



Nursery and Reception



This year, we have once again enjoyed taking part in the national 'Grow Your Own Potatoes' project. The project helps children learn where potatoes come from, how they grow and their health benefits. Back in February, we received two varieties of seed potatoes which the children helped to chit and then plant. Over the next few months the children helped care for the plants before harvesting them. The children harvested over 1.5kg of potatoes! Last Friday, the children helped to prepare the potatoes to make chips. They were delicious!



Science— Hedgehog Habitats



This week the children in Years 1 and 2 were visited by our community champion Emma Hills. Building on their prior learning about a hedgehog's basic needs, she bought with her a hedgehog home which has been placed next to a hedge in our school garden. The children helped to identify how this home would provide shelter and air for the hedgehog and learned that it's positioning would allow it to find sufficient food from the hedgerow and easy access to rainwater. The children will be watching carefully to see if we have any signs of a visiting hedgehog!

Emma also shared footage from wildlife cameras that have been installed in the local area. The children were amazed to spot a muntjac, badger and a fox living so close to them!



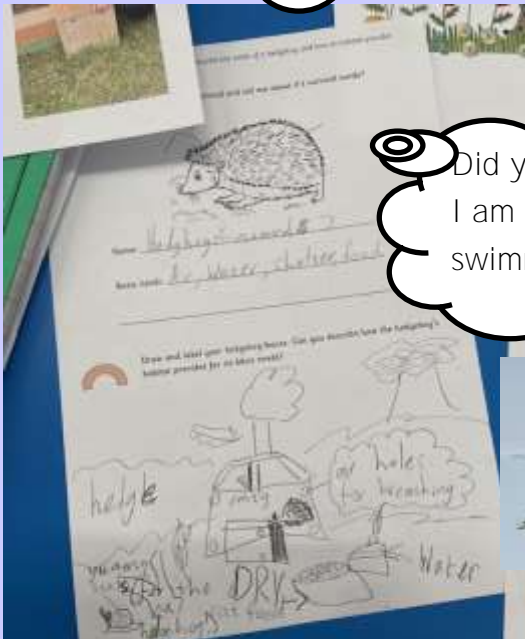
This will keep me safe from the cold weather



Leave me some dry cat food in your garden.



Did you know that I am a good swimmer?





SUMMER FAIR

Tuesday 8th July
3.00pm – 3.45pm

LIGHTHORNE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

FREE ENTRY

JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!

- bottle tombola •
- teddy tombola •
- glitter tatoos and face paint •
- cake stall •
- raffle •
- hook a duck •
- games •
- and much more!

Prizes

**Games
50p each**





A big thank you to all the families who joined us on Friday for our annual Sports Day, it was a fantastic morning filled with energy, excitement, and fun for everyone!

We're especially grateful to the incredible team at Onside Coaching for their hard work and dedication in making the event such a great success.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 29: Goals of education
Article 31: Leisure, play and culture

Lighthorne Heath Primary School Newsletter



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 29: Goals of education
Article 31: Leisure, play and culture



News

Staffing for September 2025

Pre-School	Mrs Rachel Hartley (Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays) Mrs Lisa Cox (Thursdays & Fridays)
Reception	Mrs Poonam Gill
Year 1 & 2	Mrs Katy Hill (Mondays & Tuesdays) Mrs Rhian Munday (Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays)
Year 3 & 4	Mrs Sharon Madahar
Year 5 & 6	Mrs Cassie Cox
Associate Headteacher	Mrs Jill Manley (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday) Mrs Rachel Hartley (Thursday)

Mr Sangha

Unfortunately, Mr Sangha will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. Mr Sangha is leaving to complete his final year as an ECT (Early Careers Teacher) at our federated school, Sydenham Primary. We wish him all the best!

Mrs Gill

We are delighted to be welcoming Mrs Gill to the role of Reception class teacher. Mrs Gill is a highly experienced teacher and has taught Reception most recently at a school in Cheltenham. She is moving to the area and is looking forward to meeting everyone.



Mrs Sharon Madahar

We are thrilled to welcome Mrs Madahar to the role of Year 3 & 4 class teacher. Mrs Madahar is an experienced teacher, currently working at Sydenham Primary School. We are certain she will be a brilliant addition to our teaching team.

