



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

13th - 17th Nov 2023

Week 1



Principal's Message

Dear parents and carers,

It has been lovely to see everybody back in school, fully rested and ready to learn, after the well deserved half term holiday. We now have a busy half term ahead of us before we break for Christmas.

This week we held our first Progress Evening for parents of children with SEND; this was a really positive and successful evening and it was lovely to see so many parents in school to discuss the progress of their children.

This Sunday I will be attending the Remembrance Service at the cenotaph in Astley Park, along with some of our Head Students. This is always a very special service and we will be laying a wreath on behalf of the whole Parklands community. On Monday we will hold our whole school Remembrance Assembly and we will be observing the minute's silence at 11am. We currently have poppies for sale in school and many of our staff and students are already wearing them.

On Monday we will have our Prefect announcements in form time, where we will find out which students have been successful in their applications for prefect status. We have a brilliant team of Prefects and Senior Prefects, and they all contribute really positively to our school community; we can't wait to add more to the team. We will also be conducting the Head Student interviews next week, so it is a nerve wracking time for some of our older students. Good luck to all who have applied!

Tuesday evening is Parent Forum from 6-7pm in the school Library. All parents and carers are invited to come along and give us some feedback about our school and systems. Please email shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk if you would like any more information about this.

Friday 17th will be a non-uniform day in aid of Children In Need. The donation is £1 and it would be lovely to see some students in yellow if possible, to show their support for the appeal. We usually have a few pairs of Pudsey Bear ears and spotty bandanas, so we will be looking out for those as well!

We are continuing to use Classcharts to reward positive behaviour, and hopefully you will have received some notifications about what your children have been rewarded for. Please speak to your child about this if there is anything you are not sure of - they should know plenty about the new system! We will continue to award Pupil of the Week; congratulations to anyone who has already received this special award.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Batson
Principal

Whole School Messages

(Year 7) Weekly discussion questions from the RS Department.

Current Unit - Ultimate Questions

Enquiry Question - Is it possible to find answers to ultimate questions?

1. What is a religious truth?
2. What is a personal truth?
3. What is a historical truth?
4. What is a scientific truth?

(Year 8) Weekly discussion questions from the RS Department.

Current Unit - Prejudice and Discrimination

Enquiry Question - Why do people discriminate?

1. What is the Black Lives Matter movement?
2. Explain what happened to George Floyd
3. What happened after the murder of George Floyd?
1. Why was Edwards Colston's statue thrown into the river?

(Year 9) Weekly discussion questions from the RS Department.

Current Unit - Human Rights and Social Justice

Enquiry Question - Do we still need human rights today?

1. Who is Malala Yusuf Zai?
2. Why is Malala often described as an inspirational person?
3. Why do you think it is important that every child receives an education?
4. Do you think we take education for granted in the UK?

Attendance - The BITUP Attendance Trial started this week. Please be aware that the messages which have been sent refer to days and not sessions.

Whole School Messages

Perfect 3s

Excellent Behaviour for Learning goes hand in hand with achievement. It is an excellent indicator of how your child is performing in lessons. Who's had the Perfect 3 since we've been back?

Year 7: 113 pupils to date
Year 8: 73 pupils to date
Year 9: 73 pupils to date
Year 10: 63 students to date
Year 11: 80 students to date
All: 402 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 175 pupils
Year 8: 147 pupils
Year 9: 151 pupils
Year 10: 117 students
Year 11: 155 students
All: 745 students

Please congratulate your child if they have the Perfect 3. All BfL scores can be seen in the Edulink app.

How many pupils have a BfL score of 2.99 - 3?

Year 7: 179 pupils
Year 8: 125 pupils
Year 9: 124 pupils
Year 10: 102 students
Year 11: 120 students
All: 650 students

Students, please click the link to see what clubs, trips and activities are happening in school [Parklands Bulletin](#)

Weekly Learning Support Board - please click [here](#)



Learning Support Board
Week Commencing
13th November 2023

**"No matter how hard the past is,
you can always begin again."**
BUDDHA



**Special Educational
Needs and Disabilities
Local Offer in
Lancashire**

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?
This is the first Weekly Learning Support Board after the half-term holiday so welcome back. For older students, Runshaw College are visiting today as their application process begins. Meanwhile we're always available to support pupils in NIT and DICKENS (the classroom) is available at break and lunchtime for those pupils who prefer a quiet space.
Learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk



**What was the
nickname of
King Richard I
of England who
reigned from
1189 until his
death in 1199?**

Lord Time's answer: (Edwin) Buzz Aldrin



Job of the Week

Where did Noah keep the bees?
In the ARK HIVES!



