ASPIRATIONS

Harriers Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Our Vision: to cultivate high quality education in a supportive environment, enabling our pupils to become kind, happy, confident individuals, ready to take on the world.

Harriers Newsletter

Friday 27th March 2026

Message from Mr Rabiasz

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another fantastic few weeks at Harriers, filled with hard work and enthusiasm across every classroom. It was wonderful to see so many of you at our recent Parents' Evenings; your ongoing support is vital to our pupils' success. We have also thoroughly enjoyed the vibrant energy of our Year 3 to 5 end-of-term shows and the incredible creativity on display during our Easter Bonnet Parade. These events truly highlight the talent and community spirit that make our school so special.

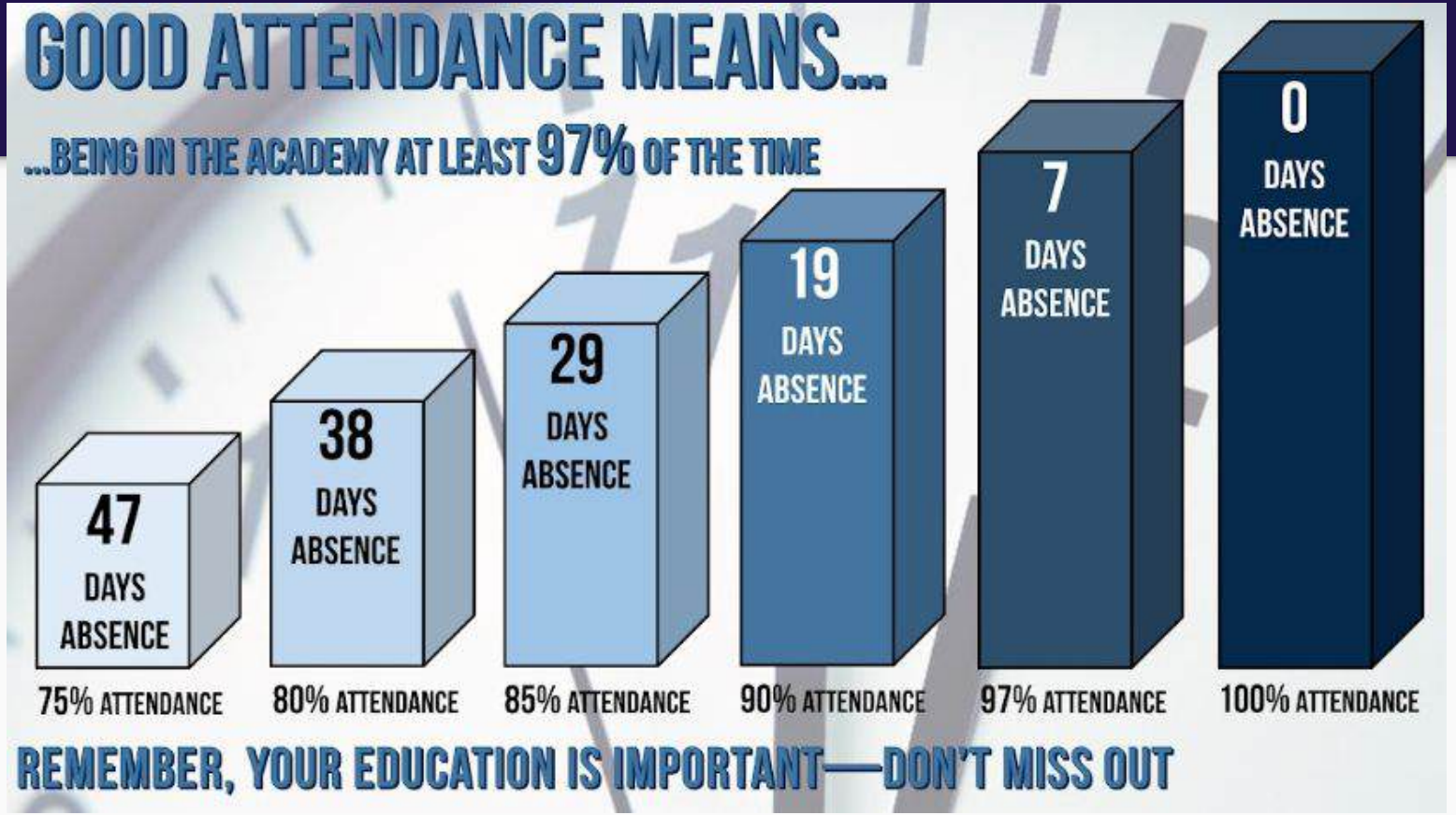
In the classrooms, the children have continued to impress us with their dedication to their studies. We have seen some remarkable progress across all subjects, particularly in how the students are applying their problem-solving skills to new challenges. It is a pleasure to see their growing confidence and the pride they take in their work, which was clearly evident in the high quality of the books and projects shared during our recent sessions.

