onboarding Manual</a> If you have a concern which involves the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person during the summer holidays, please contact MASH on 0345 155 1071 (email: <a href="mashsecure@devon.gov.uk">mashsecure@devon.gov.uk</a>), Children's Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) on 0845 6000 388 or Police on 101 (non-emergency) and 999 (emergency).

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful festive break and we look forward to seeing all our young people in January, ready for another successful year at the College.



# Community Partnership Family Wreath Making & Christmas Crafts





## Tavistock College Residential Trips & Visits

| Visit                         | Date          | Year<br>Group     | Approximate<br>Cost | Trip Leader Contact              |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Geneva                        | March 2024    | 12 & 13           | £420                | r.kelly@tavistockcollege.org     |
| Rome                          | March 2024    | 10-12             | £941                | t.massey@tavistockcollege.org    |
| Andalucia                     | March 2024    | 8 & 9             | £808                | k.mora-ogle@tavistockcollege.org |
| Brittany                      | July 2024     | 7 & 8             | £685                | t.mcaulay@tavistockcollege.org   |
| Wimbledon                     | July 2024     | 8-10              | £100                | n.hosking@tavistockcollege.org   |
| Canada Ski Trip               | Easter 2025   | 10-12             | £2251               | n.read@tavistockcollege.org      |
| Disneyland Paris STEM         | January 2024  | 8 & 9             | £575                | r.kelly@tavistockcollege.org     |
| Disneyland Paris STEM         | January 2024  | 10-13             | £650                | e.lane@tavistockcollege.org      |
| Paris Art                     | February 2024 | 12 & 13           | £550                | k.wyatt@tavistockcollege.org     |
| London Harry Potter           | May 2024      | 7                 | ТВС                 | s.young@tavistockcollege.org     |
| London West End Tour          | March 2024    | 10                | ТВС                 | e.pearson@tavistockcollege.org   |
| Disneyland Paris Netball      | April 2024    | 9, 10, 12<br>& 13 | £803                | n.ingleby@tavistockcollege.org   |
| UK Netball & Football<br>Tour | March 2024    | 7                 | £300                | s.hulbert@tavistockcollege.org   |

- Not all planned residential trips and visits are listed above, further trips will be added as and when costings are clarified by external companies
- Trip costs are approximate
- Deposit amounts and dates will be clarified in communication via email to selected groups
- We aim to run most residential trips on a yearly basis, although prices may be subject to change. Trips for the
  following year will be communicated via July newsletters at the end of each academic year. This is to allow families
  time to plan and budget
- Other non residential Tavy Promise visits will be taking place as normal throughout the academic year

### Tavistock College Endowment Fund

We are very grateful for the work of the Tavistock College Endowment Fund. The Fund is there to support wider opportunities for our young people. Applications for funding are welcome from both staff and individual families. The Trustees meet three times a year in January, May and October and prefer all applications to be submitted to them at least two weeks prior to their meeting. They do not wish to approve applications retrospectively. It is also important to stress that anyone applying for funding should, wherever possible, try to raise some funds themselves. Many groups have done this by activities such as bag packing at a local supermarket, seeking business sponsorship or holding their own fund-raising events. The Trustees do not support mainstream activities in school but do provide funding for extracurricular activities and trips where appropriate. Details can be found here - https://www.tavistockcollege.org/our-college/tavistock-college-endowment-fund/

## **SEND Notice Board**



## Lottery Funded Family Support Events

Wild Embers are supporting families with SEND children 6-11 yrs with funded weekend activities and retreats

Family Day: Join us at our beautiful site at Blackberry Barn on <u>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></u>
<u>December, 10am-3pm</u> for our second 2023 family weekend event. The day will include bush crafts, exploring nature, outdoor cooking with lunch around the fire.

Wild Embers is a community orientated and highly impactful provider that has been running since 2017. We are members of the alternative providers network, the parent and carer forum Devon, and have established connections with a large number of Academies. We run a successful Ofsted registered forest school, community gatherings/feasts, father & child days, with a range of specialist support offerings for children and families with SEND.

BOOKING DEADLINE - Sunday 3rd December



Cost: Donations will be gratefully received (we ask for a minimum of a £1 donation)

## **Tavistock** food hu

An Affordable Food Club

Feeling the pinch? Why not join our food club and save up to 60% on supermarket prices. Only £5 donation per bag!

