

17TH OCTOBER 2025

ISSUE 06

PRIORY SCHOOL NEWS

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Headteacher's News

It has been another fantastic week at Priory. Our classrooms have been full of energy and purpose, and it has been wonderful to see so many families attending Parents' Evenings this week. Thank you for taking the time to meet with teachers – these conversations play such an important part in supporting your child's progress, wellbeing, and confidence in school.

As we move further into the colder months, we know that winter bugs are starting to circulate. Please remember that children do not need to stay off school for a common cold or mild symptoms. As long as your child is well enough to take part in lessons and does not have a fever, they should still attend school. Good handwashing, tissues for coughs and sneezes, and regular fresh air all help to keep everyone well.

Next week, we look forward to celebrating Diwali together as a whole school. It is always one of the most joyful events in our calendar – a day filled with light, colour, and togetherness as we learn about this important festival and the values it represents. Wishing a very Happy Diwali to all families who are celebrating on Monday.

Important dates:

[Click here](#) to link to the school calendar

[Click here](#) to see term dates for 2025-2026

Leaflets and letters:

Please [click here](#) to go to our leaflets page on the website and choose external providers

Signs of the week:

Art and Music

<https://youtu.be/iGflvrPIFXI>

Peek at the Week

Nursery– 17th October 2025

Learning

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We have been talking about how to make sure our Nursery is a happy place for everyone to learn in. This week we have been focusing on 'caring for our friends by using our kind hands, kind feet and kind hands'

Communication & Language Development

As part of our Jigsaw program we have been reading the book 'Hands are not for hitting' by Elizabeth Verdick. We have been talking in full sentences about all the positive things our hands can do and how we use them in nursery to help us learn in so many ways.



Physical Development

We have been building our core strength by digging in the garden and pulling up some of the weeds in our vegetable patch.



Don't forget



Wishing our families a very happy Diwali

Friday 24th October is non-uniform day for Christmas Fayre donations. Please refer to letter dated 9th October for list of suggested items. Children can come to Nursery in a Halloween costume or their own clothes and bring in an item for the Christmas Fayre (alternatively, a £1 monetary donation will also be gratefully accepted)



Developing our writing skills in through Imaginative Play

Some of our children this week have been going on pretend bus journeys. They made their own bus tickets using their knowledge of writing and used them in their fantastic play.



Child of the week: Mikayla for confidently coming into nursery each day with a big smile and being very caring towards her friends.

Nursery rhyme of the week: 'This is the way we brush our teeth' Please encourage your child to watch and sing along.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrjIH3RvgZo>



Word of the Week: 'digging'

Contact us: nursery@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Reception – 17th October 2025



Important Dates / Reminders

Non uniform day – Children can wear their own clothes or fancy dress for Halloween – Friday 24th October, 2025

End of Term 1 – Friday 24th October, 2025 (3:15pm)

Start of Term 2 – Monday 3rd November, 2025

PE – Every Thursday – Please send your child to school wearing their PE kit.

We will be sending reading books home every Wednesday, please ensure your child brings their book bag on this day.

Homework

- Please read with your child for at least 15 minutes a day.
- Focus core math skill: **1, 2, 3** – we have been using the vocabulary: **1 more and 1 less**.

As the weather is getting cooler and the rain has started to arrive, please can you ensure your child comes to school with a rain coat or jacket as we will be continuing our busy learning outside.

Please can we ask that your child brings in a named water bottle every day. Additionally can we ask all school uniform is named. Thank you for your support!

Our Learning - This week:

Communication and Language Development:

During drawing club this week, we have been looking at the story Hansel and Gretel! The children have looked at the characters and the setting of the story. They then changed the story using their wonderful imaginations!



This week we continued with our Little Wandle Phonics Program! Our phonemes this week are:



The children are beginning to blend the letters to read words such as: **c.a.t s.a.t h.u.g p.i.n**

Maths:

This week in maths we have continued our investigations of the numbers 1, 2, and 3. We have now discovered what happens to these numbers when we add 1 more or have 1 less! See if your children can tell you what happens to objects when you add 1 more or have 1 less!

