



Euxton Primrose Hill WEDNESDAY WEEKLY



15th April 2026

www.primrosehillschool.org.uk X - @EuxtonPH

“Together We Will Make A Difference.”

HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

Welcome back to the first half of our Summer Term.

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. We have had an exciting start to the week with the arrival of our swimming pool on the lower playground. The pool will be on site for two weeks as part of our curriculum offer for Year 4, as well as providing some catch-up lessons.

Having the pool on site allows our children to benefit from longer sessions, all delivered by registered swimming instructors.

New Parent Governor Appointment

We are delighted to share that, following our recent nomination process, Mr Stephen Howells has been appointed as a Parent Governor on our Governing Board.

We would like to congratulate Stephen and thank him for volunteering his time to support the school in this important role. Governors play a key part in the strategic direction of the school, working alongside leaders to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.

We look forward to welcoming Stephen into school soon as he begins his role and gets to know our community.

'What I wish my parents or carers knew...':

A guide for parents and carers on children's digital lives (Children's Commissioner)

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has published a guide to help parents and carers navigate the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits. Written with direct input from children and young people, including teenagers consulted in schools and the Commissioner's Youth Ambassadors. The guide is designed to make difficult conversations easier and more regular.

The guide covers setting boundaries around phone use, talking about harmful content, and building ongoing communication that goes beyond a one-off conversation.

The downloads can be found here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/resource/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives>

Best wishes

Mrs Claire Jones
Headteacher

Attendance & Absence

We strongly encourage good attendance to support your child's learning and progress.

If your child is unwell, please contact the school office by 9:00am on each day of absence.
01257 276688
office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk

Be specific:

It's important to give a clear reason – for example:
“Tonsillitis” or “Sickness and temperature”
Not just “unwell” or “poorly”.

This helps us meet safeguarding and health requirements

Communicating with Us

If you need to get in touch, please email the school office in the first instance:

office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk

Your message will be passed on to the relevant member of staff.

We aim to respond as soon as we can, but please allow up to 48 hours for a reply during term time.

For urgent matters during the school day, please phone the school office directly on: 01257 276688

If You're Concerned About Something...

We want to work in partnership with you. If you're ever worried or unhappy about a situation, please follow this order of contact, via the school office:

- **Class Teacher** – your first point of contact
- **Phase Leader** – if further support is needed:
 EYFS & Year 1 - Mr Danny Tooby
 Year 2 – Miss Amie Dobbs
 Years 3/4 – Mr Lloyd Davies
 Years 5/6 – Miss Molly Burns
- **Assistant Headteacher** - Miss Amie Dobbs
- **Deputy Headteacher** – Mrs Emma Swinburn
- Headteacher** – Mrs Claire Jones

We're here to help and will always do our best to resolve any concerns quickly and fairly.

Jewellery & Appearance

To keep everyone safe and focused on learning:

No jewellery – including earrings (studs/spacers), rings, bracelets, necklaces, loom bands, or wristbands

No earrings or spacers – these are a safety risk, especially during play and PE

No nail varnish or make-up – children should come to school with natural nails and faces

Thank you for your support!

Tel: 01257 276688 (8:15am-3:45pm) Email: office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk
Out of school Club, please contact Sarah Collison 07548 944202 or s.collison@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk



ROCK STEADY EXTRA PLACES



Due to the phenomenal success of Rock Steady Day last term—where all the places were filled within just 24 hours—we are delighted to offer an additional Tuesday morning slot for children who previously missed out!

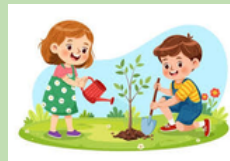
Sessions will begin on 21st April 2026, with places available for all ages across a range of instruments and vocals.

To secure a place for your child, please check the attached flyer, scan the QR code, or visit the website (rocksteadymusicschool.com) for full booking details.

Music is a fantastic way for your child to develop problem-solving skills, teamwork, and confidence. They'll also work towards music awards—with no exams at all!

