

Truth – Being honest  
Respect – Being Fair  
Unity – Being Friendly  
Sincerity – Being Genuine  
Tolerance – Being accepting

# Brading CE (Controlled) Primary School



We are a Team that Trust each other to unlock potential.  
Tel: 01983 407217 email – admin@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

## News from Brading CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs B Gilbert

**Our Christian Values: TRUST - TRUTH, RESPECT, UNITY, SINCERITY, TOLERANCE –**

**This week our focus has been on TOLERANCE**

15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers, Well what another busy week. I am so proud of Year 6. They have been out of this world and have been the most amazing learning ambassadors for all year groups. I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has helped this week including governors, Mrs Redfern, Rev Bev, Mrs Diffey, Mr Piggot who have come in every day to help us invigilate the tests and supporting us all. It has been so valuable and we wouldn't run the week without them. I would also like to say a big thank you to Mrs Porter for her support as well this week and it was lovely to see her back in school. I would like to also thank the staff in school (especially Mr Baker, Mrs Cooney and Mrs Larner) and not forgetting the rest of the staff and children who have had to change around their learning and have had breaks and learning activities in different places during the week than normal to accommodate the SATs for Year 6. Thank you to everyone.

**Recorder Workshop** – Today the Year 4 pupils had a workshop with Miriam Monaghan Palisander. They worked on the “Isle of Wight Recorder Songbook” which was written especially for the children. They all had a wonderful time.

**Enrichment** – This Friday we had some exciting changes, some of the children in their enrichment groups went to Westridge to play Squash. They learnt how to play a basic game of squash the split into partners and played a game bouncing the ball against the wall. Our second group went along to Brading Farm where they met the Farms Chickens and Sheep. They also looked and spoke about the wonderful vegetable plot they have there.

**Attendance Week** – We will be ending our last week of term with another attendance week. We would really like your support as parents/carers to help us with this to raise attendance during next week and every week moving forward for the rest of the school year.

**Fun Clubs for next term** – Please book your child in via emailing admin or pop into the office. These will be starting on the first week back after half term and will run for 5 weeks.

**Monday** – Cricket Y3/4/5/6 with Mrs Powell – We will provide more information on this club as soon as possible

**Tuesday** – KS2 Summer Club with Miss Silk

**Tuesday** - KS1 Art Club with Miss Ward

**Medicine** – Just a reminder in regards to medicines. Our policy states we are only allowed to give children medicine for EYFS when the prescription states 3 x daily and 4 x daily for Years 1 – 6. If the prescription does not have the named child on the packaging we cannot administer this either. We can only take medicine that has been prescribed by the GP.

**What's happening at Brading** - We have lots of exciting things happening up until July. We will providing you all with more information over the coming weeks but here is a list of what we have planned.

**18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Safety Week (we will be focusing on Road safety, Sun safety, Water safety and Internet safety)

**19<sup>th</sup> May** – Welcome Meetings for our new Reception Starters

**21<sup>st</sup> May** – Collective Worship – Annual visit from Steve Gillham

**22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Classes undertaking road safety visits in Brading led by Mr Baker

**22<sup>nd</sup> May** – Last day of term

**1<sup>st</sup> June** – First day back at school

**8<sup>th</sup> June** – Sea Safe Y5&6

**12<sup>th</sup> June** – Pyjamarama Day

**19<sup>th</sup> June** – Class and School Leaver Photographs

**26<sup>th</sup> June** – New Zealand class to lead Collective Worship – All New Zealand parents/carers invited to come along

**29<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July** = Y6 Leavers Trips

**6 – 9<sup>th</sup> July** – Sports Week

**7<sup>th</sup> July** – Whole Island Transition day (Y6 to Secondary Schools)

**8<sup>th</sup> July** – Whole School Sports Day

**10<sup>th</sup> July** – Y6 Leavers service at St Marys Church AM

**10<sup>th</sup> July** – Leavers Afternoon (Party and awards)

**13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> July** – Move up for all classes – where children will be spending time in their new classes with their new teachers

Have a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday.  
Mrs Gilbert

**P.S** – Please don't forget Mrs Willshire and myself are available from 8.30am everyday if you need to discuss anything. All teaching staff are not available in the mornings but will be available after school only

# School Reminders

## Safeguarding Reminders

**Safety End of the day Pick up** - We have reminded all of the children that they should stay with their adult when they leave. Once you have picked up your child from school please make sure that they stay with you. Year 5 & 6 children who leave school without an adult, please remember you are representing the school and to be safe at all times. All roads are dangerous and I don't want any accidents happening, especially as the evenings are still quite dark. In addition, can I please remind you about parking sensibly. There are residents who also live along this road and we all should be considerate of this. – If your child is not attending their fun club, you will need to let the office know and sign them out. Children attending clubs in Years 5&6 still need to be collected by an adult after. Don't forget that we need to keep the entrance of school clear in case the emergency services need to attend. This includes the yellow zigzag zone is strictly no parking.