Wednesdays 11.30am to 12.30pm at The King's, Pixon Lane or Saturdays at The Red & Black Club. Crowndale Road 11am to 12pm email info@feedingdevon.org.uk



### **Toy Recycling Project**

We will soon be collecting preloved toys to distribute at a free pop-up event for anyone struggling to afford gifts this Christmas for their children.

Toy donations collection points are at Tavistock Library or Tavistock Carpets from 6th-30th November.

Free Pop-up event - Saturday December 2nd at the United Reformed Church Hall 10 am till 3 pm, all welcome.

We encourage you to attend the event if you can, to choose gifts for your children, but if you can't and are in need this Christmas, please email ToyRecycleProject@outlook.com

Please help us to help very child to receive gifts this Christmas time by donating. Only toys in good condition please.







TAVISTOCK . CARPETS

### **Cost of living** Help and guidance

Are you worried about the rising cost of energy bills, food and transport?

### You are not alone, the cost of living crisis is affecting many of us.

You may want help accessing grants and debt advice, support getting all the money you are entitled to, or simply want to know more about the government's recent support measures. West Devon Borough Council want to reach out to residents to make sure you are aware of support available.

### **Household Support Fund**

This will be available from April 2023 to provide short-term financial support to help meet the needs of those struggling to afford food, energy, water bills and other related essentials.

### Applications can be made online.

In addition, our partners will issue food vouchers to families of children who receive free school meals so they can buy for through the school holidays. Keep an eye on our website for more information.

www.westdevon.gov.uk/household-support-fund

An online support directory has been created to provide information on a wide range of support available within the Council and our external partners.

### w.westdevon.gov.uk/support-directory

If you need any more information from the Council, ther reach out to us through our 'Contact Us' page which will direct you to the information you are looking for.

www.westdevon.gov.uk/contact-us

### **Free School Meals**

COST OF LIVING

Many people are not aware their children qualify for a free school meal. Check using this website – you do not need to tell the school yourself.

www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/ school-information/school-ma-l-

Your child will receive a nutritious two course meal

School holidays can put increased pressure on finances but there are ways in which you can be supported through subsidised or free holiday clubs

www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/family-support/haf-programme/information-for-parents

### **Healthy Start Card**

If you are 10 weeks pregnant or more, have a child under four years old, or you or your family get certain benefits, you may be able to qualify for a Healthy Start card. The card has money on it to be used in shops to buy:

- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables;
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses; and infant formula milk based on cow's milk. You can also get free vitamins.

See online to find out more and for ways to apply. w.healthystart.nhs.uk/how

### Food Support

The cost of living crisis has made it much more difficult for many people to afford food. If this is something you are experiencing, the Council have collated a list of food hubs on their website.

There is also support for your animals

www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/costofliving/



**Energy** 





Home



Wellbeing

### Struggling to top up your prepayment meter?

You might be able to claim fuel vouchers

If you have prepayment meters and can't afford to top them up, we can help. We may be able to give you fuel vouchers, and our specialist energy team can help you find ways to save money on

Call 01237 879233, email fuelvouchers@ruraldevoncab.org.uk or scan the QR code to request a call back



D.

# DMAT Careers Fair

Are you eager to explore exciting career opportunities? Are you a parent looking to support your child's pathways? Join us at this years Careers and Employment Fair.

📅 Date: December 6th, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Location: Ashbury Hotel, Okehampton, EX20 4NL



- Explore Diverse Career Paths
- Interactive Skills Workshops
- Meet Local Employers
- College and University Representatives









This event is FREE and open to students, parents and all ages of the local community!

For more information, please contact us at careersfair@dmatschools.org.uk







## Year 7 Notice Board

Head of Year - Mr Hunter Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Massey

Over the past two weeks, Tavistock College has shifted gears into full 'Operation Christmas' mode! Students have already spent hours designing some of the most beautiful Christmas decorations to adorn our tree in the Tavistock Christ Tree Festival - which I would encourage you all to go and see at St Eustachius Church and vote for them! We have also been asked as a year group to provide readers for our Carol Concert, and there is a general feeling of community and warmth in the college (despite the incredibly cold weather!).

