



9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back! I hope that this first newsletter of the academic year finds you well and that you have all managed to have a safe, happy and restful summer with your families. I also hope that you have enjoyed the unusually long spell of warm weather over the last six weeks. It has been wonderful to welcome back all our pupils this week and I have enjoyed speaking to the pupils about their summer holidays and seeing them quickly and calmly return to school life. As always, the politeness, manners and smart uniform that our pupils have displayed this week is a credit to the school.

I would like to formally welcome our new Year 7 pupils and their families to our 'Team' here at Broughton High School. The entire year group has made an excellent first impression and I would like to congratulate them on an extremely positive start to their journey here at Broughton. This year pupils were all offered an opportunity to attend a 'summer school' and I am pleased to say that we had over 150 pupils who were able to attend. Year 7 pupils have also had a team building and activity day this week where the whole of Year 7 visited the Anderton Outdoor Education Centre. Pupils enjoyed paddle boarding, raft building, archery, abseiling and a variety of other team building activities throughout their visit. They had an amazing time!

I would also like to formally welcome our new members of staff. Mr Alston Head of English, Mrs Wallace Head of CPSHE and English Teacher, Mrs Robinson and Miss Green Learning Support Assistants, Miss Hunter and Miss Patel Cover Supervisors, Miss Wright Teacher of Geography, Mr Cowen Teacher of Physical Education and Maths, Ms Brooks Teacher of RS, Mrs Halstead Teacher of Textiles, Miss Belcher Teacher of MFL and Miss Peters Teacher of Music. I am sure you will join me in wishing them the very best of luck as they start with us at Broughton High School.

I am delighted to announce that this year's external GCSE and vocational examination results are the best the school has ever achieved which is testament to the hard work of both our pupils and staff over the last few years, especially through the Covid-19 pandemic. The resilience and positivity shown by our former Year 11 pupils has been remarkable and, as a result of this, the grades achieved by this year group have been truly phenomenal.

This set of results continues the school's historic record of high levels of performance in examinations and I would like to congratulate the pupils on their amazing success.

Of the 184 pupils in Year 11:

**93% achieved a Grade 4 or higher in both English and Maths (22% above the National Average 2022) with a massive 78% of these grades being achieved at a Grade 5 or higher (26% above the National Average 2022).**

**96% of our pupils passed English Language at Grade 4 or higher. 86% were at Grade 5 or higher.**

**93% of our pupils passed English Literature at Grade 4 or higher. 82% were at Grade 5 or higher.**

**98% of pupils passed English with a 9-4 Grade in Literature or Language.**

Headteacher: Mr David Botes

**93% of pupils passed Maths at Grade 4 or higher. 83% were at Grade 5 or higher.**

**93% of pupils passed Combined Science at Grade 4 or higher. 74% at Grade 5 or higher.**

**100% of pupils passed Biology, Chemistry and Physics at Grade 5 or higher.**

**93% of pupils passed French or German at Grade 4 or higher.**

**91% of pupils passed History or Geography at Grade 4 or higher.**

**40% of all GCSE Grades awarded were between 9-7.**

**91% of pupils achieved a Grade 4 or higher in five subjects including English and Maths.**

**74% of pupils achieved a Grade 5 or higher in 5 subjects including English and Maths.**

I am sure you will agree that these results are exceptional. Across all subjects, Broughton High School pupils achieved significantly better than similar schools across the country, which is again testament to the expert teaching and support from our staff, the dedication and hard work of our pupils and the excellent support of parents throughout a challenging two years.

We are all extremely proud of the achievements of our former Year 11 pupils and wish them all the very best of luck as they start the next stage of their journey at college or on an apprenticeship. We look forward to seeing them at the awards evening in November.

We have had a significant amount of building work completed over the summer with our two Art rooms being completely refurbished and redesigned. These rooms were the original rooms from when the school opened in 1975 and have been transformed into a superb modern teaching area. We have also redesigned our Drama area in preparation to become our new school hall with our new Drama facility being built from early October.