**Do or
do not.
There is
no try.**



Follow us on Instagram:
phs learningsupport

Useful Links

- ADDitude Magazine
- Autism Eye
- Autism Parenting Magazine
- British Dyslexia Association
- The Communication Trust
- FIND Newsletter
- GOV.UK Covid-19 Information
- Headspace (Meditation & Sleep)
- KOOTH Mental Health Support
- Local Offer
- NHS Urgent Mental Health Helpline
- Witherslack Group

Head Students' Page

Hey everyone,

Hope you've all had a lovely first week back! There are 7 busy weeks left in the build up to Christmas, which will include mocks, charity events, Yr 7 Christmas trips etc. This will include a much needed trip to the Trafford Centre for year 8-11s.

It is non-uniform day next Friday, in support of Children in Need, so try to wear a yellow item to show support or pay for a chance to win one of our beautiful hampers!

This weekend is Remembrance Sunday. It is so important to keep honouring those brave soldiers who fought and died in WW1. As a school, we pledge to show solidarity to these people and support them every year. Some Head pupils (including me) will be attending a service at the cenotaph in Astley Park and laying a wreath to show respect for British soldiers.

Shrek! The musical will be being performed at Parklands on the 30th of November and 1st of December. I am particularly excited about this and I am sure it will be a brilliant showcase of our immense talent here at Parklands.

Seb

Parklands High School production of



Based on the DreamWorks Animation Motion Picture and the Book by William Steig
Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire Music by Jeanine Tesori

Performed on
Thursday 30th November & Friday 1st December
from 7pm

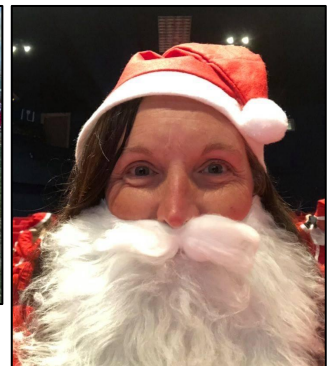
Tickets £5 adult, £3 concession, £10 family (up to 4 people)

Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions.
Original Production Directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford. "I'm a Believer" by Neil Diamond
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

Whole School Messages

On Saturday 11th November Mrs Sullivan-Brown, Mrs Eastham and a number of Parklands pupils will be joining 1000 Santas taking part in Jingle all the way, a 15 mile sponsored walk from Chorley town centre to Rivington Pike and back, raising funds for Derian House Children's Hospice who are celebrating their 30 birthday this year. If you'd like to sponsor them it would be much appreciated
#parklandscare #proudtobeparklands

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jingleallthewayvii>



Poetry Competition - The English Department is running a poetry competition titled 'Lest We Forget'. The details are on [this slide](#) and the deadline is Wednesday 15th November. The winners from each house will be submitted to the national Young Writers' competition and may be published in their 'Lest We Forget' collection of poems. Good luck to all young writers!

We want to wish all those celebrating this weekend a **'Happy Diwali'**!

One of our fantastic Year 11 students has put together a very informative guide on this special celebration. [Click here](#) to find out more.





Classcharts Update

There are now **93 pupils** who have achieved their **Bronze Awards** (50 positives).
We even have **a pupil** who has achieved their **Silver Award** (100 positives).
To see which awards you/your child has achieved, on the app, swipe across to the badges tab.
Certificates will be presented over this half term.

Bronze Award
01/08/2023 - 10/11/2023

| Name ↓ | Count |
|--------|-------|
| AFR | 20 |
| ANZ | 18 |
| ASA | 20 |
| EUR | 17 |
| SAM | 13 |

Silver Award
01/08/2023 - 10/11/2023

| Name ↓ | Count |
|--------|-------|
| EUR | 1 |

GCSE Presentation evening

GCSE Presentation Evening for last year's leavers will be held on 23rd November 2023. All parents/carers have been sent an email invitation and it is also on social media. We would love to see as many of our leavers from last year as possible there to celebrate!



