



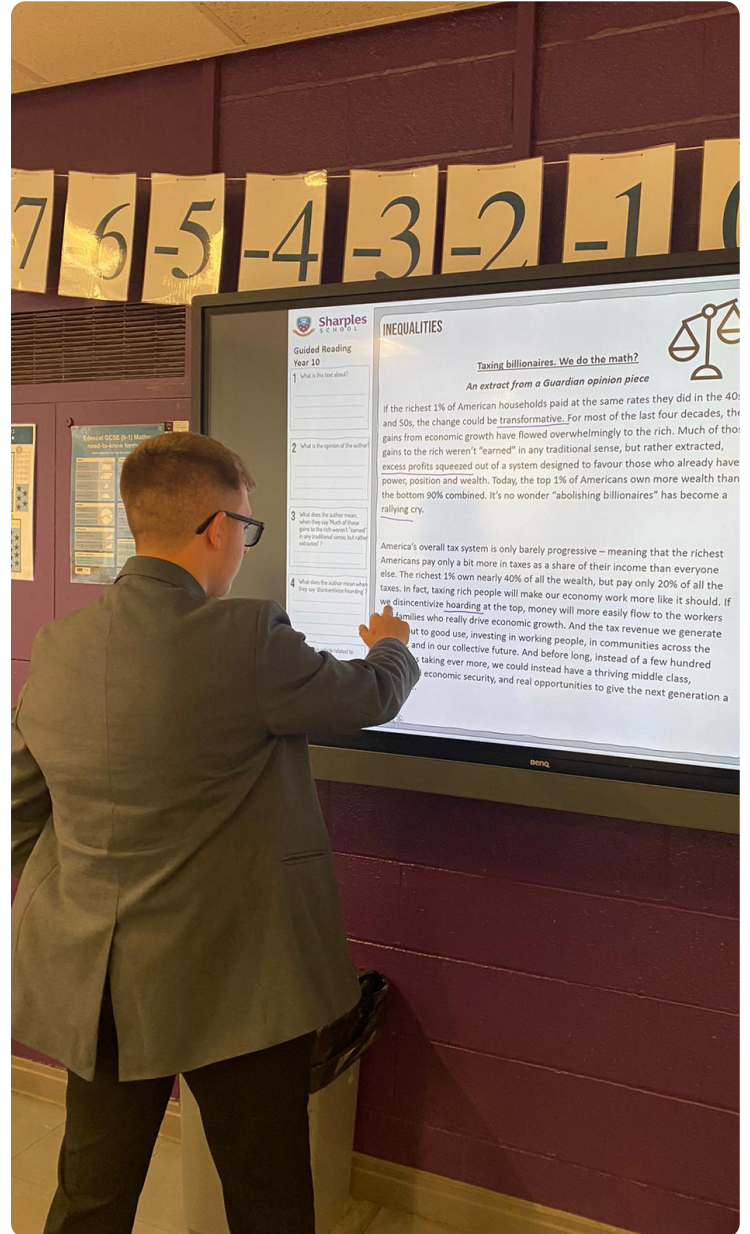
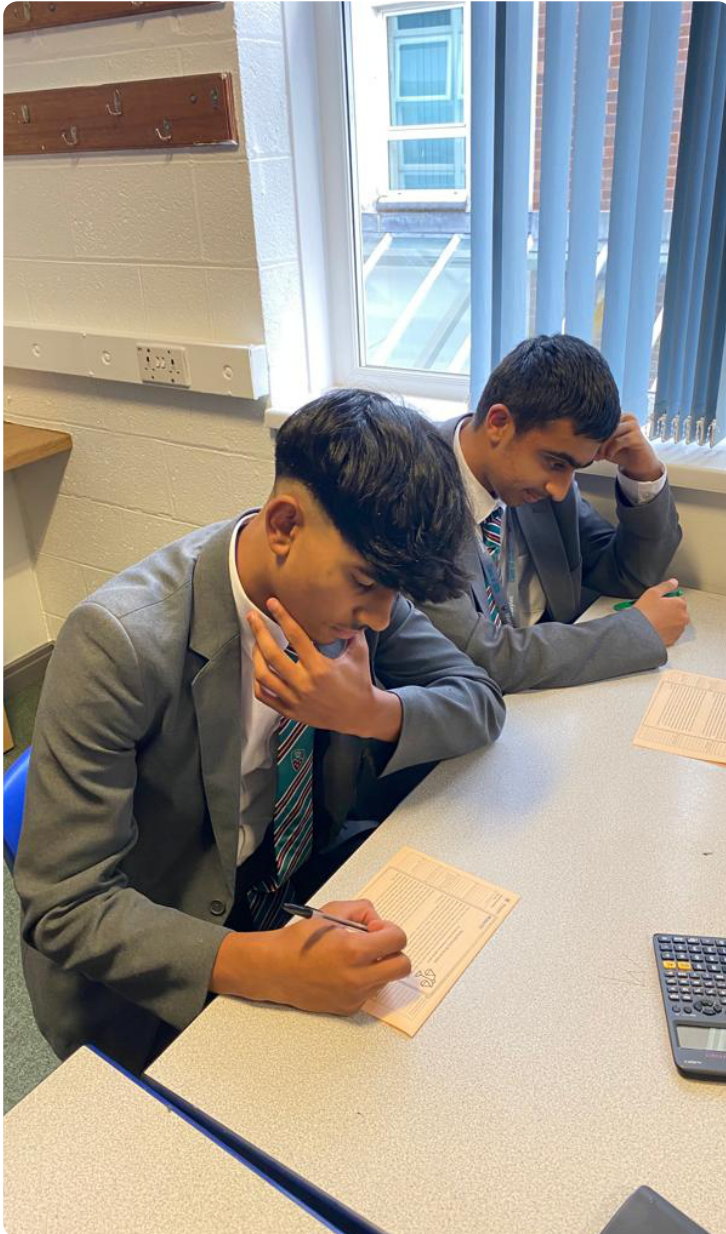
Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 450
22nd September 2023