Transition Day - Wednesday 2nd July

Children in current Years Reception to Year 5 will have the opportunity to spend the morning with their new class teacher on Wednesday 2nd July.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



Pre-school expansion



We are very excited that from September 2025 we will be offering morning and afternoon Pre-School sessions. Children are able to join pre-school the term after they turn 3 years old. We are pleased that this expansion means we will be able to accommodate families with 15 and 30 hour funding. We are currently working hard to finalise the details and admission form but would welcome expressions of interest to join the waiting list by emailing admin2064@welearn365.com



School day changes

In line with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), all mainstream state-funded schools are expected to ensure that their school week is a minimum of 32.5 hours. This expectation has been set to help ensure all pupils receive consistent access to high-quality education across the country.

To meet this requirement, we will be extending our school day so that it ends at 3:20pm each day, from September.

This small adjustment will ensure that we are fully compliant with national expectations and will support us in continuing to deliver a high standard of education to all our pupils.

We understand that changes to the school day may require some families to adjust their routines slightly, and we thank you in advance for your support and understanding as we implement this change.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



History

Years 3 and 4



Ancient Civilisations

This week, we were transported back in time to Ancient Egypt for an action-packed, immersive experience with a very special visitor... an Egyptian himself who snuck in when Mr Sangha wasn't in the classroom! The children spent the day exploring history through hands-on learning, lively storytelling, and plenty of excitement.

We began the morning with a Q&A session, where the children asked thoughtful questions to get to know our Egyptian guest. He shared fascinating artefacts, including copper ore, copper tools like chisel heads, and replicas of items used in ancient daily life.

After break, we discovered the ancient board game Senet, a favourite of the Egyptians, and each child created their own Senet board before putting it to the test in friendly competition with classmates. This activity was not only fun but also gave us a great insight into ancient leisure and strategy games.

The afternoon brought even more excitement as our mischievous guest roamed the lunch hall, hunting for leftover food, keeping everyone on their toes! Then we headed to the field for an unforgettable experience. The children fired a real recurve bow, saw replica weapons like spears, axes, swords, and daggers, and engaged in battle drills that led to an all-out (pretend!) Egyptian war complete with teamwork, strategy, and a lot of laughs.

It was a brilliant day full of energy, learning, and unforgettable memories. The children showed fantastic focus, imagination, and curiosity from start to finish, and they represented our class brilliantly.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



History

Years 3 and 4



Ancient Civilisations



English - Programmes

This week in Years 5 & 6, we have been creating programmes for our RSC performance.

We looked at examples from shows that the school has previously visited and made a list of essential elements:

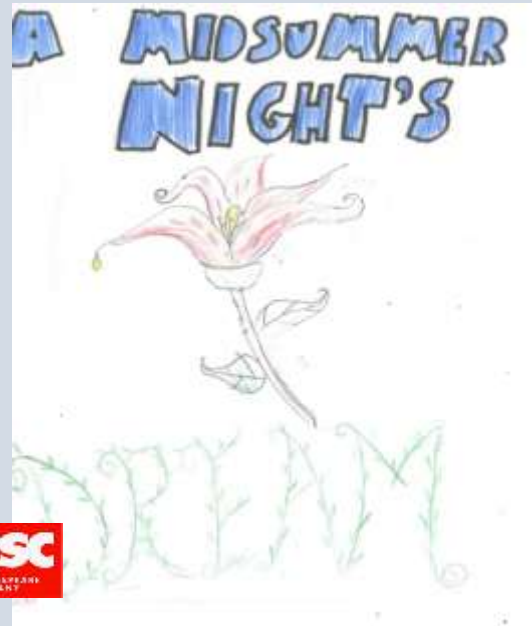
Show Title and Graphic: The cover should clearly display the name of the play and can include artwork related to the production.

Production Information: This includes the playwright, composer, lyricist (if applicable), and any other relevant credits like the director, choreographer, designers, and stage manager.

Dates and Times: Clearly state the performance dates and showtimes.

Venue Information: Include the name and location of the theatre.