Whole School Messages



Friday 17th November will be BBC Children in Need and we will be supporting this event by a non school uniform day. The recommended donation for this is £1. Form Tutors will be collecting from Monday 13th November.

To further support this, there are two hampers which we will raffle off. I have made them pupil friendly and there are lots of goodies including advent calendars, sweets, christmas stuff, pens, bath bombs etc. Photos are attached.

The tickets will be a £1 a strip and we will be selling tickets during registration. Tickets will also be available on SCOPAY and as with the Macmillan hampers all tickets will be entered into the draw with the pupil's name.

The draw for the hampers will take place on Friday and all monies will go to this deserving cause.

As ever, thank you for your support.



Whole School Messages

PE Update week beginning 6th November 2023

Although the weather hasn't been great this week we have had a great start to the new half term. There have been some changes to the PE extra curricular timetable so please make sure you take a look!

Badminton, Basketball and Dodgeball clubs have all started and it would be great to see more people attend!

Dodgeball - A group of year 7 boys did a fantastic job at representing Parklands at the Glo Dodgeball competition held at Albany this week. They dodged, ducked, dived and dodged their way through all their games! Well done.

U12 girls Football have played the next round of the English Schools FA cup at home against Rainford High School. Unfortunately the girls lost 5-2, the score did not reflect the game and they are now unfortunately out of the English schools competition but are still in the Lancashire Cup.

Year 7 boys football will be playing away to Bishop Rawsthorpe on Friday after school. Mr Metcalf has been very impressed with all the boys' commitment to practices after school and found it very difficult to select just one team. Good Luck!

We're so proud of the level of commitments shown by all of our pupils across all clubs and well done.

Like sport and PE but looking for a club to join? Click [Here](#)





Parklands Trips 2024



Please find on link [here](#) the following slides all the trips with spaces available and running this year.

Please note some trips may require payments ASAP to catch up.

Please contact the member of staff on the slide for the specific trip for further details.

All the trips are dependant on good behaviour and attendance and pupils can be removed once on a trip for poor behaviour and attendance.

PARKLANDS HIGH SCHOOL SKI TRIP

- 5 full days with ski instruction
- Ski or snowboard hire
- Boot hire
- All meals provided including breakfast on the outbound and inbound journey
- Full area ski lift pass
- Apres ski programme including bowling, pizza, ice cream & disco
- Trip hoody
- Helmet hire
- Comprehensive winter sports insurance.

Open to years 7-10

The next trip will not go until 2027 so don't miss out!

15th February 2025
7 days
Total cost: £1350
Deposit: £100



Deposit Payments Via ScoPay
Email Miss Marr more information.
gmarr@parklandsacademy.co.uk
Letters available from the pavilion office.



Barcelona Football Tour

Saturday 25th May – 31st May 2024



Pupils in current years 7-10 who play and attend school football club are welcome to attend!

- 2 professional coaching sessions
- Festival Matches against other schools
- A stadium tour and museum/shop visit.
 - Visit to Las Ramblas
 - Visits to the Lloret De Mar Beach
- Bowling on one of the evenings included in price
 - Sightseeing in Barcelona
- All meals during the trip are included in the price. Breakfast and Tea and a packed lunch for days when out of resort
 - Waterpark Excursion on the final day.
- 2 x Tour tops including 1 x football top for matches.

Total Cost estimate £775.

NOW TAKING PAYMENTS VIA SCOPAY

ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT ngreaves@parklandsacademy.co.uk



absolute
travel & tours

Barcelona Dance Trip

Saturday 25th May – Friday 31st May 2024



All pupils who dance inside and outside of school are welcome to attend!

- 4 professional coaching sessions
- Visit to Las Ramblas
- Visits to the Lloret De Mar Beach
- Bowling on one of the evenings
- Sightseeing in Barcelona
- All meals during the trip are included in the price. Breakfast, packed lunch and Tea.
- Waterpark Excursion on the final day.
- 2 x Tour tops.