I'd like to ask Y7 students to take this opportunity to reflect on their first term at Tavistock College. In many ways, it feels like it has flown by, and in others, it's hard to remember the College without them. I am sure each student will reflect on lots of successes, new friends, and overcoming challenges, but perhaps also moments when they felt like they wanted to give up, or like things were too much. I'd remind them in these moments that they are here now, and they have completed the hardest part - starting College is no small undertaking, and while they enjoy their well earned rest, they know that when they return in January, it will be to friends and teachers who look forward to seeing them and sharing their holiday stories. I wish all the students, parents and carers a very happy and restful break.

### **Reminders and Expectations**

Richard Branson shared a story that when he was a teenager, he had kept his father waiting for an event, and his father pulled him aside and said: "is your time so much more important than everybody else's here, that you can so casually be late?" To date, Richard Branson has not been late when it has been in his control. It is important that we are always 'on time' and I was once told that "if you are on time, you are already late and you are not prioritising others" Part of our college charter is to CARE and this means to be PUNCTUAL to college. There are lots of ways to help achieve this: The night before: 1. Check and pack your timetable and pack your school bag, 2. Have your uniform ready 3. Have your packed lunch ready or make sure money is on your account. 4. Have at least 9 hours sleep. 5. Have a snack in your bag in case you oversleep and miss breakfast. Following these steps will eliminate stress and help every student to have a good start to their day.

Our Big Dig Day on Friday 24th November 2023 saw some of our year 7s come together with volunteers from our local community to plant new trees around the perimeter of the college.

Oliva T and Esme A have been giving up their recess times since September to learn how to tap dance so they could take part, together with 7384 other tap dancers from around the country, in the National Tapathon which was held on Sunday 19th November. This event was held in an attempt to break the world record of the most people tap dancing at the same time and to raise funds for Children in Need. Over £35,000 was raised for Children in Need and the attempt was so close, however, the record which stands at 7596 people wasn't broken this year. Well done!

Care Eli H Challenge Ariana B Excel Macy G

### Top 20 Green Boards

Macy G Summer K Maddison D Sophia B Esme A Adam S Leo D Olivia T Ollie H Reuben G Heidi C Dulcie-R Jacob N Evie B Harry R Seren B Sophia H Evelyn C Will D Tyrese B









## Year 8 Notice Board

Head of Year - Mrs Ingleby Assistant Head of Year - Mr Marsh

It has been another busy couple of weeks with plenty going on including science events held by our fantastic science department, STEM events with BAE systems, sports matches and events facilitated by our great sports/PE department, and other individual accomplishments by students in our year group with clubs or activities outside of school. With the long winter nights now well and truly with us, we are all feeling the strain. As a year group we now depend on each other as we plough through this long term before we see the sparkling lights of Christmas in the distance. Now comes the final couple of weeks before the seasonal break and some of your more memorable weeks at school. The twinkles are closer than you think and now plainly in sight! There will be lots of things happening in the next two weeks so make sure you listen to notices and read emails. Please beware that not everyone enjoys this time of year for various reasons and it is always nice to be nice. Check in with each other and enjoy the festive run up in the best possible way with joy and a smile on your face.

School attendance - what are the risks of missing a day? - The Education Hub

Every moment in school counts, and days missed add up quickly. For example, a child in Year 10 who is absent for three days over a half term could miss 15 lessons in total. The higher a pupil's attendance, the more they are likely to learn, and the better they are likely to perform in exams and formal assessments. Data from 2019 shows that 84% of Key Stage 2 pupils who had 100% attendance achieved the expected standard, compared to 40% of pupils who were persistently absent across the key stage.

Just a reminder that the key stage 3 hub is there to support you and where you will find Mrs Ingleby and Mr Marsh.

### **Expectations**

A couple of gentle reminders:

STAR behaviours are now well and truly embedded into school life and have been part of your everyday routine since you started in year 7.

- S Sit up straight and fold your arms
- T Track the speaker (Normally the teacher)
- A Answer and ask questions like a scholar
- R Respect.

### Uniform

Please adhere to school uniform policy. If you decide to wear alternatives, then expect to be challenged. NEW FOR THIS YEAR. Outdoor coats must be removed when you enter any school building

Demonstrating one of the cooperative values- Solidarity, Self-help, Self- responsibility, Democracy,

Demonstrating one of our ethical values- Openness, Honesty, Social-Responsibility, Caring for others.