Maths Lessons Insight



This year, all students are completing reading tasks in maths lessons - these tasks link to upcoming topics are designed to get students thinking about the topic (as pictured above), and to give them the foundations and the prerequisites needed for their new unit of work. Teachers follow the Sharples reading strategies to guide pupils through the text highlighting key vocabulary and important mathematical terms. Students then answer comprehension questions based on the text to identify what they have learnt. This week Year 10 students read a Guardian article about the amount tax paid by billionaires in America, and enjoyed sharing their views on this.

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Science Enrichment Newsletter

Trip to Cambridge University



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Year 10 students visited Cambridge on a residential trip earlier this week (pictured on the previous page). They stayed in the undergraduate halls of Churchill College, strolled through the streets of Cambridge to visit the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, competed in a Science and Cambridge themed quiz and finally spent a physics-filled day at the famous Cavendish Laboratories. Cavendish Laboratories was the birthplace for the discovery of both the electron (1897) and the neutron (1932), and has been recognised, through the award of Nobel Prize, for contributing in the areas of Physics, Chemistry and Physiology or Medicine, an incredible 30 times. The students explored the physics involved in terahertz communications, photovoltaic cells, neuroscience, atomic weapons testing and much more.

STEM club

Pupils kicked off this year's STEM club by building rockets! Using only balloons, string and sellotape, groups competed to see who could build the most accomplished rocket! There was plenty of hot air and the eventual winner managed to cover 10 metres across the room! More fun next week!

Science Career of the Week

This week's career is 'Radiographer'. Radiographers take images of the insides of patients' bodies to diagnose injury or disease. Information about experience opportunities, providers, entry requirements and much more can be found here: [Science career of the Week](#).

Please speak to Mr. Burke, who will provide you with more information about this, or any other, science career.

Visit to the University of Manchester

Students had an enriching experience during their visit to the University of Manchester, where they learned the art of constructing minesweeping robots. The day began with an illuminating talk highlighting the significance of clearing landmine-affected areas and the widespread nature of this problem. The students then acquired practical skills in using Bluetooth technology to remotely control robots. They also gained insights into the workings of metal detectors. The day concluded with a meet and greet session, providing students with the opportunity to interact with early career engineers from various industries. They now have four weeks to design and build their own robots before returning to the university for an exciting competition.

