



PARKLANDS BULLETIN

WEEK 2

20th October - 24th October 2025



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we held our Year 11 family Revision evening. It was great to see so many families here with their Year 11s to learn about the most effective ways to revise for their upcoming mock exams. We are planning to hold a similar evening for Year 10s later in the year to support their revision for their end of year exams.

Last night we also held our Year 7 Transition Evening, where parents and carers of our Year 7s were able to speak to their child's Form Tutor about how they are settling in to life at Parklands.

I would like to make you aware of a change to the canteen offering after half term. We have noticed that many pupils are making unhealthy choices at the canteen, particularly regarding buying multiple high sugar items (e.g. cookies, cakes, flapjacks, jellies). Some pupils choose sugary snacks only for the whole day, and do not buy a meal during the day. In order to support our pupils to make healthier choices, we have spoken to the pupils in assemblies this week about the dangers of consuming excessive sugar, and about the amount of added sugar which is contained in many of their favourite snacks. We have also spoken to them about the impact that this high sugar diet can have on their concentration and behaviour in lessons. As an additional supportive measure, pupils will no longer be allowed to buy more than one high sugar item per day in the school canteen. I would also ask for your support by reminding your children that fizzy drinks are not allowed to be brought to school, and also by discouraging them from bringing sweets and biscuits to school to consume during the school day. We hope that this will help all of our pupils to make healthier choices throughout their day.

Today we finish for our October Half term Break. I hope that all of our pupils, staff, and their families have a wonderful break and I look forward to seeing everyone back in school and ready to learn on the 10th of November.

Regards,

Mrs. Batson
Headteacher

Whole School Messages

Key Dates - November and December 2025

- **Friday 24th October** – School closes at 3:00pm for half term
- **Monday 10th November** – School reopens
- **Tuesday 11th November** – Year 11 Review Day and first Year 11 Tracker
- **Thursday 13th November** – Year 7, 9, and 10 Behaviour for Learning Reports home
- **Thursday 20th November** – Year 8 Tracker Report home
- **Friday 21st November** – Children in Need Non-Uniform Day
- **Thursday 27th November** – KS4 Presentation Evening for our 2025 leavers, 6:00–7:30pm
- **Friday 28th November** – Cheerleaders Christmas Party, 6:00pm
- **Tuesday 2nd December** – KS3 Reading Evening, 5:30–6:30pm (*more information to follow*)
- **Wednesday 3rd December** – Flu Vaccinations (Years 7–11) and Year 11 Mock Exams begin
- **Thursday 11th December** – Year 7 Christmas Disco
- **Friday 12th December** – Christmas Jumper Day
- **Tuesday 16th December** – Year 11 Mock Exams finish
- **Thursday 18th December** – Year 7 Christmas Cinema Reward Trip and Years 8–11 Christmas Trip to the Trafford Centre.
- **Friday 19th December** – It's CHRISTMAS! School finishes at 1:00pm

School reopens Tuesday 6th January for pupils.

Applications

REMINDER - Applications to secondary schools close at 11:59 pm on the 31st October. Everyone must apply for a high school regardless of whether you have another child at Parklands or your child attends one of the feeder primaries.

Once the deadline of the 31st October has passed your application will be considered as late and will go to the bottom of the list, regardless of your child's category on the admissions policy.

If you have any questions regarding this, please email shaslam@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Dental Practice

Jones Dental Practice in Chorley are currently offering **NHS** dental registration to new under 16 patients, this means increased access to dental care for children.

If you are interested please email pm@jonesdentalpractice.co.uk and they will be happy to arrange an appointment.

School Menus

To see our school menus, please click [here](#). Next week will be week **2**.

Whole School Messages

Learning Support - Every Minute Counts: The Importance of Being in Lessons

We want every student to make the most of their learning time. Even a few minutes missed from each lesson can quickly add up and have a big impact on progress.

