



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to this final half term of the year, welcoming students back to the with a positive first week and settling straight back into their lessons and learning again. This has included Year 11 who are now in the final weeks of their exams and only in school for exams and revision sessions.

Year 10 have had their first experience of mock exams, with some English, Maths and Science exams in the formal exam hall. They have been fabulous at the exam entry expectations and exam conduct. It's also been fantastic to see just how committed they are to doing their best. As we head into next week, our end of year assessments start for Years 7-9 as well, and they have had an assessment timetable which shows when these are over the next fortnight for each subject and set. All of the information they need about these has been shared on ClassCharts, with revision being the focus of their homeworks over the past few weeks. We're sure they'll be headed into these with the same focus and motivation as Year 10 have shown.

There is no winding down after the end of year assessments, and we remain working hard over the remaining weeks and especially with a busy academy diary. Planning is now well underway for the Experience Days, as well as the final arrangements for Year 10 going on their Work Experience placements at the end of this month, and then on their residential trip in July. We also have various other events going on including the Pendle Schools Festival, Interschools Athletics, transition day and evening, guest speakers coming in, rewards trips and sports day. There is also information below for a special Year 9 event in the final week – the KS3 Graduation, and current Year 10 will be having their new Year 11 photos taken on the 20th July.

If your child is in Years 7, 8 and 9 you should have had a letter about Experience Day on the 25th June. Year 7 are taking on the challenge of all climbing Pendle Hill, Year 8 are at Leisure Box including having a go on the climbing wall, and Year 9 are going to Go Ape. If you have not yet returned the permissions slip, please make sure that comes into school as soon as possible. If your child needs a new letter, they need to see their Head of Year or Pastoral Support Assistant.

Principal's Awards

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

Lucas
(7E)

Asad (8M)
Lilli (8P)
Sheharyar
(8M)

Megan (9I)
ISmaeel (9E)

Summer
(10A)

Zainab
(11I)

J Pilkington
Principal



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- Musa
R- Malaika
I - Raffaele
M - Elia
E - Zachariah
HOY - Lucas

Year 8

P- Sophie
R- Taha
I - Sophie
M - Alisha
E - Ayaan
T - Saif
HOY - Bilal

Year 9

P- Rosie
R- Zainab
I - Lydia
M - Arthur
E - Ismaeel
T - Alisha
A - Lily
HOY - Lucy

Year 10

P- Connor
R- Asim
I - Matthew
M - Jai
E - Mateeb
T - Nadis
A - Erin
HOY - Frank

Year 11

P- Attiq
R- Josh
I - Balal
M - Jamie
E - Georgia
T - Callum
A - Yusuf
HOY - Eden

Primet Positive Focus: Respectful

This week we have been focusing on our core value of being Respectful. At Colne Primet Academy, we are respectful to ourselves, always aiming for our best and making the most of all opportunities. We are respectful to others, being kind with our actions and words. And we are respectful to our environment, at a local, national and global level.



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 18 – Parental responsibilities and state assistance: Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help they need to raise their children.
- Article 3 – Best interests of the child: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.
- Article 5 - Parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities: Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.



Upcoming Dates

8th – 19th June – Years 7, 8 and 9 End of Year Exams

16th June – Interschools Athletics

16th June – final formal GCSE written exam (note: students need to be available until the contingency day on 24th June)

18th June – Year 11 Prom at Stirk House

22nd June – 2nd July – Year 10 Work Experience

22nd June – Y9 Extraordinary Minds event at Nelson & Colne College

25th June – Years 7, 8 and 9 Experience Day

30th June – Year 8 Taster Day at Accrington and Rossendale College

2nd July – Year 6 into 7 transition day and evening

13th July – Rewards week

15th July – Year 7 Work Experience Tech Challenge

15th – 17th July – Year 10 Residential trip

20th July – Year 10 School Photos for use throughout Year 11

20th July – Year 9 KS3 Graduation Celebration

21st July – Sports Day



Personal Development:

This week in Personal Development students have been looking at:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Water Safety	Water Safety	Water Safety	Water safety and drugs	Exam Prep

Next week they will focus on:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Railway Safety	Railway Safety	Railway Safety	Rights & Responsibilities in the workplace	Exam Prep



Water safety – Important message for parents and schools

Following recent tragic incidents involving water, this is an important reminder of how quickly situations can change. As the weather gets warmer, more children and young people are spending time around rivers, lakes and the coast, increasing the risk of harm.

Even on hot days, open water can be dangerously cold, and conditions are often unpredictable.