Cast List: A list of the actors and the characters they play. It's common to include a photo of each actor with their character name and role.



We noticed that some of the programmes had adverts and sponsorship and so decided that this would be an interesting addition to our programmes. Some of the programmes for the professional shows had puzzles to keep people entertained during the interval

ARCHERY



Class 5/6 had great fun this Wednesday when Sprint Active came in to deliver an archery session to them.

We learned the correct way to hold a bow and how to aim for the target. We had great fun playing tournaments in our teams of 5.



Diary Dates



Summer Term	
June	
July	
Tuesday 2nd July	Transition day
Tuesday 8th July	Summer Fair 3-4pm
Friday 11th July	Year 5 & 6 silent disco– leavers celebration– Year 5 & 6 only. Year 5 & 6 children may 'dress to impress'.
Tuesday 15th—Thursday 17th July	Years 5&6 residential trip to PGL Liddington
Friday 18th July	Last day of term
Leavers Assembly	Leavers Assembly 10.00am
	Mufti day

With best wishes from Mrs Westwood, Mrs Manley and all the staff at Lighthorne Heath Primary School.

HELLO
SUMMER



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Article 5, Parental Guidance, Article 18, Parental responsibility

Lighthorne Heath Learning Heroes

EYES

Milan is our class learning hero this week. He has continued to impress us across all areas of the curriculum. Recently, Milan has been initiating play with other children, for example, he has been asking children to draw around him with chalk outside. Well done Milan!



Co-operate

Years 1 and 2

This week we have chosen Zoe as our hero. Following our Science lesson about hedgehogs, Zoe created a wonderful wooden sign at home which details a hedgehog's basic needs. We have placed this alongside the hedgehog home for extra information. Well done Zoe for taking extra time to share your learning with others!

Have a go



Concentrate

Years 3 and 4

This week's Year 3 & 4 learning hero is Freya, for her hard work, her kind and encouraging words to others, and her wonderful curiosity across every day of the week. She always asks thoughtful questions, gets stuck into every challenge, and helps lift everyone's spirits with her positivity. Well done, Freya!



Be curious!

Years 5 and 6

Mrs Cox's hero this week is Amber for her maturity. She has worked hard and gone out of her way to be kind and helpful. Well done Amber.



Enjoy learning

Use your imagination

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education



Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health



Mental Health in Schools Team
Tips For Wellness



Get Outdoors

Spending time outdoors is great for your body and mind! It can improve your mood, reduce feelings of stress, improve your confidence, helps you to be more active and can reduce loneliness.

How to get outside more:

- 1. Take a Nature Walk**
Find a park, trail, or even your garden and take a walk. Look around for birds, trees, and flowers that you can spot. You could try taking photographs and share them with a friend.
- 2. Play a Sport or Game**
Whether it's football, netball or running, outdoor sports are a great way to get moving. They also help us develop our communication skills when we play as part of a team!
- 3. Do a Scavenger Hunt**
Make a list of things to find outside—like a particular leaf or a butterfly—and go on a hunt to find them!
- 4. Bring Your Hobby Outside**
Do you like drawing, reading, or listening to music? Try doing it outside! Find a comfy spot on the grass and enjoy your favourite activities in the fresh air.
- 5. Have a snack outside**
Try taking a snack outside and eating it while focusing on the food and what is going on around you.
- 6. Watch the Stars**
On a clear night, lie on a blanket and look up at the stars. You might even see a shooting star or spot constellations.
- 7. Meet up with a friend outside**

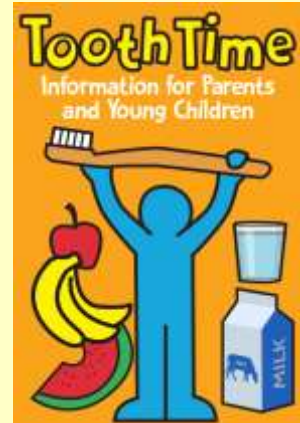
It can be helpful to get outdoors every day, even if only for a short time. You could try walking to a friend's house or to the shop instead of travelling by car or getting public transport. You could try to make getting outside part of your daily routine, whether it is riding a bike or sitting in a garden or park while you listen to music.