Book quickly to avoid disappointment!

ECO CLUB - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



With the weather becoming much more clement and the planting season beginning, **Eco Club are looking for any parents/grandparents/other volunteers who would be willing to spare a few hours a week** to help children around school with the pricking out, weeding, planting, pruning etc. Any help would be greatly appreciated and enable Primrose Hill to grow many more flowers and vegetables! If you think that this could be you, please contact the school office.

ECO CLUB FLAG

If anyone has access to a cherry picker, works confidently with tall ladders, or has experience with flagpoles, **Primrose Hill needs your help!**

Our Eco flag is looking quite battered and needs replacing, but unfortunately the rope inside the flagpole has snapped.

If you're able to assist or know someone who can, please get in touch. It would be hugely appreciated!



EASTER BONNET PARADE WINNERS



Here are the winners of the Easter Bonnet Parade—well done to everyone who took part. There were so many **AMAZING** entries!

EYFS: Ethan C, Daisy D

Year 1: Grace N, Alex R

Year 2: Harry R, Emily R

Year 3: Shay T, Ivy FL

Year 4: Daisy SH, Rory SW

Year 5: Samuel A, Pippa C

Year 6: Bobby M, Matilda W

Tel: 01257 276688 (8:15am-3:45pm)

Email: office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk

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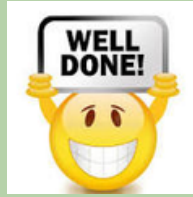


HOUSE POINT WINNERS - NON-UNIFORM DAY

Congratulations to the **RED** team in KS1 and the **BLUE** team in KS2, who won the house point challenge for the Spring term.

Pupils in KS1 **RED** team and KS2 **BLUE** team are welcome to attend school in **non-uniform** on **Monday 27th April 2026**.

Congratulations!



£1 IN A BOX



£1 in a box is now live on Parent Pay. Cut off is **Monday 6th July 2026**.

Good Luck! You've got to be in it, to win it!



RECALLED TOYS



Thousands of children's toys have been pulled from the shelves and removed from online stores due to asbestos contamination. Supermarkets, toy stores and online retailers across the UK have recalled the products and alerted buyers to health risks that may arise from playing with the toys.

Customers are advised to stop using the affected products immediately and keep them away from children. If you have bought any of the recalled items you can return them to the store where they were purchased for a full refund.

Please see the attached letter for further information.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO PENALTY NOTICE CHARGES

The DfE have recently announced national charges to penalty notices issues for unauthorised absences in term time, these came into effect on the 19th August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for the offence after the 19th of August 2024 will be charged at the new rate of £160.00 however if paid in 21-days this reduces to £80.00.
- Any second penalty notice to the same parent for the same child in a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160.00 to be paid within 28-days with no option for a discount.
- Penalty notice threshold is 10-sessions equivalent to 5-days of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10-school week period.
- Maximum of 2-penalty notices may be issued for the same child within a rolling 3-years period, so at the 3rd or subsequent offence another course of action will need to be considered such a prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions.

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Email: office@primrosehill-euxton.lancs.sch.uk

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Pupil Achievements and Celebrations

Super Pupils

YEAR 6

Everest - Lily B
K2 - Leo D

EYFS

Beech - Lily W
Oak - Daisy D

YEAR 5

Mont Blanc - Olivia W
Olympus - Martha R

YEAR 1

Ash - Daisy F
Cedar - Nile SH

YEAR 4

Ben Nevis - Mohammed H
Snowdon - Daisy W

YEAR 2

Maple - Safaa M
Elm - Emily K

YEAR 3

Pendle - Whole Class
Rivington - Amelia L

House Point Winners

KS1
Red

KS2
Green

WOW - Walk to School Challenge

Our class winners for the month of March WOW challenge are:

EYFS & KS1 - Maple

KS2 - Olympus

Reminders And To Do



We are a **NUT FREE** school. Please **do not** bring any snacks into school which contain nuts, including Nutella, Reese or Kinder Bueno products.