We have been notified that Woodplumpton Road will be closed from October to Christmas to install speed restriction measures. School buses will be allowed to pass through but no other vehicles. Please be mindful of this when planning your journeys to and from school.

We are in the process of organising the opening of a 'Nearly new and unused' uniform shop in school. We are mindful of the cost of uniform for families and are aware that there is a significant amount of 'spare' uniform that is not being used. If you would like to donate any item of uniform or PE Kit that is unused or in good, used condition, please leave the item(s) with Mrs Dumbell or Miss Cross at pupil reception. If your child needs any uniform, at any time, please let us know as we are hoping to have an extremely well stocked uniform shop that can be accessed by all and purchased for a small donation to our school chosen charity. We will be working with our suppliers this year to ensure that our uniform continues to be affordable for our families.

Please can I ask you to continue to be considerate to the community and residents around school when you are dropping off or picking up your child at the start and end of the school day. Please be mindful not to park across residents' drives, or in a position that will cause danger to other road users, pedestrians or cyclists. There have been times where parking on Woodplumpton Road at the start and end of the day has blocked the pavement so prams and wheelchairs have been unable to pass. New parents may not be aware that pupils can be dropped off at the top of the school fields on the A6 where we have a pathway into school. Your continued support and consideration for the Broughton Community is greatly appreciated.

We are all very excited about the start of the new academic year ahead of us. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated and never taken for granted. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year but as always, if you have any concerns or worries about your child, or want to share any positive news, please contact me. My email is [botesd@broughtonhigh.co.uk](mailto:botesd@broughtonhigh.co.uk).

Key dates are as follows:

Open Evening	Thursday 22 September 2022
Open Day	Monday 26 September 2022
Year 7 Parents' Evening with Form Tutors	Thursday 13 October 2022
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday 3 November 2022
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 9 February 2023
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday 16 March 2023
Year 9 Parents' & Options Evening	Thursday 30 March 2023
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 20 April 2023
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 4 May 2023


If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Yours sincerely,



Mr David Botes  
Headteacher

### Learn it CHALLENGE

Every week, pupils in **Years 7, 8 and 9** will be given  different, relevant facts, with the challenge of learning and remembering all ten facts for the following week, when they will be tested on them by their form tutor.

The first challenge questions have been set and the test will be next week:

**Years 7 and 8**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept**

**Year 9**  
**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept**

1. Baby goats are called **Kids**.
2. **Russia** is the largest country in the world.
3. **Venus** is the planet which is nearest to the Earth.
4. The name dinosaur means 'terrible lizard'; this is a **true** statement.
5. The lion in "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe" is called **Aslan**.
6. The only mammal which can fly is the **bat**.
7. The longest river in the world is the **River Nile**.
8. The first name of the famous scientist who gave us Newton's three laws of motion is **Isaac**.
9. The **Triassic Period** came before the Jurassic Period.
10. In "The Jungle Book", Baloo is a **bear**.

### Learn it CHALLENGE

September  
Week 1

Years  
7, 8 and 9

Launched  
Wed 7 Sept 2022

Years 7 and 8  
Test on  
Wed 14 Sept 2022

Year 9  
Test on  
Thurs 15 Sept 2022

1. What are baby goats called?
2. What is the largest country in the world?
3. Which planet is nearest to the Earth?
4. True or false? The name dinosaur means 'terrible lizard'.
5. What is the name of the lion in "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe"?
6. What is the only mammal which can fly?
7. What is the longest river in the world?
8. What is the first name of the famous scientist who gave us Newton's three laws of motion?
9. Which came first, the Jurassic or Triassic Period?
10. In "The Jungle Book", what kind of animal is Baloo?

**LEARN  
THEM!**

Every week thereafter, there will be a new set of questions/answers set.