**Wraparound Care Booking** – Remember that there is a new way to book Wraparound. Ideally, we will need a **week's notice** of any bookings for Wraparound. To make sure the booking is secure for wraparound, we will require you to send us an email and make payment on School Money. Do not assume your child has a place until you receive an acknowledgement from the school office. Any bookings made on school money without contacting the office will be invalid. Without an email sent to the office and a confirmation email back from the school office we cannot book any Wraparound.

## Other Reminders

**Absences/Illness** - Please make sure if your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, medical appointments or any other reasons, you need to provide the office with a phone call, email or pop into the office (also any supporting letter you may have) on the day of the absence to inform them. Remember to please keep your child off of school for 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting before bringing your child back into school. If we do not hear from you by 9.15am we will ring you. This is part of our duty of care and our safeguarding to ensure everyone is kept safe. We have changed our answer phone so you are unable to leave a message, you will need to ring the office from 8.45am daily and talk directly to us and let us know the reason your child is unable to attend school.

**Headlice** – We have started to see a rise with Headlice in school. It is important to check your child's hair for head lice. The best technique is to use a head lice comb when the hair is wet, leaving in conditioner and combing the hair in sections. When the hair is wet, head lice cannot move so they are easier to comb out. Please note that they do not jump or fly, you can only catch head lice from head to head contact. Treat appropriately: the wet combing technique eradicates the lice and eggs. This should be done every 3 to 4 days over a 2-week period to break the life cycle. If you require further information please have a look at the following website: <https://www.chc.org/how-to-treat-head-lice-and-nits-successfully/> Children who become clear of head lice can be re-infected at school. You can help to tackle this by following good prevention, by being vigilant to spot any new infections or re-infections and by seeking prompt treatment if you find any head lice.

**Facebook** – Please pop onto Facebook and follow our new page. We will be posting what your children have been getting up to here at school and wonderful photos for you to enjoy.

**Getting Warmer** - Now that the temperature has started to rise can you please ensure children still bring a warm, waterproof coat into school every day, it's not quite warm enough to be wearing only a jumper and we still have the wind and rain making an appearance every now and again. Please make sure all items are named to prevent them from getting lost!

**Lunch boxes/Bags** – Please remember that the children can only use hard plastic lunches boxes in school. Please do not send your child in with a material one. Also, we cannot have rucksacks in the classrooms. Please send your child in with a drawstring bag or a book bag that can fit in their trays.

**Collective worship this week** – we have been continuing to focus on Tolerance  
**Romans 14:1-4:** Advises accepting believers with differing opinions without judgment.

## Weekly Focus

**Early Pickup** – We have noticed an increase of children being picked up early at the end of each school day. If you need to collect your child from school for any reason you will need to email [admin@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk) to request this along with any supporting documentation you have to confirm the reason for collection before the end of the school day. This will need to be agreed by Mrs Willshire or Mrs Gilbert.

# Dates for Your Diary

## May

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> - Safety Week

19<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Meeting for our new Reception Starters

22<sup>nd</sup> – Classes undertaking road safety visits in Brading led by Mr Baker

22<sup>nd</sup> – End of Term

## June

1<sup>st</sup> – First day back at school

8<sup>th</sup> – Sea Safe Y5&6

12<sup>th</sup> – Pyjamarama Day

19<sup>th</sup> – Class and School Leaver Photographs

29<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> = Y6 Leavers Trips

## July

6-9<sup>th</sup> – Sports Week

7<sup>th</sup> – Whole Island Transition Day (Y6 to their Secondary Schools)

8<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day

10<sup>th</sup> – Visit to St Mary's Church for Y6 Leaver Service AM

10<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Leavers Afternoon

13<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – Move up for all classes

21<sup>st</sup> – Last day at school

22<sup>nd</sup> – Summer Holidays

## Sept

2<sup>nd</sup> – Back to School

## Foodbank Vouchers

Mrs Willshire is able to issue Foodbank Vouchers to anyone who may be struggling. Please email Mrs Willshire to request one if required.