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.





A regular teeth-cleaning routine is essential for good dental health.

It's important to use a fluoride toothpaste, as this helps prevent and control tooth decay

Children aged 3 to 6 years

- Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night before bed and at least on 1 other occasion (ideally in the morning).
- Parents or carers should brush the teeth.
- Use children's fluoride toothpaste
- Use only a pea-sized amount of toothpaste.
- Spit out after brushing and don't rinse – if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as well.

Children aged 7 and over

- Brush at least twice daily for about 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste.
- Brush last thing at night before bed and at least on 1 other occasion.
- Use fluoride toothpaste containing between 1,350ppm and 1,500ppm of fluoride (check label).
- Spit out after brushing and don't rinse – if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as well.
- Children aged 7 and over should be able to brush their own teeth, but it's still a good idea to watch them to make sure they brush properly and for about 2 minutes.

Good oral health is important!

What do we need to know about toothbrushing?

As soon as your child's first tooth appears, brush twice a day for two minutes, using a small, soft tooth brush and fluoride toothpaste. Always brush last thing at night before bed and on one other occasion. Fluoride is a mineral and can help prevent tooth decay, this is added to many brands of toothpaste.

Children under three should use a smear of fluoride toothpaste, which contains at least 1000ppm (PPM – parts per million, this is the measurement of fluoride strength). Children over three should use a pea size amount between 1350-1500ppm.

Brushing should be supervised until at least 7 years of age.



Spit out the toothpaste after toothbrushing, do not rinse after. This helps the fluoride stay in the mouth longer and work harder to strengthen the teeth.

Remember to change your toothbrush every 3 months.

What kind of foods can my child eat?

Choose sugar free snacks in between meals such as fresh fruits and vegetables.



Healthy Fruit Options

Plain milk and water are the only safe drinks for teeth.



If you choose to give your child other drinks, well-diluted fruit juice or squash should be limited to meal times.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of education

Article 18: Parental responsibilities

Article 24: Health and health services



SUN SAFETY

This week, we have seen increased temperatures and several particularly sunny days at school.

During warm weather, please make sure that your child is safe at school by ensuring the following:

1. Sun Hat

Make sure your child brings a sun hat to school every day.



2. Named Water Bottle

Send your child with a named water bottle (water only, please).

They can refill their bottles throughout the day from our water cooler to stay well hydrated.



3. Apply Sun Cream

Please apply sun cream before school.

Children will be outside throughout the day—using the playground, school field, and class gardens.

While we provide access to shade and avoid extended sun exposure, we recommend a long-lasting sunscreen for added protection.



Let's Work Together to Keep Everyone Safe in the Sun!

HAF

Onside
Coaching

Active Kids

This Summer!

Summer Holiday Activities
& Food Programme



At Lighthorne Heath Primary School

Monday 28th July to
Thursday 14th August

100%
FREE
for eligible families

**Sports & Activities, Team Games, Nutritious Meals,
New Friendships, Confidence Building and more!**

Limited spaces available, don't miss out...

BOOK NOW AT haf.onsidelive.co.uk



Monday



Moroccan Chicken Pasta G

Vegetarian Customers
Only



(v) Broccoli and Sweetcorn
Pasta Bake G.D

Tuesday



(v) Rustic Pizza Wedge G.D.SB



(v) Jacket Potato with Cheese
D.

Wednesday



British Roast Chicken, Stuffing G.



(vg) Quorn Roast G.
Optional Stuffing G.

Thursday



Pork Sausages G.SU.SB



(v) Plant Power Sausages with
Gravy

Friday



Crispy Salmon Fishcake F.G.



(vg) Plant Power Burger
in a Bun G.

Educaterers' New Menu

Next week, we will be on
Week 2 of the new
Educaterers menu.

Jacket potato and choice
of fillings available daily

Free School Meals

If you think that you may
be eligible for free school
meals applications can be
made online at [https://
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/
education-learning/apply-
free-school-meals](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals)



Mrs. Manley and Mrs
Hendriksen are happy to
help with FSM
applications, please ask if
you require assistance.