Total Cost estimate £775.

Deposit of £100 required by 7th July 2023

NOW TAKING DEPOSITS VIA SCOPAY UNDER BARCELONA DANCE TRIP

Email gmarr@parklandsacademy.co.uk for more information



Whole School Messages

ONLY OPEN TO YEARS 7,8 AND 9

Pay £50 deposit now and you don't need to make any more payments until September 2024 (Further payments can be made if you would prefer). A fantastic summer holiday experience!
Letter available [here](#).



MEDITERRANEAN ADVENTURE, SPAIN

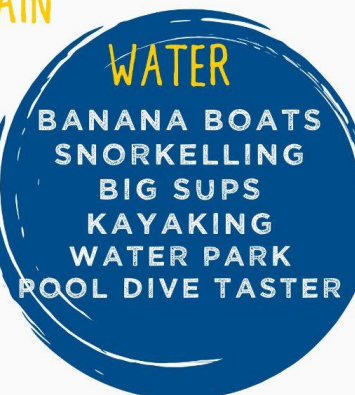
Ideally located between the popular beach resorts of Tossa de Mar & Lloret de Mar in the Costa Brava, Spain, this exciting Mediterranean Adventure is packed full of beach water sports from big SUPs to kayaking, You'll also enjoy a fun-filled day at the local waterpark and soak up some Spanish culture in Barcelona.

ACCOMMODATION

Stay in your own private ensuite cabins set within a private zone of the Cala Llevado complex which features a large swimming pool (with lifeguard). Dine in the onsite canteen next to the pool.

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE:

Acorn is a fully accredited, well established, ABTA bonded operator with over 40 years' experience.



FIND OUT MORE @ WWW.ACORNADVENTURE.CO.UK

Whole School Messages

SEN Support Guide

The new SEN support guide for practitioners and professionals is now live on the Local Offer and can be found here [SEN support guide for professionals - Lancashire County Council](#).

The guide was created after we asked parent carers "What would you like practitioners to know more about?". The overwhelming response was that they wanted the people who cared for the children in school and other settings to have better knowledge of how to implement individualised support to meet their child's needs.

The new SEN support guide includes information about how to implement support from level 1 (universal support) through to level 4 (specialist support). There is also a guide to download and print. Practitioners and providers are also signposted to information about health conditions and how these can impact children and young people.

If you would like to make a suggestion or have a comment about this guide, please email SENDpartnership@lancashire.gov.uk.

LCC SEND HELPLINE – 01772 533900

Getting the right information and support for children and young people with SEND can be frustrating for families, schools and support services. As requests for statutory assessment and numbers of EHC plans issued continue to

increase, so does demand for information and support from LCC's SEND Teams. In response, a SEND helpline has been set up with a view to improving communication with families and key partners. This has already been trialled successfully with schools over recent weeks, and the SEND Helpline has now gone live for parent carers and anyone who supports CYP with SEND. Lines are open 9:00-5:00 Mon-Fri.

The Families Social Prescribing Team are running some drop-in sessions at Duke Street Family Hub on the last Monday of each month between 1-4pm:

30th October 2023

27th November 2023

18th December 2023 (change here due to Christmas)

The Families Social Prescriber works with families and young people to enable better health and wellbeing. Families will be able to refer on via these sessions.

More details can be found on the attached leaflet.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Whole School Messages

Please click [here](#) for the weekly menu and additional information.



OUR MENU WEEK 2

Choose your favorite dish



| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Main Meal Chicken & rice served with salad (GF) £1.90 | Main Meal Meat and potato pie served with fresh veg £1.90 | Main Meal Beef tacos (gluten free) £1.90 | Main Meal Meaty pasta bake £1.90 (GF) | Main Meal Chinese chicken curry with egg fried rice £1.90 |
| Vegetarian option Chickpea curry with rice (gluten free) £1.90 | Vegetarian option Cheese and onion quiche £1.90 | Vegetarian option Mixed bean taco (gluten free) £1.90 | Vegetarian option Cheese and broccoli bake £1.90 | Vegetarian option Veggie stir fry |
| Jacket Potatoes with various fillings | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (GF) | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings | Jacket Potatoes with various fillings (GF) |
| Grab & Go Panini £1.90 Chicken wrap £1.90 Pizza £1.20 | Grab & Go Meat & Potato pie £1.15 Cheese pasty £1.15 Sausage roll £1.15 | Grab & Go Pizza £1.20 Chicken wrap £1.90 Herby potato cubes £1.50 | Grab & Go Panini £1.90 Pizzini £1.90 Chicken wrap £1.90 | Grab & Go Panini £1.90 Chicken wrap £1.90 Steak pie £1.15 |