For example, if a child misses just 5 minutes from every lesson each day, that adds up to around 4 hours of learning lost every week. Some students are missing as much as 16 minutes per day as they are arriving late and/or leaving early. That's the equivalent of over 7 hours of learning time lost every week. We fully appreciate that sometimes students need time to reset, reflect, or take a short break and these moments are important for wellbeing. However, we also want to highlight just how valuable lesson time is. Every minute spent in the classroom contributes to a stronger understanding, better progress, and greater confidence in learning.

It is our job to work together to make sure our students are present, ready, and making the most of every learning opportunity.

Ms Williams

SENCo

Year 11

Thank you for attending the revision evening. The information shared will be emailed out, along with a video explaining everything in more detail. I hope pupils enjoy their half term break and begin planning their revision for the mock exams in December. Consistency is key, revising little and often will make a real difference to their grades.

Kind regards,

Mr Metcalf

Y9, Y10 and Y11 same day detentions

Please be aware that if your child should receive a **BfL 1 or 0** they will be required to serve a same day detention after school from 3pm until 3.30pm. We hope this sanction may lead to an improved focus and better behaviour in lessons. We will endeavour to notify you by text message should your child need to attend the detention, however please be aware this may not always be possible depending on the time of day. For example, if your child receives a 1 or 0 during their P5 lesson we may not be able to notify you ahead of picking your child up at the end of the day. You can also monitor your child's BFL on the EduLink app under the 'Attendance' section.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Could Your Child be Eligible for Free School Meals?

Check **eligibility and apply** via Lancashire County Council:

[Free School Meals - Lancashire County Council Lancashire.gov.uk](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/free-school-meals/)

If you do apply, please also email Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head) srhodes@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Free Hoodies

We have a large amount of free PE hoodies available in all sizes, any pupil can come and collect one from the PE office, we have many without initials but when these run out we can offer pre-loved hoodies that have initials on.

Whole School Messages

PP Funding

Dear Parents and Guardians,

If your child qualifies for PP funding, you have been emailed the link to a survey. Please complete at your earliest convenience. Thank you to all who have completed this so far.

Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head)

Is Your Child a Young Carer?

If you think your child may have young carer responsibilities, or if you'd like to make us aware, please get in touch.

Please email Miss Rhodes (Assistant Head) srhodes@parklandsacademy.co.uk with the following information:

- Child's name
- Year group
- Who they care for
- How frequently they provide care
- Anything else you would like us to know

While young carer status does not come with additional funding, it does ensure your child is recognised and supported in school.

This Week in KS3 Religious Studies

As we wrap up an amazing term in RS, our students have been reflecting on some big questions and how they connect to the world around us. To spark a few meaningful conversations at home, here are some discussion questions you might like to explore together:

Year 7 (Ultimate Questions)

What do you already know about Christianity?

Why might Christians find comfort in believing in God?

What do Christians believe about the creation of the universe?



Year 8 (Prejudice and Discrimination)

What do Christianity and Islam teach about equality?

Why might religious people feel strongly against racism?

How should religious people respond to racism today?



Year 9 (Human Rights and Social Justice)

Who is Malala Yousafzai, and why is she such an important figure?

Which other famous people have campaigned for social justice, and what did they do?

How can we take inspiration from these people to make a difference in our own communities?



Have a great half term!



- From RS

Attendance

Weekly Attendance Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a positive and successful learning environment at Parklands, we would like to provide you with an update on the overall attendance across the school. Regular attendance is essential for student success, and we want to share important information regarding current trends, key attendance goals and ways we can work together to support all of our students.

We currently have 424 students who have 100% attendance so far this year. If your child is one of these students please congratulate them and continue to encourage their attendance, it is a great achievement.

House	This week %	This year %
ANZ	88.4%	93.9%
ASA	92.6%	95%
EUR	92.3%	95%
SAM	92.9%	95%
AFR	93.4%	94.9%
Totals %	91.9%	94.7%

Students are expected to be in the school building at 8:25am, heading to form at 8:30am and be in form by 8:35am. If they are arriving between 8:35am and 9:15am for any reason they need to enter through the pupil entrance and be signed in at the **Top Office**.