Guide to Supporting Your Child's Reading

Lighthorne Heath
Primary School
Reading Diary
2024-25

Questions to ask your child when reading fiction:

Predicting:

What do you think this book will be about based on the title and cover?

Have you read any books by this author before? What were they like?

What do you already know about this topic?

Understanding the Story:

What is happening in the story so far?

Who are the main characters? What do we know about them?

Where and when does the story take place?

Making Connections:

Does this story remind you of anything in your life?

Have you read another book like this before?

How do you think the character is feeling? Why?

Vocabulary and Language:

What does this word mean? Can you use it in a sentence?

Are there any words that you don't understand?

How do the illustrations help to tell the story?

Encouraging Critical Thinking:

What do you think will happen next?

Why do you think the character made that choice?

If you were in this situation, what would you do?

Summarising and Reflecting:

Can you tell me what happened in the story in your own words?

What was your favourite part? Why?

Did the book end the way you expected?

Extending the Story:

If you could ask the author one question, what would it be?

Can you think of a different ending to the story?

What lesson did you learn from this book?

Filling in the reading record:

When signing your child's reading record, please include the date that your child read, the title of the book (or the material that they read) and your initials.

You are welcome to include additional information about your child's engagement, comprehension and confidence or some praise if you would (and this is useful) but you don't have to.

Simon
Barbecue Read 1 chapter at home. ✓

Read very well. ✓

Wednesday Take the class Read full book Ash

Friday The 2p Lovely bearing of Simon - Mrs

Wednesday A good job Read 3 pages. Mama



READING INCENTIVE

REMEMBER... YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!

1. Share a book with an adult at home at least 3 times each week (you can read your school reading book or any other reading material).
2. Ask the adult to sign your reading diary each time they share a book with you.
3. Make sure that your reading diary is in school each day. On Friday, bring this to the office and show the Learning Detectives. If your diary is signed 3 times or more for that week, you will receive a raffle ticket.
4. The raffle tickets will go to celebration assembly and prizes will be given each week for raffle tickets drawn.



Immunisation & Vaccination Service
Community Health & Wellbeing
Wayside House
Wilsons Lane
Coventry
CV6 6NY

Date: June 2025

We're changing how we get consent for vaccinations, and it should save you time.

Dear Parent/Carer

Our local school-aged immunisation service has been working with NHS England on improving how vaccinations in schools are managed.

As part of this work, the School-Aged Immunisation Service Team will now contact you directly to request consent for vaccinations. The new approach will make it quicker and easier for you to give or refuse consent for vaccinations.

This new process will allow the follow up of uncompleted consent forms to happen automatically if we have not received them.

What we will share with the school-aged immunisation service team:

When the School-Aged Immunisation Service Team asks our school for class lists, we will provide email addresses and phone numbers for parents and guardians of children who are eligible for vaccinations. The School-Aged Immunisation Service Team will use these contact details to send consent requests and reminders to parents and guardians.

For further information about the role of the School-Aged Immunisation Service Team in supporting vaccinations, please click [here](#).

Keeping your contact details safe



All personal data will be securely stored in line with NHS guidelines. Only the School-Aged Immunisation Service Team will have access to your contact details.

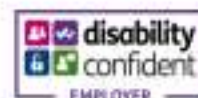
If you have any questions about this change, please contact the School-Aged Immunisation Service team via email SouthImms@covwarkpt.nhs.uk.

Kind regards,
School-Aged Immunisation Service
Children's Directorate
Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust
Tel: 01926 353899
Website: [Home](#) | [Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust](#)

Eamonn Kelly - Chair
Melanie Coombes MBE - Chief Executive



Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership NHS Trust
Wayside House, Wilsons Lane, Coventry, CV6 6NY
Tel: 024 7636 2100 Fax: 024 7636 8949





ST LAURENCE CHURCH PRESENTS:

COMMUNITY PICNIC & PRAISE AT THE ALLOTMENTS

Upper Lighthorne

1PM, 29TH JUNE
THE ALLOTMENTS,
UPPER LIGHTHORNE

Bring your own
picnic – we'll provide the drinks!