Whole School Messages

The deadline for Shoe Boxes for Ukraine has been extended until Monday. It would be wonderful if you were able to put one together over the weekend to help those in this war zone celebrate Christmas. Please give in your shoe box to your form tutor by Monday 13th November.



**Chorley & District
Support for Ukraine**

CHRISTMAS

Shoebox Appeal

HOUSE COMPETITION!

Each form must fill a shoe box with items to be sent to Ukraine to help those affected by war to enjoy Christmas.

Step 1:
As a form, pick an age group and gender
(young child 0-5, older child (6-12), teen (13-18), adult)

Step 2:
Fill your shoebox with items e.g. toys, gloves, hats, scarves, sweets, toiletries etc

Step 3:
Make it look beautiful!

Entries to E22 by 9th November





Year 8, 9, 10 and 11



**Christmas trip to the
Trafford Centre
for shopping, bowling
and eating**

£9 coach fare - purchase through Scopay



★
★
YEAR 7
★



**Reel Cinema to see the
newly released movie: Wonka**

Tuesday 19th December 2.00 - 4.00pm

£5.50 - purchase through Scopay

★



YEAR 7

Christmas Disco

**£1.00 entry
- tickets from the HALs
or on the night.**



**Tuck Shop on the night -
bring your dancing shoes!**

FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER

Whole School Messages

For more information on the vacancies please click [here](#).



PARKLANDS
HIGH SCHOOL

Parklands High School : An Academy
Southport Road, Chorley, PR7 1LL
Co-Ed Comprehensive with 1107 students on roll. Tel: 01257 264596
www.parklandsacademy.co.uk
Email: admin@parklandsacademy.co.uk
Learn, Respect, Aspire, Achieve

Vacancies for Exam Invigilators

This is an opportunity to work as part of a team of invigilators at various dates throughout the school year, in particular around the external exam periods in May and June.

This is a casual contract. No experience is necessary as full training will be given and successful applicants will always work with experienced invigilators.

A strong attention to detail and the ability to remain calm, with a pleasant demeanour is highly desirable.

You will be responsible for:

- Maintaining the security of the examination question papers at all times and conducting the examinations in accordance with examination board and JCQ regulations
- Preparing the exam as required by the examination board
- Ensuring that the candidates adhere to the exam rules at all times
- Assisting with any issues that arise during the examination
- Assisting with any persons needing to leave the examination hall

Parklands High school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. The post will be subject to a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

Please contact the school Exams Manager, Mrs S Adamson via sadamson@parklandsacademy.co.uk for further details. Application forms available from the vacancies section of school website.

Please note, we reserve the right to withdraw this vacancy at any time and regret we are unable to contact individual applicants who may be unsuccessful. Aspirational Futures is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its staff and pupils and expects those working at the School to share this commitment. Applications from ethnic minority candidates and other diverse groups are welcomed. The successful candidate will be required to undertake a criminal record check via the Disclosure and Barring Service as well as qualification and reference checks. Online checks will also be conducted on shortlisted candidates. Copies of our Recruitment and Selection policy are available from hr@aspirationalfutures.co.uk.



**YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY**



WELCOME BACK!
SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL
PLAY OUR LOTTERY



- Join the lottery to support our school
- Win weekly cash prizes up to £25,000
- Free entry into the bonus Super Draw

BUY TICKETS:

Go to: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk

And search for: Parldands



THE BIG UNIFORM EXCHANGE

WEAR IT, LOVE IT, THEN
SHARE IT AND SAVE IT
FROM GOING TO
LANDFILL!

