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 11th September 2026

Message from Mr Rabiasz

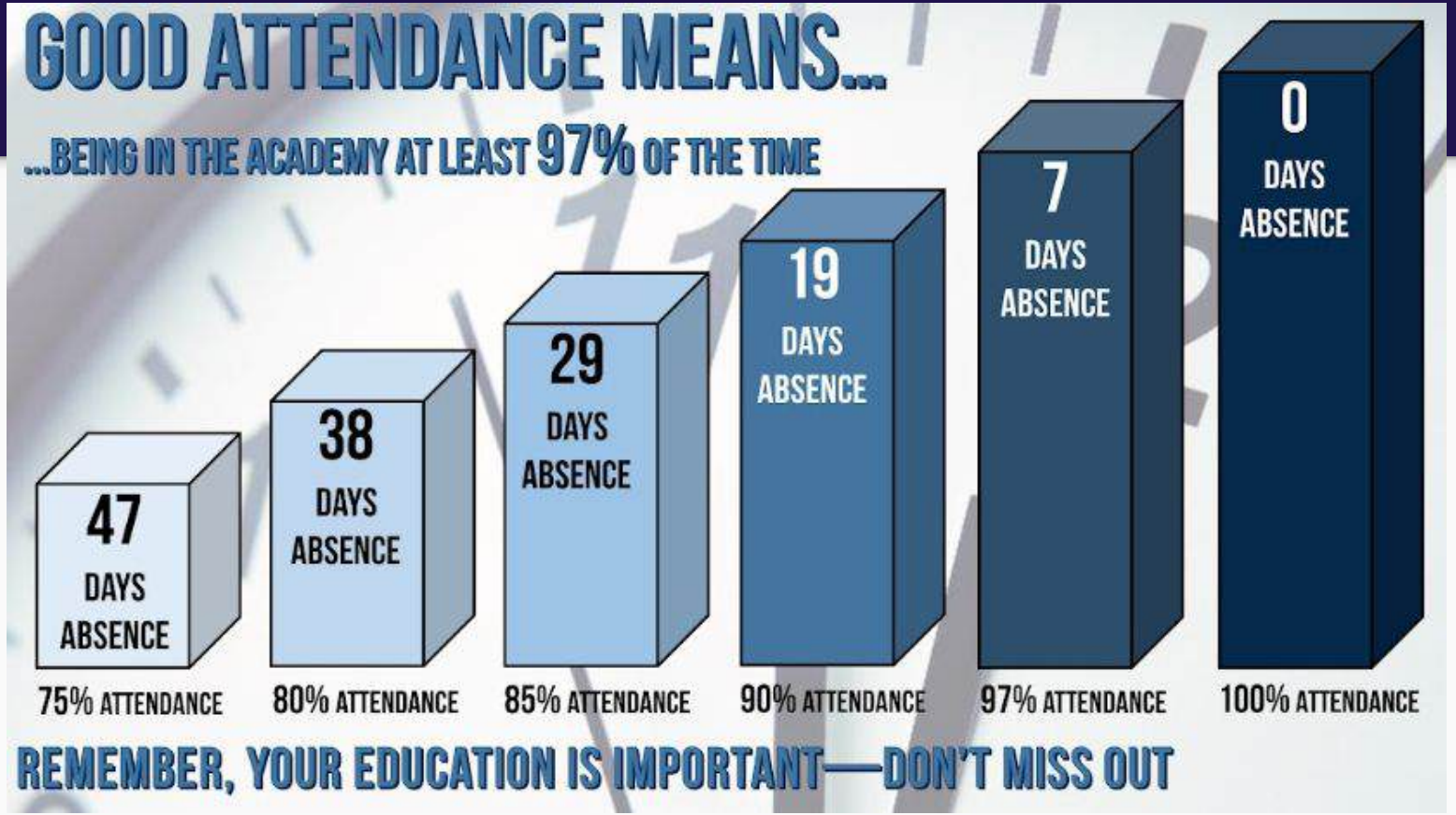
Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful first full week back, with our classrooms and corridors once again filled with energy, focused activity, and warm reconnections. From our youngest pupils settling comfortably into their new routines to our older year groups diving straight into their updated timetables, the overall sense of purpose across all year groups has been truly commendable. It has been a pleasure to see children catching up with peers, engaging thoughtfully with their learning, and adapting so seamlessly to the new academic year. We extend our sincere thanks to parents and carers for supporting such a smooth, punctual, and positive start to the term, laying a fantastic foundation for the exciting weeks ahead.