#### Why are we doing this?

- essential practice for exams
- learning relevant, factual information
- rote learning is good for pupils
- acquiring some general knowledge

## Late Bus

The late bus **operates every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday** at a charge of 60p per pupil per journey. Pupils are able to use their bus passes and return tickets.

The service **departs from Broughton at 4.25pm**, allowing pupils to stay late to complete school work or participate in sports activities after school.

This service will commence from Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

### The route of the bus is:

From Broughton High School via Woodplumpton Lane, Whittle Hill, Woodplumpton Village, Tabley Lane, Nog Tow, Tom Benson Way, Merry Trees Lane (Ancient Oak) Cottam, Tom Benson Way, Tanterton Hall Road, Tag Lane, Woodplumpton Road, Cadley Causeway, Black Bull Lane, Sharoe Green Lane, Sherwood Way, Eastway (Asda), Longsands Lane to Longsands, Anderton Arms.

Broughton High School	16.25	Fulwood, Leisure Centre	17.02
Woodplumpton, Whittle Green	16.35	Black Bull	17.04
Nog Tow	16.40	Sharoe Green Lane, Booths	17.07
Wychnor, Turning Circle	16.45	Sherwood Way	17.10
Merry Trees Lane (Ancient Oak)	16.50	Longsands, Anderton Arms	17.17
Ingol, Cottam Avenue	16.57		



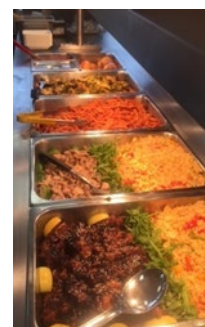
## Catering



We continue to self-manage our own kitchens. Meals are competitively priced, locally sourced and we can be responsive to the food requests of pupils whilst still complying with national healthy food standard requirements. We do not allow pupils to bring in energy drinks, large bags of crisps, packets of biscuits or extra large bars of chocolate. If we see these items they will be confiscated and you can come to collect them.

**A 'meal deal'** (hot meal, dessert and a drink) **costs £2.80** which represents excellent value for money.

**We would like to remind parents to keep their child's ParentPay account topped up to ensure there is sufficient balance available to pay for food at break/lunch.**



If you have any enquiries about catering in school, or about Parent Pay,

please contact **Mrs Ogden** ([ogdenj@broughtonhigh.co.uk](mailto:ogdenj@broughtonhigh.co.uk)).

## Open Evening Thursday 22nd September

We would welcome assistance from parents on Open Evening. If you are available and would like to help with serving refreshments in the dining hall (teas and coffees) to prospective parents, please contact:



Mrs Sweeney, Headteacher's PA  
(sweeneys@broughtonhigh.co.uk or tel: 01772 863849)  
before Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Thank you.

You are warmly invited to attend the following:

## Open Evening

Thursday 22nd September 2022 6pm-9pm  
Headteacher's Address: 6.15pm, 7.15pm & 8.15pm

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## Open Day

Monday 26th September 2022  
9.30am & 11.30am

## FIND Newsletter Autumn 2022

The Autumn 2022 issue of the FIND newsletter is available now via the link below and also on the SEND area of the school website.

[Autumn 2022 FIND Newsletter](#)



## Summer School 2022 - Year 6

Almost 150 new Year 7 pupils took part in this year's Summer School during the summer holidays. Pupils were involved in classroom-based activities learning English, Geography, French, Business Technology and PE.

The week allowed pupils to become familiar with our school and staff, to help them with their transition. It also provided an exciting and rewarding start to the next part of their journey with us.

All the pupils showed great enthusiasm and willingness to learn new skills. Well done to all those involved.

**Mrs Bamber**





# WORD OF THE WEEK

## maverick: noun

a person pursuing rebellious, even potentially disruptive policies or ideas.

### Example

He was considered as something of a **maverick** in the publishing world.