- ★ Storytelling
- ✋ Prayers
- 🎲 Fun & games
for all ages

Come for the food, stay for the fellowship!



Barnardo's Warwickshire Children and Family Centres

A coordination of services for children, young people and families - aged 0-19 and up to 25 with SEND

NATURE EXPLORERS

A fun and friendly session for families with children (5 - 10 years)
Children must be accompanied by an adult
Join us at the Lighthorne Heath Children & Family Centre for outdoor Nature activities



Monday 30th June
3:15 to 4:45pm

Lighthorne Heath Children & Family Centre

Stratford Rd, Lighthorne Heath. CV33 9TW
Telephone number 01926 691105



Please remember to cancel your place if you are unable to attend



Family Support Drop In Sessions



Would you like the opportunity to speak to a Family Support Worker?

Family Support Workers can offer support with

Developing Routines and Boundaries
Understanding your child's behaviour
Behaviour Management
Health and Wellbeing
Childrens Mental Health

Join us for a consultation with a Family Support Worker at
Lighthorne Heath Children and Family Centre
2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month
1pm - 3pm



Phone: 01926 414 144
Option 1, then 2 for Family Support
Available Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



Warwickshire
County Council



We are looking for additional players for several of our teams ahead of the 25/26 season.

Our focus is on the FUNdamentals of football, we don't trails players and instead all we ask is a desire to learn and play from all of our players

Under 9s – School Year 3 (Yr 4 in Sept 25')

Under 8s – School Year 2 (Yr 3 in Sept 25')

Wednesday evening training
Saturday morning games
Message us for more information

07466 169120
upperlighthornefc@outlook.com

NEW PLAYERS WANTED



GOGO MAKERS SUMMER CAMPS

THREE INCREDIBLE PROGRAMMES ALL UNDER ONE ROOF

GO GO MINI'S RECEPTION CHILDREN AGED 4-5 YEARS

Our GO GO MINI'S Holiday Camp is perfect for Reception Children (aged 4-5). We've tailored our approach to help our youngest guests get the most out of the Holiday Camp experience.

GO GO ACTIVE SPORT

GO GO EINSTEIN'S STEM

GO GO CREATORS ART

GO GO GROOVERS DANCE

JNR's 5-7 YEARS (YEAR GROUPS 1-2)

THE SCIENCE LAB

ACTION STATIONS

CRAFT CLUB

SHINING STARS

SNR's 8-12 YEARS (YEAR GROUPS 3-6)

CR8TIVE'S

SPORT SKILLZ

MAD SCIENCE

BATTLE SESSIONS

STEP UP

VENUES

PRIORS FIELD PRIMARY KENILWORTH	BIRLAR HILL INFANT WIRTNASH	FINHAM PARK SECONDARY FINHAM
HEATHCOTE PRIMARY WARWICK GATES	EMSCOTE INFANT WARWICK	

10% SIBLING DISCOUNT & PAYMENT INSTALMENTS AVAILABLE

SAVE 10% UNTIL JUNE 15th 2025

OFSTED REGISTERED WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS & TAX FREE CHILDCARE

GOGO XTRA! FOR 7-12 YEARS (YEAR GROUPS 3-7)

READY FOR MORE INDEPENDENCE?

Introducing GO GO XTRA! Our NEW Holiday Camp for 7-12 year olds who are ready for a fresh experience. We go that XTRA! mile to offer engaging activities that will broaden our youngsters' minds & develop independence... setting them up for the teenage years ahead.

PICK AND MIX

Where the children decide how they spend their day, from fast-paced sports to technical skills-labs & coding sessions.

EXCLUSIVE TO NORTH LEAMINGTON SCHOOL! LEAMINGTON SPA

TO BOOK VISIT: www.gogomakers.co.uk

E: hello@gogomakers.co.uk | T: 01936 350024

★★★★★ RATED 5 STARS ON GOOGLE

ARMED FORCES DAY 28 JUNE 2025

28 JUN

BRITISH MOTOR MUSEUM

FEATURED
Armed Forces Day 2025
28 JUN 2025

Celebrate Armed Forces Day at the British Motor Museum with our special offer to current serving and veteran members!