Riley H, Alex C, Ariah G, Arthur M, Eloise P

Top 20 Green Boards Alex C Arthur M Tia M Summer W Ariah G Eloise P Iola S Thomas H Oscar M William W Oliver P Spencer E Carrie C Ellie G George M Charlotte B Layla C James T Nevaeh B

Kyra A





## **Year 8 Notice Board**

Head of Year - Mrs Ingleby Assistant Head of Year - Mr Marsh

### **Cross country**

Tuesday 28th November at Saltash Community School Aoife S, Eloise P, Miri C, Evangline B.

Mr Ingleby "I was not the only one who was impressed, various members of staff from other schools commented on their conduct and team spirit. Equally impressive were the comments from a group of parents who were watching their children from other schools run. They commented on the girls' team spirit, their togetherness, how they all warmed up together and supported each other until the last runner had finished."

### **Basketball**

Another emphatic victory over Millbay with a fantastic display in attack and defence. More matches are now on the agenda against other schools in the area. With the success of the team, we have seen an increase in the numbers who interested in Basketball, so if you feel this is for you, please speak to Mr Murphy.

### **Community Clubs and events**

Jack and Frankie play for Tavistock Rugby club and they recently won against Okhamption U13's 6-2

Lucas and Oscar play for Horrabridge football club and Lucas scored his first goal at the weekend against Plymstock U13's. Isaac also scored another 2 goals

Luke S will be playing his guitar at St Eustachius church for messy church

Kyrah H won her street dance competition over the weekend in Wales

Sports clubs and extracurricular clubs run on a Tuesday & Thursday after school. Please join teams and take part in the activities that interest you. A late bus provision is provided.

- Remember to let us know if you have a good trip idea in the future.
- if you compete outside of school for any team or you do some fundraising or anything else that's worth a mention, please let Mr Marsh know.







# Year 9 Notice Board Head of Year - Miss Evans

Head of Year - Miss Evans Assistant Head of Year - Miss Fox Challenge - Alfie M for excellent contributions to tutor time

Excel - Archie P for trying hard in lessons

Care - Annika W for always being kind to others

It has been a pleasure to go into so many year 9 lessons over the past 2 weeks and to see the fantastic behaviour from our young people. It has been a great display of their academic success and thank you to those year 9's who have taken pride in their work and shown me what they are working on. Year 9 is an important year as they are the role models for the younger years in KS3, these excellent learning behaviours set a great example to their peers.

Our science and geography departments organised a 'Big Dig' last week. The aim of the project was to plant 200 trees to create a living border around the school field. A group of year 9's were selected to be student leaders to help guide the year 7's throughout the day. It was great to see you all getting stuck in, helping one another and working together to improve our school environment.

As we come towards the end of the Autumn term we start to look at next steps for our young people. It is coming towards the time of year where students are able to start selecting their GCSE options. To support these big decisions we will be attending a careers fair on Wednesday 6th December to give students an opportunity to look at what pathways they could take into employment or further education. Year 9, it is important to remember that you are representing the school and will be talking to potential future employers, so please ensure you are in perfect uniform and put your best foot forward!







## Year 10 Notice Board

Head of Year - Mrs Squire Assistant Head of Year -Mr Trimmer

Year 10 Girls Football team match report:

The team: Lacey Newton, Courtney Pollard, Phoebe Piper, Molly Riddy, Tallulah Devar, Luana Pellegrinello , Isabel Keeley, Isla Miller, Macey Polhill, Ava Mellor, Temi Adjne

We went to Exmouth by minibus. It was a tough game finishing at 1-1. Phoebe being the only goal scorer. Then we went to penalties where we lost 3-2.lacey and Molly scored our penalties.

Well done to the Girls team! A loss to penalties is never great. It was a long drive to Exmouth and back after a busy day. Superb effort to all. Thank you.

Around the World in 80 Days

Report by: Jessica M

We have been rehearsing for the show for 3 months now and I am really proud of how I have stepped up for it. It's been a really fun, but challenging experience. I have learnt to work with the older years groups. I am looking forward to seeing you at the performances 7,8 and 9 of December!

Work Experience link below is ready to go for you to complete with your child:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1try1JgV2Arh2tgIm07KqYD7FbM4aJoN2uoomPHC48wE/edit?ts=654370ec

Work Experience will be held June 24th - 28th. The form above will need to be completed with your child as soon as you can after you have secured a placement with a family member, family friend, or any form of work that you can find for your child. Make sure they are keen to get involved with work that they are excited about. You never know, they may end up gaining future employment there.

Work Experience Success with Mr Jenner's tutor group.