Absence Reporting

Please remember that if your child will be absent from school due to illness, you must report the absence as early as possible on the morning of the first day they are away.

To report an absence relating to sickness or a late arrival please use the following.

- **Call:** 01257 264596 and select option 1. If prompted to leave a message please ensure you are advising of the child you are calling for, their form and their year group as well as details of the absence.
- **EduLink:** Select 'Absence Reporting', complete start date and time, end date and time and give a detailed reason for absence, the paperclip can be used to attach confirmations if required.
Absences due to illness need to be reported each day of absence.

To report a medical appointment where your child will miss a period of school please follow the above steps but ensure that you are giving at least 24 hours notice before the appointment. If you have an emergency appointment where this notice cannot be given please call and hold for reception and a member of the office team will be able to assist you. Please note, we are unable to authorise a full day of absence for a local appointment.

For any other absences, please complete the leave of absence request form which can be found on the attendance section of our website.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain accurate attendance records and ensure the safety of all students.

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: 126 pupils to date

Year 8: 94 pupils to date

Year 9: 99 pupils to date

Year 10: 104 students to date

Year 11: 90 students to date

All: 513 students

How many had the perfect 3 in the previous week?

Year 7: 175

Year 8: 152

Year 9: 148

Year 10: 149

Year 11: 156

All: 780

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: 178

Year 8: 134

Year 9: 140

Year 10: 128

Year 11: 141

All: 721

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
27th October 2025

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

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

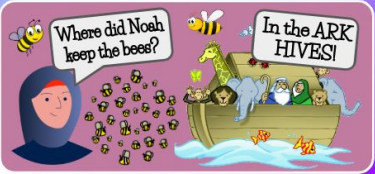
Have You Heard the News?
We've reached the first school holiday of the academic year. The Learning Support department are taking a couple of weeks off so we wish you a very happy and safe break. We'll be back hard at work on Monday 10th November. This will be the week following Remembrance Sunday and the school will continue its strong tradition with a special assembly on Monday afternoon.
Learningsupport@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Inspire Club Quiz



What was the nickname of King Richard I of England who reigned from 1189 until his death in 1199?
Last time's answer: 'Lionheart' or 'The Lion King'

Joke 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:
[**p_h_s_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 Pupil Team

Hello and welcome to the very first **Head Pupil's Message!**

We're excited to introduce your new Head Pupil team **Adam, Barney, Jenny and Bella.**

Over the past few weeks, we've been working hard to make sure every student's voice is heard. That's why we've created a new email address:

yourvoice@parklandsacademy.co.uk
so you can share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions with us directly.



So far, we've delivered two assemblies focused on *character virtues* and the *opportunities* available here at Parklands.

We're also pleased to announce that prefect applications for Year 9 and 10 have been reopened for those who did not apply on the 1st round.

Thank you for your support, and have a fantastic weekend!

From

Adam (on behalf of the Head Pupil Team)

Whole School Messages

Europe House

As we reach the end of a busy and successful half term, I would like to wish everyone in **Europe House** a well-deserved break! You have all worked incredibly hard, shown great teamwork, and represented our house values brilliantly.

Enjoy your time off, recharge, and come back ready for another exciting half term ahead.

Well done, Europe House, I'm very proud of you!



Bingo Night

A vibrant, neon-themed poster for a Bingo Night event. The background is dark purple with glowing pink and blue neon lines. In the center, the words 'BINGO' are in large, bold, white capital letters, and 'Night' is in a white cursive script below it. Several colorful bingo balls (pink, blue, and purple) with numbers are scattered around the text. Below the main title, there is a line of text: 'Get ready to shout "BINGO!" and win some amazing prizes at this fun-filled event.' Further down, the event details are listed: 'THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER', '6:00-8:00PM', and 'IN THE HALL'. A white rounded rectangle contains the text: '£4 for 4 games. Please buy on scopay under Peru Bingo Night'. At the bottom, a white line of text reads: 'FOR MORE INFO SEE MR JOHNSTON IN THE LIBRARY'. Large, glowing pink arrows point outwards from the bottom corners of the poster.