Find Out More

TICKETS

June

Online - Celebrating Le Mans 24 Hours
June

In this month's online activity we're celebrating the greatest endurance race in the world - Le Mans 24 Hours!

Find Out More

10 JUN

Gaydon Gathering - June
10 Jun 2025

Every kind of automotive enthusiast and every kind of motor is invited to the June edition of the ever popular Gaydon ...

Find Out More

TICKETS

14-15 JUN

Classic & Vintage Commercial Show
14-15 JUN 2025

Take a nostalgic drive to the Classic & Vintage Commercial Show and see over 400 pre-2004 commercial vehicles ...

Find Out More

TICKETS



Warwickshire Family and Relationship Support

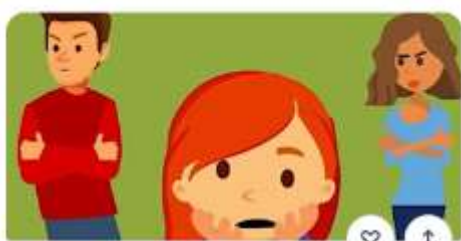


Our workshops and programmes are only available to parents/carers living in Warwickshire.

None of us were taught how to be parents and sometimes we may find what we're doing isn't working or we just want some different strategies in our toolbox. In Warwickshire, parents to be, parents, carers and grand-parents have access to a variety of parenting resources and advice. Support can be accessed online, face-to-face through informal advice, one-to-one consultations, group programmes and workshops.

This is part of the information, advice and support that is often referred to as 'universal support' as it is freely available to all families.

For more information on any of our workshops or programs please email ehparenttrainers@warwickshire.gov.uk



Keeping Your Child In Mind (4 week programme)

Wed, 18 Jun, 12:30 BST

Free



Understanding Your Children's Behaviour- (Harbury)

Thu, 19 Jun, 09:30

Harbury C of E Primary School

Free



Understanding Your Teenager Workshop Southam

Fri, 20 Jun, 13:00

Southam College

Free



Peep child development groups

FREE

peep 

What is Peep?

Peep supports parents and carers in understanding and enhancing their child's development through sharing fun, simple, low cost ideas and information with each other, and helping to create strong support networks.



What are Peep groups like?

Our 5-6-week groups offer opportunities to do more of the little things, like talking, listening, playing, singing and sharing books. Groups are small (4-6 families), encouraging, non-judgemental and friendly.

For 1-2yr olds (or 3yrs with SEND)

Where can I find a group?

Stratford Children & Family Centre (CV37 9PB)

Alcester Children & Family Centre (B49 6AG)

Lighthorne Heath Children & Family Centre (CV33 9TW)

Shipston Scout Hut (CV36 4EW)

For more information, please contact:

Sarah Walker

peep@homestartsouthwarwickshire.org.uk

07435 117 198

To reserve your space





INTERNET SAFETY

Date: 25th June 2025

Time 5pm-6pm

Location: Join Zoom meeting ID 765 294 7590

This workshop highlights the sexual abuse risk online, provides key knowledge around apps our children use and support available. If you would like to attend please confirm by emailing **PEI@safeline.org.uk**. Please reference the school your child attends.



Some useful information for parents and carers, including online webinars can be accessed via The National College (formerly National Online Safety). At school, we teach the children about safe online behaviours but it is important that these messages are reinforced at home at that parents and carers are aware of how to support their children if issues arise.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipient, not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging. WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

16+

in UK and Europe;
rest of the world 13

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious "emergency". Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly — whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original — and might not be entirely factual, either.

**'VIEW ONCE
CONTENT'**

the facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK

Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING

Help your child to understand why it's more important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp, it's easy – and all too common – to be confused as to what is and isn't really a secret. Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged or staged might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. You can also encourage your child to talk about the sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sullivan is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented a self-bullying and cyber safety policy for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government on comparing internet use and reporting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Some useful information for parents and carers, including online webinars can be accessed via The National College (formerly National Online Safety). At school, we teach the children about safe online behaviours but it is important that these messages are reinforced at home at that parents and carers are aware of how to support their children if issues arise.