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

To support our Personal, Social and Emotional Development we are following the Jigsaw program. This week have been focusing working together and taking turns! The children have begun to use talk partners to share ideas during whole class learning. We have practiced our turn taking whilst playing an exciting maths game!



Reception Stars of the Week:

R Rupert: Jan

R Paddington: Abigail



Reception song of the week: Coming soon!

Contact us: reception@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week Year 1 – 17/10/25

Important Dates / Reminders

- Friday 24th October – non uniform day (can wear Halloween dress up – no masks!)
- Friday 24th October – half term

Our Learning

This week in Year 1, we have been completing phonics assessments. The children have worked really hard to learn our new digraphs this term **ay, oy, ea** and **ou**. Please continue to read 3 times a week with your child at home, and visit the [Little Wandle](#) website for more information.

In Maths, we have continued to consolidate our knowledge of number lines. We have practices counting forwards and backwards using number lines and number tracks, and have been using the language **greater than, greatest** and **smallest**.

In Art, we really enjoyed looking at a range of abstract artwork by artists including Kandinsky and Pacita Abad. We had lots of fun creating our own artwork exploring colour and line!



Star of the Week

1 Jeffers: Aarush

1 Donaldson: Areeza



Words of the Week: **sure** **there** **what** **were**

Contact us: year1@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 2 – 17th October 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

Week of 20th Oct – Diwali Week,
whole-school celebration on
Monday 3rd November



Fri 24th Oct – Non-Uniform Day
(Christmas Fayre donations)

wc 27.10.25 Half term

Please read with and to your child every day and also discuss what you are reading.

Spellings are sent home each Friday and there will be a spelling quiz the following Friday. Please practice writing these spellings daily if possible.

Next Friday, the children will not be new spellings for over half term. They have worked incredibly hard this term and we are so proud of them all! Enjoy your half term break!

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Wednesday**.

Please keep your child's reading record and reading book in their bag every day.

Please send your child in with a coat or waterproof jacket as they will be outside in the garden for part

Our Learning

This week, We had a very exciting visit from the firefighters! The children learnt lots of new facts and how they can stay safe in an emergency!



In Maths we have been exploring 2D shapes and thinking about how many sides and how many vertices they have. The children had fun using matchsticks to represent the different shapes. In RE, we have been thinking about whether it is possible to be kind to everyone all of the time and have linked this to the Christian story of The Good Samaritan.

The children have also been engaging in our learning opportunities in the garden this week.



They particularly enjoyed a fine motor skill activity where they used tweezers to collect laminated pumpkins out of the mud tray and then draw funny faces on them!

Next week, we will continue to look at the properties of 2D shapes, investigating which shapes have a vertical line of symmetry. We will also be learning about firework safety.



Peek at the Week

Year 3– 17th October 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

23.10.25 3 Nightingale–Swimming lessons

24.10.25–Non Uniform Day–
donations for Christmas Fair

w/c 27.10.25 - Half Term

21.11.25 Year 3 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo

05.12.25 Priory's Christmas Fair



Please read with your child for at least 15 minutes every day and record this in their reading record. Ideas for reading at home can include reading a library book, a book from school or home, reading a bedtime story or following a recipe among other opportunities!

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Monday**.

Only fruit is allowed for a break time snack.

Our Learning

This week, we continued our study of ancient artists by creating a sculpture from clay. We also looked at stone age paintings.

In English, we will practise our reading skills by taking part in some shared reading sessions linked to other areas of the curriculum. In Maths, we moved onto exploring strategies for multiplication and division.

Next week, we will be learning about Hinduism in our RE lessons with a focus on Diwali. In French, we will learn how to ask and answer the question, 'How are you?' In Computing lessons, we will be learning how computers are connected

In Maths, we will be learning how to subtract numbers where an exchange is needed.

On Friday, we may come to school in non-uniform as a treat for bringing in items for the Christmas Fair.

Year 3 Trip to Whipsnade Zoo

As part of their learning in science and English, Year 3 have the opportunity to visit Whipsnade Zoo on 21.11.25. Please click the link below to secure your child's place:

<https://forms.office.com/e/NFDrkOtSfj>.