Children and young people may not always recognise these risks, so it's vital that key safety messages are shared.

Key water safety messages

Please help reinforce the following advice with children and young people:

- **Stop and Think:** Check for hidden hazards such as deep water, currents and cold temperatures
- **Stay Together:** Never go into or near water alone; choose areas with lifeguards where possible
- **Call 999 in an emergency:** Ask for the Coastguard at the coast, or Fire & Rescue if you are inland
- **Float** – If you fall in, stay calm, float on your back and control your breathing



Cold water shock

Many recent incidents have involved cold water. Even strong swimmers can be affected. Sudden immersion can cause panic, loss of breathing control and reduced ability to swim.

If you fall into water:

- Try to stay calm: The effects of cold water shock usually pass within the first minute
- Float on your back to regain control of your breathing
- Once calm, call for help or swim to safety if possible

A Life-saving skill: Float to Live

Teaching children how to float could save a life:

- Tilt your head back with ears in the water
- Relax and breathe slowly
- Move hands and feet gently to stay afloat

In an emergency:



Mrs Bielby
Head of Personal Development

Reminder – Reply Slips

Year 8 Vocational Taster Day - Tuesday 30th June

Year 10 College Taster Day - Friday 3rd July

If your child has not yet returned their reply slip, please can you ensure this is done as soon as possible. The trips to Accrington & Rossendale College, and Nelson & Colne College will enable students to try out a range of vocational or academic based courses; as well as introducing Year 8 students to the world of work. These trips are part of their continued Careers Education and guidance and will mean that as our young people progress through school and beyond, they will have a clearer understanding of the different pathways available to them.

EXAM TIMETABLE

- Unless you are arriving before school for AM exams, students **MUST** sign IN at attendance
- If you are leaving at any time before 3pm, students **MUST** sign OUT at attendance before leaving the site