Whole School Messages

Year 10 Visit to Manchester Metropolitan University

On Wednesday, ten Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit the university, ask questions about student finance and student life, and take a tour of the campus. The visit was a great success!



Year 7 Reward

200+ of our Year 7 students enjoyed a breakfast, karaoke, Just Dance and Bingo reward this morning!

A very, very small number of students did not take part due to their Behaviour for Learning over recent weeks. We appreciate your continued support with our processes, so if this applies to your child, please take a moment to discuss their recent BfL with them.

Wishing you all a wonderful half-term break.

Miss Rhodes
(Assistant Headteacher: Year 7 & 8 Achievement Lead)



Whole School Messages

Shine for Sally

The Parklands KS3 & KS4 Dance Teams will be performing at Shine for Sally, a special charity fundraising evening held in loving memory of Sally Cornes, who sadly passed away while she was in Year 9 at Parklands.

This will be a wonderful evening of song and dance, celebrating Sally's life and spirit through the talents of our pupils, alongside performers from Gillies Mar-Jan Stage School and Curtain Call Theatre School.

The event promises to be uplifting, moving, and suitable for the whole family.

Come along, show your support, and help us raise funds for two fantastic causes — Derian House Children's Hospice and Milly's Smiles — as we come together to shine for Sally.



Shine For Sally
A Night Of Song & Dance in memory of Sally Cornes

**Saturday 22nd November 2025 7.30pm &
Sunday 23rd November 2025 2.00pm**

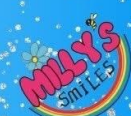
**At Adlington Community Centre,
Railway Road, Chorley PR6 9RF.**

**For tickets book online at
ticketsource.co.uk/shineforsally**

Or ring 07748 526869

Scan QR Code to book tickets



Raising money for  

The poster features a blue background with white stars and confetti. At the top, the title 'Shine For Sally' is written in a large, white, cursive font, with the subtitle 'A Night Of Song & Dance in memory of Sally Cornes' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. The event dates and times are listed in bold white text. The venue information is also in bold white text. The ticket booking information is in bold white text, with the website URL in a smaller font. The phone number is in bold white text. In the center, there is a QR code with the text 'Scan QR Code to book tickets' above it and a white arrow pointing to it. On either side of the QR code is a white line drawing of a person in a purple skirt and white top, holding a feather. At the bottom, the text 'Raising money for' is in bold white text, followed by the logos for 'derian house children's hospice' and 'Milly's Smiles'.

Whole School Messages

PE Update week beginning 20th October 2025

A very busy week in the PE department! Remember everyone is welcome to come and try clubs we offer. We have something on almost every night after school. There is no need to sign up just look at the extra curricular timetable, choose an activity, bring a kit and attend!



Y7 Boys Football Lancashire Cup 7 a side at home. The team played against Southlands, Holy Cross and Darwen Dacca. Another stellar performance coming a close 2nd to a very strong Holy Cross team. Well done!

Y8 Boys Football at home against Southlands. A very wet afternoon of football! The team displayed some great skills with plenty to work on in practice. Well done.



Y9 Boys Football away at Southlands. Another wet afternoon match. Some good teamwork on display with an unfortunate loss. Well done.

Y10 Boys Football at home against Southlands. Well played! What a match! The team played fantastic and ended with a 4-2 win! Well done



Y11 Boys Football away at Southlands. While our 11's may have lost 2-1 we were extremely happy with their performance. Well played!





PE Reminders/Cold Weather



The weather has changed significantly and pupils do still have lessons outside. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for PE. As they will still do the lesson outside unless it is deemed unfit by myself.

We have spare hoodies available if your child does not own one. I am happy to trade a hoodie permanently for a small donation.

We encourage the purchase of the leggings or pants from our suppliers

You can also wear your own base layers, white, black or blue. Underneath their PE t-shirts.

Pupils should arrive at PE and change into the PE kit in the changing rooms.