WHIPSNADE ZOO

a ZSL conservation zoo

Word of the Week: though

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year3@prioryschool.com

01628 600300



Peek at the Week

Year 4– 17th October 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

24.10.25–Non Uniform Day–donations for Christmas Fair

w/c 27.10.25 - Half Term

21.11.25 Bikeability

05.12.25 Priory's Christmas Fair



Please read with your child for at least 20 minutes every day and record this in their reading record. Ideas for reading at home can include reading a library book, a book from school or home, reading a bedtime story or following a recipe among other opportunities!

Don't forget that your child needs to wear the correct PE uniform to school each **Wednesday**.

Only fruit is allowed for a break time snack.

Our Learning

This week, we began a unit in our geography lessons focussing on agriculture and farming. We compared the physical geography and climates in the UK and Italy to see how these differences effect farming.

In Maths we have been working on strategies for subtraction.

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|--------------|----------|---|
| | | | | | |
| | 4 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 |
| - | 2 | 1 | 2 | 8 | |
| | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>7</u> | |
| | | | | | |

In English, we wrote our stories inspired by the Pixar animation, 'Feast'.

Next week, we will be focussing on climate and how this can affect the crops grown in the UK and Italy. We will also think about how crops grown in these regions can affect diet,

In French, we will be learning how to ask someone their name and how to respond to this question.



Word of the Week: though

Follow this link to find more super daily activities: www.morningchallenge.co.uk/

Contact us: year4@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Year 5 Peek at the Week

17th October 2025

Important Dates / Reminders

Non- uniform day- 24th October 2025

Half term-27th October to 31st October



Year 5 were very excited to perform our Sharing Assembly this week. They sung beautifully and were very brave went speaking on stage. This was such an important step along our journey to our Year 6 production next year.

Thank you to everyone that was able to join us.



Our Learning

This week, we enjoyed performing our sharing assembly for parents!

In maths, we continued to practise using column method addition and subtraction in a range of contexts.

In History, we enjoyed learning about kinder transport and attitudes. We also wrote our speeches.

After half term, will be starting our next science unit on Properties of Materials. Here, we will be doing lots of exciting experiments!

In maths, we will start our new topic multiplication, by exploring multiples, common multiples and how these are linked to factors.

In English, we will continue with the text 'Goodnight Mr Tom', exploring the characters and their emotions as the story unfolds. We will also be looking at character descriptions and features of a diary to help us write our own diary entries in role.

Star of the week

Maple: **Arham.N** Ofili: **Hussam** Dawe: **Khuzaimah**

Word of the Week: **conscience**

Remember to read 3 times a week and practise your timetables on Rockstar Maths.

Contact us: year5@priorschool.com

01628 600300



Year 6 Peek at the Week

Friday 17th October 2025

PE Day: Due to Hogwarts Day, Year 6 PE will take place on Wednesday 22nd October.

Hogwarts Day Collection: We have not had many payments for the Hogwarts Day Potions Workshop. Unfortunately, this will not be able to go ahead if we do not receive sufficient funds.

11+ Selection Reviews: We have received large number of selection review requests this year. Y6 teachers will be completing these over the next 2 weeks. All appeals must go through the selection review process.

Christmas market collection: There will be a non-school uniform day on Friday 24th October to collect donations for the Christmas market. A letter has been sent to parents.

Important Dates /Reminders

22.10.25: YEAR 6 PE

23.10.25: Hogwarts Day

24.10.25: Non-uniform day/end of term

Fridays: Spelling quiz. Homework due:

- Reading record x3
- Spellings x1
- Times tables practice on TTRS

Our Learning

This week, in science, we continued learning about light and how the eye works. We looked at how light is refracted (or bent) in water, as well as through a prism to separate white light into rainbows.

In English, we finished our Harry Potter unit by writing our own narrative part of the story, incorporating all of the incredible vocabulary we have collected over the last several weeks. We also sat our spelling, grammar and punctuation test.