As we head into the break, I hope you and your families have a restful and happy Easter. We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved this term and look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for the start of the summer term.

Kind regards,

Mr. Rabiasz

Attendance


GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS...
...BEING IN THE ACADEMY AT LEAST 97% OF THE TIME
47 DAYS ABSENCE
75% ATTENDANCE
38 DAYS ABSENCE
80% ATTENDANCE
29 DAYS ABSENCE
85% ATTENDANCE
19 DAYS ABSENCE
90% ATTENDANCE
7 DAYS ABSENCE
97% ATTENDANCE
0 DAYS ABSENCE
100% ATTENDANCE
REMEMBER, YOUR EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT—DON'T MISS OUT

Upcoming Dates Term 5

- 13th April - Term 5 begins
- 15th April - Swallows Class Assembly 2.30
- 16th April - Year 2 farm visit
- 17th April - Year 2 Farm Visit
- 23rd April - Year 5 Warriner Open Evening
- 28th April - Year 5 Workshop
- 29th April - Year 4 Cadbury's World
- 30th April - Year 5 Workshop
- 1st May - Whole school class photos
- 1st May - Year 2 Sleepover
- 4th May - BANK HOLIDAY - school closed
- 6th May - Flamingoes Class Assembly 2.30
- 7th May - Year 1 fire trip / visit
- 11th May - 14th May - KS2 Y6 SATS week
- Tuesday 12th May - Nursery Family Den Building! 11am or 2:45pm
- 13th May - Red Kites Class assembly 2.30 pm
- 15th May - Year 6 water fight
- Y6 London trip?? Year 6 to update please 20th May
- 20th May - Parrots class assembly 2.30 pm
- 21st May - Aspirations Assembly 9am (EYFS to attend this one as there is no availability that week for another separate slot).
- 21st May - Toucans Class Assembly 2.45
- 22nd May - INSET - school closed to children
- 22nd May - END of term 5

Term 4 Aspirations Assembly
25.03.26

Curiosity and Creativity

TTRS Competition Winners

Nursery

We have had a busy week learning about freezing and melting. We examined ice cubes and experimented with melting them, using salt, vinegar and the heat of our hands. It was quite exciting to have a real life hail storm in the middle of some of these experiments!

We also used heat to melt chocolate to make Easter nests. We rolled our own tiny eggs from icing.

Early Years

Early Years really enjoyed our trip to The Light Cinema and Spiceball Park.

We enjoyed watching the film 'Hoppers', and noticing the spring nature on our walk there.

The children showed great resilience in the park and climbed all the way to the top of the climbing frame

Year 1

Year 1 loved learning about acrylic ink and then having the opportunity to be creative with it.

Year 1 also had a great time on Red Nose Day, especially searching for the red noses in Forest School.

In addition, Year 1 have been learning about arrays, how to double and how to make equal groups in Maths.

Year 2

Year 2 had so much fun learning about Acrylic Ink during our Art workshop.

We used acrylic inks to create some incredible underwater pictures!

Year 3

We are another year group that loved the acrylic art workshop! It was such a calming activity and our paintings were brilliant!

Year 4

Year 4 thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the acrylic ink watercolour workshop run by The Cotswold Arts Through Schools Charity.