Pupils who are struggling with an injury/medical ailment, please email pe@parklandsacademy.co.uk

Pupils will be expected to be involved unless there is medical note excluding them from the activity.

Our uniform can be purchased from both below.

<https://jadauniforms.co.uk/product-category/phs-parklands/>

https://www.nuuniforms.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=60_78



How Parent Communication Can Support PE



Effective communication between home and school plays a vital role in shaping pupils' attitudes towards Physical Education. Supportive messages from parents and carers can significantly increase participation, resilience, and confidence, even when pupils are managing injuries or other circumstances.

Below are two contrasting examples of parent emails — one that supports our policy and encourages involvement, and one that undermines it — to highlight the impact language and approach can have.

✓ Positive Example

Subject: PE Lesson - Injury Update

Dear PE Department,

I just wanted to let you know that Olivia twisted her ankle slightly over the weekend. She's absolutely fine to attend school and we've encouraged her to still bring her PE kit as usual. We completely understand the importance of staying involved, so she's happy to do any adapted activities or upper-body tasks she's able to manage while it heals.

Thank you for supporting her and helping her stay engaged.

Best wishes,

Mrs. Turner

Subject: PE - Not Taking Part

Jack won't be doing PE today. He's hurt his leg a bit so I haven't sent his kit in. Please don't expect him to join in.

Thanks,

Mr. Smith

✗ Negative Example

Policy Reminder

All pupils should bring their PE kit and participate to the best of their ability unless a medical professional advises otherwise. Adapted tasks and alternative roles can always be provided to ensure inclusion. Please note that being on a period does NOT mean automatic exclusion from PE — we will always work sensitively with pupils to ensure they feel comfortable and supported while still engaging in appropriate activity.

Whole School Messages

Results are in from our recent house competitions, well done everyone for participating this half term!

HOUSE COMPETITION 25/26										
NGR Form time Kahoot	SAM	6	ANZ	5	AFR	4	EUR	3	ASA	2
Maths Monthly Challenge - Sept	ANZ	6	EUR	5	AFR	4	SAM	3	ASA	2
NGR Form time Kahoot	AFR	6	ANZ	5	ASA	4	EUR	3	SAM	2
KS4 Netball	ASA	6	EUR	6	AFR	5	ANZ	4	SAM	3
Peru Cookbook	ANZ	6	EUR	5	AFR	4	ASA	3	SAM	2

	AUSTRALASIA	41
	AFRICA	38
	ASIA	38
	EUROPE	34
	SOUTH AMERICA	33




WRAP UP LANCASHIRE



WARM A HEART, GIVE A COAT

As a school we are getting behind local initiatives and charities.

If you have any unwanted **WARM COATS AND JACKETS** at home please bring them in and dump them in the designated bin in the FITNESS SUITE PE office.

We will take any unwanted coats and give them to charities that support the homeless, refugees, children living in poverty and people fleeing domestic violence

*Coats must have working zips and be in good condition/clean.

Whole School Messages

PE Extra Curricular Timetable - Aut 2 - 2025

Lunch time activities are the same each day

- Badminton in Sports Hall - until rotation change.
- Astro turf assigned to a year each day. Year 7 Monday, Year 8 Tuesday etc
- Bookable dance space - see sign up sheets in pavilion

Monday				
Sport	Staff	Time	Who for	Where
Dance	LSB	3-4pm	Year 7	Hall
Pom Dance	HMA/JSU	4 - 4.45PM	Year 7	Hall
Fitness suite Girls only	SOK/ JC2	3-4pm	Y9-11 Girls	Fitness suite
Boys Football	ACR/TME	3-4pm	Y7	Astro
Basketball	SRI	3-4PM	Y9-11	Sports Hall
Gymnastics	Coach	3-4pm	KS3 (KS4 Gymnasts)	Gym