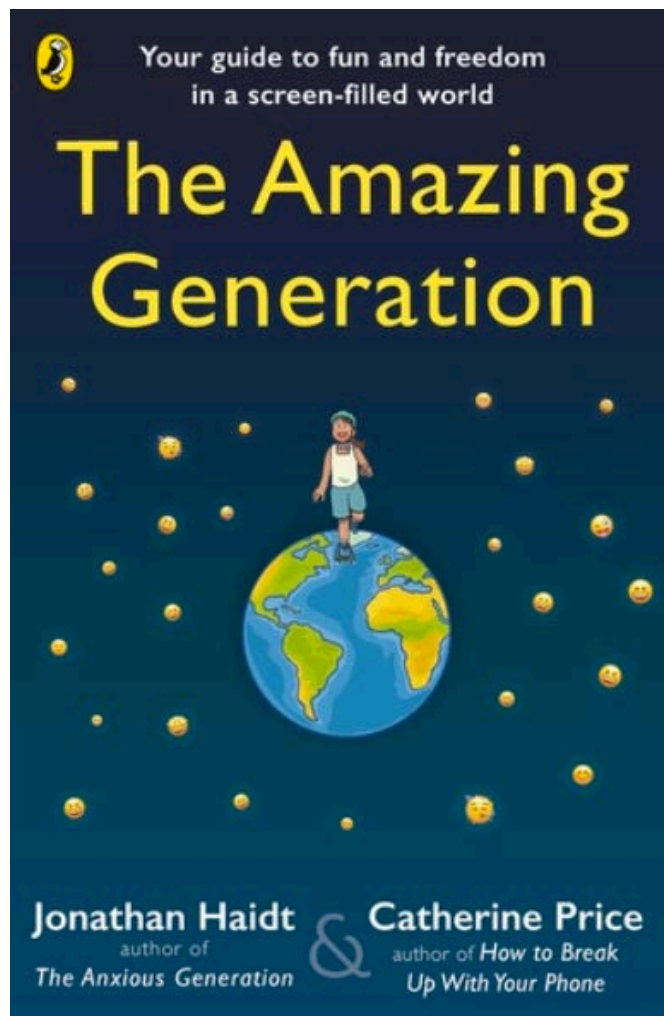


Date	Morning		Afternoon	
	Exam – starts at 09:00	Revision	Exam – starts at 13:00	Revision
Monday 8th June <i>8.40am until 12.20pm OR 3.15pm</i>	Biology Exam 1hr 15m or 1hr 45m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL students need to be at school by 0840, and register in the exam • Exam ends 10:15 (trilogy) or 10:45 (separate) • ALL students remain on site for revision and exams. 	Revision: 10:30-11:05 (Period 2) & 11:20-12:20 (Period 3) in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths • Further maths • Creative iMedia Exam students stay on site; all other students sign out 12:20	Further Maths 1hr 45 Creative iMedia 1hr 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to bag drop for exam at 1pm and register in the exam • Exam ends at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Further Maths 15:15 ○ Creative iMedia 15:00 	Home Study
Tuesday 9th June <i>8.40am OR 11.20am until 2.20pm</i>	Spanish Speaking & Listening 1hr 20 / 1hr 45 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish students need to be at school by 0840, and register in the exam • Exam ends 10:20 / 10:45 • Spanish students remain on site for: Design/ Revision 10:30-11:05 (Period 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not do Spanish, but do Design or Geography, sign in at attendance at 11:15 Design/ Geography/ Revision 11:20-12.20 (Period 3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students stay on site over lunchtime for maths revision 	None	PD time: ALL students on site register in forms in PD time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not do Spanish, Design or Geography, sign in at attendance at 13:15 Maths 13:20 – 14:20 (Period 4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students sign out 14:20
Wednesday 10th June <i>8.40am until 10.30am OR 12.20pm OR 3.30pm</i>	Maths Exam 1hr 30m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL students need to be at school by 0840, and register in the exam • Exam Ends 10:30 • Sign out unless doing Design Exam or Geography revision 	Revision: 10:30-11:05 (Period 2) & 11:20-12:20 (Period 3) in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design • Geography Geography students sign out 12:20 unless staying for Design Exam	Design 2hrs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to bag drop for exam at 1pm and register in the exam • Exam ends at 15:30 	Home Study
Thursday 11th June <i>8.40am OR 11.15am until 12.20pm</i>	Geography Exam 1hr 30m <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography students need to be at school by 0840, and register in exam • Exam Ends 10:30 All stay on site for Chemistry Revision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not do Geography, sign in at attendance at 11:15 Chemistry 11:20-12:20 (Period 3) All students sign out at 12:20	None	Home Study
Friday 12th June <i>8.40am until 10.15am OR 12.20pm OR 2.50pm</i>	Chemistry Exam 1hr 15 or 1hr 45 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL students need to be at school by 0840, and register in the exam • Exam ends 10:15 or 10:45 	Revision: 10:30-11:05 (Period 2) & 11:20-12:20 (Period 3) in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality • Further Maths 	Hospitality 1hr 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to bag drop for exam at 1pm and register in the exam • Exam ends at 14:45-14:50 	Home Study
<i>12.20pm OR 2.50pm</i>	Hospitality & Further Maths students stay on site. All other students sign out.	Further maths students sign out 12:20; Hospitality stay for exam		



Assembly Theme

Mrs Swain spoke to all students about the impact of smart phones on their lives in assembly this week. We took a step back to the 80s and compared their lives to the children who lived in those times, including many of their staff and you, their parents and carers. We got students to reflect on their own screen time over the holidays and whether that time could have been used in a more productive way. We also explained how addictive they can be, along with the dangers. We have a book available in Oracle to loan, titled *The Amazing Generation*, this explains why phones are so addictive and what we can do to help move away from them and entertain ourselves, perhaps in a manner similar to all of us who grew up in the 80s! The assembly follows letters that went to all parents explaining our mobile phone policy and the consequences of having a mobile out of bag or in use in school. It has always been the case that phones should be switched off and in bags, however students have previously not adhered to this, having phones in pockets etc. Staff, parents, carers and students have been reminded that we are directed by the Department for Education to ensure our school is phone free. All phones will be confiscated if seen, even in pockets, as they should be in their bags and switched off. Students have been asked to discuss this with their parents and carers, your support is essential, especially if your child has their phone confiscated on multiple occasions as you will be contacted for pick up or a meeting. It cannot be handed back to the student concerned. We also ask that you do not contact your child via their mobile during the school day, this encourages them to break the rules and face consequences. The main office will get any messages to your child, similar to how we used to do things in the 80s! Thank you for working together with the Academy to ensure your child can come to a learning environment which is safe and distraction free.



Mrs Swain
Senior Deputy Principal

Year 9 Key Stage 3 Graduation Ceremony

Monday 20th July 1pm

The purpose of this ceremony is to formally acknowledge Year 9's successful completion of a key stage of their academic programme and to mark this transition making rite of passage from one stage to the next. We want to celebrate together in a shared experience with the Primet community students' hard work and accomplishments. This is now the second Primet graduation ceremony, and has already become an established milestone in what will become a long-standing Primet tradition, inspiring younger students to aspire for graduation honours and motivate graduates to relish the next key stage challenges and opportunities.