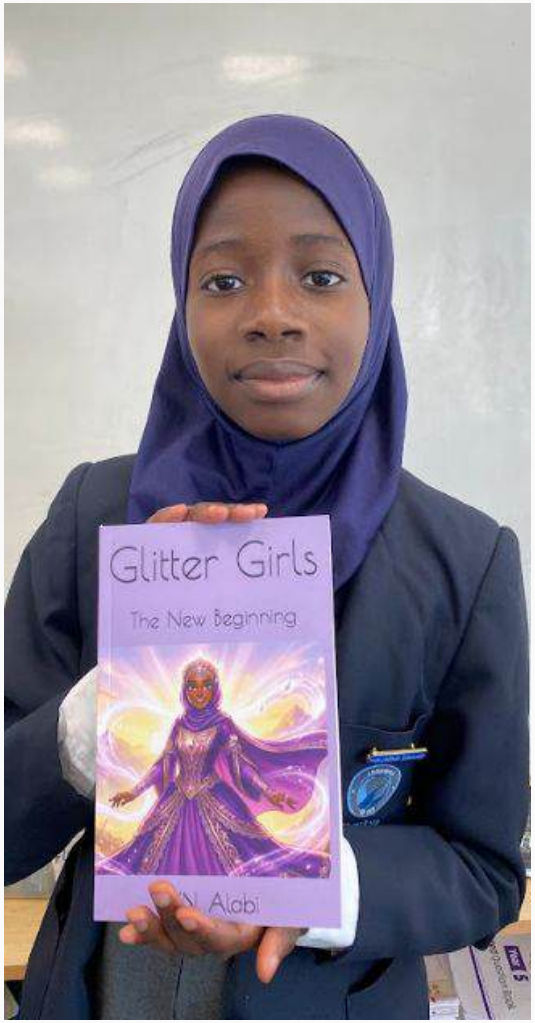
They enjoyed the calming and creative environment and created beautiful sea-themed pictures. Even the teachers had a go!

Year 4 are definitely keen to do it again!

Year 5

Year 5 had a brilliant end to our Anglo Saxon topic. We spent the day as Vikings - having a name ceremony to begin, followed by 'axe throwing', a tug of war, a war cry contest and finishing with painting runes.

What fun we all had!



We are so proud of Yasirah (Year 5 Flamingoes) who has written and published her own book 'Glitter Girls The New Beginning'.

The book is available to buy on Amazon and she has kindly brought in a copy for us to keep in school. Yasirah is going to visit each class to share some of her story.

Year 6

The Year 6 girls had a fantastic workshop delivered by Oxford United all about character and self-confidence, which they loved.

In English, we have been completing our suspense stories with a twist at the end. The final versions have been amazing to read and the children have loved the process of writing them!

Red Nose Day

The Harriers pupils had a fantastic time during Red Nose Day!

We decorated biscuits and had a fun red nose day hunt in forest school!

Thank you so much for your support and donations! We raised __ for Red Nose Day!

Is your child 3 years old?
Are you looking for a nursery place for them?

We have spaces in our Ducklings class in the afternoon from 12.15 pm to 3.15 pm each day.

Children can free flow from the classroom into our wonderful outside area. Children take part in many activities such as cooking, painting and enjoy investigating the forest school area.

There are no nursery admission fees - it's free to join - and your child will be given a 15-hour funded place the term after their 3rd birthday.

Please email office@harriers-aspirations.org for more information and an admission form.

GREAT FOOD

BIG SAVINGS!

Your child could enjoy a tasty, balanced meal every day — and you could save up to **£500** a year

SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE

IN RECEPTION

YEAR 1

& YEAR 2!

SIGN UP HERE

AM I ENTITLED?

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or 2, they are automatically entitled to free school meals. From Year 3 onwards, you may still qualify if you receive certain benefits – saving your family over £500 a year and supporting your school. Check eligibility and apply today via the QR code, at **www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals**, or through your school.

A FREE SCHOOL MEAL EACH DAY ISN'T JUST A HEALTHY CHOICE — IT'S A SMART ONE.