School Notices

Y5 Class Notices

Hothersall Lodge

Final payment due 24th April 2026

Y6 Class Notices

Leyland Trucks

Payment overdue

Dates for the Diary 2025-2026



April 2026

16th Y4 Ben Nevis Cuerden Valley Trip
 16th PTA Social Meeting - 7.30pm *
 17th Y4 Snowdon Cuerden Valley Trip
 17th Y6 Everest Leyland Trucks
 17th School Council Meeting
 21st Y3 Pendle Southport Eco Centre Visit
 22nd Earth Day Special Lunch *
 24th Y6 K2 Leyland Trucks
 27th Non-Uniform Day for House Point Winners *
 28th Y3 Rivington Southport Eco Centre Visit

June 2026

1st INSET DAY
 2nd INSET DAY
 4th Travelling Science KS2 - AM only
 22-24th Y5 Hothersall Lodge Residential
 23rd Y1 Bring Yer Wellies Ash Class
 24th Y1 Bring Yer Wellies Cedar Class
 26-29th Y6 Boreatton Park Residential

May 2026

4th May Bank Holiday
 7th School Council Meeting
 21st PTA May Fair
 22nd Final day of Summer Term
 25-29th SUMMER HALF TERM HOLIDAY

July 2026

2nd Y4 Ben Nevis Evacuation Sleepover Night
 3rd Y4 Ben Nevis Tea Dance
 6-7th Y5 Mont Blanc Bikeability
 9-10th Y5 Olympus Bikeability
 9th Y4 Snowdon Evacuation Sleepover Night
 9th Y2 Bees Visit in school
 10th Y4 Snowdon Tea Dance
 17th Final day of Summer Term - HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Primrose Hill Clubs 2025-2026

Sports Clubs Summer Term 1

<u>Name of Club</u>	<u>Run by</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Finish</u>	<u>Dates</u>
CSSP Athletics KS1	CSSP	Monday	4:15pm	w/c 13/04/26 – w/c 18/05/26
Cricket Y5&6 Boys	Miss Ahmed	Tuesday	4:30pm	w/c 13/04/26 – w/c 18/05/26
Hockey Y5&6	Miss Ahmed	Wednesday	4:30pm	w/c 13/04/26 – w/c 18/05/26
Rounders Y5&6	Miss Ahmed	Thursday	4:30pm	w/c 13/04/26 – w/c 18/05/26
Cricket Y5&6 Girls	Miss Ahmed	Friday	4:30pm	w/c 13/04/26 – w/c 18/05/26

*New date added

**Information or date amended



**ROCK
STEADY**



**WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO PLAY IN
THEIR OWN ROCK BAND AT SCHOOL?**

Hi Parent or Guardian,

Is your child more excited about music this evening?

Apologies, that might have something to do with **Rocksteady Music School!**

Today your child got a taste of what it's like to perform in a band, and this letter tells you how they can be part of the fun every week.

What is Rocksteady?

Rocksteady band lessons give children the chance to play in their very own band through weekly rock and pop lessons. It's the perfect way to **learn new musical skills, make friends and have fun** – all at school! Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost **confidence, wellbeing, social skills** and even **academic achievement**.

Your child will learn to play songs instantly through listening and playing. There is no music theory involved and lessons are fun, inclusive and accessible. They will be making progress in every lesson and can also achieve an **Ofqual-regulated music qualification**, accredited by Trinity College London, without having to take a single exam!

Here's what else you need to know:

- *Most lessons take place during the school day. There's **no experience necessary** and all instruments for lessons are provided.*
- *You can choose if they shine on **vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass**.*
- *Proudly watch as your child performs in their **end of term concerts**, showing just how far they have come!*
- *Rocksteady band leaders are **professional musicians** who inspire a passion for music and support your child every step of the way.*

Lessons are £44.68 per month with nothing to pay in August. There's a **money-back guarantee** for the first month and you can **cancel at any time**. Places are offered on a first come, first served basis.

