

Staniland Way
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KEN STIMPSON
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL

Aspire for Excellence and Integrity to gain Success

Principal: Mr B. Erwin | Chair of Governors: Mr T. French

YEAR 8 news LETTER

In school lateral flow device (LFD) testing availability 4 to 7 January

We are pleased to offer your child a lateral flow test during the first school week back from Tuesday 4 until Friday 7 January. To give consent for this to happen, we ask that parents/carers click [here](https://forms.office.com/r/WkZH8Ck16r) or use the link below to fill in the necessary details required.

<https://forms.office.com/r/WkZH8Ck16r>

LFD kits will be issued this week so that your child/children can test at least twice a week over the holidays. Students can also obtain an LFD kit from Student Services. Please could you ensure that one test is reserved for Monday 3 January prior to returning to school on Tuesday 4 January. Have a good christmas break and a happy new year.

Regards
Mr Erwin



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



LEADING
PARENT
PARTNERSHIP
AWARD
2017-2020



www.kscs.org.uk

KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

85% “ My child does well at this school ”
OF PARENTS SAY

93% “ My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school ”
OF PARENTS SAY

88% “ The school has high expectations for my child ”
OF PARENTS SAY

88% “ I would recommend this school to another parent ”
OF PARENTS SAY

93% “ My child is happy at this school ”
OF PARENTS SAY

93% “ There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school ”
OF PARENTS SAY

95% “ My child feels safe at this school ”
OF PARENTS SAY

79% “ The school supports my child's wider personal development ”
OF PARENTS SAY

89% “ The school lets me know how my child is doing ”
OF PARENTS SAY

YOU'VE RATED US



See overleaf for what we're working on following your feedback

WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON



With your feedback we're working towards a five star rating.

YOU SAID ABOUT ...

Not enough information about clubs and trips

We have posted all clubs and activities on our website and will continue to update this as new opportunities arise. Please visit <https://www.kscs.org.uk/curriculum/kscs-enrichment-programme>



Homework needing to be posted on ClassCharts and set readily

This is now the platform for capturing what homework is set. To access Classcharts please visit the following link: <https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login>



Regular communication

I send out communication as when necessary to avoid bombarding you. However, Heads of Year will now be sending out a half termly newsletter to keep you up-to-date. You can also view these here: <https://www.kscs.org.uk/view-letters-home>



Not having contact back when calling in.

We aim to respond to phone calls and emails received within two – five school days. We are developing an escalation system whereby if responses are not received within this time period you are able to escalate this so a senior leader with the principal also being informed.

Monitoring of the corridors during movement time

We have enhanced our corridor patrols and have spoken to students about the respect agenda to younger students. We continue to monitor this issue.

Access to toilets

Students with medical needs will be issued with cards. If a child with a card needs to go to the toilet, then this must be respected. Unless it is an emergency, students have two breaks during the day to go to toilet.

More SEND provision

We have appointed three additional HLTA to support the expanding SEND needs just this term. We hope this will allow us to be able to reach out to more students. We are limited to resources and do need to prioritise at times.

More information on curriculum

We have set several targets to communicate even more about what your child is learning, including homework and what resources can be used to support them at home. This includes stretching the more able as well.

More support for neuro-diverse students

We have set up a committee supported by trained staff on this issue. Like the student council, the group will have the opportunity to meet with the principal and other key members of staff every half term to discuss how as a school we become even more inclusive in all aspects of what we do.

More detailed academic reporting

We have committed to ensuring students and parents received detailed information about what topics and how we are assessing in Years 11 and Post116 throughout the year leading up to the final examinations. We aim to review the Attitude to Learning guidance this year and ensure subject evenings are impactful

NEXT STEPS FOR THE SCHOOL (WE DID)

Dear Parents, Carers, and Families,

For the second half of this term, Year 8 students have settled well. Overall, when I have visiting lessons they have appeared attentive and show excellent participation.

There are a variety of after school clubs that students are attending and enjoying. The PE department have an excellent take up of the netball club, with fixtures starting next term. I am confident that the hard work and effort that they put in will see excellent results for all.



Paul Gill, father of the professional boxer, Jordan Gill who held the Commonwealth featherweight title in 2018, runs an after-school boxing club on Monday's from 3:15 - 4:30pm, which is also very successful. Students, male and female and from across all years are attending. Paul reports all the students are showing dedication and hard work. He is very impressed with the standard of behaviour and work.