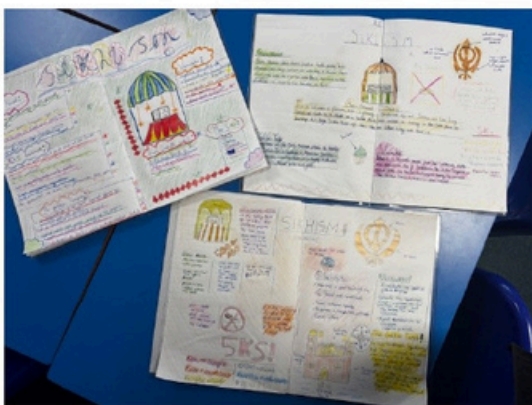
In maths, we consolidated the strategies of long division. We sat our arithmetic paper as part of our first set of assessments for the year.

Next week, in geography, we will begin our study on the world's continents.

In English, we will sit our reading assessment. We will also have the chance to finally watch Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone!

In maths, we will sit our maths reasoning tests. In the final lesson of the week, we will explore how to use order of operations to solve mathematical problems.

Y6 RE: Sikhism



Child of the week:



6 Attenborough: Zakariya **6 Anning:** Aiva-Rae **6 Darwin:** Siena

Word of the Week: conscience

Contact us: year6@priorschool.com 01628 600300



Pirates



Important Dates

Apple class Community visits

Monday's

Plums class TVAP visits

Wednesday's

Berry class swimming visits

Friday's

Non-uniform day and end of term:

Friday 24th October

What a wonderful week of learning and exploring we've had!

In English, the children became pirates, using *colourful semantics* to create amazing descriptive sentences about pirate ships — the sails are stripey, the flag is black, and the ship was brown!

In Maths, the children have been busy building their number skills through play. They loved the toppling tower building game and counting baskets of objects, while Berries Class practised partitioning numbers, showing a great understanding of how numbers can be broken down in different ways — super number work all round!

During Art, we took our creativity outdoors this week, painting with nature! The children used sticks and leaves to make unique prints — it was messy, fun, and full of imagination. It was wonderful to see how they experimented with textures and shapes, discovering how different natural materials can create such interesting effects

In Science, everyone enjoyed exploring materials using our feely buckets! The children described how different materials felt — soft, rough, smooth, bumpy — and talked about objects made from them—glass, metal, plastic, fabric, and wood.



CELEBRATE!



Star of the week



Plum class: Shayaan for being brave around the fire-alarm.

Cherry class: Idris for amazing phonics.

Apple class: Jawad for kind hands and good listening.

Pear class: Kaiden for completing all his activities.

Berry class: Ridwan for demonstrating amazing partitioning during maths.

Strawberry class: Eden for good work in maths.



PE News

A huge congratulations to our amazing Year 6 netball team who were crowned Stingers Champions at the SSSPAN Slough Netball Bee!

The team showed fantastic skill, teamwork, and determination throughout the competition, remaining unbeaten all the way to the final!

Here are the incredible results:

V. Iqra - 7-0

V. Cippenham - 6-0

V. Montem - 2-0

V. Ryvers - 5-1

Quarter-Final

V. Western House - 6-0

Semi-Final

V. Lynch Hill - 1-0

Final

V. Montem - 4-1

We are so proud of the girls' outstanding effort, sportsmanship, and team spirit. What a way to represent our school!

[#SSSPANNetballBee](#) [#StingersChampions](#) [#Teamwork](#)
[#ProudSchoolMoment](#) [#TeamPriory](#).





Are you passionate about the environment?

**Do you want to help Priory School become
more eco-friendly?**



The Eco Council wants you!



Ask your teacher for more details. Elections will be held at the beginning of next term.

This week teachers have shared the poster above with their class.

We will be holding an election for children to join the **Eco Council** team.

Children who are interested in joining the Eco Council would need to write a little about why they think they should be voted, what experience (if any) do they have about looking after their environment and share ideas about what they would like to implement in school.

Class teachers will hold elections and do a vote in class and from this, one child per class will be selected to join the team. Elections will be held week commencing **10th November**.

Starting Secondary School in Slough 2026

Apply online at www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE TIME TO READ THIS INFORMATION WHICH OUTLINES THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR A YEAR 7 SCHOOL PLACE

Dear Parent/Carer,

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, and you live in Slough, you can now apply online for a transfer from primary (Year 6) to secondary school (Year 7) for September 2026.