Visit rocksteadymusicschool.com to sign up.

Best wishes,



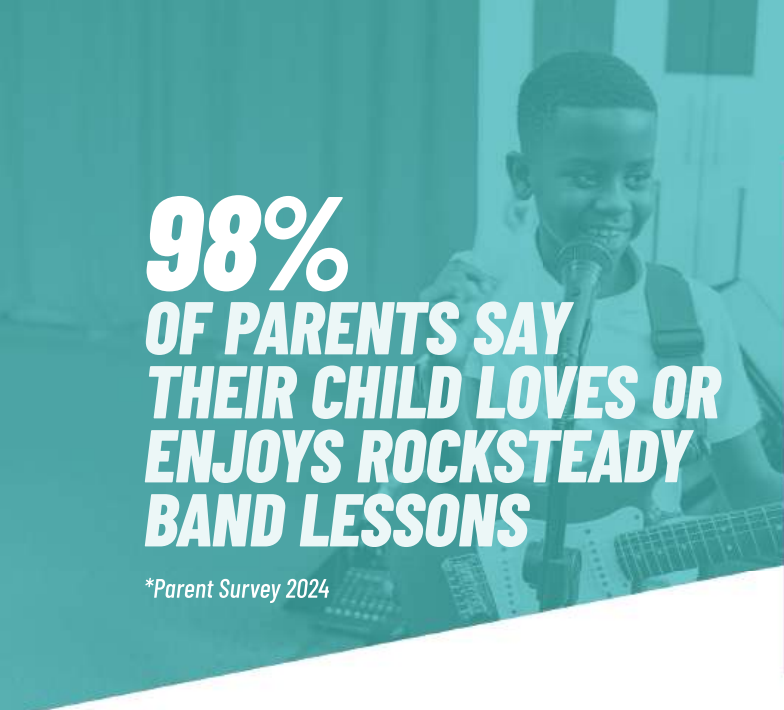
Rachel Hawker
Director of Education

**BOOK YOUR
CHILD'S PLACE
ONLINE!**

0330 113 0330
(Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com



**Find out what some parents
have said about Rocksteady!** →




98%
OF PARENTS SAY
THEIR CHILD LOVES OR
ENJOYS ROCKSTEADY
BAND LESSONS

*Parent Survey 2024



94%
OF PARENTS SAY
ROCKSTEADY
IMPROVES THEIR
CHILD'S CONFIDENCE

*Parent Survey 2024




Rocksteady has created a space where young musicians can truly thrive. Not just musically, but personally as well.

Merlyn




It's a great experience for any child and I have been really blown away with what the children have achieved.

Natalia




My daughter comes home excited to tell me what she has learnt. She has a confidence in her own abilities that she didn't have before.

Ashleigh



My son is full of praise and joy when he talks about his Rocksteady lessons. It's spot on for teaching music and making it fun.

Alex



My child struggles with school due to anxiety, but Rocksteady really boosts his confidence at a difficult time. I wish he could do it more than once a week!

Louisa



My child has an amazing time and really enjoys making new friends whilst learning to play the keyboard.

Rachel

**BOOK YOUR
CHILD'S PLACE
ONLINE!**



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rocksteadymusicschool.com

TRINITY
COLLEGE LONDON
Validated Course and
Assessment Provider 69350



Rocksteady Music School Ltd. Registered in England No. 08111026

EUXTON
PRIMROSE HILL
PTA SOCIAL



THURSDAY
16th



FROM
7.30pm

AT

THE MILL
CHARNOCK FARM

*Come along
and meet our
team and
volunteers*



Thousands of children's toys have been pulled from the shelves and removed from online stores due to asbestos contamination. Supermarkets, toy stores and online retailers across the UK have recalled the products and alerted buyers to health risks that may arise from playing with the toys.

Customers are advised to stop using the affected products immediately and keep them away from children. If you have bought any of the recalled items you can return them to the store where they were purchased for a full refund.

Many of the recalled items contain sand that may be contaminated with a quantity of asbestos.