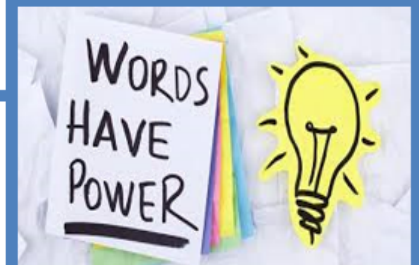
### Synonyms

rebel, cowboy, loose cannon.

### Antonym

conservative.

SCHOOL SYNERGY



### P.E. Extra-Curricular Timetable

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunch</b>	Year 7 Boys Basketball (Sports Hall)	Girls Recreational Netball (Courts)	Year 8 and 9 Boys Basketball (Sports Hall)	Year 10 and 11 Boys Basketball (Sports Hall)
<b>After School</b>	Year 7 Boys Football (Astro)  Year 8 Boys Football (Astro)  Year 7, 8 and 9 Girls Badminton (Sports Hall)  All Years - Girls Netball Fixtures	GCSE PE Table Tennis (Gym)  Year 9 Boys Football (Astro)  Year 7 and 8 Girls Netball (Courts)  Year 8 and 9 Girls Football (Astro)  Girls Football Fixtures	Year 9, 10 and 11 Girls Netball (Courts)  Year 7 Girls Football (Astro)  Year 7 and 8 Boys Badminton (Sports Hall)  Boys Football Fixtures	Year 10 and 11 Boys Football (Astro)

# CAREERS CALLING



This section of the newsletter informs pupils and parents of the latest careers news, events held in school and opportunities further afield. Links to external employers and training providers can be accessed by clicking on the links underlined. Any careers queries can be directed to Mr Lord by email [lord@broughtonhigh.co.uk](mailto:lord@broughtonhigh.co.uk)

## JOB OF THE WEEK

Click me to find more information



### Actuary

Actuaries work with companies and government departments, to help them forecast long-term financial costs and investment risks.

**Salary: £28,000 to £62,000**

**Typical Hours: 37-39 hours per week**

Find more information on this job profile and routes into the career via The National Careers Service [here](#).

### EPISODE #01 - ACTUARY



## NOTICES

### YEAR 11 Careers Appointments

All Year 11 pupils will receive independent one-to-one careers advice in the coming term to help them with their next steps.

We encourage all pupils who are unsure on their next steps, or unsure on the pathway to a career, to make their appointment with Mrs Dumbell at pupil reception. Parents can attend careers appointments with their child.

Please contact Mr Lord to organise.



## VACANCY

**onata travel**

Dnata Travel Group is recruiting for a number of positions at their Lancaster House location. Information about their live apprenticeships is available [here](#).

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION



Did you know the average weekly income in Lancashire is **£560.10** (Source)



## Rewards

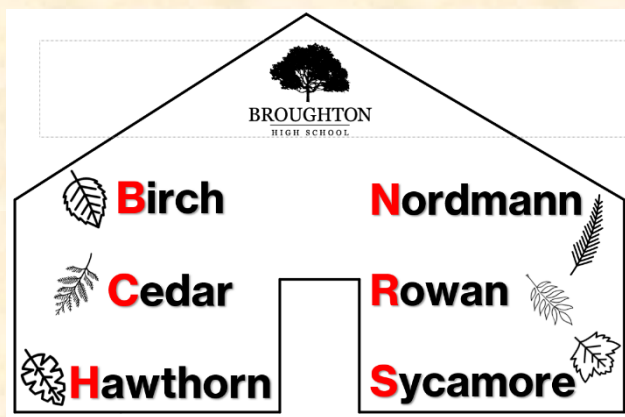
This week we been updating all the pupils on our new rewards that everyone can achieve and contribute to during the academic year.

As last year, all reward points will go towards our bronze (100 points), silver (200 points) and gold (300 points) certificates. These will be celebrated in our end of half term award assemblies. Additionally, all reward points will also have a monetary value and support our school charity.