Tuesday				
Sport	Staff	Time	Who for	Where
Cheerleading	GMA	3-4.15pm	Y 10 & 11	Gym
Pom Dance	GMA	4.15-5pm	Y10 & 11	Pavilion
Netball	CS/NG	3-4pm	Y 7-9	Playcourts
Boys Football	SRI/ACR	3-4pm	Y9-10	Astro
Fitness suite Boys only	ES1	3-4pm	Y9-11 boys	Fitness suite
KS3 Badminton	ACR/SRI	3-4pm	Y7-9	Sports Hall

Wednesday				
Sport	Staff	Time	Who for	Where
Dance	LSB	3 - 4pm	Y 8 & 9	Hall
Dance Team	LSB	4-5pm	KS3 Dance Team Pupils	Pavilion
Badminton GCSE Yr11/10	CSSP	3-4pm	GCSE	Sports Hall

Thursday				
Sport	Staff	Time	Who for	Where
Cheerleading	HM/JS	3-4:15pm	Y7, 8 & 9	Gym
Pom Dance	HM/JS	4:15-5pm	Y8 & 9	Gym
Dance	GMA	3 - 4pm	Y10 & 11	Pavilion
Dance Team	GMA	4 - 5 pm	Y10 & 11	Pavilion
KS3 Basketball	SRI	3-4PM	Y7-8	Sports Hall
Fitness suite	CSA	3-4pm	Y9-11	Fitness suite
Boys Football	ACR	3-4pm	Y8	Astro
Rugby	IP	3-4pm	Y7,8 & 9	Field

Friday				
Sport	Staff	Time	Who for	Where
Girls Football KS3	NGR	3-4pm	Y 7-9	Astro
Pom Dance	JSU/HMA	3-4pm	Y7-9	Gym
GCSE Night - Handball	ACR	3-4pm	GCSE PE - 10/11	Sports hall
Fitness suite	KOR	3-4pm	Y9-11	Fitness suite
GCSE Contemporary Dance	MAS	3-4pm	Y10 & 11	Pavilion

Click [here](#) for career news



Steven Gerrard Academy Experience Day - Monday 27th October at Bamber Bridge Leisure Centre

Train with professional coaches, sample the elite standard football programme, meet tutors and learn about the education pathways available. Bring football boots, sports kit and plenty of water.

[Click here to register](#)

Final open days are coming up for many colleges - don't miss the chance to look around colleges, talk to staff and students and really see if a college is the right choice for you. Don't forget, interviews start in January and pupils must apply to at least TWO by Christmas (first choice and back up option!)

If you have heard talk of the new 'V Levels' from the current government - please note that this will not affect courses being chosen by Year 11s. There will be a consultation phase before any new qualifications are rolled out (probably up to 2027)

Careers

Lots of useful information in the half term edition of Career News. There are lots of apprenticeship options; medical, dental and allied health conferences and work experience opportunities; open events at various colleges, sixth forms and training providers; weekend career programmes; special interest clubs; videos and podcasts; virtual work experience offers; career of the week and much more!

The Ultimate Guide to College Applications is available on the school website and features frequently asked questions about college and apprenticeship applications, plus direct links to the relevant application pages on each website, saving you hours of scrolling through websites, looking for the right section!

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS](#)



Duke Street Family Hub



WARM & Welcome

**MONDAYS
AFTER SCHOOL**

**Starting 20th October
3.30pm - 5pm**

JOIN US FOR FREE
ARTS & CRAFTS
WARM DRINKS &
CREATE YOUR OWN
PIZZA!

Whole School Messages

Fortnite

Fortnite continues to reign supreme in the gaming world, drawing in millions of players with its bold graphics, fast-paced action and constant stream of new content. This guide looks at the latest developments in the game – such as themed updates, crossover characters and limited-edition cosmetics – and what they mean for young players and the adults who support them. It also unpacks some of the key online safety risks associated with Fortnite. With in-game purchases, cross-platform communication and regular seasonal updates creating an ‘always on’ experience, it’s vital that trusted adults understand how to help children and young people enjoy the game without being exposed to unnecessary risks. Click [here](#) to view.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, facts and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FORTNITE

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI 12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite. It can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or time away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetics (skins, music tracks, LTO items, and battle passes). Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly as exclusive items rotate frequently. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often “gone when they're gone”.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for obsession as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular rewards help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comic book touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emoticons. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from films and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with real-life artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Colmabee is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including iDN, Techradar, and plenty more.