Multiple children's sand and craft kits have been recalled after trace amounts of asbestos were found in some batches. These recalls affect products sold by a range of major UK retailers.

Asbestos is a banned substance because it poses a risk to health even at low levels of exposure.

Here is the full list of products that have been recalled due to asbestos concerns this year from retailers such as Asda, Smyths, Tesco, Amazon, Ebay, Hobbycraft and more.

KTL Decorative Glass Bottle of Sand

The KTL Decorative Glass Bottle of Sand that have been recalled have item numbers of TY4587 and barcodes of 5063389109462.

Smyths Toys dig products

The affected kits are:

- Dino Dig Sensory Bin Code: 248772
- Dig In Kit GOLD Code: 231105
- Let's Dig Out Dinosaur Eggs (10pc) Code: 166403
- Gem Dig Kit (12 Gem Pack) Code: 187539
- Dig It Up Pirates 13 Treasure Set Code; 223521
- Dig In Treasure Dig and Discover Play Gold Treasure Chest Code: 242645
- Gem Dig Kit 8 Pack Code: 187538

KTL Kreative Kids! Jumbo Craft Box

The affected kits are:

- Dino Dig Sensory Bin Code: 248772
- Dig In Kit GOLD Code: 231105
- Let's Dig Out Dinosaur Eggs (10pc) Code: 166403
- Gem Dig Kit (12 Gem Pack) Code: 187539
- Dig It Up Pirates 13 Treasure Set Code; 223521
- Dig In Treasure Dig and Discover Play Gold Treasure Chest Code: 242645
- Gem Dig Kit 8 Pack Code: 187538

KTL Kreative Kids! Jumbo Craft Box

- Textet Bright Start Coloured Crafting Sand Pack of 20 Model: AC-SAND-PK20 Barcode: 5060955510875 Batches: BT3349, BT3560, BT 3740/603 Sales period: April 2024 – February 2026
- Textet Bright Start Fluorescent Coloured Craft Sand Pack of 6 Model: AC-SAND-PK6 Barcode: 5060955510899 Batches: BT3349, BT1264 Sales period: April 2024-February 2026

HGL Stretchy Sand Pig Toy

The HGL Stretchy Sand Pig Toy that has been recalled has a model number of SV21795 and a barcode of 5021813217954.

HGL Stretchy Sand Monster Truck Toys

The toys that have been recalled have a model number of SV21889 and a barcode of 5021813218894.

Scrunchems Stretchies Sleepy Dino Toy

The affected toys have a model number of 38758 and a barcode of 5038728153109.

Squishy Sausage Dogs and Squishy Pugs

The toys were sold through The Entertainer, Tesco and Matalan stores and websites between May 2024 and February 2026.

The toys, which were manufactured by Hunter Price, have the following identifiers:

- Squishy Sausage Dog SKU: 567415 Product code: 22776 Barcode: 5061010227769
- Squishy Pugs SKU: 567421 Product code: 22782ENT Barcode: 5061010227820

Wooden Qiyi Sand Activity Toy

The sand tray toy, which is intended to help children learn letters and numbers, was packaged in orange cardboard packaging and was sold via AliBaba.

It has product identifiers of 1005008843242014-12000046913158791.

Assorted KTL children's toys

The affected toys and playsets are:

- KTL Sensory Science Kit Item number: TY1050 Barcode: 5033849928803
- KTL Stretchy Dog Toys Item number: TY1159 Barcode: 5033849929411
- KTL 3Pcs Test Tube Science Kit Item number: TY2171 Barcode: 5033849986032
- KTL 6" Stretchy Monster 6 Assorted Stretchy Toys Item number: TY2863 Barcode: 5033849995485
- KTL 2.2kg Squishy Hot Colour Gorilla Toy Item number: TY3537 Barcode: 5063389048716
- KTL Squeezy Splatter Pig Item number: TY3550 Barcode: 5063389048747
- KTL Squishy Stretchy Capybara toy Item number: TY3634 Barcode: 5063389048907
- KTL Stretchy Poop Toy Item number: TY3650 Barcode: 5033849027407
- KTL 2pc Balloon Dog Toy Item number: TY4313 Barcode: 5063389102319

ORB Funkee Sand Toys

The range of stretchy sand-filled toys were sold through The Entertainer, Tesco, Matalan, Hobbycraft and British Garden Centres stores and websites between July 2025 and February 2026.