Lego Robotics Competition

After weeks of dedicated practice and meticulous preparation, Hatim and Sherjeel (pictured on the next page) participated in the EEP Lego Robotics Grand Final at the



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Big Bang Science Fair, held at the NEU in Birmingham. Out of 350 schools, they were among the 34 finalists. They showcased their robots and presented their design ideas to the judges. Alongside the competition, they enjoyed exploring the fair and engaging with science exhibits. Although they didn't win any prizes, we are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication.

Space News

The discovery of phosphorus in a cloud at the edge of the Milky Way has expanded the potential habitable zone of our galaxy. Phosphorus, one of the essential elements for life on Earth, was previously missing from the far reaches of the galaxy. This finding suggests that the habitable zone of the Milky Way may extend approximately 22,000 light-years from its centre. Astronomers are now encouraged to explore the outer regions of the galaxy for planets and the possibility of life. The detection of phosphorus, along with previous discoveries of organic molecules, indicates that the galactic habitable zone could be wider than previously assumed. This discovery motivates further exploration for potential life in distant regions of the galaxy.

Mr. Fowlds - Science Enrichment Coordinator



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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Alicia M for getting full marks on her recent knowledge check about heroes and villains. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Safiya I for her very creative sentences. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Saarah D has written a great descriptive paragraph. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Mariya P has written an excellent analysis of the poem Ozymandias. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Aroosh S for her draft narrative full of lovely descriptions which flow naturally. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Ibrahim M for reading an extract clearly and confidently.

Year 8

Jack H for reading the context of Blood Brothers aloud clearly and confidently.

Year 9

Safiyah I for her excellent, expressive reading and understanding of an extract from I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai.

Year 10

Sohan P for his excellent reading of the character Scrooge.

Year 11

Travis P for his convincing reading of "mummy" in An Inspector Calls.



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Year 7 Boys Football



Year 7 (pictured above) had their first game of the season away at Ladybridge. The attendance to all 3 trials has been superb and further games will be arranged in the near future to provide more opportunities for the squad to represent the school.

The friendly fixture gave the chance to take a larger squad and also rotate the players in different positions. Sharples couldn't register a win in their first game but showed lots of promise with some lovely football played at times. Despite going 3 nil down the team showed great resilience and bounced back with a real determination to get back in the game. Layton drove the team forward with his energy from midfield and Ollie managed to pull a goal back. In fact, Sharples finished the stronger team and went close numerous times, only to be denied by the woodwork.

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Year 9 Boys Football

Year 9 had their first game of the season on Monday night against tough opposition, Ladybridge. The game got off to a very fast start with both teams looking to open the scoring. Unfortunately Ladybridge beat us to the opening goal, taking the lead just before half time. Abdur came close to equalising on two occasions but just couldn't beat the goalkeeper. Ladybridge went on to win the game 2-0.



The Year 9 boys took part in a 9-a-side tournament (as pictured above) hosted by Manchester United where Sharples took on 7 other schools across the Manchester region. The boys put on a show with some excellent performances coming from Amaan B, Ahmed M and Muhammad Y. We managed to end up 3rd place narrowly missing out on the top spot. Well done boys keep up the good work for the rest of the season!

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Year 10 Boys Football



Year 10 (pictured above) travelled to Ladybridge this week hoping to continue their form from last year and win the league for a second season in a row. It was a thrilling end to end encounter which could have gone either way. Sharples started brightly and nearly took the lead after a fantastic run from Aashan but he fired wide with just the keeper to beat. Shortly after Rowan saw his effort saved when he looked certain to score. Sharples eventually got their reward when Aashan broke the offside trap and superbly fired the ball into the roof of the net from the edge of the box with his left foot. Sharples' dominance didn't continue in the second half though as Ladybridge began to control the game, some excellent defending from Josh and Joe and a few excellent saves from Harley kept the opposition out. However, with only 2 minutes left on the clock, Ladybridge equalised after a set piece delivery. This wasn't to be the last bit of action though, as the team responded well and won a corner. Aashan stepped up and curled the ball into the goal directly from the corner to secure all 3 points with the last kick of the game.

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Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a school governor. If you would like a nomination form or information regarding the role, please email: e.bullivant@sharplesschool.co.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 13th October at 4pm.

MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS THIS TERM

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER

WHEN?