#WakeUpWednesday
The National College

Follow us:
X @wake_up_weds | f /www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide to do up their own research. No liability is accepted into. Current as of the date of release: 23.10.2025

REINDEER RUN

Monday 15th December

£2.50 entry (on SCOPAY)

You get some Reindeer Antlers and a sweet treat at the end!

Help raise money for Derian House.
Run, walk, crawl or dance your way round our route!



ADHD AWARENESS EVENING

26TH NOVEMBER AT 6:00PM - 8:00PM

PARKLANDS HIGH SCHOOL INVITES YOU TO ATTEND AN EVENING OF INFORMATION ALL ABOUT ADHD AND ADOLESCENCE

- The ADHD parent workshop will be a **practical** and engaging session that aims to provide parents with a **clear understanding** of what ADHD really is, separating facts from common **misconceptions**, and show **how ADHD affects children at school and home**.
- Parents will gain **clear, research-based insights** and **easy to use strategies** to support their child's learning and wellbeing.
- The workshop will be delivered by **Lydia Brooks**, an Assistant Educational Psychologist who currently works for **ed-Psychology Solutions**, an educational psychology service that helps identify and meet the individual and complex needs of young people across Lancashire.
- Lydia has a Masters in **Developmental Disorders** and has supported children with a wide range of special educational needs in nursery and school settings.

All parents welcome!

Please contact Lisa Williams SENCo if you would like to attend.

Email: lwilliams@parklandsacademy.co.uk



At SVP Chorley Buddies, we run a variety of family events throughout the year.

Our services are available to **all** so feel free to get in touch if you need help or if you want to support us in any way.

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with what's going on!



Whole School Messages

Compass Bloom

Compass Bloom is in school weekly for students, if you think your child would benefit from these services scan the QR code and fill out the form, someone will then be in touch to discuss the course.

CompassBLOOM



CALLING ALL PARENTS & CARERS!



**Is your young person
feeling more worried
than usual?**

Are those worries starting to get in
the way of everyday life?

We're here to help.

We're running online worry
management courses (PODS) for
secondary school aged young
people across Central & West
Lancashire.

- 6-week course
- Delivered on MS Teams
- Join alongside other young
people who feel the same

What we'll cover (one topic each week):

Session 1 - Understanding anxiety – fight, flight, freeze + intro to CBT

Session 2 - Spotting & managing physical symptoms

Session 3 - Challenging negative thoughts – fact or opinion?

Session 4 - Worry tools – the worry tree, letting go & problem solving

Session 5 - Behaviours – safety, exposure & building confidence

Session 6 - Emotions – self-soothing, safe spaces & moving forward

**A safe space to learn, share and discover new ways
to manage worries.**

Want to know more?

Scan the QR code or follow the MS link below to fill in
a quick form.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/x1asaVTetL>

We'll then give you a call for a friendly chat about the
Worry Management Course and answer any
questions you might have.

SCAN
ME!



COMPASSBLOOM@COMPASS-UK.ORG



01772 280123



@COMPASSBLOOM



@COMPASSBLOOM_

UNIT 8 BALFOUR COURT, OFF HOUGH LANE, LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE, PR25 2TF

Whole School Messages

CHECK OUT OUR
RESOURCE HUB:



Compass Bloom are the Mental Health Support Team in your school.
We provide free support for mild/moderate mental health concerns:



MILD TO
MODERATE
ANXIETY



LOW MOOD:
SADNESS, LOW
MOTIVATION



DIFFICULTY
MANAGING
EMOTIONS



DIFFICULTY ADJUSTING
TO CHANGE AND
TRANSITION

**SPEAK TO YOUR SCHOOL ABOUT SUPPORT FROM COMPASS BLOOM
OR GET IN TOUCH:**



COMPASSBLOOM@COMPASS-UK.ORG



01772 280123

TAKE A LOOK AT
OUR WEBSITE:



Family Hub Chorley

The One Stop Shop is a
drop in where families can
access support from
different services under
one roof.