10AM-1PM
SATURDAY 2ND
DECEMBER

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL
UNIFORM FREE TO TAKE
AWAY

CLINTON CARDS, MARKET
WALK, CHORLEY TOWN
CENTRE

Everyone welcome!



SVP Chorley Buddies
We're Helping
01257 542 367



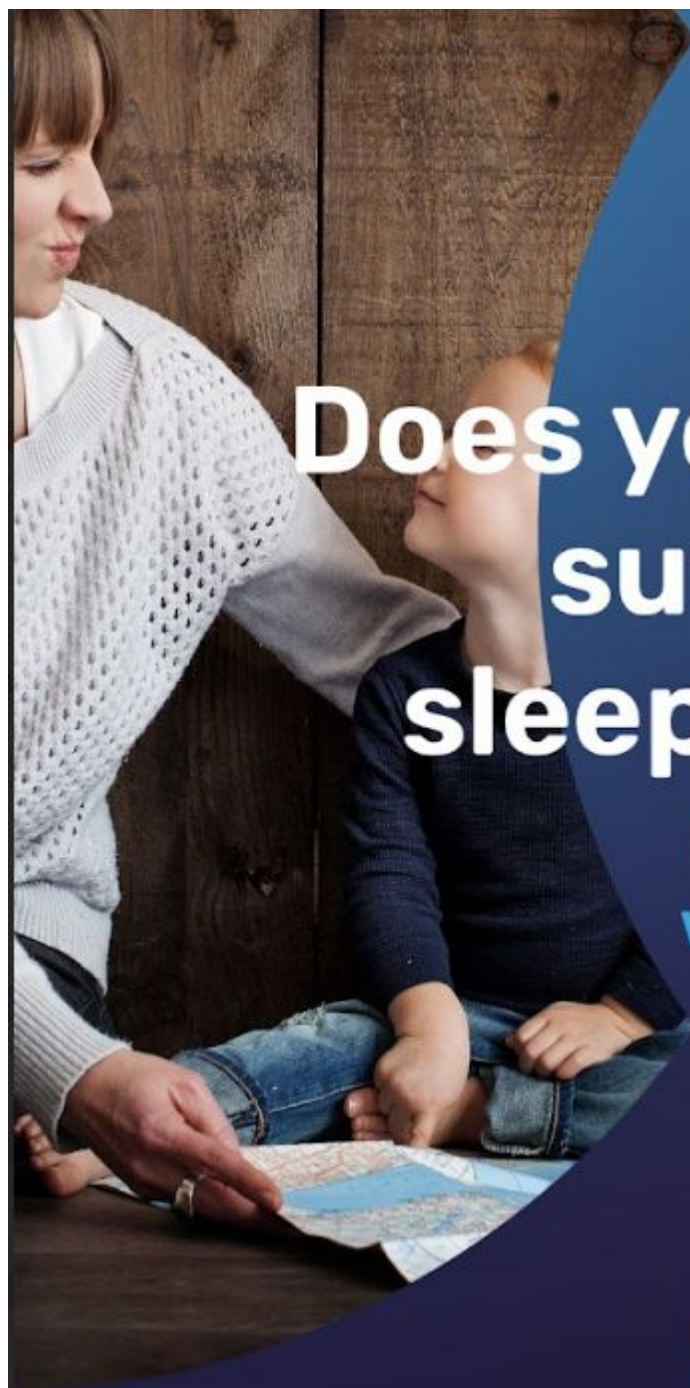
**St Vincent
de Paul Society**
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action



**Want to know
more about
sleep?**

ASK US THE
QUESTIONS YOU
WANT ANSWERS TO

 **03303 530 541**
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am



the national
sleep
helpline

Does your child suffer with sleep issues?

Do you struggle
with your child's
bedtime?

Will your child
not sleep in
their own bed?