**MONDAY
LUNCHTIME
12.55 - 12.35**

**TUESDAY
LUNCHTIME
12.55 - 12.35**

**WEDNESDAY
LUNCHTIME
12.55 - 12.35**

**THURSDAY
LUNCHTIME
12.55 - 12.35**

**FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME
12.55 - 12.35**

WHATS ON?

SHARPLES CHOIR
ALL YEAR GROUPS

SHARPLES BAND
Selected musicians playing together in a band
different genres of music.
ALL YEAR GROUPS

DRAMA CLUB
ALL YEAR GROUPS

ROCKSCHOOL
A chance to play with other musicians and create your own band.

TECHNICAL THEATRE CLUB
Props, Lighting, Set, Make-up, Costume
ALL YEAR GROUPS

KEYBOARD & GUITAR CLUB
Learn new skills and practice on the Keyboard, Guitar
or Ukulele.
ALL YEAR GROUPS

WHERE?

G66

G66

G67

**G66 + MUSIC
PRACTICE
ROOMS**

G67

**G66 + MUSIC
PRACTICE
ROOMS**



Speak to Mrs Hamlin or Mr Corrigan if you have any questions.





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Attendance Information

Reporting an absence:

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school before 9.30am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. The attendance email is the easiest way to contact school as the phone line can get very busy.

The school attendance email is: attendance@sharplesschool.co.uk

If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Attendance Data

Year Groups attendance this week:

Year 7 = 96.88%
Year 8 = 95.05%
Year 9 = 95.09%
Year 10 = 95.72%
Year 11 = 94.94%

Best forms this week:

7Ples1 & 7Shar5 = 100%
8Shar4 = 100%
9E = 98.97%
10S1 = 99.59%
11S = 100%

934 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 26th
September:
European Day of
Languages

Thursday 28th
September:
Open Evening
(16.00 - 19.00)

Friday 29th
September:
Teacher Training
Day (School closed
to students)

Tuesday 3rd and
Wednesday 4th
October:
Open Mornings
(09.00 - 10.30)

Career of the Week: Meteorologist

Meteorologists monitor atmospheric conditions and predict upcoming weather or long term climate changes

Average Salary: £ £20,000 £60,000
Starter Experienced

Typical hours:
(per week) 39 to 41
a week

You could work: evenings / weekends /
bank holidays
on shifts



Information sourced from: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/meteorologist>

Qualifications:

- You can get into this job through a university degree
- or by training with a professional body.
- Degrees such as Science, Environmental Science, Geography, and Maths are relevant.
- 4 or 5 GCSE at grades 9-4 including English, Maths, and Science.
- 2 or 3 A levels including Science.

Skills required:

- Maths knowledge.
- Knowledge of Geography.
- Analytical thinking skills.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- The ability to work well with others.
- Attention to detail.
- Excellent written communication skills.
- Competent with the use of a computer.

Relevant Subjects:

- Geography, Science, Maths



Careers &
Enterprise
at Sharples School



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**WEEK
COMMENCING -
11TH
SEPTEMBER**



PE Lunch Time Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y7 Football - (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big astro) - AHM & SCU
Netball Yr 7/8 (SH) - SCU & LAL	Y7 Dodgeball (SH) - SCU & LAL	Just Dance- all years (SH) - SCU	KS3 Dodgeball (SH) - LAL & SCU	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA
Y8 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR	Y7/Y8 Basketball (Gym) - LAL	Y9 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	Y10 Football (SH) - LAL
Boccia (Gym) - SCU & LAL	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR		
		Y10 Football (Small Astro) - JBA		

**WEEK
COMMENCING -
25TH
SEPTEMBER**



PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
KS4 Girls Fitness Suite	Y7-10 Netball @ Smithills	Y9 Football v Canon Slade (a)	Open evening	Department detentions
Y9 & 10 Girls Netball	Y7 Boys Football practice	Basketball practice- all years		
	Y8 Boys Football practice			
	Y10 Football v MSJ (h)			

• Football and netball fixtures will be arranged throughout the term!

*Pearson Teaching Awards
Secondary School of the Year Winner*

Open Evening

Thursday 28th September
4pm - 7pm

Open Mornings

Tuesday 3rd and
Wednesday 4th October
9am - 10.30am



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A Science Specialist College

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Secure



LOCKER.RENTALS



CHEAPER THAN A NEW SCHOOL JUMPER. SIMPLE. SAFE. SECURE.

