

26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parent Carers,

**Weekly Update: 26/09/2025**

I hope this update finds you well. It was great to see so many of you this week at Parent Carer Evening – it was wonderful to catch up with so many of you to share how amazing your children and young people are! If you weren't able to attend, please do get in touch! This week's update features lots of information on upcoming events – we hope you find these helpful:

- Open Evening at Friar Gate Studios on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October
- Derby SEND Focus Group at the Museum of Making on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October
- Free Rollerworld event on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October (Half Term)

**Open Evening at Friar Gate Studios**

We are hosting an Open Evening at Friar Gate Studios for students who are looking at their next steps for Post-16. This will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. Please see the poster further in the update for more information.

**Derby City Council SEND Focus Group**

To make sure Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) services in Derby City truly reflect the needs of the families who use them, Derby City Council are setting up two focus groups to explore:

- **What's working**
- **What's not working**
- **How future services should be shaped**

To ensure every voice is heard there will be two dedicated groups:

- **Children and young people aged 6–25**
- **Parent carers of children and young people with SEND**

The insights gathered will be shared and explored in depth with Service Leaders, Derby SEND Voice, and the Young Ambassadors as part of a series of strategic meetings. Together, they will use the feedback to help shape services that are more responsive, inclusive, and supportive for every family.

The focus groups will be held on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October at the Museum of Making**. It is possible for both a parent carer and their child or young person to take part, however, both groups will be running at the same time, meaning parent carers would need to feel comfortable with their child/young person attending the group independently. Please see the poster further in the update for more information.

Toni Beardmore **Headteacher**

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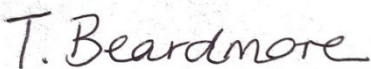
### **Free Rollerworld Event**

DCC Family Hub are hosting an event at the Rollerworld Derby, Mansfield Road, Derby, DE21 4AW on Wednesday, 29th October 2025, between 10.00-11.30am. The event is a TICKET ONLY event, exclusively for 8-18 year olds within Derby City. Please see the poster later in the update for more information.

### **Age Inappropriate Content**

Also included in this week's update is a poster from National Online Safety, looking at 'Age-Inappropriate Content' and how children and young people may chance upon inappropriate content online in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. Please take a look at this poster to find out what we can all do to support children impacted by this. The Family Support Team are always available should you wish to discuss how to keep your child safe online.

With best wishes,



**Toni Beardmore**  
**Headteacher**

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# YEAR 12 OPEN EVENING

**HORIZONS**



Tuesday 7th October 2025  
4:30PM-6:00PM

FRIAR GATE STUDIOS, FORD STREET

We would like to invite you to an information sharing event and opportunity to discuss frequently asked questions for current Year 11 students ahead of transition to Year 12 in September 2026.

Maximum of 3 attendees per family - first come, first served. Please call St Martins School on 01332 571151 to reserve your space.

Please note that the Ford Street car park next to Friar Gate Studios is chargeable.



**Shaw  
Education  
Trust**

Telephone: 01332 571151  
Website: [www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk](http://www.stmartinsschoolderby.co.uk)

Horizons 6<sup>th</sup> Form  
Friar Gate Studios  
Ford Street, Derby  
DE1 1EE

# WANTED

PARENT CARERS, CHILDREN  
AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 6-25  
TO GIVE THEIR HONEST VIEWS ON  
**SEND IN DERBY CITY**



**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 1800 - 1930**  
**Museum of Making**

**HELP SHAPE SERVICES THAT TRULY  
REFLECT YOUR FAMILIES NEEDS**



# **FAMILY HUB EVENT AT** **ROLLERWORLD**

**WEDNESDAY 29TH**  
**OCTOBER 2025**  
**10.00–11.30**



**This is a TICKET ONLY event.**  
**Exclusively for 8-18 year olds within Derby City.**

**To get your free ticket you need to attend  
one of our ticketing sessions:**

WHEN	WHERE	TIME
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Osmaston / Allenton Family Hub</b> 60 Cockayne Street North, Derby, DE24 8XB	4pm-5pm
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Austin Children Centre</b> 23 Browning St, Sunny Hill, Derby DE23 8DN	5pm-6pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Derwent Family Hub</b> Monmouth Street, Derby, DE21 6BD	4.30pm- 5.30pm



**FamilyHubDerby**  
Stronger families through support & friendship

***'FIRST COME FIRST SERVED'***



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

"Inappropriate" means different things to different people. What's acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various ways – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they're exposed to age-inappropriate content.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Age-inappropriate content is easily accessible through many social media platforms. TikTok, for instance, is hugely popular with young people but is arguably best known for clips featuring sexualised dancing or profanity. Some social media users also express hate speech or promote eating disorders and self-harm, which could cause lasting damage to a child's emotional and mental health.