The affected toys are:

- Glow-in-the-dark Jumbo Monkey 17741
- Funkee Small Axolotl 17459
- Funkee Monkee Mega 41929
- Galaxy Jumbo Monkey 17736
- Gold Jumbo Monkey 17451
- Funkee Small Dogs 42228
- Funkee Jumbo Dog 17409

Paw Patrol Bumper Craft Collection

The sand art kit, which contains multi-coloured play sand and plastic bottles, was sold through The Entertainer, The Early Learning Centre, Tesco, Hobbycraft, M&S, Moonpig and British Garden Centres stores and websites between September 2024 and February 2026.

The affected set has an item code of 320-14145-N and its Entertainer/Early Learning Centre product number is 569124.

Paw Patrol kit

The kit, which includes multiple colours of play sand and plastic bottles, is being recalled by the manufacturer Addo Play Limited, as well as retailers including M&S, Tesco and The Entertainer. It was sold through The Entertainer, Tesco, Hobbycraft, M&S and British Garden Centres stores and websites between September 2024 and February 2026.

The affected kits have an item code of 320-14142-N and an M&S-specific product code of T553666.

Addo Play Limited Out To Impress Creative Candles Kit

The sand art kit with multi-coloured play sand and plastic bottles is being recalled by retailers including The Entertainer, Matalan, M&S and Tesco and the manufacturer Addo Play Limited. It was sold by The Entertainer, Early Learning Centre, Tesco, Matalan, M&S, Hobbycraft, Moonpig, British Garden Centres and TG Jones between September 2024 and February 2026.

The affected sets have a product code of 318-19180-B and an M&S specific code of T554448.

Addo Play Limited Out To Impress Sand Art Creations

The Addo Play Limited Out To Impress Sand Art Creations set was sold at retailers including The Entertainer, Tesco, Early Learning Centre, Matalan and M&S stores and websites between August 2023 and February 2026.

The affected sets have an item code of 318-19149-B.

Sand Art Activity Kit

The Colour Day set, which contains 10 bags of coloured sand, 10 bottles, and tools, is being recalled by eBay and Amazon.

Kids Create Sand Art Kit

The affected kits have a barcode of 5012128618222 and a model number of YKICACA4A016. They were sold between January 2025 and February 2026.

Stretcherz toys

Stretcherz toys were sold by Aldi, Argos, B&M, The Entertainer, Early Learning Centre, Home Bargains, Matalan, Morrisons, Poundland, Primark, Tesco, TK Maxx/ Homesense, Smyths Toys and The Works. The manufacturer, HTI Toys, is also recalling the product.

The recalled products are the Stretch Squad Assortment, sold between January 2024 and February 2026 (barcode 5050837662419) and the Slammerz Assortment, sold between January 2025 and February 2026 (barcode 5050835105345).

Colour Forge Basing Sand

The Colour Forge Basing Sand (available in two colours: Moss Green and Atlantiko Blue) were previously recalled by retailer Hobbycraft and are now also being recalled by the manufacturer. They have a Hobbycraft product code of 6873931000.

My Living World Worm Kit

The kits were on sale in the UK between November 2022 and February 2026 and, according to Playmonster, approximately 42,000 of the kits have been sold.

The product number is LW102C and the Hobbycraft product code is 5830641000.

Easter Bumper Craft Kit

The Easter Bumper Craft Kit, an Easter-themed craft kit supplied in plastic box with carry case, has a product code of 6835991000.