The Citizen's portal on the council website is now open to receive applications. There are clear and simple prompts to guide you through making your application.

You will also find the **Starting Secondary School booklet** on the council website. The booklet contains a wealth of information to help you choose the right schools, make an application and understand how the application process works. It provides a profile of all of Slough secondary schools alongside information about admission arrangements.

Who should apply?

Current Year 6 pupils - children who will be transferring from primary (Year 6) school to secondary school (Year 7) in September 2026.

When do I need to apply?

You can apply anytime from 1 September 2025. **To receive an offer of a school place on national offer day, you must submit an application by 31 October 2025.**

Please note: In order to maximise your chances of being offered one of your preferred schools

- You **MUST** submit an application with any required documents/supplementary forms on time.
- Your child **MUST** meet the admissions criteria of the school to be offered a place.

and there is

- **NO** automatic transfer from a primary into a secondary school.
- **NO** automatic offer of a sibling place without making an application.

Apply online at
www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions
Closing date to apply 31 October 2025

Changing your preferences or changing the order after submitting an application

You can make any changes to your application before the closing date. However, if you wish to change your preferences after



the closing date or you wish to change the preference order, all your preferences would be considered as late applications and considered after all on-time applications.

It is possible to change your preferences after your application has been downloaded by the Admissions team but you will need to complete an amendment form which you will find on the council's website.

What happens if I miss the closing date?

For the avoidance of doubt, all applications submitted and received after the closing date (31 October 2025) will be deemed as late applications. They will be considered after those that are received on time and after the first round of offers have been made.

How do I apply?

If you live in Slough you **MUST** apply through Slough Borough Council. The easiest way to apply is online.

Go to www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions and follow the instructions on the screen.

If you do not have internet access at home you can still apply online at your local library or at the council offices.

Who can make the application?

Applications must be made by a parent or carer who holds legal parental responsibility for a child. Only one application should be made per child.

Contact the Admissions Team

If you would like more information about the school admissions process or the admission arrangements, please read the 'Starting Secondary School' booklet

Or visit: www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions

Email: _admissions.helpline@slough.gov.uk

Contact Centre:

Telephone: 01753 475111 (Monday to Friday)

Please note that the School Admissions lines open as and when needed around admissions time.

Best wishes,

Sabi Hothi

Head of Education Services

Slough Borough Council

Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, Slough SL1 2EL

Starting Infant, Junior & Primary School in Slough 2026/27

Apply online at www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions



IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU TAKE TIME TO READ THIS INFORMATION WHICH OUTLINES THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR A RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE

Dear Parent/Carer,

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, and you live in Slough, you can now apply for a reception school place in an infant or primary school for September 2026. The Citizen's portal on the council website is now open to receive applications. There are clear and simple prompts to guide you through making your application.

If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, lives in Slough and currently attends an infant school, they will need to transfer to Year 3 in a junior school.

You will also find the *Starting Infant, Junior and Primary School booklet* on the council website. The booklet contains a wealth of information to help you choose the right schools, make an application and understand how the application process works. It provides a profile of all of primary schools alongside information about admission arrangements.

Who should apply?

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022, you must apply for a school place for September 2026.

When do I need to apply?

You can apply anytime from 1 September 2025. **To receive an offer of a school place on national offer day, you must submit an application by 15 January 2026.**

Please note: In order to maximise your chances of being offered one of your preferred schools

- You **MUST** submit an application with any required documents/supplementary forms on time.
- Your child **MUST** meet the admissions criteria of the school to be offered a place.

and there is

- **NO** automatic transfer from a nursery to into a school.
- **NO** automatic offer of a sibling place without making an application.

Apply online at
www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions
Closing date to apply 15 January 2026

What happens if I miss the closing date?

For the avoidance of doubt, all applications submitted and received after the closing date (15 January 2026) will be deemed as late applications. They will be considered after those that are received on time and after the first round of offers have been made.

How do I apply?

If you live in Slough you **MUST** apply through Slough Borough Council. The easiest way to apply is online.

Go to www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions and follow the instructions on the screen.

If you do not have internet access at home you can still apply online at your local library or at the council offices.

Who can make the application?