Students will receive either a bronze, silver or gold award based on their attendance and behaviour over the last three years at Primet. Students will also get to keep a special photograph taken this month of themselves in graduation cap and gown. At the ceremony we will collectively share achievements and stories from our time at Primet, hear from Year 10 prefects about what the future holds, all whilst enjoying cake and refreshments!

If you would like to join us for this ceremony as a spectator in the stalls, please complete this [Parent Seat Reservation Booking Form](#). Parents are welcome to arrive from 1pm for a 1.30pm start and 3pm finish.

Students will be in full school uniform, showing off their best Primet SELF in this celebration of being Proud to be Primet. Students will set off walking to the Muni from Primet at 1pm following their lunchtime break. Students will then return to Primet by walking for the 3.20pm end of school dismissal. If you would like your child to make their own way home from the Muni at 3pm please complete the consent slip sent home at the start of this week and return to form tutors before the end of next week.



World Environment Day 2026

World Environment Day, celebrated every year on 5th June, is a wonderful opportunity for families and schools to reflect on how we can care for the planet and create a healthier future for our young people. The 2026 theme focuses on encouraging communities to make small, meaningful changes that protect the environment and support sustainability.

Children are naturally curious about the world around them, and environmental awareness can begin with simple everyday actions. Turning off lights when leaving a room, recycling household waste, walking or cycling instead of driving short distances, and reducing single-use plastics are all habits that children can learn early and carry into adulthood. At Colne Primet Academy we would like to encourage all of our students and staff to make simple, small changes to their daily routines to help care for our environment. Can you encourage your child to walk or cycle to school instead of getting a lift?

You as families can also take part at home by planting flowers for pollinators, growing herbs or vegetables, or spending time outdoors exploring local parks and green spaces. Conversations about caring for nature help children develop responsibility, empathy, and respect for the environment. I've recently started growing peppers, tomatoes and chillis at home on my kitchen windowsill – something we can all have a go at! Students may also see some of my vegetables on the windowsill in H26 – a perfect south facing classroom!

As parents and educators, we all play an important role in shaping the next generation's attitudes toward sustainability. By working together, we can encourage children to become thoughtful, environmentally conscious citizens who understand the importance of protecting our planet for the future.

This World Environment Day, let's celebrate the power of community, positive action, and the shared responsibility we all have to care for the Earth. Please try and walk or cycle where you can, recycle as much household waste as possible, and reduce your consumption of single-use plastics.



Mrs Kinnane
Lead Practitioner in
Geography



Being Respectful to our Planet

Linked to this week's Primet value focus on Respectful, we're reminding ourselves about our pledge to becoming carbon net zero by 2030 which we are doing across Pendle Education Trust. One of our key priorities is reducing the amount of printing. This not only saves paper, but also reduces the use of photocopiers and printers which are high energy usage due to needing to seal the toner at high temperatures, so then need to have a lot of inbuilt fans to cool them down again. We're also supporting the reduced use of paper through online resources, including being able to submit homework and independent learning online through ClassCharts and other platforms.



Year 9 Shine at Pendle Rounders Tournament

Our Year 9 girls recently took part in the annual Pendle rounders tournament, representing the school with fantastic determination and sportsmanship throughout the event.

The team made us incredibly proud with their effort, teamwork and positive attitude. After a series of strong performances, they secured an impressive third place—narrowly missing out on second by just two rounders.

A huge well done to all involved on a brilliant achievement!



MEGA DAY

Year 8 Explore the World of Technology at MEGathon

Our Year 8 students recently enjoyed an exciting and hands-on trip to take part in the MEGathon, a fast-paced technology event designed to give young people a real insight into careers in the tech industry.

Throughout the day, students rotated through a series of engaging activities, each designed to mirror real-world roles within the technology sector. From building and programming LEGO robots to competing in an AI prompt challenge, the experience brought learning to life and showcased just how varied and exciting careers in technology can be.

One of the highlights of the day was the LEGO Robotics session, where students worked in teams to design and programme their own robots, developing key skills such as problem solving, precision and teamwork. They also took part in an AI challenge, learning how to communicate effectively with technology to achieve the best results.

Students also stepped into the role of digital investigators during a 'Digital Detective' activity, using publicly available information to solve challenges—just like professionals in cybersecurity and law enforcement. The day rounded off with a high-energy cyber challenge where students raced against the clock to crack a series of problems, testing their resilience and ability to work under pressure.