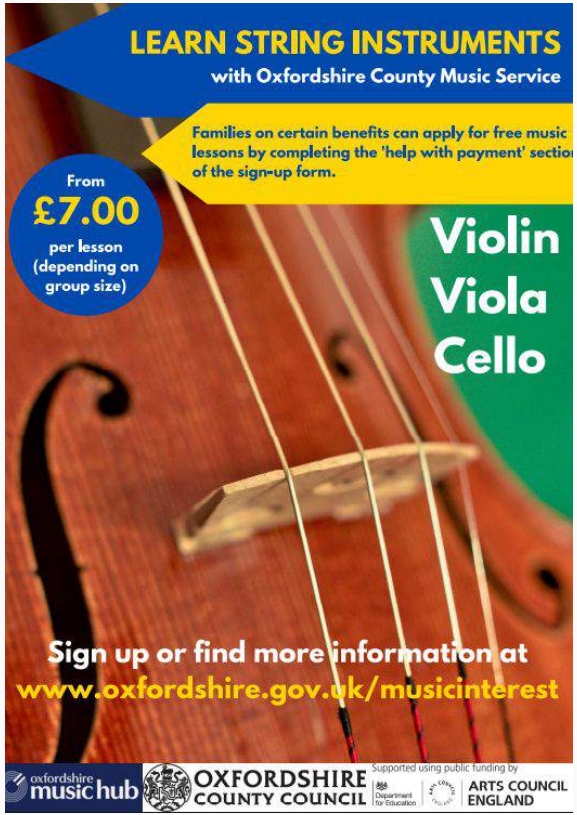
HEALTHY & BALANCED – Fresh, colourful meals packed with the nutrients growing children need, meeting all School Food Standards.

FRESH & SEASONAL – Children enjoy a vibrant variety of flavours while sharing a sit-down meal with friends, building confidence, conversation skills, and even mastering cutlery in a relaxed, restaurant-style setting.

SUSTAINABLE & SMART – We make the most of ingredients, reducing food waste without sacrificing taste.

INCLUSIVE & SAFE – Our Allergen-aware menu and designated allergen buddy team member ensure children with dietary needs can enjoy lunch safely and confidently.

Music Lessons and Clubs at Harriers



https://enrolmy.com/footy-kids/activity/506-Harriers_Banbury_Academy_After_School_Football_Fun_Club

SEN and Inclusion

Hidden Disabilities

Some people have **disabilities that aren't visible**, like ADHD, autism, dyslexia, asthma or anxiety. These are called **hidden (or invisible) disabilities**. Even though you can't see them, they can still make everyday things harder.

- Some people need extra help even if they *look fine*.
- Be kind and patient — everyone learns and feels differently.
- If a friend seems upset or needs space, ask, "Are you okay?"

Parents:

Please take some time to…
Talk to your children about how not all disabilities can be seen.
Encourage your children to show understanding and kindness.
Share with school if your child has a hidden difficulty — small changes can make a big difference.

This week's hidden disability focus: Tourette's

Tourette Syndrome (Tourette's) is a neurological condition that causes individuals to make involuntary vocal noises and movements called tics. It usually starts in childhood and can range from mild to very severe.

Each person with Tourette's have different tics and will experience diverse range of symptoms. People with Tourette's have a combination of physical and vocal tics and they usually appear in childhood between the ages of 2 and 14.

For more information, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower website ha
you can share with your children.

https://hdsunflower.com/uk/insights/post/tourettes

Training courses available

allthingsautismltd@gmail.com 01895 649211 https://allthingsinclusionandautism.com

All things visual strategies Supporting autistic children / those with communication difficulties with visual strategies - why use visuals, which visuals to use and how to use them? **Monday 18th May 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online - via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA)** Understanding PDA and practical strategies to support **Tuesday 12th May 2026** **7-9pm** Or **Wednesday 8th July 2026** **9.30 - 11.30am** Online - via Zoom £44 plus VAT per person
All things communication and play: Supporting autistic children with communication and play skills - laughing and learning together **Thursday 11th June 2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person	**Autism and Girls** Exploring differences and diagnosis . Understanding how autism impacts on girls and strategies and ideas to support them **Tuesday 9th June 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
All things behaviour - supporting positive behaviours for autistic children **Monday 6th July 2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person 	**All things sensory processing** - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of autistic children and practical strategies to support their needs **Friday 5th June2026** **9.30am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person

