

4TH OCTOBER 2024

Thank you to everyone who came to our Coffee Morning on Wednesday, it was lovely to see some new faces and I know Mrs Costema and Mrs Clarke welcomed all of your input and ideas for shaping our future events in the coming terms.

This month's 'UNMISSABLE' focus is 'SUPPORT'. Only by being present can children access the range of support on offer: whether that be support with learning, emotional health and wellbeing or something more. Come and talk to us if you think you or your child would benefit from further support from someone in school.

We will again be joining the stand out and show up for young people's mental health on World Mental Health Day on Thursday 10th October by inviting the children to come to school wearing a splash of yellow along with their normal school uniform—**no jeans please**. We ask that children make a donation £1 to support the Young Minds charity which goes towards helping the charity in their work to support young people and their families.

Our Governing Board met this week and Mrs Sukhy Mahal was nominated to stand as Chair of Governors again for the academic year. We are pleased to have her support for the year ahead. Our thanks also to Mrs Hina Bukhari who joins us as a newly appointed parent governor.

Please remember that I am still *unable* to authorise any term-time leave of absence requests this year and, in the majority of cases, these will incur fines. These requests should be made in advance and not retrospectively please.

Kind regards,
Mrs J Hill



Pupil Flu Vaccinations—REMINDER

Dear Parent/Guardian,

If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine in school this year, please follow this link to complete an online consent form. If you would like to decline, please complete a **no consent** form on the same link.

<https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/a9350041>

Service provided by:



Derbyshire School Aged
Immunisation Service



The vaccinations will take place at school on **Tuesday 22nd October 2024**. The link will close on the **8th October 2024**. If your child has already had the Flu vaccine elsewhere since Sept 2024, please disregard this message.
If you have any problems accessing the link, please telephone 0333 3583 397 option 5.

Parent App

PLEASE make sure you have your app notifications turned on in your settings. Many parents missed messages sent out this week. In the unlikely event of a school closure, this is our main means of communication.



School Dinners

Next week, we will be on our new Week 3 menu. Please remember that school dinners cost £2.60 and **MUST** be paid for, **ONLINE, IN ADVANCE**. [Week 3 Menu](#)



2024/25 DATES

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Thursday 10th October | All Day | World Mental Health Day—wear a splash of yellow |
| Tuesday 22nd October | 9:15am | Pupil Flu Vaccinations |
| Friday 25th October | 3:30pm | Break up for October Half Term |
| Thursday 31st October | Midnight | Deadline for Secondary School Applications for 2025 |
| Monday 4th November | All Day | INSET 2 |
| Tuesday 5th November | 8:55am | Autumn 2 Term starts |
| Friday 20th December | 3:30pm | Break up for Christmas Holiday |
| Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th January 2025 | All Day | INSETS 3 & 4 |
| Wednesday 8th January | 8:55am | Spring 1 Term starts |
| Tuesday 28th January | All Day | Year 6 Harry Potter Studios Trip |
| Friday 14th February | 3:30pm | Break up for February Half Term |
| Monday 24th February | 8:55am | Spring 2 Term starts |
| Friday 4th April | 3:30pm | Break up for Easter Holiday |
| Monday 21st April | All Day | Easter Monday |
| Tuesday 22nd April | 8:55am | Summer 1 Term starts |
| Monday 5th May | All Day | May Bank Holiday |
| Friday 23rd May | 3:30pm | Break up for May Half Term |
| Monday 2nd June | All Day | INSET 5 |
| Tuesday 3rd June | 8:55am | Summer 2 Term starts |
| Thursday 24th July | 3:30pm | Break up for Summer Holiday |

National Online Safety App for Parents

Digital wellbeing is about how the internet and technology can make us feel. This includes recognising the impact being online can have on:

- Our emotions
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Physical health and wellbeing



Technology and the internet should be there to enhance and simplify our lives rather than be a cause of distraction, worry or upset. However, not all online experiences are positive for young people, and this can have a negative impact on how they feel about themselves, their friendships and relationships and even how they see the wider world.

Our PSHE curriculum covers online safety we always include additional lessons around national Safer Internet Days to continue to raise the profile of this with the children in school. Additionally, we ensure staff receive regular internet safety training to keep up with the ever changing online trends that can cause potential risks to our children, however safe they may seem.

To support parents, we subscribe to National Online Safety: download the app to access a huge variety of resources. Please search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/ Google Play Store and select Gayton Junior School when you register.



UNMISS able support

When you're a bit nervous, need extra help, or just not feeling yourself, school is here to make you feel safe, cared for and supported as soon as you walk through the gates.