Applications must be made by a parent or carer who holds legal parental responsibility for a child. Only one application should be made per child.

Contact the Admissions Team

If you would like more information about the school admissions process or the admission arrangements, please read the 'Starting Infant, Junior or Primary School' booklet

Or visit: www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions

Email: _admissions.help@slough.gov.uk

Contact Centre:

Telephone: 01753 475111 (Monday to Friday)

Please note that the School Admissions lines open as and when needed around admissions time.

Best wishes,

Sabi Hothi

Head of Education Services

Slough Borough Council

Observatory House, 25 Windsor Road, Slough SL1 2EL

in2sport in2care



SPOOKTACULAR CAMP!

Up to 20% OFF -
discount SPOOK10

MON 27TH OCT - FRI 31ST OCT



8AM-5PM - £35

9AM-3PM - £28



Priory Primary School

Orchard Avenue, Slough, SL1 6HE



To book head to: in2care.magicbooking.co.uk





FREE LUNCH

Children will be provided lunch after parents attend a brief session aimed at shaping better local services.



Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Family Fun Day!

Saturday
15 November 2025
10.30am-2.30pm

Salt Hill Activity Centre
Bath Road, Slough, SL1 3SS



You can choose 3 of the activities below:

- **Soft play**
For children aged 0-12
- **Bowling**
- **Trampolining**
For children aged 5+ unless taking part in the toddler session
- **Virtual Reality**
All users must be aged 8 and over.



For more information:
Event contact: Kulvinder Dhillon
Contact number: 07395 258266



Scan to sign up by 6 November, you must sign up to attend.
www.eventbrite.com/e/family-fun-day-tickets-1784168208139



Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer



www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
7

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back - or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY

CHILDREN CAN WEAR THEIR HALLOWEEN
COSTUME OR THEIR OWN CLOTHES



PLEASE SEE INDIVIDUAL LETTERS EMAILED
REGARDING CHRISTMAS DONATIONS FOR THIS DAY





Language of the Month

We have continued to introduce a new language of the month.

Be sure to look out on the school website for the new slides at the start of each month. You will find the page under the parents section.

Have a look through the slides with your child/ren to learn new words and phrases.





Family Drumming workshops

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfil long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with slick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

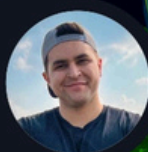
As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION



While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES



Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website

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7:30 PM TO 9:30 PM
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Autism support

OCT
07

7 PM TO 9 PM
NEW - Emotional Regulation
Autism and ADHD support

OCT
14

7 PM TO 9 PM
Sensory Processing
Autism and ADHD Support

OCT
15

7 PM - 9 PM
Sleep - Autism & ADHD

OCT
16

10 AM TO 12 NOON
Empowering Calm
Autism Support

NOV
11

7 PM TO 9 PM
3 Part ADHD Course

NOV
11

10 AM TO 12 NOON
NEW - PDA

NOV
12

7 PM - 9 PM
3 Part Autism Course

DEC
02

7 PM - 9 PM
NEW - AUDHD



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HOW TO APPLY TO THE LANGLEY ACADEMY

1

CAF

You need to complete the Common Application Form (CAF) on the Slough Borough Council (SBC) website or your local council website if you live in another area. On this form you can select up to six secondary schools. If you would like a place with us, it is vital that you place The Langley Academy as one of your first choices to increase the chance of being allocated a place by the SBC.



2

TLA REGISTRATION FORM

You must also complete The Langley Academy registration form which can be found in the Admissions area of our school website.



3

BANDING TEST

All students wishing to be considered for a place at The Langley Academy will sit a banding test to put them into one of nine bands. We have a comprehensive intake so aim to take even numbers from each band which SBC allocates on our behalf. Students currently in TLAP or TLHP will sit the test in the week commencing 17th November 2025 at their primary school. All other students will be invited in for a test on Saturday, 15th November 2025, but only if the application forms are fully completed.



Curiosity. Exploration. Discovery.

**CAF and TLA Registration
form MUST be completed by
31st October 2025**

APPLICATION TIMELINE - SEPTEMBER 2026 ENTRY

The timeline represents the process for applying to The Langley Academy.