All Things Toileting Exploring the challenges around toilet training for autistic children and practical strategies to support them **Monday 15th June 2026** **7 - 8.30pm** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Gestalt Language Processing** How to support early language skills for young children including Gestalt learners **Tuesday 16th June 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
Supporting Children's Transitions Supporting transitions for children with autism or social communication difficulties. This course covers transitions into school and nursery and between classes **Thursday 14th May 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**ADHD** Understanding ADHD in young children and practical ideas to support them **Thursday 7th May 2026** **10-11.30am** Or **Thursday 2nd July** **7 - 8.30pm** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person
Supporting children with Bereavement and Loss Looking at the impact of bereavement and loss on young children and strategies to support them **Thursday 18th June 2026** **10 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person	**Promoting positive mental health in young children** Examining causes of mental health difficulties, learning about anxiety and trauma **Monday 22nd June 2026** **9.30 am - 12** Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person
Selective Mutism Understanding the causes of selective mutism (situational mutism) and practical strategies to support children in early years and primary **Thursday 4th June 2026** **9.30 - 11.30am** Online via Zoom	New **Understanding AuDHD** Supporting children who have a dual diagnosis of Autism and ADHD with practical strategies to help. Wednesday 24th June 2026 7 - 8pm Online via Zoom £28 per person plus VAT

SEN and Inclusion

We are sending out a plea for some resources to support children. If you, your family or friends have any of the following items at home and you are happy to donate them to our school we would be hugely grateful! The list is not exhaustive, any sensory items are welcome.

- a working radio
- fairy lights / christmas lights
- bean bags to sit on
- ball pit and balls
- mirrors (small/medium)
- tunnel
- projector light
- lava lamp
- black out material/blinds/curtains

Safeguarding our children

Who we are……..

If you have any concerns about your child's safety, your safety or that of another child/family in our school, then please see one of the Designated Safeguarding Team. Mrs Agate is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Agate

Mr Rabiasz

Miss Wayte

Mr Sherington

Mrs Stephens

Miss Buswell

Safeguarding our children

Keeping our children safe these holidays.

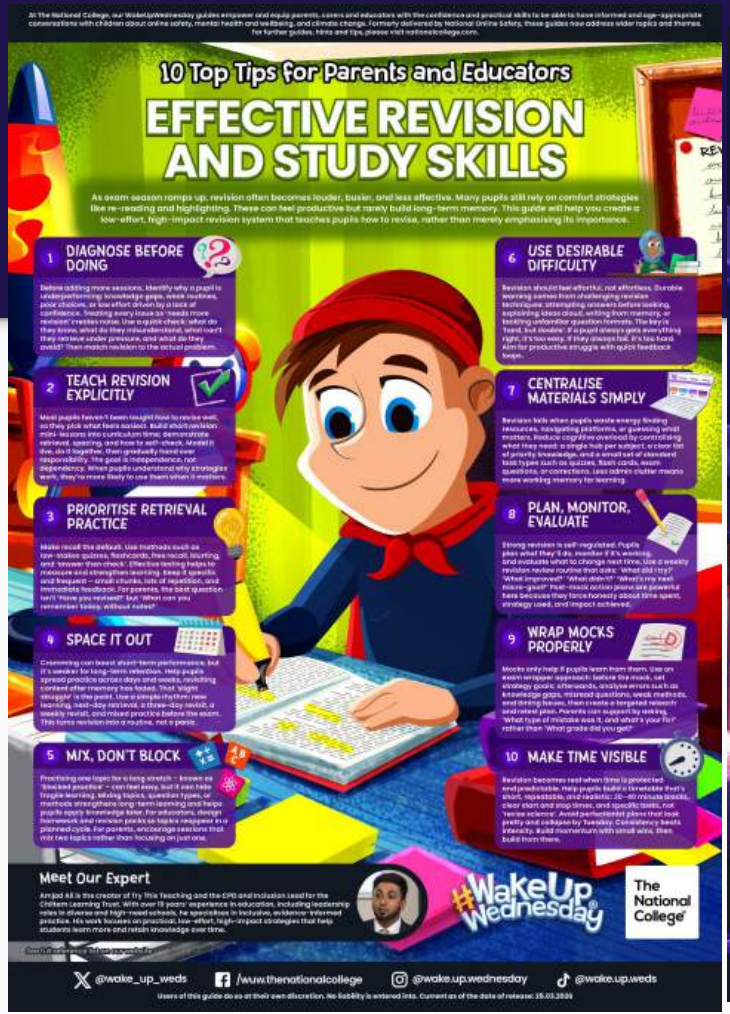
If you have any concerns about a child's safety during the holidays please use the following contact details;

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000
Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub - 01865519800
Childline - 0800 1111
Police - 999 for emergency or 101 for non emergency

Online Safety - Wake-up Wednesday Advice

Practical, research-backed revision strategies to help pupils move beyond passive habits and build lasting knowledge with confidence.

