

*Our School Vision: Experiencing life in all its fullness,  
we grow to be the best that we can be – Based on John 10:10*

Friday 5th June  
2026



Dear Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful half term and were able to enjoy the glorious sunny weather we had. This final term of the school year is always a busy and exciting one and we have certainly started as we mean to go on!

Year 5 and 6 have had a fantastic time away at Treginnis where they have been learning how to work the farm for the week. I know parents have been sent regular updates and I will let the children tell their own stories when they return, but do have a look at the photo page to get a flavour of what they have been up to. I was sent hundreds of photos so these are just a snap shot - more will be shared in due course. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Plesniak, Mrs H, Miss Cooley and Rhonda for venturing to Wales for the week with the children.

Back at school, the other classes have been starting new units of learning across the curriculum - this term the children are exploring History and DT topics, as well as the usual subjects. Do look out for class newsletters next week to find out what your children will be learning this term. Our Year 5s and 6s not on school journey, along with our Village children, enjoyed a trip to Mudchute Farm and our Year 4s went to Trafalgar Square for a special tennis event.

The rest of this newsletter contains two pieces of information that I hope parents will find useful: a reminder on water and window safety and some information about Minecraft, a game I know is popular with many of our children.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday.

Mrs Legg  
Assistant Head





City of Westminster

# KEEPING CHILDREN **SAFE** AROUND WINDOWS

In the UK, one child under five is admitted to hospital every day after falling from a building. Pre-school children are particularly at risk as they are curious, have no understanding of danger, and can take parents by surprise in their development.



## Help keep your children safe:



- Check you have window catches or restrictors to make sure windows only open a safe amount
- Only open your windows 10 centimetres when children are in the room
- Keep windows locked when children are unsupervised (ensuring they can still be opened in an emergency)
- Don't teach children to open windows or use window restrictors
- Make sure children are always supervised on a balcony
- Keep furniture away from windows



If you don't have window restrictors, or they are broken or damaged, please contact your landlord.

If you are a Westminster council tenant, contact the housing repairs team on:  
**0800 358 3783**

For more information, see the Child Accident Prevention Trust website:

**[www.capt.org.uk/falls-from-open-windows](http://www.capt.org.uk/falls-from-open-windows)**

# Keeping Children and Young People Safe Around Water

In the UK hundreds of people die from drowning every year, many of them children and young people. Many more are left injured. This risk is much higher in the summer when the weather is warmer.

Cold water shock – where the water is below 15 degrees centigrade—means even experienced swimmers can get in trouble. The average water temperature in the UK is 12 degrees. The Thames is colder, even in summer when the outside temperature is especially hot.

## Drowning happens silently.

People do not splash about and cry for help like in the movies.



## Help keep your children safe:

- DO supervise young children near water.
- DO supervise ALL children in or near swimming pools
- DO always supervise children (even older children) in the bath including in bath seats. Drowning can happen in as little as 5cm (2 inches) of water.
- DO explain to older children that water in the sea, rivers or canals is not like that in a swimming pool.
- DO assess risk if on holiday. In the UK it is safest on lifeguarded beaches between red and yellow safety flags. When abroad ask what local safety signs and flags mean.



- DO check tide times (including for tidal rivers like the Thames) to ensure you are not cut off.
- DO teach children not to jump into water – canals and rivers may be shallower than they appear and there may be objects below the surface they cannot see.
- DO teach children to float and stay calm if they find themselves in deep water. The RNLI's Float to Live Campaign can be found at <https://rnli.org/safety/float>
- DO ensure children have life jackets if taking a boat out on water.
- DO call 999 in an emergency.



## For more information....

Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) <https://capt.org.uk>

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) <https://www.rospa.com/>

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) <https://rlss.org.uk>

Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) - Saving Lives at Sea <https://rnli.org/>

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

As the best-selling game in history, Minecraft has made a name for itself by empowering audiences of all ages to harness their creativity. Originally an indie hit, it's become a cultural phenomenon with merchandise, spin-off titles, and wider media adaptations. Even if you don't know your Creepers from your Endermen, this guide will explore the risks of Minecraft in 2026 and explain how to support a safe gaming experience for the children in your care.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PUBLIC SERVER COMMUNICATION

Many players enjoy Minecraft with others, including friends and unknown players online. In-game text chat is commonly used to coordinate building projects and gameplay, and this can extend to adding friends to voice chat. While often harmless, this creates risks around contact with strangers, and in some cases server hosts may expose IP addresses (if hosting independently), which raises privacy and security concerns.