## GAMING

Gaming is an enjoyable source of entertainment, but many popular titles can expose children to inappropriate material such as violence, horror, gambling or sexually explicit content. Playing games unsuitable for their age risks normalising to children what they are seeing. Some games also include in-game chat, where other (usually older) online players often use language that you probably wouldn't want your child to hear or repeat.

## STREAMING

The range of video streaming services available online means that users can find almost anything they want to watch on demand. Children are therefore at risk of viewing TV shows and movies which contain nudity, drug and alcohol abuse, explicit language and extreme violence. Unfortunately, these streaming platforms can't always determine that it's not an adult who's watching.

## ADVERTS

Online adverts frequently include age-inappropriate content: usually gambling and nudity or partial nudity, although adverts for alcohol or e-cigarettes are also common. Some search engines also feature adverts that are responsive to your search history: so if you've recently looked up a new horror movie, shopped for lingerie or ordered alcohol online, then the ads appearing on screen could reflect this the next time your child borrows your device.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### TALK IT THROUGH

Embarrassment or fear of getting into trouble can make it difficult for children to talk openly about age-inappropriate content they've watched. Remind your child they can always come to you if they're troubled by something they've seen online, without worrying about consequences. Before offering advice, discuss what they saw, how they felt and how they came to find the content in question.

### CONNECT, DON'T CORRECT

If your child's been particularly distressed by exposure to content that wasn't suitable for their age, it's important to offer guidance to prevent them from repeating the same mistake – but it's equally vital to help them deal with the emotions that the situation has raised. You could tell them about any similar experiences you might have had at their age, and how you dealt with it.

### BLOCK, REPORT, CONTROL

After discussing the problem, you and your child can take action together. This could include blocking any inappropriate sites and reporting any content which violates a platform's rules. To further safeguard your child online, set up parental controls on internet-enabled devices that they use. This will significantly reduce the chances of your child being exposed to age-inappropriate content in future.

### GET SPECIALIST HELP

Age-inappropriate content can potentially have a negative impact on a child's mental health, which is sometimes displayed through changes in their behaviour. If the problem becomes more severe, you might consider reaching out to a mental health professional or an expert in this field who can provide you and your child with the proper support.

### STAY CALM

Even though it is obviously difficult to stay rational in a situation where your child has been put at risk, it's essential to think before you react. Your child may well have hesitated to open up to you about watching inappropriate content for fear of the consequences, so being calm and supportive will reinforce the notion that it would be easy to talk to you about similar issues in the future.

## Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a Registered Counsellor with The Health Professions Council of South Africa, and she runs a private practice offering counselling to children, teenagers and families. Her main focus is creating awareness and educating the community on the mental health pressures of today's world, as well as resources and techniques to understand and cope better.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.education.gov.au/documents/about/programs/bullystoppers/age-inappropriate.pdf> | <https://www.nosafety.gov.au/educators/training-professionals/professional-learning-program-teachers/inappropriate-content-factsheet/> | <https://www.revealingreality.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/children-media-lives-year-7.pdf>



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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## **Term Dates 2025/2026**

### **Autumn Term 2025**

INSET Day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September

INSET Day – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September

**School Starts for the new Academic Year – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

School Starts Back – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

School Breaks up for Christmas – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

### **Spring Term 2026**

INSET Day – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

School Starts Back – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

School Starts Back – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

School Breaks up for Easter – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

### **Summer Term 2026**

School Starts Back – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

INSET Day – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Bank Holiday – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

School Breaks up for Half Term – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

School Starts Back – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**School Breaks up for Summer – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

INSET Day – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

St Martins follows Derby City Council's term dates. Dates for next year can be found on their website – please follow the link for these - <https://derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/term-holiday-dates/#>

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