A WakeUpWednesday guide exploring how viral trends and violent content on social media can influence young people's safety, wellbeing and behaviour.



Storytelling Garden and OPAL

Now that spring is on the way, we have been weeding the raised beds in preparation for planting seeds. We have also been planting free sapling trees and young fruit trees from the Woodland Trust and the Tree Council.

The children are playing basketball, scratch and other ball games and skipping on the playground, and Mr Lester is running daily lunchtime football games too.

School Aged Immunisation Service

NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

Does your child still need a Flu Vaccination?

We are still vaccinating!

Follow the QR code / link to consent for your child and make a community clinic appointment

If you've already filled in the consent form, please book your appointment using the reference number that was emailed to you from ***school.immunisations@nhs.net*** *when you consented*

For more information visit www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms

[Term 3: Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter January 2026]

https://sway.cloud.microsoft/JDvIcPqCqjFi3XJy?ref=email&loc=play

24 APPS PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

This list is not exhaustive, and will be updated each year to reflect new risks and dangers

THESE APPS CAN EASILY BE USED AS GROOMING TOOLS BY ONLINE PREDATORS LOOKING TO MEET UP & SEXUALLY ABUSE CHILDREN. (UPDATED 2021)

FACEBOOK – FACEBOOK allows you to connect with others and share comments, photos and videos. You can add friends, write on people's pages and post, join groups and play games.

SNAPCHAT – SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises that photo's, videos and stories disappear, others can take screenshots of private photo's.

INSTAGRAM – INSTAGRAM Kids are creating fake accounts to hide content from their parents, according to police. Messages are also deleted once a user leaves a conversation.

WHATSAPP – WHATSAPP allows you to send messages, images and videos in 121 and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.

KIDSCHAT – KIDSCHAT.NET is a free online messaging app for children. You can talk to people you don't know or public forums and via private message. You can access the site as a guest.

SKYPE – SKYPE is a platform and app that lets you make audio and video calls to other people around the world. You can also send instant messages.

WHISPER – WHISPER is an anonymous social media app that promotes sharing personal secrets with strangers. (new people). It reveals a users location so people can meet up.

CALCULATOR % – CALCULATOR % is only one of SEVERAL social media apps disguised as a calculator, the app is actually a secret photo vault to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.

HOT ON NOT – HOT ON NOT Strangers rate a user's 'attractiveness' with the aim of real-world meet ups in your local area.

ASK.FM – ASK.FM An app where users can anonymously ask questions and receive answers. The app has been featured in a number of cyber bullying cases.

YUBO – YUBO Similar to Tinder, the app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other.

KIK MESSAGING Kik – KIK MESSAGING Kik is a messaging app that allows content normally filtered on a home computer.

BURN BOOK – BURN BOOK Anonymous rumours can be posted about people through audio messages, texts and photos.

WISHBONE – WISHBONE This app allows users to compare kids and rate them on a scale.

GRINDR – GRINDR Is a dating app geared towards gay, bisexual and transgender people. The app allows people to chat, share and meet up in person based on a GPSS location.

SKOUT – SKOUT is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

MEET ME – MEET ME is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. The app encourages people to meet in person.

TIK TOK – TIK TOK is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.

TELLOYMN – TELLOYMN anonymous messenger app. It calls itself "the most honest place on the internet." Age controls are inconsistent and sexual explicit material can be found.

Zoomerang – Zoomerang is a popular app that looks like a harmless messaging app however it allows private anonymous messaging and is location enabled.

BUMBLE – BUMBLE is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts

FACEBOOK MESSENGER – FACEBOOK MESSENGER Is one of the most popular message apps in the world. It has a broadly heavily been used by predators and the end to end encryption will make it even more unsafe.