WE CAN HELP

 **03303 530 541**
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 7pm - 9pm
Monday & Wednesday 9am - 11am

SEND Peer Support Group

Children and Family
Wellbeing
Service

**ARE YOU A PARENT OR CARER
OF A CHILD WITH SEND OR
OTHER ADDITIONAL NEEDS?**

**DO YOU NEED A SAFE SPACE TO CHAT, OR
SEEK ADVICE FROM OTHERS WHO COULD BE
GOING THROUGH THE SAME?**

**JOIN US ON THURSDAYS, 1PM TILL 2.30PM AT
DUKE STREET FAMILY HUB
(DUKE ST, CHORLEY, PR7 3DU)**

for more information

Call 01257 516316 / 516466

Or email

CFW-CH-groups@lancashire.gov.uk



Lancashire
County
Council



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinecollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MICROTRANSACTIONS

Microtransactions (often abbreviated as "MTX") are digital purchases made within an app or game to unlock extra features or additional content such as new levels. A popular sub-set of these are loot boxes, which contain a selection (usually random) of virtual items: from character skins to game-changing equipment like better weapons. Microtransactions (and loot boxes in particular) are now widespread in apps and games, but concerns persist that they normalise gambling and can foster addictive behaviours – especially among younger players.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GATEWAY TO GAMBLING?

Microtransactions have been criticised for promoting gambling-adjacent behaviour in children. Research has also suggested that exposure to the loot box system could affect the likelihood of a young person suffering gambling harms later in life: children who purchased or used loot boxes in the last 12 months were found to be more likely to have gambled during the same period, as well.

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Microtransactions (and loot boxes especially) could lead to young people displaying compulsive behaviours. Loot boxes are designed to be addictive, and the sought-after prizes they contain are dispensed at random. This means that young gamers might not get what they want straight away, causing them to spend more money as well as additional time gaming.

PAYING TO WIN

In many popular games (the FIFA series being a notable example) microtransactions make it far easier to succeed – which is a concern because children can often find it difficult to keep track of their spending. Once a child starts making in-game purchases, they may continue buying to keep up with their friends and other players, sometimes without recognising the mounting real-world cost.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT

DATA COLLECTION

To allow a young person to complete microtransactions, many app and game developers collect personal data such as their name, address, email, geolocation information, photos, payment details and so on. Even if this data remains secure (which is by no means guaranteed), there's always the chance that it will be used – and possibly sold on to third parties – for marketing purposes.

AFFECTING DAILY ROUTINE

Online games tend to revolve around repeated loops of activity that can affect purchasing decisions and potentially influence children's spending patterns. This could lead to your child not only handing over more money but also adjusting their daily routine to match the game's schedule – potentially impacting more important elements of their day, such as homework and family time.

SATELLITE SPENDING

If you've linked a payment method like a debit card or a PayPal account to your child's game or app, it's wise to keep a close eye on their microtransactions to ensure they aren't racking up a large bill. Letting a child have access to your card (if they're still too young to have their own) or other means of payment could also lead to them spending beyond the apps and games they normally use.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO YOUR RESEARCH

It's important to have a serviceable idea of whether the games your child plays use the loot box system (even if it goes by a different name) or include the option of buying items, equipment and so forth. If so, it's crucial to help your child understand that this costs actual money, and that they shouldn't feel pressured into making any purchases.

CHAT ABOUT 'CHANCE'

It may help to explain to your child that many microtransactions involve an element of chance: they could pay money and still not get what they want in return. Emphasise that – while not usually costing much individually – these in-app and in-game purchases can soon add up. Talk to your child about how spending their money in a game or app means they have less to use in the real world.

(GIFT) CARDS ON THE TABLE

Investing in an in-game currency gift card can be a useful way of helping your child get to grips with budgeting. If you buy, say, a £10 V-bucks Fortnite gift card, monitor how long it takes them to spend it. When they come to you asking for more, you could make it the starting point for a conversation about how quickly that money went and how they could earn their next gift card.

STOP SPENDING AT SOURCE

You might decide that the wisest strategy is to remove the potential for spending money on microtransactions. If so, most games, apps and devices have options in their settings to help you manage what your child can spend – or to disable that function altogether, preventing them from buying additional items for their games or boosted functionality for certain apps.

WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

If you're worried that your child's passion for a particular game or app may tempt them into habitual spending on microtransactions, it's important to remember the indicators of addictive behaviour. Irritability, a lack of concentration and prioritising recreational screen time ahead of homework or mealtimes could all be signs that you need to have a conversation about a more balanced routine.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[f /NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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