Points can be gained for many aspects of school life:

Excellent work	Contribution to school community
Excellent homework	Contributing to reading ethos
Excellent verbal contribution	100% weekly attendance
Displaying outstanding effort in class	10/10 Learn it Challenge Award
Excellent organisational skills	Commendation for Review
Respectful Behaviour	Excellent use of planner
Helping out	Excellent standard of uniform
An act of kindness, generosity or resilience	Significant improvement
Demonstration of superb progress	Headteacher Award
Attending extra-curricular activities over time	HOY Award
Significant improvement	Charity work
Leading in learning	Helping out
HOD Award	Excellent Manners
	Getting Involved

This year we also excited to launch our new **House Structure**. **Tutor groups will complete against each other across the whole school making this our most inclusive award system.**



Our house names are tree species that are grown in the UK - these all typify the journey we make through school life. Growing in strength, developing a maturity and independence whilst creating a unique presence and individuality. Our new House structure epitomises the qualities we expect of all our community. These are, hard work, teamwork, resilience, a sense of belonging and an appreciation of our community and how we support each other.

Finally, our new **Best of Broughton Award**:

The aim of this award is to epitomize the qualities we expect of all pupils at Broughton, an inclusive award for all and an award that pupils should be proud to achieve. To achieve this award pupils will need to complete all 8 challenges below.

1. Achieve at least a **bronze award** for your academic and pastoral achievement in school.
2. Have great **attendance**: This must be across a term.
3. Evidence of **reading** at least 3 extra-curricular **books**.
4. **Support** a parents' evening, open night or event that shows willingness and commitment.
5. Attend a **club or team activity** over a minimum of 4 sessions.
6. Support a **charity** by promoting or helping raise funds.
7. **Help out** in a chosen area of school in your own time.
8. Feature in the **school newsletter** or receive a **praise postcard**.

We positive all our pupils will work hard this year to achieve as many rewards as possible and we look forward to celebrating this in our awards assemblies throughout this year.

Mr. Brandwood (AHT)

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Here at Broughton we have invested in an innovative literacy improvement tool called **Bedrock Vocabulary for Years 7, 8 and 9**. It is a website that helps children to learn very important academic vocabulary. Did you know that children with wide vocabularies make excellent progress at school and in further education?



As your child progresses through this curriculum, they will study hundreds of words, whilst reading fiction and non-fiction texts regularly. They will also fill in an online vocabulary notebook to practise using this vocabulary, and you can see and edit this yourself!

Why not help your child to make even greater progress by logging on to see how they are getting on? You will be able see the vocabulary your child is learning, which we encourage you to use in conversation at home. As each post-test is completed, data will appear in the dashboard.

You can go directly to the site and create your own account now.

Step 1: Visit <https://app.bedrocklearning.org>.

Step 2: Click on the 'Parent/Teacher' tab.

Step 3: Complete the parent sign-up sheet and enter the codes provided to you by the school and create an account. (The details are in your child's planner and will have been provided by their English teacher)

Step 4: Check your email for your password, and then log in. Be sure to check your junk folder if no email arrives.

The pupils will be required to complete **two Bedrock sessions of learning per week – one vocabulary lesson and one grammar lesson; this will be their designated homework**. This should take on average 15 minutes per session. Your child's English teacher will access their vocabulary notebook and test records in order to monitor progress. When they first log in, they will be required to complete two tests in order to place them in the correct 'learning blocks' for vocabulary and grammar.

Please talk to your child to make sure they are logged in and ready to use Bedrock when it has been launched by their English teacher over the next week. Thank you for your support; we look forward to reaping the benefits of this exciting tool!