Other clubs that are running are Drama, music, coding, film, dance, book, art, photo-editing and of course homework Club. All have had a good response from Year 8 and have a good attendance.



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I am pleased to report, Year 8 pupils have responded well to the new late to school strategy, with limited numbers receiving after school detention. This is very encouraging. During form time year 8 students are reading a variety of books, which they are enjoying, increasing the literacy skills along with there ability to enjoy reading which is important for all our students. I hope that all our students, especially Year 8 have a wonderful Christmas and return in the New Year feeling refreshed and ready to start 2022 with their usual eagerness. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Mrs Searle
Head of Year 8



BBC

Children in Need

Our Non-Uniform Day raised:

£1087.22

for CHILDREN IN NEED!

Thank you for your contribution!



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Save the
Children

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!
We raised £294.06 for SAVE THE CHILDREN!
Thank You to all for your donations, and
fabulous Yuletide jumpers!



We wish you

*Merry Christmas
and happy new Year!*

E-Safety Christmas!

Christmas is a time where
many children get new
devices – please see
attached guidance to help
support you and your
child.

OpenView
Education
TRAINING THROUGH THEATRE

APPS AND THEIR AGE RATINGS

13+		16+	
Facebook	Snapchat	WhatsApp	
Instagram	Twitter	17+	18+
TikTok	Kik		
YouNow	Yubo	Sarahah	MeetMe
House Party	Monkey	YOLO	LiveMe



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



It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech-related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?

47%
of parents
said they thought their
children spent too much
time in front of screens

What parents need to know about SCREEN ADDICTION

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children as young as 13 are attending 'smartphone rehab' following growing concerns over screen time. There are now help centers in the UK which deal with screen addiction for children and adults showing the seriousness of device addiction. The World Health Organisation (WHO) has officially recognised gaming addiction as a modern disease. The condition was confirmed as part of their International Classification of Diseases (ICD) which serves as an international standard for diagnosing and treating health conditions.

LACK OF SLEEP

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

LOSS OF INTEREST IN OTHER THINGS

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.



CONFIDENCE, SUPPORT & ADVICE

The Children's Commissioner report 'Life in Likes', explored how children aged 8-11 are using social media today. It showed that children are using their devices to speak to their online friends about their problems and seek acceptance and support, removing face to face interactions.

APPS CAN BE ADDICTIVE

Apps have been designed with 'psychological tricks' to constantly keep grabbing your attention. One example of this is on the app Snapchat, where you can gain 'streaks' when interacting with your friends. If you don't respond, you lose the streak. This addictive nature of apps aims to engage children and keep them coming back for more.



Top Tips for Parents



LIMIT SCREEN TIME

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they are missing out on a lot, including conversations and communication with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their device per week. Remember that your child may need to use devices for their school homework so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit. There will be others in your child's friendship group who will not have screen limits set and will be sending messages when they do not have access to their phones.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children model their behavior on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abide by.

REMOVE DEVICES FROM THEIR BEDROOM

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focussed the next day at school. 20% of teenagers said that they wake up to check their social network accounts on their devices. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.

LESS TIME MEANS LESS EXPOSURE

There are many risks associated with devices, such as cyberbullying, grooming, sexting, viewing inappropriate content etc. Less time spent on a screen means that a child will be less exposed to these risks.

MOBILE-FREE MEAL TIMES

Have you tried to settle your child by giving them a tablet at the dinner table or restaurant? This may seem like a quick fix to calm them down but in reality, it is encouraging them to use their device as a distraction from conversation and dealing with their emotions. We suggest removing all technology from the dinner table and having conversations with your family about how their day has been.

ENCOURAGE ALTERNATE ACTIVITIES

It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realise they can have fun without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their Outdoor activities to show your support.

STATISTICS

52% of children aged 3-4
go online for nearly 9hrs a week

82% of children aged 5-7
go online for nearly 9.5hrs a week

93% of children aged 8-11
go online for nearly 13.5hrs a week

99% of children aged 12-15
go online for nearly 20.5hrs a week

Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2018

SOURCES:
<https://www.independent.co.uk>, Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report 2018; <https://www.ofcom.gov.uk>, <http://uk.businessinsider.com/how-app-developers-keep-us-addicted-to-our-smartphones>, Journal of Youth Studies; <https://www.mirror.co.uk/tech-one-free-kids-losing-sleep-963286>, University of Leeds; <https://www.healthline.com/health/child/12/6/bedroom-sleep-damaging-for-children>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.06.19

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ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