Because school means *more*

Brought to you by the 
 **DERBY CITY
INCLUSION
PARTNERSHIP**

AGE RESTRICTION
18+



What parents need to know about

GRAND THEFT AUTO (GTA)



grand theft auto

Grand Theft Auto is an action-adventure video game series where players control criminals and wreak havoc in order to complete missions and progress through the game. During the early stages of the game, it solely focuses on completing missions to go up a level. However, as the game grew more popular the makers of GTA decided to introduce a narrative to each edition of the game. The aim of this was to increase user engagement, making gamers believe that they were not just playing as the character, but they became the character. Grand Theft Auto is accessible on a number of devices including: PlayStation and Xbox, desktop computers, PSP, Nintendo DS, and Mobile.



Top Tips for Parents

THE RISK - PLAYING WITH STRANGERS

When buying GTA V you automatically have access to Grand Theft Auto Online, a version of the game that allows players to play online. They can play alone, invite players to a game, or be involved in public 'sessions' where people will be picked at random to play. When you first load into a game you are automatically placed into an open lobby, meaning you play with random people. The 'social club' is GTA's very own social platform where users can bet money, share in-game photographs (which users can like and comment on), and even message other users directly.

What parents can do

To prevent your child playing with strangers on the game, you can change the settings to ensure they only play with their approved friends list. Upon signing up to the 'social club', it automatically sets a player's visibility settings to 'everyone', meaning their name and profile information is made public. Parents can alter this by changing the visibility settings to 'only me'.

WARNING!

Due to the nature of the game and the age restrictions, GTA includes content that is inappropriate for anyone under the age of 18, including sex, nudity, violence, profane language, and substance abuse. These are the main components that make up the game - you have to do certain things and witness certain things in order to move on in the game. Exposing your child to this type of content could affect their morals and understanding of right and wrong. Additionally, your child could become desensitised to similar situations, reinforcing the fact they they would find it hard to differentiate between right/wrong and good/bad.

THE RISK - ONLINE HACKERS

Hackers can make money by helping users cheat in the game. They can do a number of inappropriate things, including killing people, stealing weapons, spawning money into the game, and even raping other characters. Spawning money tends to be a gamer's most popular choice, being able to buy \$100,000,000,000 (of in-game currency) for as little as five US dollars.

What parents can do

Actively monitor your child's online activity. These websites are very easy to find, meaning children and young people can easily navigate their way to these websites and pay for hackers. Not only is this an illegal activity, but you have the risk of giving your personal information to someone who may misuse it.

THE RISK - ADDICTION

Addiction is a risk with any game. Game developers use persuasive design techniques to force users to invest their time, and often money, in a game. Within GTA, your character is able to progress through the game for completing missions within a certain time frame, encouraging children to keep returning to the game. Gaming addiction is now a recognised health condition and the side effects are concerning, including sleep deprivation, decreased attention span and erratic emotional behaviour.

What parents can do

There are a number of things you can do if you are concerned about your child's screen time, including setting time limits within the home, especially during meal times and before bedtime. Talk to your child and ask why they are spending so much time on the game, and encourage healthy alternatives such as outdoor activities and spending quality time with friends and family.

THE RISK - LIVE CHAT

When playing GTA online, players have the option to use a microphone to broadcast their voice live to other players involved in the 'session'. These live voice chats are not moderated, meaning anything could be said, including inappropriate language, as well as verbal forms of bullying.

What parents can do

Talk openly with your child about not giving away personal information. Also remind them that conversations can be recorded, which could damage their online reputation. Depending on the device/platform, there will be ways to mute conversations. Make yourself aware of the device's/platform's individual settings and ensure that your child knows how to block and report.

THE RISK - MICROTRANSACTIONS

By completing missions and partaking in certain activities you earn in-game currency. This allows you to buy things such as prostitutes, vehicles, weapons, ammo, new outfits, cars, apartments and more. However, the items that are available to buy often have a high price that require a lot of game time, meaning the items are pretty unrealistic to buy.

What parents can do

If you do not want your child to make payments, ensure your card is not associated with their account. If you are happy for your child to make payments in the game, but want to limit spending, we suggest purchasing a pre-paid gift card for your child. These can be purchased in specific amounts which will allow you to limit how much your child spends and removes the need for a credit or debit card to be used with their account.

SOURCES:

- <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2103188/parentalguide>
- <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/gaming/news/grand-theft-auto-v-has-made-money-film-history/>
- <http://www.techaddiction.ca/addiction-to-video-games.html>



National Online Safety

A whole school community approach to online safety

www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Email us at hello@nationalonlinesafety.com or call us on 0800 368 8061