### GRIEFING BEHAVIOUR

Some players deliberately damage or destroy other players' creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying that can undo hours of effort and cause frustration or distress to affected players. Although many servers treat griefing as a serious offence, enforcement varies. Children who prefer to build independently may feel safer working on private worlds or controlled servers.

### ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY LOOPS

Minecraft's creative focus can make it easy for players to lose track of time. The cycle of gathering resources and building projects can be highly engaging, which may challenge agreed screen-time limits. If not managed effectively, this can impact children's sleep, schoolwork, and real-world social interaction.

### SCARY GAME ELEMENTS

Although often compared to digital construction toys, some gameplay modes include hostile creatures with unsettling sounds and sudden encounters. While there is no graphic violence, younger players may still find zombies, spiders, or dark environments frightening. These experiences can lead to anxiety or reluctance to play, depending on the child's age and sensitivity.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

Minecraft requires a one-off purchase after a free trial, usually around £15, but additional spending is possible. Players can buy cosmetic content or subscribe to Minecraft 'Realms' for private servers. Without supervision, children may make unintended purchases. Subscription services and add-ons can also increase overall costs over time if not monitored.

### ONLINE INTERACTIONS

Playing with others can introduce broader online safety concerns, including exposure to inappropriate language or behaviour. Some players may attempt to move conversations beyond the game, which can increase risks to children's safety and welfare. Children may not always recognise these situations, meaning guidance and ongoing conversations about safe interactions are essential.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### CHOOSE SUITABLE GAME MODES

Creative or Peaceful modes remove hostile creatures and reduce the pressure during gameplay. These options allow children to focus on building and exploration without fear of attack. They are also ideal for shared play between adults and children, creating a calmer environment to learn the game and enjoy collaborative projects.

### USE PRIVATE SERVERS

Setting up a private server helps control who can join a child's game. Access can be limited to trusted friends through passwords or invitations. This reduces the likelihood of unwanted interactions and gives adults greater oversight. While some options involve a subscription fee, they offer a safer and more controlled multiplayer experience.

### DISCUSS ONLINE STRANGERS

Children should understand that not everyone they meet online is who they claim to be. Clear guidance about not sharing personal information is essential. Encourage children to report any worrying or uncomfortable interactions and reassure them that they can seek help without fear of punishment. Open, ongoing conversations help build their confidence and awareness of these issues.

### SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Agree on clear rules around purchases before letting children play, and use device settings or platform controls to restrict spending within agreed limits. Explaining that in-game currency uses real-world money can help children make informed decisions. Regularly reviewing purchases together can also prevent unexpected costs and encourage responsible behaviour.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes spent 7 years in games media, before moving into the games industry via PR and marketing. A parent himself to a Minecraft-loving son, he understands why it's so important to stay safe online.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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Butterflies 89%	Year One 98%	Year Two 93%	Year Three 92%	Year Four 96%	Year Five 94%
Year Six 100%	Willow 100%	Sycamore 90%			

**Well done to Willow and Year 6 for their excellent attendance this week.**

**Please use the email [absent@allsoulsprimary.co.uk](mailto:absent@allsoulsprimary.co.uk) to let us know if your child is unwell or is unable to attend school**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday 8th June - Multiplication Check for Y4 continues**

**Monday 8th June - Phonics Screening for Y1 begins**

**Thursday 11th June - Y5 Music Workshop**

**Wednesday 17th June - Y3/4 residential at Sayers Croft**

**Wednesday 24th June - Y5 trip to Opera Holland Park**

**Thursday 25th June - KS1 Sports Day**

**Thursday 25th June - Choir Concert in RHH - all welcome**

**Friday 26th June - KS2 Sports Day**

**Tuesday 30th June - Year 2 at Infant Voices Festival**

Please join us in Riding House Hall at 9:10 am on Monday morning.

This Week's Commendations go to...

Reception: Ayan & Usmaan  
Year One: Edwin & Sharina  
Year Two: The whole of Year 2  
Year Three: Umaima & Oisin  
Year Four: The whole of Year 4  
Willow: Ishaq  
Sycamore: Mahdi



Farmers of the Week:  
Ahmad, Zahra, Eleazar, Iraaz,  
Rhea & Josephine