MEGA DAY

Across the day, students developed a wide range of important skills, including critical thinking, creativity, resilience and adaptability. They also explored a variety of potential career pathways such as robotics engineering, cybersecurity and software development.

Most importantly, the experience helped students to see how their everyday strengths link to real careers, leaving them feeling inspired, motivated and more confident that a future in technology could be within their reach.

It was a fantastic opportunity, and we are incredibly proud of how our students embraced each challenge and represented the school throughout the day.

Big thanks to MEGA Hub from IN4 Group for travelling over to deliver the session at Nelson and Colne College from Midea City.

Pastoral Update Year 7

As we start our final half term of year 7 (where has the time gone ?) we are having a real push on being equipped for learning. All students should have basic stationery, a reading book and a knowledge organiser with them each day in their school bag. It would be much appreciated if you could check this with your child each day in order for the learning in school to start promptly in each lesson.

Year 7 have always had great attendance and I have challenged them to maintain this in our final half term so that we can end the year as our school attendance champions - every day really does matter.

In this final half term we have lots to look forward to especially our first sports day and our experience day at pendle hill. Please ensure you have signed the consent letter and returned it.

Thankyou for all your support as parents and guardians in working with us this year to support your child in school.



Mrs Tomlinson
Head of Year 7



COLNE PRIMET ACADEMY

PRIMET ACADEMY EXPERIENCE DAY 2026

THREE YEAR GROUPS. THREE EPIC ADVENTURES. ONE UNFORGETTABLE DAY!

We're taking the whole school on
3 amazing trips – all in one day!

YEAR 7

PENDLE HILL

WALK. EXPLORE. ACHIEVE.



YEAR 8

SPORTS

PADDLE • FOOTBALL
INDOOR CLIP & CLIMB

PLAY. TRY. HAVE FUN!



YEAR 9

GO APE

CHALLENGE YOURSELF!



PROGRESSING



RESPECTFUL



INCLUSIVE



MOTIVATED



EXPRESSIVE



TOGETHER



THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2026 ALL DAY



STUDENTS MUST WEAR THEIR SCHOOL PE KIT

THREE TRIPS. ONE DAY. ENDLESS MEMORIES!

Summer Term 2



PE Extra-Curricular Sport (Summer Term 2 2026)

DAY	TIME	ACTIVITY	ROOM	STAFF
Monday	Lunchtime	Year 7 Activities on field / yard	Field / yard	LHM/CJO
	After School	Athletics – all years	All weather	All PE staff
Tuesday	Lunchtime	Year 8 Activities on field / yard Year 7 Activities on field / yard	Field / yard Field / yard	KDO/LHM EDR/CJO
	After School	Cricket – 9 & 10 Rounders Tournaments (see schedule) Rugby – years 7 and 8 (boys)	Sports Hall Field	LHM CJO
Wednesday	Lunchtime	Year 10 Activities on field / yard Year 9 Activities on field / yard	Field / yard Field / yard	KDO EDR / CJO
	After School	Cricket – 7 and 8 Rounders - all years Dance (separate schedule available)	Sports Hall All weather Gym	CJO/LHM EDR/KDO EDR/KDO
Thursday	Lunchtime	Year 10 Activities on field / yard Year 9 Activities on field / yard	Field / yard Field / yard	LHM/EDR CJO/KDO
	After School	STAFF MEETINGS Kick & Connect: Girls' Football	STAFF MEETINGS Sports Hall	STAFF MEETINGS CASEY
Friday	Lunchtime	Year 8 Activities on field / yard	Field / yard	KDO / CJO (week A only)
	After School	No Club		

New PE Extracurricular Sports – Summer term 2

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

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



Summer Term 2

Extra-Curricular Programme – Summer 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)		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)	KS3 Art Club 3:20-4:20pm Art Room Mrs Holmes (F44)		Kick & Connect: Girls' Football 3.20 – 4.15pm Casey S T (Gym)	
	Performance Club 3.20-4.15 Miss Smalley (F13, HALL)				
	Student Support 3:20 – 4:00 Casey S T (Casey's Office)				

Summer Term 2 Extracurricular Programme

We are pleased to share details of our Summer 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, Film 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.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

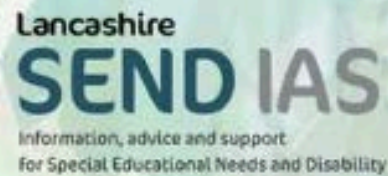
STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.





**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