[Jo.willshire@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:Jo.willshire@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

## Attendance

**Whole School Target: 95%**

**Current weekly % = 87.3%**

Class	% Last Week
Antigua	95.9%
St Lucia	96.4%
Cuba	94.4%
Hawaii	88.6%
New Zealand	89.6%
Galapagos	95.0%
Jamaica	88.7%



### Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing.

As set down by the Department for Education, penalty notices can be issued for unauthorised absence. With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

#### Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

#### For example:

3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### 5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. INSET training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

#### 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

#### 1 First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

**£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.**

**Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.**

#### 2 Second Offence

##### Within 3 years

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

#### 3 Third Offence

##### And Any Further Offence (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

# Our Brading Attendance Values

## TRUST

Being honest straight away about the reasons why children are not in school.  
Telling us straight away how you are feeling.  
We will be honest and tell you what is going to happen.

## RESPECT

Be fair and we will listen as to why your child is not in school and provide help.

## UNITY

We need everyone to be friendly and, as a school, we will do our best to help.

## SINCERITY

We will be genuine in our correspondence with you and look together at all the impacts of how not attending affects everyone in all aspects.

## TOLERANCE

We should accept that we all need to work together to improve attendance at school even if it is challenging.



We are a **TEAM** that **TRUST** each other

## Green attendance

### Above 95%

96 – 100% attendance equates to  
4 – 7 days absent each year

#### Children

Children arriving at school on time.  
Coming into school every day.



#### Parents / carers

Arriving at school on time.  
Provide accurate and up to date details.  
Providing school with more than one emergency contact number.  
Updating school if their details change.  
Ensuring children attend daily.  
Complete all absence forms.  
Contact by email / phone a reason for absence before 8.15am daily.  
Keep school updated in regards to medical appointments and provide evidence where possible.  
Book medical appointments around school hours.  
In regards to absence of more than 3 days or 10 days in a term, parents are expected to provide a signed letter explaining absence.  
If asking for leave of absence, 2 weeks notice is required.



#### School

Keep you up to date on any changes in regards to attendance.  
Provide leave of absence forms and reply with reasons for the decision.  
Once register closed, school will contact parents daily if we have not heard from you.  
Reminders in the newsletter.

## Yellow attendance

### 90%-95%

Attendance equates to 8 – 20 days absent  
each year and 50 – 100 lost lessons

#### Children

Children will have to catch up on the lessons they missed  
15 minutes – 10 school days lost per year  
5 minutes per day loses 3 school days per year

#### Parents / carers

Arriving at school on time.  
Provide accurate and up to date details.  
Providing school with more than one emergency contact number.  
Updating school if their details change.  
Ensuring children attend daily.  
Complete all absence forms.  
Contact by email / phone a reason for absence before 8.15am daily.  
Keep school updated in regards to medical appointments and provide evidence where possible.  
Book medical appointments around school hours.  
In regards to absence of more than 3 days or 10 days in a term, parents are expected to provide a signed letter explaining absence.  
If asking for leave of absence, 2 weeks notice is required.

#### School

Hold termly meetings with any parent where there are concerns about attendance.  
Meetings will be with the EWS service.  
We will check and look for patterns and codes and speak to parents to find ways to improve their child's attendance.  
If a child has missed 10 days a term, we will inform the Local Authority.

## Red attendance

### Below 90%

Attendance equates to more than 20 days absent  
each school year and over 100 lessons lost

#### Children

There will be serious gaps in my learning.

#### Parents / carers

15 minutes a day loses 19 school days per year.  
Arriving consistently late to school without prior arrangement.  
Not letting us know at school why they are absent.  
Not informing us.

#### School

If required, and if attendance does not improve, appropriate legal action will be considered after a referral to Education and Inclusion Department.



Every  
Minute  
Counts



## Our Attendance Values



### Wraparound care prices:

FREE Breakfast Club (from 7.45am)

Wraparound until 4pm - £6

Wraparound until 5pm - £8

Wraparound until 6pm - £12 (this needs to be agreed by Mrs Gilbert with prior notice)

Wrap Around number – 07864599219

All to be booked via Schoolmoney and email sent to admin with 24 notice

### Class emails:

[antigua.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:antigua.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[cuba.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:cuba.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[stlucia.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:stlucia.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[newzealand.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:newzealand.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[galapagos.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:galapagos.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[jamaica.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:jamaica.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

[hawaii.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:hawaii.class@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk)

### PE Days:

Cuba - Friday

St Lucia - Wednesday

New Zealand - Wednesday

Galapagos – Thursday/Friday

Jamaica – Tuesday/Thursday

Hawaii – Tuesday

Children are to come in their PE kits on these days.

### Coats, Hats and Scarves

Now that the temperature has started to rise can you please ensure children still bring a warm, waterproof coat into school every day, it's not quite warm enough to be wearing only a jumper. Please make sure all items are named to prevent them from getting lost!

Thank you

### Fun Clubs:

Please contact the office to book.

### Makaton

As part of our ongoing learning here at Brading Primary School we focus on a Makaton symbol every week.

Here is our next Makaton sign.



Hello

# SCHOOL LUNCH

## WHAT'S COOKING?

### SCHOOL MENU WEEK COMMENCING 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026

We also offer Vegetarian options, tomato pasta as well as jacket potatoes, baguettes and sandwiches with a selection of fillings each day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese & Tomato Pizza Veggie Meat Feast Pizza	All Day Breakfast Cheesy Bean Burrito	Roast Chicken Veggie Cottage Pie	Lasagne Veggie Lasagne	Fish Fingers Quorn Nuggets
Custard Shortbread	Strawberry Jelly	Banana Cake	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Chocolate Flapjack

**FIESTA FUN**

**DESSERT**

Change to menu on Tuesday  
21<sup>st</sup> May

**Vanilla Crispie Square**

Please note, the main menu will not change.

\*Menus may be subject to change

Chartwells

**WORLD BEE DAY**

**BUZZ-WORTHY DESSERT OF THE DAY**

**SWEET HONEY FLAPJACK**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

\*Menus may be subject to change

Chartwells

There will be some pudding choice changes to our menu coming up next week.

# THIS WEEK AT BRADING

## ANTIGUA

This week in Antigua we have been having lots of fun with our dinosaur topic. We have made dinosaur fossils in salt dough, and started to make dinosaur eggs with balloons and papier mâché.

Our story this week has been Harry and the bucketful of dinosaurs, which we have really enjoyed. We used a kitchen roll tube and string to have a dinosaur race, which was lots of fun. We enjoyed drawing our own dinosaurs, we made all different coloured ones. We also had fun with our dinosaur tuff trays.



## CUBA

This week in Cuba class we have been exploring our new topic which is Dinosaurs! We have read Harry and the Bucketful of Dinosaurs, indulged in plenty of dinosaur's crafts and investigated dinosaur themed tuff trays, including one with jelly! It was also time to check up on our little caterpillar friends who have begun to hang from the lids and make their cocoons!



## ST LUCIA

This week we have started our dinosaur's topic. We voted for our favourite dinosaurs and found out all about the connection with volcanoes and dinosaurs. We decided to carry out a science experiment and create our own exploding volcano. The children then drew and wrote an explanation about what happened during our experiment.



# THIS WEEK AT BRADING

## NEW ZEALAND

This week in maths, the children have moved on to fractions and have been looking at parts and the whole. In English, the children have been enjoying the text 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' with a musical twist. The children talked to the hand and wrote questions for the pesky seagulls. They then wore their seagull hats and hot seated to answer questions. We learned all about omnivores, carnivores and herbivores in science. We looked at physical and human geography and created a map and key for the United Kingdom.



## GALAPAGOS

This week Galapagos class have been very busy! We have finished our DT project exploring foods from the four countries of the UK. This week we have made scones, shortbread, soda bread and Welsh cakes! The children absolutely loved cooking together and worked so well as a team. We also finished our computing unit by creating our own games in scratch, they children were so creative and made some really amazing games.

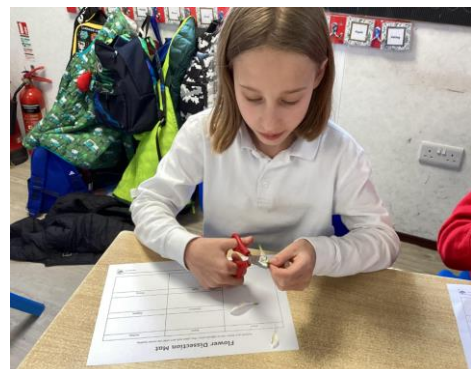
What a lovely week we have had!

## JAMAICA

This week in Jamaica class, we have been working hard to complete our SATs. We carried out SPaG, spelling, Reading and maths papers across 4 days. Mr Baker is extremely proud of each and every one of the year 6 pupils for their dedication and focus this week; you are a credit to the school. In year 5, we have been working on a poetry journey in English. We created a poem which included figurative language.

## HAWAII

This week, Hawaii class learnt about the parts of a flower. We talked about the purpose of each part of a flower and how some flowers can grow fruit. We then used a word mat to find the different parts of flowers by dissecting one. The children opened parts of the flower and could see the seeds inside.



# Class HOOKS for this Term

## ANTIGUA

Spring time, growing time - Spring in our community walk.

We will be exploring signs of spring in our school community and will be making signs of spring nature pictures to show where we found spring. Minibeasts - making bug hotels - the children will have to collect lots of natural materials to make their own bug hotels and then keep observing to see what's living in them. Dinosaurs - what's in the egg? A large egg has appeared in our classroom but the children will have to work out how to crack it open to find out what's inside.

## CUBA

Springtime/ growing- we will be looking for signs of spring on a walk and planting seeds in our class pots. Mini beasts/ lifecycles - We will be exploring a mystery egg in a tuff tray and hatching caterpillars, watching them turn into butterflies. Discovering dinosaurs- we will be exploring sensory trays with dinosaurs and hatching our very own dinosaur.

## ST LUCIA

Spring time, growing time - Spring in our community walk.

We will be exploring signs of spring in our school community and will be making signs of spring nature pictures to show where we found spring. Minibeasts - making bug hotels - the children will have to collect lots of natural materials to make their own bug hotels and then keep observing to see what's living in them. Dinosaurs - what's in the egg? A large egg has appeared in our classroom but the children will have to work out how to crack it open to find out what's inside.

## NEW ZEALAND

In Summer 1, New Zealand class is exploring 'Coast to Coast.' We will be learning about the countries and seas in the United Kingdom. For our hook, we are visiting the RNLI at Bembridge.

## GALAPAGOS

Our hook for our topic the UK is to explore and identify London landmarks and then create our own London skyline artwork with silhouettes of the London landmarks.

## JAMAICA

Jamaica class will be doing the trading game- the children will each make up part of a country and will have to use the skills and knowledge on trading built up over the half term to work out how to strategically trade with other countries.

We will be switching our hook to the end of the topic this half term due to SATs

## HAWAII

Hawaii Class researched famous landmarks in London and what they are used for and then created a bird's eye view of London using lego, k'nex and drawing. Some of the landmarks we made were the London Eye, Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the O2.

# This week in photos



# This week in photos





In today's digitally connected world, children and adults are constantly presented with new ways to engage, react and contribute. We're sociable beings; it's a natural human instinct, especially amongst younger audiences, to want to belong and join in. Viral Challenges (as they're often known) draw on these emotions and, as the name suggests, spread and gather pace very rapidly. New challenges are constantly emerging and evolving. They're often completely innocent, raising awareness of worthy causes or simply providing amusement. However, they can have much more sinister undertones, putting children at risk of physical harm or, in extreme cases, fatal injury.



# What parents need to know about ONLINE CHALLENGES

## MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

As well as having the potential to cause actual physical harm, some challenges can be extremely upsetting for children. Many are created with the sole purpose of instilling fear in an individual in order to coerce them into doing things that could have a long-term emotional effect on them.

## VARYING LEVELS OF RISK

As a parent or carer, it's important to take a balanced view and understand that not everything online has the potential to do harm. Mass-following and interaction can be a force for good. For example, the Ice Bucket Challenge, which swept the nation, set out to raise money and awareness of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). At its height, over 28 million people uploaded, commented on, or liked Ice Bucket Challenge related posts on Facebook. It's equally important to be aware though that online challenges often have a darker side. Malicious trends and challenges can expose children to dangerous or even life-threatening situations, so it's critical that parents and carers are aware of the latest risks and understand what steps to take to mitigate them.

## 'FOMO' - FEAR OF MISSING OUT

The 'Fear of Missing Out' (FOMO) is a strong emotional characteristic, particularly displayed in young people. The nature of viral challenges encourages children to explore and push boundaries. They tap into FOMO by feeding on a child's natural desire to join in, be accepted and share experiences with their friends and the wider online community. A recent study also found that FOMO is one of the greatest causes of Social Media addiction.



