



### Character Education Value: Respectful (January) and Responsible (February)

Promote these Character Education values at home by discussing with your child what their understanding of the word 'respect' is (January). Further discuss with your child who and what they are responsible for; is everybody responsible for the same things; what does it mean to 'be responsible' (February).

## School Information/ What's On:

Friday 26th January: *Junior Parent Assembly 2:30-3:30*

Wednesday 7th February: *Senior Dance Live!*

*PTA Meeting (Spring event) 4:30pm*

Friday 9th February: *Junior Dance Live!*

Monday 12th - Friday 16th February: *Half Term Week*

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February: *Book Week*

Wednesday 28th February: *UV Parents' Evening (in school) 5-8pm*

### VAPING - WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW Webinar

Monday 5th February 7:15-9pm

Information to follow via email

## Does your child have a games console?

If yes, have you set up age appropriate parental controls? The controls vary across the different consoles, but all will allow you to set restrictions for example, spending and communication.

### PlayStation

Set up your account as a family manager and create a separate child account so you can tailor their activities. Find out more here: <https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/parental-controls/>

### Xbox

You can download an app to manage your child's gaming experience. Find out more here:

<https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/apps/family-settings-app>



### Nintendo Switch

Nintendo also offer a free app to monitor what and how your children are playing. Find out more here:

<https://www.nintendo.co.uk/Nintendo-Switch-Family/Nintendo-SwitchParental-Controls/Nintendo-SwitchParental-Controls-1183145.html>



## Attendance

Regular attendance at school is a key factor in opening up more opportunities in adult life.

Going to school regularly and being part of the school community gives children and young people a sense of belonging and means that they benefit not only from lessons and learning, but can also see friends and teachers, ask for help, join clubs, go on school trips, have a clear routine and can get mental health support.

### *Did you know that:*

- A child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life
- Each day of school missed by a child will reduce their attendance by 0.5%, and in the senior school will mean they miss six lessons.
- If a pupil misses ten whole days of school, they will have potentially missed 60 lessons.
- If a pupil is persistently absent (90% attendance) they have missed 4 weeks of schooling.
- Being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year.
- Catching up on missed lessons impacts on the pupil, the teacher and other pupils in that class.

Source: [portsmouth.gov.uk](https://portsmouth.gov.uk)

## Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school office on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

More information about when to keep your child off school for specific illnesses and infections can be found below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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## Online Safety:

### Instagram

Instagram is predominately an image and video sharing app. Users can create a public or private profile where they choose to share their own content with their followers. Some children might create an account to just follow and interact with other people's accounts. For example, a celebrity they like.

Instagram is rated 13+. It is available to download for free on desktop and mobile devices.



#### **To set Supervision up:**

Step 1 – go to your profile > Settings > Supervision

Step 2 – invite your child by following the instructions. Make sure you have a conversation with them about what you can do and why it's important.

What you can do with Supervision:

You can see how much time they spend on Instagram and set limits.

You can see the accounts they follow and who follows them.

You can receive notifications about their activity, including new followers and reports they make.

**For more information please visit:**

[Instagram website: Parental Supervision](#)

[Internet Matters: Instagram support](#)

[NSPCC Instagram Guidance](#)

### YouTube (including YouTube Kids)



YouTube is considered a search engine, video-sharing platform and social media platform all-in-one. It has a lot of features that support each type of content. However, it also includes settings to promote safety and wellbeing to keep children safe online.

**YouTube Kids:** a separate app made for children under 13. It allows a safer and simpler experience for them to explore. The app also has a parent-supervised experience to help guide your kids on their journey. Check out the YouTube Kids app parental control guide for more information.

**Privacy settings** – Under-18s can set privacy settings to make parts of their profile private and as well as making posted content private or public.

**Digital wellbeing** – YouTube contains a variety of wellbeing tools. Users can turn off autoplay to limit endless scrolling. The platform also has the option to 'Remind me to take a break' and 'Remind me when it's bedtime' to encourage users to take breaks. You can turn these features on in settings.

**Mature content or 'Not made for kids':** content creators can include an age-restrict option on their content not made for viewers under 18. Personalised ads are removed on content made for kids on their 'watch' page. However, ads are still shown based on the context of the video. Monetised features are also removed.

**Trusted Flagger program:** removes harmful content from the platform.

**For more information please visit:**

[YouTube website: Family Choices](#)

[Internet Matters: YouTube Kids Controls and Settings Guide](#)

[Internet Matters: YouTube Parent Controls and Settings Guide](#)