Kids these days carry a lot of expensive equipment, from trainers and clothing, to books and sportswear. So, it's scary to think that the average student loses 7 items per month.

Having a school locker can help to reduce these numbers. Creating a constant, secure location for students to store possessions safely. With the added advantage of keeping books dry and promoting better back health.

And, when you consider prices start from just 12p per day, the decision is simple.

STUDENTS LOSE
AN AVERAGE OF



ITEMS PER MONTH

Visit [locker.rentals](https://www.locker.rentals) and book your locker today.

Source: www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/how-many-items-you-lose-8246553

 enquiries@locker.rentals

 www.locker.rentals

Secure

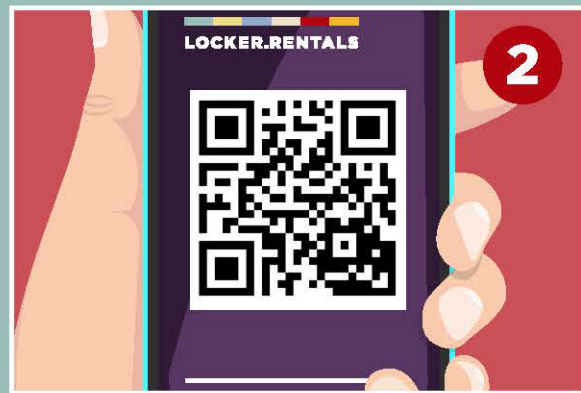
LOCKER.RENTALS



2 SIMPLE WAYS TO **RENT YOUR LOCKER.**



Visit www.locker.rentals



Scan this **QR Code**

Once on the web app do the following:

- Enter your **LOCATION**
- Choose your **PREFERRED LOCKER AREA** from the drop down menu (if available)
- Click on **CHECK AVAILABILITY**
- Where prompted enter your details and read and agree to the terms and conditions
- Click on **RENT LOCKER** and follow the instructions for entering your payment details
- You will then be emailed a locker code and the number of your locker compartment.

How to Access your Locker:

- Go to the locker number detailed on your confirmation email
- Enter the **4 digit code** detailed on your confirmation email and open the lock
- Should you forget your code it can be reissued by visiting **www.locker.rentals** and clicking on the re-issue my locker code link.



Y7 CLUBS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
International Club CLI - N11	Book Club LHT - U8	Just Dance SCU - SH	Creative RE PMC - U21	Blooket RMA/MHT - N16
Netball SCU - SH	STEM Club DBU - G45	Polyglot Club CLI - N11	Chess KMC - G46	Board Games DAL - G59
Football AHA - Big Astro	Debate Club HPA - U14	Robotics Club ENE - U39	Technical Theatre Club THA - G67	History Book Club KBO/ASO - U51
Boccia LAL - Gym	Dodgeball LAL - SH	Drama Club THA - G67	Art Club CBL/SSW - G79	Football AHA/SCU - Big Astro
	Running Club MHT - After School	Gardening CFI/JBI - U47	Football AHA - Big Astro	
		Basketball LAL - Gym		

Early Help Parenting Drop-in

For all families with children under 18

We know that being a parent is not always easy and that families need extra support at some stage as children grow up.

Targeted Early Help Workers will be on hand to offer advice and support.

We can offer signposting to helpful services, organisations and community groups.

Poor school attendance?

Are they being excluded from school?

Are they anxious or struggling with self-esteem?

Are you struggling with your child's behaviour?

Not sure what services there are available that can help to support you?



Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat if you want any advice or information about parenting.

Drop-in sessions, 9.30am - 3.30pm

Farnworth King St Centre 16 Sept 7 Oct 28 Oct 18 Nov 9 Dec

Oxford Grove Children Centre 23 Sept 14 Oct 4 Nov 25 Nov

Tonge Children Centre 30 Sept 21 Oct 11 Nov 2 Dec



For more information please contact:

Targeted Early Help Tel: 01204 336215

Email: earlyhelp@bolton.gov.uk

Bolton Start Well



Bolton Council

Early Help Parenting Drop-in

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Bolton Council

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.



Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.



TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday