



Dear Parents/Carers,

Last night was our KS4 Power to Perform evening focusing on Year 9 getting all the information they need to make their personalised choices ready for next year; and Year 10 on the importance of revision as well as information about the residential trip. This was a very well attended event and thank you to everyone who came to support your child and find out more about their KS4 GCSE and vocational courses. If students need any information that they were not able to get on the evening they can see their subject teachers who still have the postcards of key information to give out. Year 9 personalised choices forms should be returned to their form tutor as soon as they are ready, and if you have any questions or queries please just write these on the form and these will be picked up from there.

At the start of this week, our Year 11 prefect team led Culture Day, celebrating the diversity and inclusivity of our Primet community. They worked hard on planning this and organised fundraising activities to raise funds for their chosen charity – Children with Cancer UK. The monies raised are still coming in as we finish this week, but so far there has been over £300 raised. During the day we were also joined by two GB Olympic athletes who ran sports activities throughout the day in PE. They gave fantastic feedback about how well students engaged and behaved during the sessions, saying how much they'd enjoyed their time at Primet because of our WWF ethos.

Continuing with fantastic feedback - Year 7 have been fabulous this week on their Shakespeare experience trip at Gawthorpe Hall on Wednesday. I've heard nothing but praise from the English team who really are very proud of how well all students engaged with the activities and how respectful and warm, welcoming and friendly they were with the presenters. Well done Year 7 – very Proud to be Primet!

When we return after Easter, Year 11 are straight into exams with Art, Performing Arts, Languages speaking and GCSE PE exams all taking place, as well as only just over 3 weeks before formal GCSE written exams begin. During the Easter holidays there are various revision and booster sessions taking place which students need to make the most of as well as their own revision during this time. We know how this short few month period will feel pressured and intense, but it is only for this short period of time and requires resilience and determination as well as a positive attitude about how they can make the most of every day from now till those exams are finished. Planning their time out and talking to you about what they are doing can really help with making it feel more manageable, so please check in with them regularly about what it is they're revising and how things are going. And don't forget to remind them of the positives to look forward to at the end, including leavers assembly, prom and of course results day.

We return on Monday 13th April at normal time, with students needing to be in the yards at 8.45am in time ready for line up. Please ensure they have their basic equipment and a bag for their school work including their homework folders and knowledge organisers which they will get for the Summer term when we return along with a new paper copy of their timetable.

Principal's Awards

Awarded to the students in each year group with the highest number of Positive Points and 0 Negative Points each week.



J Pilkington
Principal

Imogen
(7E)

Asad (8M)
Aleyna (8R)

Megan
(9I)

Malachi
(10T)

Darius
(11E)



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Leading Parent
Partnership Award

2022-2025

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to this week's star students:

Year 7

P- Milly
R- Fatima
I - Logan
M - Elia
E - Isaac
HOY - Lucas

Year 8

P- Sienna
R- Sienna
I - Rory
M - Jasmine
E - Oliver
T - Andrew
HOY Zach

Year 9

P- Mia
R- Amina
I - Tylie
M - Mylia
E - Saffron
T - Lily
A - Leyla
HOY - Megan

Year 10

P- Harry
R- Rameen
I - Ruby
M - Umer
E - Rebcca
T - Maimuna
A - Liam
HOY - Freya

Year 11

P- Mehrab
R- Ali
I - Tara
M - Jamie
E - Jada
T - Mason
A - Oliver
HOY - Laiba

Primet Positive Focus: PROGRESSING

This week we have been focusing on our core value of always progressing. Learning and progress are at the heart of everything we do. We strive to constantly develop our knowledge and skills, ensuring that every day we move forwards.



UNCRC Articles

As part of our UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Award, we have been looking at each of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child Articles. There are 54 Articles in total. This week we have been learning about:



- Article 29 - Goals of education: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

Upcoming Dates

- 13th April – First day of Summer term, normal start time, in the yards ready for line up at 8.45am
- 15th April – Year 10 Prefect Training at Nelson & Colne College
- 16th April – Year 7 workshops from Nelson & Colne College
- 16th April – Year 10 Parents' Evening
- 23rd +24th April– Primet's Got Talent at lunchtime, £1 on the door to watch
- 30th April – Year 8 HPV vaccinations
- 30th April – Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 1st May – Year 9 MTPD vaccinations

GCSE English - Macbeth at The Muni








There is a performance of Macbeth on at The Muni in Colne, with 2 shows - Sunday 29th March in the evening and Monday 30th March in the afternoon. This is the start of the Easter holidays, and we highly recommend seeing this to all Y10 and Y11 students to support them with their GCSE English studies and exam preparation. They might want to go in small groups together or you could support them and enjoy a family trip to the theatre.

You can buy tickets on The Muni website: [LINK](#)



Congratulations to our Primet Positives top earners for this half term

Certificates and badges have been given out in Year Assemblies this week which have focused on rewards. These students names are also displayed on our honors boards at the back of the hall. Congratulations!

Value	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
	Musa 7P	Asad 8M	Holly 9A	James 10I	Khurram 11P
	Ava 7M	Bilal 8M	Ameer 9T	Myla 10E	Jamie 11M
	Oliver 7R	Mustafa 8P	Marian 9P	Lena 10R	Rameez 11E
	Evie 7R	Fatima 8M	Sayuni 9P	Muteeb 10E	Hasher 11T
	Musa 7M	Dylan 8E	Riley 9P	Logan 10M	Oliver 11A
	Millie 7P	Asad 8M	William 9A	Eman 10A	Thomas 11P
	Jessica 7M	David 8I	Lily 9A	Samuel James 10A	Ellie 11R
	Evie Jean 7P	Leo 8P	Elena 9A	Frank 10P	Florina 11I
	Daniel 7E	Mayssam 8M	Jensen 9I	Noor Fatima 10R	Aisla 11M
	Victoria 7R	Annie 8P	Adam 9E	Abdul Muiz 10R	Maisie 11A
	Dragos 7I	Austin 8I	Lauren 9T	Eman 10A	Holly 11P
	Fareeha Abbas 7M	Asad Ur 8M	Riley 9P	Samuel 10A	Mohammed 11R
	Patricia 7M	Shaheer 8P	Umar 9E	Kristale 10A	Tara 11I
	Davide 7I	Yusuf 8I	Amna 9P	Layla 10E	Aqsa 11E
	Muhammad 7R	Zaryab Fatima 8E	Aamilah 9P	Anwyn 10A	Maneeha 11T
	Taylor 7P	Scarlett 8E	Jensen 9I	Lena Wiese 10R	Anniyah 11P
	Amina 7R	Callum 8T	Megan 9I	Layla 10E	Harry 11R
	Musa 7R	Andrew 8T	Holly 9A	Freya 10I	Sophie 11M
	Fatima 7R	Ali 8T	Lucas 9I	Rameen 10R	Iman 11E
	Jasmine 7P	Estera 8T	Dillon 9A	Sophie 10P	Laima 11T
	Bella 7M	Sabina 8E	Saffron 9	Erin 10A	Joshua 11R
	Emily-Rose 7M	Samuel 8R	Madalina 9A	Alicia 10T	Eman 11M
	Raheel 7I	Thomas 8T	Muhammad 9M	Hassan 10A	Storm 11E
	Gabriele 7P	Asad Ur 8M	Melissa 9P	Daisy 10M	Hajra 11T
	Amina Abdi 7M	Olivia 8R	Isaac 9I	Summer 10A	Zac 11A
	Lucas 7M	Sophie 8P	Adam 9E	Jack 10R	Abdul 11P
	Anayah 7A	Asad 8M	Hafsah 9E	Bailey 10R	Parisa 11I
	Caleb 7E	Ellie May 8P	Saffiyah 9T	Matthew 10I	Anniyah 11
	Zachariah 7E	Talal 8P	Kiran 9E	Demi-Leigh 10P	Scarlett 11A
	Azaan 7E		Haron 9T	Leah 10M	Demi 11A

**WELL
DONE!**

Congratulations to our subject stars

Each subject team has selected a star student for this term. The winners were announced in the whole school assembly today, and students were given their certificates and prizes in form time this afternoon. A huge well done to all of these students who have been a shining example of excellence in these subjects. Congratulations!

Subject	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Art	Skyla	Natasha	Jack	Maya	Oskar
Design	Elijah	Jacob	Tina	Anna	Zac
Drama	Lulian	Kinza	Nicole	Sophie	Jada
Food	Chloe	Olivia	Myliya	Felix	Harriet
Music	Skyla	Thomas	Aamilah		
PE	Louis	Olivia Rose	Bentley	Nadia	Harris
Child Dev.				Layla	Lacey
English	Raheel	Cai	Ali-Akbar	Laurie-Kate	Sophie
MFL	Chloe	Oliver	Tylie	Komal/Myla	Evie-Lea/Haniya
Geography	Zaem	Thomas	Megan	Fazeel	Harris
History	Lily	Lucy	Lucas	Zaynah	Zac
RCS	Charlotte	Benett	Marian	Maimuna	Attiq
Computing	Zaem	Eda-Gabriela	Oliver		
Business				Gracie	Josie
Creative <u>iMedia</u>				James	Kavita
Maths	Louis	Fatima	Faizaan	Jack	Holly
Science	Samir	Zohra	Hiba	Summer	Anniyah



Personal Development:

Next term in Personal Development students will be looking at:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Study Skills Dental Health Vaping, smoking and cannabis Careers – motivators and job sectors The NHS	Study Skills HPV vaccines Cancer Awareness Health Facts and Drugs Careers – skills, attributes and pathways	Study Skills Jobs and Careers Online repetitions Citizenship - democracy and parliament	Study Skills Risk taking CCE and Gangs Harassment and Stalking Jobs in the community – police, drug dog handlers and prison officers	Study skills Preparation for exams Mental Health



Mrs Bielby
Head of Personal Development

East Lancashire Learning Research Project

East Lancashire Learning Group is undertaking a research project to better understand the future learner pipeline across secondary schools. The aim is to build a clear, evidence-led picture of how young people and their families make decisions about post-16 education, and to ensure that engagement, support, and curriculum pathways are aligned to their needs.

As part of this work, they are gathering direct insight from Year 10 and Year 11 pupils. This audience research is a key component of the project, helping us to understand decision-making points, perceptions of further education, and the factors that influence choices and confidence.

The survey is designed to be quick to complete and will provide valuable insight to inform future engagement, support services, and curriculum planning across the region.

Students who complete the survey by the 3rd April will be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 voucher.

All responses will be handled in line with data protection requirements.

Year 10 Questionnaire [LINK](#)

Year 11 Questionnaire [LINK](#)

★
LANGUAGES
COULD TAKE
YOUR CHILD
FURTHER

Hallo!



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das

DEUTSCH

HABEN

DEPARTURE

** 08. 09. 2025 **

GERMANY

#1234 - Abc

LANGUAGES ARE MORE
THAN JUST WORDS



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Learning a language at GCSE boosts their skills
and their future career and study opportunities

Talk to your school about
taking a language GCSE

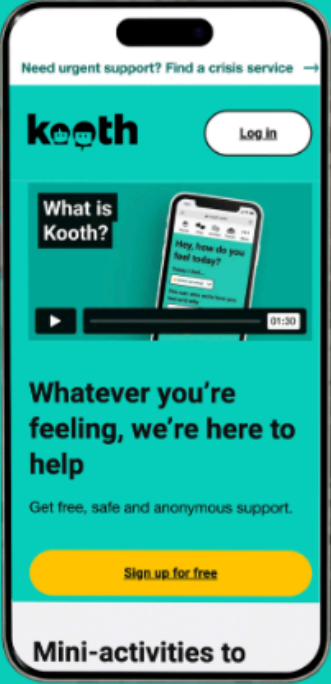


Culture Day



Culture Day





The image shows a smartphone displaying the Kooth app interface. At the top, there is a link: "Need urgent support? Find a crisis service". Below that is the Kooth logo and a "Log in" button. A video player is featured with the title "What is Kooth?" and a question "How does it feel today?". Below the video, the text reads "Whatever you're feeling, we're here to help" and "Get free, safe and anonymous support." A yellow button says "Sign up for free". At the bottom, it says "Mini-activities to".

kooth

Easter and exams

March 2026 update

Free mental wellbeing toolkit inside to help you support your young people.

As we approach the Easter break and the height of the exam season, we know that many of your students are feeling the pressure and may need some support. Here's a selection of resources to help you support your pupils during this time and remind them we're here over Easter. Access the full toolkit [here](#)

It is important to remind your pupils that:

There are ways to manage feelings of stress or worry during exam season, visit the Exam stress calm zone.

Exams don't define who they are, or measure everything, see our popular article 10 things standard exams don't measure.

Self care is important. Help them tackle feelings of exam overwhelm with our Self care bingo card There's tips on navigating exams and big changes in our Exam stress and managing change video (ideal to use in assemblies, PSHEC and tutor time)

For families we have:

Guidance on supporting your child through exam stress

How you can help your students:

Raise awareness of Kooth's free wellbeing support available to your pupils by displaying the exam support poster.

[Use this form](#) to book an exam stress or transition-themed assembly to introduce your students to Kooth's safe, anonymous community. You can also order free print materials and arrange staff training on Kooth and how digital mental health support works.

Please remember we are here over the Easter holidays. Our BACP-accredited digital service provides free, safe, and anonymous support with no waiting lists or referrals needed. Live chat opening hours remain the same: 12pm- 10pm on weekdays and 6pm- 10pm on weekends. All other parts of the platform including the journal and goal setting features, wellbeing articles, forums and messaging service are available 24/7.

Well done Noal

Noal Wins Educake Competition and Receives Tablet Prize

We are delighted to celebrate the success of Noal (Year 8), who recently won an Educake competition after achieving outstanding progress on the platform during a targeted period last term. His dedication and effort—particularly in History homework—earned him the top spot and a fantastic prize: a brand-new tablet, presented in school earlier this week.

Representatives from Educake visited the academy to congratulate Noal in person and to hand over his award. Mr Adams, Head of Humanities and MFL, attended the presentation, as it was through History work that Noal secured his impressive achievement. The moment was captured in photographs with Noal and the Educake representative, which will be shared in upcoming publications and school communications.

This award is a wonderful recognition of Noal's commitment to his studies, and we are incredibly proud of his success. Congratulations, Noal!



Educake

Expectations Reminder

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance is essential to maximise the educational opportunities. Irregular attendance disrupts continuity of learning, undermines educational progress and leads to underachievement and low attainment. The academy is unable to authorise absences except in exceptional circumstances.

The minimum acceptable level of attendance is 96%, but students are expected to achieve better attendance than 96%. Any student with more than 10% absence falls in the Department for Education's 'Persistent Absence' (PA) category, and information regarding PA students or students who are 'at risk' of becoming PA is generated each term and sent to the DfE, and may lead the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Where possible, medical appointments should be arranged out of school time and where that is not possible you should take steps to minimise the amount of school time missed.

Students are expected to be on time every morning at 8.45am so they are on time and in line up at 8.50am, and on time for every lesson during the day. Students can arrive from 8.20am, when they can have a FREE breakfast or go to Oracle (our amazing library).

If they arrive late to the academy they will need to report to the attendance office to sign in. They will show as being late on their ClassChart attendance and this will be sanctioned with a same day after school detention. If there is a genuine reason for lateness, please call the attendance office to inform us.

Parents/carers must ensure your child attends on time each day. If attendance is not possible due to illness, or if there is a genuine reason for lateness, contact the academy (on 01282 863970 option 1) before school on the first day of absence to give a reason and, where an absence continues, keep the academy informed.



Uniform Reminder

Jewellery and Hair

All our decisions are made based on students being in a work mode with no social agenda to detract from the core purpose of school life which is to work hard, learn and make progress. Our uniform is designed to be smart and simple. Wearing a uniform demonstrates high standards, our academy values and a sense of community.

Students are allowed to wear a wristwatch and one pair of plain stud or small sleeper earrings in the lower ear. No other jewellery e.g. rings, chains, bands, bracelets and tongue or nose piercings may be worn.

We have a duty of care to all our students and this includes responsibility for health and safety. The wearing of facial jewellery, nose studs, tongue piercings, multiple earrings, necklaces, ear stretchers and other items which could cause harm or breach Health & Safety requirements in school is not allowed. We are unable to accept responsibility for replacing any items which are lost or stolen whilst in school. School reserves the right to ask students to refrain from wearing inappropriate jewellery or other items of non-uniform; for reasons of safety, security or appropriate appearance, students will be asked to remove the item.

In addition to adhering to the correct dress code outlined in the uniform policy we also expect students to present themselves with an acceptable appearance. As we strive to prepare and equip students for working life we expect hairstyles to be sensible and appropriate for school. Hair colouring is to be all one colour and a natural colour.

Extreme haircuts are not acceptable. The definition of an extreme hairstyle is at the discretion of the Senior Leadership Team, but include:

No shaved heads or other extreme hairstyles

Hair must not be shorter than a number 2 razor cut

No tram lines

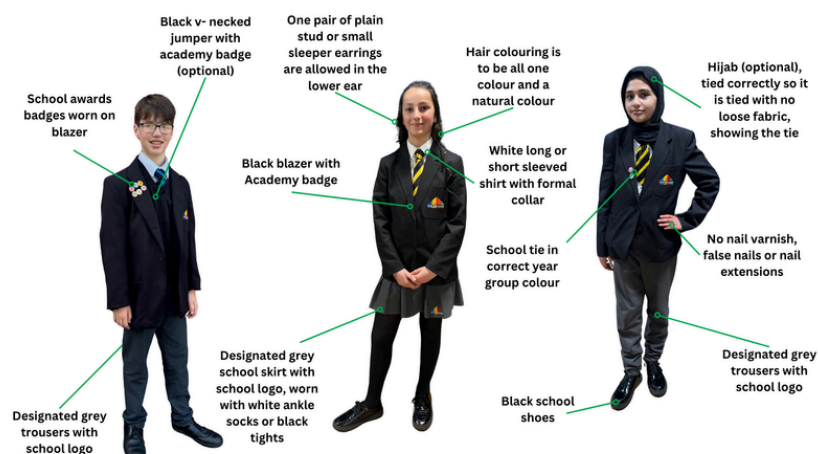
No decorative braids

No excessively bright or multi coloured hair dyed in other than natural colours.

Students must wear their hair tied back during practical lessons for safety and hygiene reasons, for example in PE, Food technology, Design technology and Science when carrying out experiments



OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM





Save the dates

Parent Information session's -



Online every month (1/2 hr. each session)

Download Microsoft teams or scan the QR code

Exam stress Thursday 19 th March 2026	12:30pm Meeting ID: 322 666 345 873 6 Passcode: Gr6Mo3UC	5:30pm Meeting ID: 374 855 432 218 7 Passcode: pg6BQ9Zu
Food and mood Thursday 16 th April 2026	12:30pm - Meeting ID: 398 536 016 635 4 Passcode: 4ZU2mL67	5:30pm Meeting ID: 398 536 016 6354 Passcode: 4ZU2mL67
Supporting your child's mental health Thursday 21 st May 2026	12:30pm Meeting ID: 364 803 359 117 0 Passcode: rp6RC3hM	5:30pm Meeting ID: 364 803 359 117 0 Passcode: rp6RC3hM
Understanding anxiety Thursday 18 th June 2026	12:30pm Meeting ID: 359 004 013 4333 Passcode: e4ch6pE7	5:30pm Meeting ID: 359 004 013 4333 Passcode: e4ch6pE7
Understanding low mood Thursday 16 th July 2026	12:30pm Meeting ID: 347 010 276 371 2 Passcode: qc3sT7bm	5:30pm Meeting ID: 347 010 276 371 2 Passcode: qc3sT7bm
Children's Mental Health in a Digital Age Thursday 20 th August 2026	12:30pm Meeting ID: 329 113 282 619 7 Passcode: Ys7i9VV7	5:30pm Meeting ID: 329 113 282 619 7 Passcode: Ys7i9VV7



PE Extra-Curricular Sport (Spring Term 2 2026)

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	STAFF
Monday	Lunchtime	Year 7 Pickleball	Sports Hall	LHM/CJO
	After School	Boys Football – ALL YEARS Girls Netball – Year 7 & 8	Sports Hall / Yard Yard	LHM/CJO EDR/KDO
Tuesday	Lunchtime	Year 8 Pickleball Year 7 Pickleball	Sports Hall Sports Hall	KDO/LHM EDR/CJO
	After School	Boys Basketball – Year 7, 8 & 9 Girls Netball – Fixtures (see team sheet)	Sports Hall	All PE staff EDR/KDO
Wednesday	Lunchtime	Year 10 Pickleball Year 9 Pickleball	Sports Hall Sports Hall	KDO EDR / CJO
	After School	Boys Basketball – Year 10 & 11 Dance all years	Sports Hall Gym	CJO/LHM EDR/KDO
Thursday	Lunchtime	Year 10 Pickleball Year 9 Pickleball	Sports Hall Sports Hall	LHM/EDR CJO/KDO
	After School	STAFF MEETINGS Kick & Connect: Girls' Football	STAFF MEETINGS Sports Hall	STAFF MEETINGS CASEY
Friday	Lunchtime	Year 11 Pickleball	Sports Hall	KDO/CJO
	After School	No Club		

New PE Extracurricular Sports – Spring Term 2

We're excited to launch our new range of PE extracurricular clubs for Spring Term 2! Students can now take part in a variety of lunchtime and after-school activities, including pickleball, basketball netball and dance.

It's a great opportunity to stay active, have fun, and develop new skills – so get involved and give something new a try!



Extra-Curricular Programme – Spring 2 (2026)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Homework Support Club 12.20 -1pm (T12)	Homework Support Club 12.20 -1pm (T12)	Homework Support Club 12.20 -1pm (T12)	Homework Support Club (Maths) 12.20 -1pm (T12)	Homework Support Club 12.20 -1pm (T12)
After-school 3.20pm	Homework Support Club 15.20 - 4pm (Oracle)	Homework Support Club 15.20 - 4pm (Oracle)	Homework Support Club 15.20 - 4pm (Oracle)	Homework Support Club 15.20 - 4pm (Oracle)	Homework Support Club 15.20 - 4pm (Oracle)
	Reading, AR Quizzing, Exchanging books, Chess 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)	Reading, AR Quizzing, Exchanging books, Chess 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)	Reading, AR Quizzing, Exchanging books, Chess 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)	Reading, AR Quizzing, Exchanging books, Chess 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)	Reading, AR Quizzing, Exchanging books, Chess 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)
	Board Games Club 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)	Music Club 3.20-4.15pm Mr Husband (F11)	Choir 3.20 – 4.20pm Mrs Goldie (F11)	Free Film Screenings 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle) See posters for details of dates and times	Board Games Club 3.20 - 4.15pm Ms Dawson Lib1 (Oracle)
	Year 7 Science Club 3.20- 4.15pm Miss Flegg (M11 Science)	Photography Club KS3 F44 Art Room Mrs Holmes		Kick & Connect: Girls' Football 3.20 – 4.15pm Casey S T (Sports Hall)	
	Performance Club 3.20-4.15 Miss Smalley (F13, HALL)				

Spring Term 2 Extracurricular Programme

We are pleased to share details of our Spring Term 2 extracurricular programme, which offers a wide range of lunchtime and after-school clubs designed to enrich students' learning and personal development. Opportunities available this half term include Homework Support Club, Performance Club, Music Club, Board Games Club and Science Club, alongside many other activities.

We encourage all students to review the full programme and take advantage of the clubs and support available.



College Open Events

College Name	What do they offer?	When?
Nelson and Colne College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Thursday 5th February 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Careers open event)</i> <i>Thursday 23rd April 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i> <i>Thursday 25th June 2026 – All day (New student day)</i> <i>Thursday 20th August 2026 – All day (GCSE results day)</i>
Accrington and Rossendale College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Tuesday 3rd February 2026 – 5.30 to 7.30pm</i> <i>Tuesday 28th April 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Careers open Event)</i> <i>Tuesday 28th April 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i> <i>Friday 26th June 2026 – All day (New student day)</i> <i>Thursday 20th August 2026 – All day (GCSE results day)</i>
Burnley College	Vocational A-Levels T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 21st January 2026 – 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Themis careers event)</i> <i>Tuesday 10th February 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm</i> <i>Wednesday 6th May 2026 - 5.30pm to 7.30pm (Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 event)</i>
Craven College	Vocational T-Level Apprenticeship	<i>Wednesday 11th February 2026 – 3.00pm to 6.30pm (Apprenticeship and careers fair at Craven College)</i>
Myerscough College	Vocational T-Levels Apprenticeship	<i>Saturday 7th February 2026 - course advice morning</i> <i>Saturday 18th April 2026 - course advice morning</i>

BURNLEY COLLEGE SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Year 7-11

Open Evening

WEDNESDAY 6 MAY | 5.30PM - 8PM



Burnley College
Sixth Form Centre



BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW
burnley.ac.uk/whats-on

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about POKÉMON TCG POCKET



Pokémon TCG Pocket is a mobile version of the hugely popular Pokémon Trading Card Game, downloaded over 100 million times on Android and iOS. Players collect cards, battle others online, and open packs of cards – known as booster packs – to expand their decks. While the core game can be fun and helps develop tactical and numeracy skills, its design encourages spending and can feed addictive behaviours – making it important for adults to understand the risks.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE PACK OPENING

Booster packs rely on probability to provide rare or powerful cards. The excitement of opening them – and the dopamine rush when finding a sought-after card – can become addictive. Unlike purely cosmetic loot boxes, the cards here are integral to competitive gameplay, adding extra pressure for serious gamers to collect more.

QUICK BUT ABSORBING

Card battles last around five to six minutes, making it easy to fit in “just one more game”. This quick format, combined with the drive to win, can lead to prolonged play sessions and increased screen time without noticing. With limited-time Ranked Match seasons constantly being refreshed – an opportunity to accumulate points and earn profile emblems – players may find themselves drawn into this game mechanic repeatedly.

PREMIUM PASS PRESSURE

A monthly subscription gives players access to exclusive missions, rewards, and an extra daily booster pack. Missions and rewards are replaced each month, providing an incentive to stay subscribed. While some premium rewards are exclusive, others are available through free play – making the pass more about faster progression and obtaining cosmetic items than true necessity.

ENDLESS PACK LOOPS

New themed sets of cards are released each month, ranging from around 85 to over 370 cards per expansion. This constant cycle encourages players to keep opening packs in an effort to complete collections or improve their battle decks, potentially promoting unhealthy spending habits. With the introduction of limited-time booster packs, some players may feel increased pressure to collect these cards while they're still available.

COST OF BOOSTER PACKS

Although free to play, with set rewards and two free booster packs given daily, players can exchange Poké Gold if they wish to open more, and a small amount of Poké Gold is rewarded for free as the player levels up. Poké Gold is also sold in bundles that are often just short of what players need to open extra packs, encouraging them to buy additional bundles.

COMPETITIVE ONLINE PLAY

Interactions in Pokémon TCG Pocket are relatively safe – there's no messaging between players, friend requests require player approval, no real names are used, and card trading is restricted to fair trades between friends. On the other hand, the competitive nature of online play can still cause frustration, over-investment, and isolation if children spend too much time focused on the game.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR SPENDING HABITS

Set clear boundaries around in-game purchases. Treat Poké Gold as an occasional rather than routine reward, helping children develop healthier attitudes towards digital spend.



SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Talk about the unpredictable nature of booster packs and prepare children for disappointment when duplicates appear or rare cards don't surface. Understanding probability can help minimise disappointment – use the game's built-in offering rates guides to find out more about it.



PLAY TOGETHER

Card battles can help children learn tactics, problem-solving, and rule-following, as well as numeracy skills. Playing alongside them is a great way to share in their enjoyment, while also modelling balanced play and keeping an eye on how much they're investing in the game.



TEACH FAIRNESS

Losing a battle can be discouraging, especially when money has been spent on collecting the cards to build a deck. Support children in recognising the importance of fairness, learning from both wins and losses, and making considered choices when trading cards.



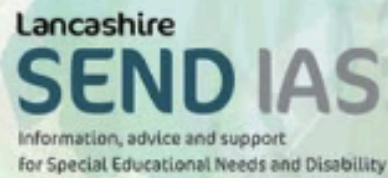
Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and children's book author with over 15 years of experience. Specialising in technology and gaming, he has written extensively on how digital platforms affect young people and has been playing games for more than three decades.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®



**Lancashire
Parent Carer Forum**

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person with special educational needs or disabilities?

Join us at one of our

Pendle Family Hub Drop ins

Share your concerns & get answers from:
Lancashire County Council, NHS providers & others.
Also stay updated on what's happening with services

**Don't miss out, come along to
make your voice heard!**

4th Friday of the Month

**@ Nelson Family Hub, Leeds Road,
Nelson, BB9 8EL**

For more information follow LPCF Facebook page