

## Claybrooke Primary School Newsletter 12.01.24

### *Be safe, Be ready, Be respectful.*

Welcome to the latest weekly newsletter.

Happy New Year!

On behalf of all of the staff, thank you for all of your Christmas wishes, cards and presents. They were very much appreciated. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas holiday and were able to take the time to relax with family and friends.

This week the children have all started their first units of the new term in class. They are:

Oak Class, History: The Benin Kingdom.  
Maple Class, History: Ancient China, The Shang Dynasty.  
Willow Class, Science: Everyday materials.

The spring term diary dates can be found each week within the newsletter. Please keep up to date with these each week as they are regularly updated. A couple of important dates coming up for parents/guardians are a Year 6 SATs meeting on Thursday 1st February at 3pm and a Y4 Multiplication test meeting on Monday 4th March at 3:30pm.

**E-Safety:** Each week you can find a different focus to help support you with e-safety at home. This week I have also included an extra guide on 'online gaming' as many children may have received game consoles over Christmas. This handy guide gives some tips on how to set safe limits, play safely with friends, advice on game ratings and how to manage online trolls.

**Pupil premium.** If you are eligible you can apply yourself, or myself, or Sabrina in the office can apply on your behalf. Once the application is complete your child could benefit from extra support in school, funding for a club, or support towards the costs of trips and a selection of uniform items purchased each year. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like more information or click this link:

<https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/sites/resource/files/field/pdf/2021/6/25/The-Pupil-Premium-Information-for-parents-2021.pdf>

As the temperature is forecast to get colder next week, please ensure your child comes into school with appropriate warm clothing for break and lunchtime. Please click this [link](#) to view our cold weather and snow action plan.

Congratulations to the Green team. Winning team last term. They celebrated with a non-uniform day on Friday.

Thank you for your continued support.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.



Mr P. Rock  
Head of School



**CLAYBROOKE  
PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Together we flourish | Est 1814

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## School attendance

Last week before Christmas	This week
Willow Class: 85.07%	85.02%
Maple Class: 85.47%	85.63%
Oak Class: 85.85 %	85.66%

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

*National average: 94.4%      School overall: 85.39%*

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*Well done to those who received certificates this week:*

### Excellent Work



*Ella*

*Lillie - Mae*

*Hugo*

*Bodhi*

*Chester*



### Values

*Esme*

*Teddy*

*Aubrey*

*Parker*



As many children may have had new games consoles as presents from Santa over Christmas, please take a look at some guidance below to be safe whilst gaming at home.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary; emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.



## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful. If they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

## Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



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#WakeUpWednesday

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# Claybrooke School Calendar 2023- 24



## Spring Term 2024

Date	Event
Mon 08/01	School re-opens
Wed 24/01	Young Voices Concert (Only for those signed up)
Thurs 01/02	Y6 Parent SATs meeting. 3:30 - 4pm in Oak Classroom
Wed 07/02	Claybrooke Book Fair 2024 (Until 14th Feb)
w/c 19/02	Spring Half-Term Week
Mon 26/02	School re-opens
Wed 28-02	Class Photos
	Topic Showcase 2.30-3.00 *
Fri 01/03	Author visit
w/c 04/03	Reading Festival Week
Mon 04/03	Y4 parents multiplication presentation. 3:30-4pm in Maple Classroom
Wed 06/03	Warning Zone trip. <b>Y6 only</b>
Thu 07/03	World Book Day: Stay & Read 8.45-9.15 *
w/c 11/03	Parent Consultations taking place this week
	Mothers Day craft?
Fri 17/03	Red Nose Day
Wed 20/03	Maple Class production TBC
	PTA Easter Egg Hunt
Fri 22/-3	Break up for Easter
w/c 25/03	Easter Holidays
w/c 01/04	Easter Holidays
Mon 08/04	School re-opens

***Reminder - Primary school application deadline approaching***

*If you've a child starting primary school for the first time in Leicestershire next autumn you need to apply by 15th **January 2024.***

*Allocated school places will be announced on national offer day – April 16 2024.*

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having *ours* challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

## Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL  
EQUALITY  
COLLECTIVE

The  
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**“THIS MORNING,  
HE WAS WORRIED  
ABOUT SCHOOL...  
BUT LOOK AT HIM  
NOW!”**

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



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