Will M and Liam W have both organised their work experience. They Worked with Mr Jenner during lunch times and drafted their letters of request. They sent their letter to the company and were successful! Great work boys and well done to you both.

Careers Fair Wednesday 6th and 7th December:

- This will be an amazing opportunity for you to explore options for post-16 work or study.
- There will be over 50 exhibitors at the fair over the two days from a wide variety of sectors, including: engineering, leisure and tourism, financial services, health and social care (including NHS), military, construction, further education colleges, universities, etc.
- You will get the chance to speak to members of staff from these organisations to ask them about what you need to access a career in that sector.

Even if you have a good idea of what kind of career you want, this will give you the opportunity to speak to actual companies who offer those job roles and to ask them what they are looking for in a new employee.

New careers resources here:

https://sites.google.com/d/1VU1xr8rxlBvp0bENhxVaosMEoByVfLgZ/p/1xtBgy0tlkVOdWYTYcgwoDu7PNS3vwamF/edit

This will be a one stop shop for careers of all ages at Tavistock College. It will be continually updated with resources and student/ teacher feedback.

### Top 20 Green Boards

Sofia R E

Holly W

Sophie D

Miles I

Rebecca A

Bea B

Matilda S

Josh A

Faye P

Anya C

Jack R

Esme E

Jamie C
Josh D

Thalia W

Thund W

Daisee B

Chris G Ryan C

Ryunic

William M

Jessica M Isabella R

Emma S

Ksenija I





communities. These dynamic spaces can be used for skateboarding, BMXing, scooter riding and rollerblading for riders young and old.

SCAN HERE \_↑ & FIND OUT MORE Our goal is to replace the current skatepark with a modern park that's quieter, safer, and more welcoming for all. To make it happen we need the support of our community - show you'd like a new skatepark by scanning the QR code and filling out our short survey.

hello.taviskate@gmail.com w.tavistockyouthcafe.com Tavi.skate Tavi Skate

tavistock youth cafe





### Come and give Rugby a Try!

No experience. No obligation.

We are offering FOUR FREE sessions for boys and girls from Tavistock College to join our training sessions and see what it's all about.

Rugby is a great game - come and find out for yourself.

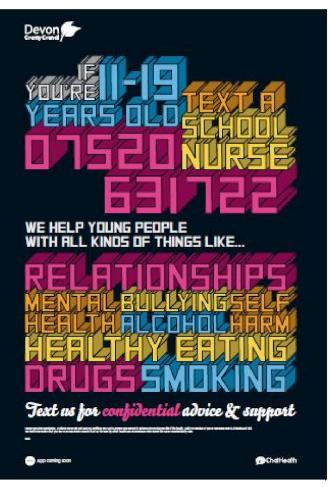
To find out more: call Andrew Griffiths on 07557 471540 or email: Tavistockrfc@yahoo.com



**TAVISTOCK RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB** 

Become Your Own Hero....





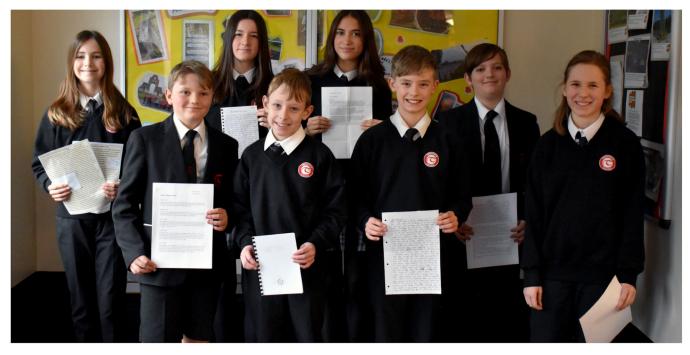




Windrush By Iola S

Caribbean dweller Job seeker Dockside waiter Hopeful adventurer Ship boarder Atlantic voyager Sea crosser Windrush sailor Ocean traveller **England arriver** Disillusioned settler Hostility facer Insult receiver Tear shedder Home yearner History maker





The Humanities Faculty are pleased to award William H, Summer K and Morgan H Years 7,Joshua P, Iola Sr, Robin R and Sam G in Year 8 and Katie A and Katie H in Year 9 with a prize for their original historical fiction. This was written in response to our work during Black History month on the Windrush generation. Using The Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah as an inspiration, all pupils in Key Stage 3 were asked to respond in a creative way to the story of a young child arriving in Britain from Jamaica in the 1950s and the experiences that were faced. The entries were of a very high standard and it was not easy to choose the best. We are so proud of the effort made by all and confident that there are some budding authors of the future.