BADOO – BADOO is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.

OMEGLE – OMEGLE is a video chat website where users are matched randomly with strangers.

#CHILDABUSEHELP CHILD ABUSE RESOURCES WWW.CHILDABUSEHELP.ORG.UK

NSPCC HELPLINE 0800 800 5000

NNECA WWW.NNECA.ORG.UK

NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

OXFORDSHIRE WE ARE WITH YOU FORUM

JOIN OUR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY!

We Walking with You on your Parent/Carer journey
A warm, parent-led group for anyone caring for a child or young adult (up to age 25) facing mental health challenges.

Connect • Share • Learn Join us online or in person for relaxed, insightful sessions led by:

- Parent Peer Support Workers
- Social Prescribers
- CAMHS Mental Health Professionals

Explore topics around mental health and neurodiversity in a safe, welcoming space.

Plus: Special Guest Events Hear from professionals and services across the field! and getting out in nature.

TO REGISTER FOLLOW THE LINK OR QR :

WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/INVOLVEMENT/OXON/WHY/

ChatHealth

NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

ParentLine 5-11 years

New School Health Nursing messaging service for parents and carers of children 5-11 years attending state schools or home educated in Oxfordshire

Text 07312 263227

to message a school health nurse

Or scan QR code here to start a chat

We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an 'immediate' message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be seen between 9am and 5pm, Monday-Friday excluding Bank Holidays. If you need help before you hear back from us contact your GP, nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other health care staff who follow the same confidentiality rules.

We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). We might inform other relevant professionals if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. To prevent the health profiles you receive from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rate.

Fostering in Oxfordshire

oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering

Fostering in Oxfordshire

You care with our support

Being a foster carer is rewarding but, we'll be honest, it's not easy. Our children and young people have often been through a lot and can need plenty of support. But every day we see the impact that support has. Seeing them grow in confidence – well, nothing beats that.

Fun trips to the shops, cuddles after a bad dream, helping with homework, being there during those tricky teen years – foster caring is about providing stability, positivity and reassurance when a child needs it most.

Want to know more?

Scan me

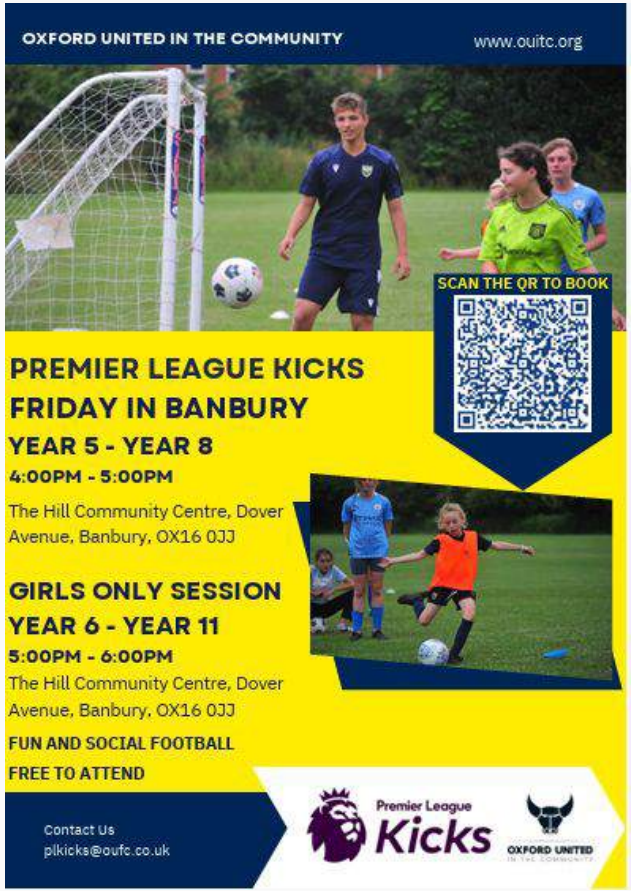
Visit **oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering**
or give us a call on **0800 783 5724**

Career opportunities

Activities outside school

Activities outside school

Activities outside school



Activities outside school

Activities outside school