We offer a warm welcome,
refreshments, and an
opportunity to get help with:

Housing

Finance

Accessing food banks

Mental health support

Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Relationship's

Targeted Youth Support

Sexual Health

Substance / alcohol

... & more



Drop-in
2nd Thursday of
every month
9am till 12noon

@

Inspire Youth Zone
Chapel St
Chorley
PR7 1BS

Children and Family
Wellbeing Service

Tel: 01257 516 316

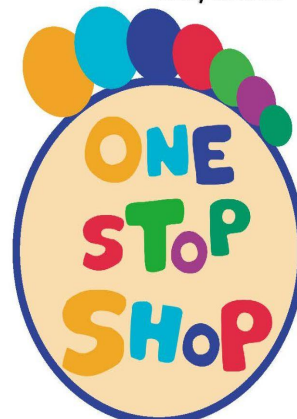
Email:

Chorleyfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk



**FAMILY
HUB
CHORLEY**

2nd Thursday of
every month!



lancashire.gov.uk



This is running on the 2nd Thursday of every month (9th Oct, 13th Nov, 11th Dec), 9am till 12 noon, at Inspire Youth Zone Chorley.



**BRAND NEW
DODGEBALL CLUB**

Get Ready to Dodge, Duck, Dive - Where the Fun Thrives .

Looking for a sport that's fast, exciting, and packed with laughs? ⚡ Come and play Dodgeball - the ultimate game of teamwork, speed, and skill! ⚡

If your child is aged between 8-12, then this session is perfect for them.

Why Dodgeball?

- ✓ Make new friends
- ✓ Stay active and healthy
- ✓ Build confidence and teamwork
- ✓ Most importantly... have loads of fun!

Booking



**EVERY WEDNESDAY
6PM - 7PM**

St George's Church Hall
Halliwell St Chorley
PR7 2AL
(Next to St George's Church)

£4 each per session

JOIN NOW

07716324974

TheSittingDuckDodgeball@outlook.com

DON'T BE A SITTING DUCK!



Fireworks, The Law and You



Fireworks can only be purchased from registered sellers for private use between:

**15th October – 10th November
26th December – 31st December
3 days before Diwali or Chinese New Year**

It is illegal to sell fireworks or sparklers to anyone under 18

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to possess fireworks in public

If you are caught with fireworks in public you could be given an on the spot fine of £80

It is an offence to set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am

It is also an offence to obstruct emergency workers

If you are caught committing any of these offences you could be given an on the spot fine or be taken to court where you can be given a heavier fine or prison sentence.



THINK ABOUT IT.

Firework Code



Lancashire Fire
and Rescue Service

Always supervise young children

Light sparklers one at a time

Keep pets indoors

Keep them in a closed box

Follow all instructions carefully

Stand well back

DO's

&

Don'ts

Never return to a lit firework

Don't give sparklers to under 5's

Don't set fireworks off after 11pm

Never put them in your pocket

Never throw them



For more information visit:

www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk/bonfires-and-fireworks.aspx

School Nurse Drop-In Clinic

The School Nurse service runs a weekly drop in at your school, where you can attend, to access confidential health advice.

(no appointment needed- just turn up)

Emotional Health - Stress - Worries- Relationships-Healthy lifestyles

Healthy eating – Sleep and so much more

Your school Nurse is - Kate McGee

Will be in school on-

Mondays

Time: **Lunchtime**

Place: **MAT Room 2**



Scan this QR code to access
our website:

Lancashire Healthy young People & Families Service (LHYPFS)



Scan this QR code to send a
message to our confidential
messaging service,
ChatHealth



Parklands Preloved uniform

Pass it on, don't throw away,
A uniform's here to save the day!
Keep it going, let it flow,
Helping pupils as they grow.

Please send any preloved uniform into school
to Mrs.K O'Reilly.

Thank you.