Sand and Pom Pom Art Kit

The Sand and Pom Pom Art Kit, a kit with multicoloured pictures of a fox and a sloth, on the front, has a product code of 6669851000.

Hobbycraft Giant Box of Craft

The affected craft boxes have the following product numbers:

- 6686021000
- 6505261000
- 6099201000
- 6597221000
- 6606171000

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about APP & PLAY STORES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Since the introduction of Apple's App Store and Google's Play Store, an estimated two million apps have been made available on each. Ofcom's 2025 media use and attitudes report states that more than half of children aged between 3 and 7 use apps or sites to communicate with each other, and, by the ages of 10 to 12, 45% of children are playing games on their mobile phones. This guide will help you ensure that children use the app stores and their content safely.

MALICIOUS APPS WITH MALWARE



Although Google and Apple must approve the apps on their official stores, inappropriate content sometimes slips through the net. For example, in 2025, the security company Kaspersky found that multiple iOS and Android apps contained screen-reading software, primed to look for passwords and stealing crypto-wallet recovery phrases captured in screenshots.

UNOFFICIAL COPYCAT APPS



Both official app stores contain copycat apps – often games – designed to look like popular rivals, mimicking their branding, layout and logos. While these will usually just offer a poor experience packed with ads as a quick money-making exercise, they're also more likely to be vessels for malware than the products they're counterfeiting.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



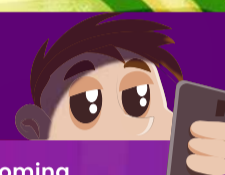
As the App Store and Play Store are for all ages, there's a lot of content available that's inappropriate for children. Examples include apps that have references to alcohol, drugs, sex, violence or gambling. In general, these are sensibly age-rated, but social media sites such as YouTube and TikTok, which both have an App Store age rating of 12+, can be gateways to adult material.

PREDATORY IN-APP PURCHASES



App-making is a business, and most creators have found that 'freemium' software is the way to make money. That means the app will be free initially but will either require the user to watch ads or rely on them making in-app purchases. Some 'free' apps can be predatory, and there are plenty of examples reported where parents have racked up huge bills on behalf of their children's app activity.

ADDICTIVE BY DESIGN



Phone addiction is fast becoming recognised as a real concern, and apps are a big part of this. Freemium apps have a real incentive to keep children checking in every day in order to generate more ad views or secure extra in-app purchases. This can interfere with schoolwork and other offline hobbies.

SIDELOADED BANNED APPS



'Sideloaded' – the more complicated practice of installing applications on a device from sources other than the official app stores – bypasses Google's and Apple's security procedures; however, it is possible for tech-savvy users. This opens up huge risks – not just apps that would be forbidden by Apple and Google, but pirate ones packed with malware too.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACTIVATE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOR APPS



Both Google and Apple have apps that can give adults greater control over children's phone activity. 'Screen Time' (iPhone) and 'Family Link' (Android) have a range of features, such as letting you set age-related restrictions on the app stores, require permission to download an app, set daily time limits on specific apps, and control real-world spending.

DO YOUR RESEARCH



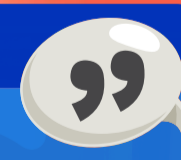
If children ask permission to download an app, do your due diligence and research it. Read the app summary and search the internet for reviews and discussions to establish its legitimacy, safety and appropriateness – if it doesn't seem to be appropriate, look for safer alternatives instead.

LOOK BEYOND THE REVIEWS



App store reviews are helpful, but they are easily gamed, and some unscrupulous developers will pay for quick reviews to give their work perceived legitimacy. Take more than a cursory glance at listings by digging out the one- and two-star reviews and looking closely at the developer – for example, if they've published a lot of unrelated apps, that's a red flag.

TALK TO YOUR CHILD



Talk to children and make sure they're aware that apps can be risky. As part of a wider talk about internet literacy, ensure they don't download apps outside of the official channels, nor grant apps permission to access their camera, microphone, or photos without a good reason. Make sure they understand that in-game currency costs real-world money.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



The National College