Congratulations to you all.

## What Schools Need to Know about

# THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm", and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

### HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

### ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

### MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter - by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

## HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

### NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deeplakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

## REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

### AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inoppropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.



The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant

### KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

### REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

### WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now, whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance—making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

### UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

### ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

## Meet Our Expert

Luke Romaden is Senior Deputy Headmoster and Director of Safeguesding for the 8t Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at contenencies and writer in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, portoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastaral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Postoral Care in Education.



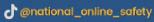












## Top Tips for Safer Online Shopping on

Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become established as two of the year's biggest shopping events, giving consumers the opportunity to snap up a stash of stunning bargains. While this is generally good news, of course, the resultant retail frenzy can lead to people dropping their guard – especially online. In previous years, a seasonal surge in cyber-crime has seen schemes such as phishing emails and credit card scams being unleashed on unwary buyers. Our guide has some essential pointers on keeping your details – and your money – safe while you shop

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## ENSURE A SITE'S SECURE

Before inputting sensitive information (like your card details) into a website, check that the site's secure. The key thing is to look for a padlock symbol in the address bar and check that the URL begins with "https://" – the "s" indicates that the web address has been encrypted with an SSL certificate. Without that, any data entered on the site could be intercepted by criminal third parties.

## TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. Be especially wary if a site offering unbelievable discounts doesn't look professional (for example, if it's covered with pop-up adverts or it looks particularly outdated) – this often serves as a red flag that the seller might not be entirely trustworthy. might not be entirely trustworthy. Minimise risk by sticking with well-known, reputable retailers

5

## REVIEW BANK STATEMENTS

Even if you've followed all our tips, it's probably worth checking your next bank statement for any unusual transactions. Criminals know that on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, lots of people make numerous purchases online: they're hoping that any stolen money will get lost in the crowd of other transactions. If you see a payment or payee you can't identify, raise it with your bank straight away.

### **BEWARE OF** SUSPICIOUS EMAILS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday often bring a significant spike in phishing emails, as criminals use the events' sense of urgency as cover for stealing personal information. Even if they look legitimate, be wary of emails requiring you to do something unusual or suspicious: providing your personal details in exchange for access to last-minute deals, for example, or clicking on a link to an unfamiliar site.

## CHECK IT'S THE REAL DEAL

It's not just cybercriminals you need to be wary of. Research has shown that some online retailers increase the price of certain items in the weeks before Black Friday and Cyber Monday – enabling them to then advertise "discounts" (which, in reality, have simply restored the cost to normal levels). Use an online price comparison tool to verify whether these "reductions" truly equate to a saving.

## SET STURDY PASSWORDS

A strong, unique password is one of the most straightforward ways to protect yourself from cyber-crime. As most of us have multiple online shopping accounts, it can be tempting to use the same password for them all – but this puts your personal data at greater risk. You could try using a password manager to create a different, robust password for each online retailer that you visit.

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# DITCH THE DEBIT CARD

Where possible, it's safest to shop online with a credit card (as opposed to a debit card) because it offers additional protection. If a purchase is made fraudulently on your credit card, there's a fair chance of your bank reimbursing you. Should criminals obtain your debit card details, however, they could empty your account in moments – and it can be difficult to recover your money.

## RESIST THE INFLUENCE

Recommendations from social media influencers are another thing to remain vigilant for on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. While many of these will be legitimate, remember that influencers are often paid to promote products – and to publicise deals that aren't quite as amazing as they might seem. Don't feel pressured into buying purely on their advice; look at everything with a critical eye.

### TAKE CARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media scammers are more active on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, as they know people are hunting for deals online. These scammers tend to concentrate on platforms such as Facebook and instagram, posting malicious links that can compromise shoppers' personal details. Other scammers, meanwhile, falsely advertise products in an attempt to trick users out of their hard-earned cash.

**National** 

Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

### Meet Our Expert



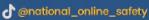
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MINIMISE

MICROTRANSACTIONS

Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions extend to digital items as well as physical ones. Some gaming companies will offer discounts on in-app and in-game microtransactions such as loot boxes. If you're concerned about how much your child might spend on these upgrades, you can restrict their ability to make purchases (via their device's settings) or remove any linked payment methods.



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