## STRIVING FOR LIKES

In a major study by the Children's Commissioner, it was found that children as young as ten years old are reliant on 'Likes' for their sense of self-worth. A major concern around viral challenges is not knowing how far children will go to earn 'Likes'. Couple this growing appetite for acceptance with commonplace peer pressure and the potential problem is compounded. The result is that when young people are drawn into online challenges, because it is what all their friends are doing, saying 'no' can seem like a very hard thing to do.

"The coolest person at school will start a trend and then everyone copies her"  
Merran, 12, Year 7

"If I got 150 likes, I'd be like that's pretty cool it means they like you"  
Aaron, 11, Year 7



**National Online Safety**



# Top Tips for Parents



## COMMUNICATION & MONITORING

It's important to talk to your child regularly and monitor their online activities. Encouraging honesty and openness, will give you a much clearer viewpoint of how your child is interacting online and what concerns they have. Create an atmosphere of trust. Ensure they feel they can confide in you or another trusted adult regarding anything they may have seen or experienced online that's upset them.

## THINK BEFORE ACTING

As with most concerns in life, let common sense prevail when it comes to Viral Challenges. Young people need the freedom and space to explore and going in all guns blazing may well be counter-effective. Address the importance of safety and wellbeing, both online and offline, by getting the facts and understanding the risks. Start a discussion about the Online Challenges that may have captured your child's interest, gauge their likely involvement and explain the importance of thinking and acting independently when it comes to participating.

## SETTING UP EFFECTIVE PARENTAL CONTROLS

As with all online activity, ensuring you have effective parental controls set up on all devices will help filter and restrict the dangerous or inappropriate content you don't wish your child to access. Additional measures for protecting your child include checking the privacy settings on your child's devices, monitoring their friends list, ensuring their personal information is safe and secure and keeping a watchful eye on the content they're sharing.

## REPORTING & BLOCKING

Parental controls can only go so far in blocking potentially harmful content. A rise in the decoding of social media algorithms, has led to age inappropriate content increasingly appearing on platforms and apps used by children. Where possible, you should regularly monitor what your child sees online and flag/report any content which is inappropriate or dangerous. You should take the time to talk to your child, define what you consider to be appropriate content and show them how to report and block users/accounts themselves.

## VALIDATE SOURCES

Not everything is as it seems. Some people create fake content that's designed to 'shock' in order to encourage rapid sharing. If your child has seen something online that has triggered concern you should encourage them to check its origin, verify that it came from a credible source and check the comments made for any clues to its validity.

## FACING REALITY

Trends and Viral Challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they may seem. As a parent or carer it can be difficult to keep pace with the very latest Online Challenges emerging. In recent months these have included potentially dangerous crazes, including the 'Bird Box' challenge, which was inspired by Netflix's popular film and encourages followers to upload videos of themselves attempting everyday tasks while blindfolded. The best advice is to keep talking to your child. Show that your taking an interest and not just prying. Ensure your child knows they don't have to get involved and if they're unsure, let them know you're there to talk before they consider participating. Children often need reassurance that not everything they see online is real. If your child has viewed distressing or frightening content it's important to talk to them about their experience, support them and, if required, help them find additional support.

### SOURCES

<https://www.nationalonlinesafety.com/news/2018/04/16/what-is-a-viral-challenge-what-are-the-risks-and-how-to-protect-your-child>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6307171/Why-11-year-olds-are-chasing-challenges-online-says-parents-not-should.html#ixzz5048>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-2017-12-07>  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/health/wellbeing/the-fear-of-missing-out-how-one-of-greatest-causes-of-social-media-addiction-study-finds-20171206.html>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-2018-04-16>

# School Readiness Workshop



Starting primary school is an exciting time for your child and your family. The 'School Readiness Workshop' can help your whole family prepare and be ready for school life.



## Dates:

Ryde Family Hub – Thursday 23rd April 9.30am to 11.30am

Newport Family Hub – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 12.30pm to 2.30pm



To book a free place on the workshop, please scan the qr code or book via the Eventbrite link.

<https://iowfamilycentres.eventbrite.co.uk>

# Drop-in Sessions

For parents of Early years children with emerging



## SEND

Please scan the QR code for more information and to book

Come and join us for a friendly and informal drop in session, designed to provide support, advice, and a chance to connect with other parents and carers.

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2026- Newport Family Centre**

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2026- Sandown Family Centre**

**22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026- Ryde Family Centre**

**21<sup>st</sup> July 2026- Newport Family Centre**

***9.30am - 10.30am or  
10.30am - 11.30am***



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Council

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NHS Foundation Trust



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