## FORM TUTORS 2022-23

<b>● Head of Year 7: Mrs J Higham</b>		highamj@broughtonhigh.co.uk
B	Miss E Belcher	belchere@broughtonhigh.co.uk
C	Mr C Lord	lordc@broughtonhigh.co.uk
H	Mr R Alston	alstonr@broughtonhigh.co.uk
N	Mrs V Newton	newtonv@broughtonhigh.co.uk
R	Mrs K Armstrong	armstrongk@broughtonhigh.co.uk
S	Mr J Cowen	cowenj@broughtonhigh.co.uk

<b>● Head of Year 8: Mr S Hughes</b>		hughess@broughtonhigh.co.uk
B	Mrs K McKibbin	mckibbink@broughtonhigh.co.uk
C	Mrs J Hough (Mon, Wed, Thu) and Miss B Peters (Tue, Fri)	houghj@broughtonhigh.co.uk petersb@broughtonhigh.co.uk
H	Mrs V Rukin (Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri) and Mrs L Church (Mon)	rukinv@broughtonhigh.co.uk
N	Ms R Hulme (Mon, Tue, Fri) and Mrs H Hardman (Wed, Thu)	hulmer@broughtonhigh.co.uk
R	Mrs S Brooks	brookss@broughtonhigh.co.uk
S	Mrs L Wallace	wallacel@broughtonhigh.co.uk

<b>● Head of Year 9: Mrs L Bishop</b>		bishopl@broughtonhigh.co.uk
B	Mr A Starkie	starkiea@broughtonhigh.co.uk
C	Dr J Wright	wrightj@broughtonhigh.co.uk
H	Mrs R Halstead	halsteadr@broughtonhigh.co.uk
N	Mrs K Lupton	luptonk@broughtonhigh.co.uk
R	Miss R Taylor	taylorr@broughtonhigh.co.uk
S	Mrs B Burke	burkeb@broughtonhigh.co.uk

<b>● Head of Year 10: Mr S Lynn</b>		lynns@broughtonhigh.co.uk
B	Mrs R Wortley	wortleyr@broughtonhigh.co.uk
C	Mr W Gaffney	gaffneyw@broughtonhigh.co.uk
H	Mr M Tomlin	tomlinm@broughtonhigh.co.uk
N	Mr R Marquis	marquisr@broughtonhigh.co.uk
R	Mr S Shepherd	shepherds@broughtonhigh.co.uk
S	Miss K Wright	wrightk@broughtonhigh.co.uk

<b>● Head of Year 11: Mrs A Boardman</b>		boardmana@broughtonhigh.co.uk
B	Mr M Lowe	lowem@broughtonhigh.co.uk
C	Miss C Ives	ivesc@broughtonhigh.co.uk
H	Miss K Klunder	klunderk@broughtonhigh.co.uk
N	Mrs L Gornall	gornalll@broughtonhigh.co.uk
R	Mr J Peterson	petersonj@broughtonhigh.co.uk
S	Mrs E Wright	wrighte@broughtonhigh.co.uk

## HOLIDAY PATTERN 2022-23

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022	INSET DAY (1)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2022	School opens ( <i>Year 7 and Year 11 only</i> )
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	School opens ( <i>all Years</i> )
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2022	Open Evening ( <i>school closes 1.00pm</i> )
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2022	INSET DAY (2)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	School closes
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAYS</b>	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	School opens
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	INSET DAY (3)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	School closes at 1.00pm
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b>	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	School opens
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	School closes
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAYS</b>	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	School opens
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	School closes
<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	School opens
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023	May Bank Holiday
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	School closes
<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAYS</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	School opens
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	School closes at 1.00pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	INSET DAY (4)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023	INSET DAY (5)



# Online Safety Newsletter

September 2022

## Instagram

Instagram is used to post photos and videos. Users can also DM (direct message), send disappearing messages, add to their stories (these disappear after 24 hours) and broadcast live. **You should be over 13 years of age to set up an account.** To create an account, you must enter a date of birth (but this is not verified).

### Account Privacy

When you set up your account, it is automatically **set as public**. This means that anybody can see what you share. We would recommend changing this to private so only those your child approves to follow them can see their content. *To change a profile to private go to profile, tap Settings, tap Privacy, then under Account Privacy, tap to toggle Private Account on.*

**IMPORTANT:** Even if your child has set their Instagram profile to private, your child's bio (at the top of their profile) can still be seen by **everyone**. Check they have not included any personal information in their photo and bio info (e.g., they should not be wearing their school uniform in their photo).

Other additional privacy settings include:

- Story control – you can choose to allow message replies from 'your followers', 'followers you follow back' or turn off.
- Sharing – you can choose whether follows can share your photos and videos from your story in a message.
- Hidden words – turn this option on to hide comments that may be offensive in a separate section.
- Activity status – if switched on, other accounts you follow and anyone you message can see when you were last active or if you are currently on.

Make sure your child understands that there is a risk that content they upload can never be removed (other users can screenshot it for example) so they must only share content that they are comfortable with others seeing.

### New Supervision features

You can now supervise your child's Instagram accounts. This gives you the ability to see who they follow and who follows them, see how much time they are spending on Instagram, set daily time limits and schedule breaks. Your child can also easily share when they have made any reports to Instagram with you. Learn more here: <https://familycenter.instagram.com/our-products/family-center/>

### Safety Features

Ensure your child knows how to report posts and people as well as how to unfollow and block people, delete and turn off comments. View here: [https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559/?helpref=hc\\_fnav](https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559/?helpref=hc_fnav)

### More information

Visit the family centre to learn more about the features available: <https://familycenter.instagram.com/>



# Discord

Discord is a social networking app used by gamers to **chat to each other**. There can be in app purchases through Discord's premium subscription service. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. The Apple App store rates it as 17+. Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server and they can either be public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups.

Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat about the game (**rather than the game's own chat facility**).

## How can I make it safer?

Discord have created this article, which outlines four steps to creating a safer account, including how to block users.

- <https://discord.com/safety/360043857751-Four-steps-to-a-super-safe-account>

## What do I need to be aware of?

We always encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use different apps/websites and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord as well as inappropriate language. Discord have produced this article, which answers common questions:

- <https://discord.com/safety/360044149591-Answering-parents'-and-educators'-top-questions>

## Further information

- <https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-is-discord-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

# What is your child doing online?

Is your child playing or watching others play games online? Your child could be using Twitch, Steam, Roblox, YouTube etc to access games or watch others play. We need to make sure that what they are viewing is appropriate for them. It is important to talk to your child to see what they are interested in so you can have a look first to see if they are appropriate. For example, there are games that may appear to be appropriate but are actually horror/survival games and characters can turn more sinister as the game progresses. It is important to remember that children may be playing the game, watching videos of it on sites such as YouTube or playing replicated versions on Roblox for example.

## More information

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

# What is Skin Gambling?

A skin is something that gamers either purchase or win and can use them to change the appearance of their character, for example a new outfit. They do not usually enhance the character's ability. Skins can range in price, depending on their popularity or how rare they are. Skin gambling occurs when gamers use their skins to bet on online games. Read this article to find out more:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/blog/what-is-skin-gambling-in-gaming>

# Omegle

**You must be 18+ to use or 13+ with parental permission.** Omegle is a social networking/chat website that **connects two strangers** together for either a text or a video chat. Chats are anonymous unless a user provides this information. Omegle states that "Omegle video chat is moderated. However, moderation is not perfect. You may still encounter people who misbehave."

## What should I be aware of?

- No registration is required to access Omegle (therefore no age verification) and there are no reporting facilities.
- Users are given an option to save the chat's log and share the link. It is also possible for other users to take screenshots of text and video chats.

**We recommend that Omegle is not used by children due to the potential imagery shared and language used which can be explicit.**

You can find out more information from Internet Matters, including ways of keeping your child safe:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/what-is-omegle-what-parents-need-to-know/>