Looking ahead, the coming weeks promise to build on this strong foundation with the full launch of our autumn term activities. Pupils can look forward to exploring new topics across their subjects, alongside the return of our co-curricular clubs, sports fixtures, and creative pursuits. We encourage everyone to make the most of these opportunities, try something new, and continue working collaboratively. Thank you once again for your ongoing support, and we look forward to sharing more of our pupils' achievements and milestones as the term unfolds.

Warm 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 1

- Thursday 3rd September - Term began!
- Wednesday 16th & 17th September - Art Printmaking Workshop
- Wednesday 16th - Friday 18th September - Year 6 Residential Trip
- Wednesday 23rd September - Warriner Open Morning 9-11am & BGN Open Evening 6-8pm
- Thursday 24th September - Warriner Open Morning 9-11am, BGN Open Morning 9.30-10.30am and NOA Open Evening 5.30-7.30pm
- Friday 25th September - European Languages Day
- Friday 25th September - McMillan Coffee Morning
- Thursday 1st October - Art Printmaking Workshop
- Friday 2nd October - Art Printmaking Workshop
- Friday 2nd October - Year 4 Book & Brew
- Tuesday 6th October - Year 3 trip to Avon Dassett
- Wednesday 7th October - Year 3 trip to Avon Dassett
- Wednesday 7th October - WPA & Future Open Evening 5.30-6.30pm
- Friday 9th October - School Photos
- Wednesday 14th October - Year 4 Science Oxford workshop
- Monday 19th October - EYU Phonics Workshop
- Wednesday 21st October - EYU Open Morning
- Thursday 22nd October - Aspirations Awards Assembly
- Friday 23rd October - School INSET Day

Nursery

Nursery pupils have enjoyed exploring their new environment, learning their daily routines, singing their favourite nursery rhymes, and meeting their new friend Danny the Duckling.

They have also been practising their STAR sitting.









Early Years

Early Years have been learning all about the routines and expectations we have at all. We have been practicing our CALM corridors and how to walk around the school without disturbing others. We are all very excited to be starting school!

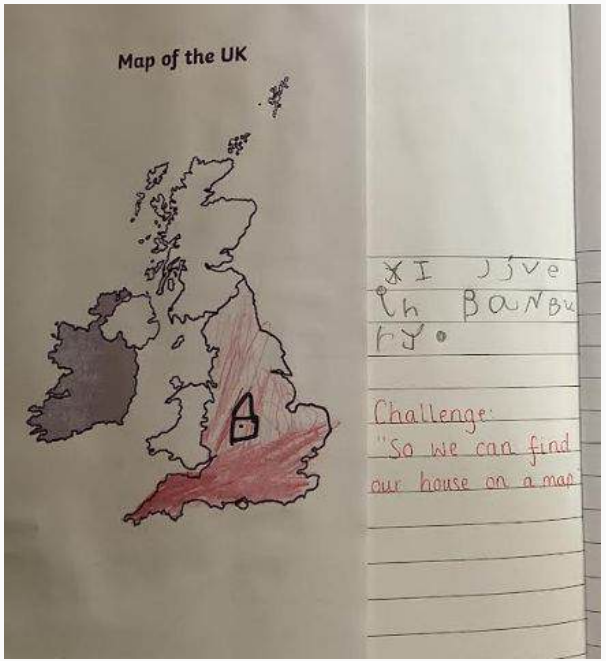


Year 1

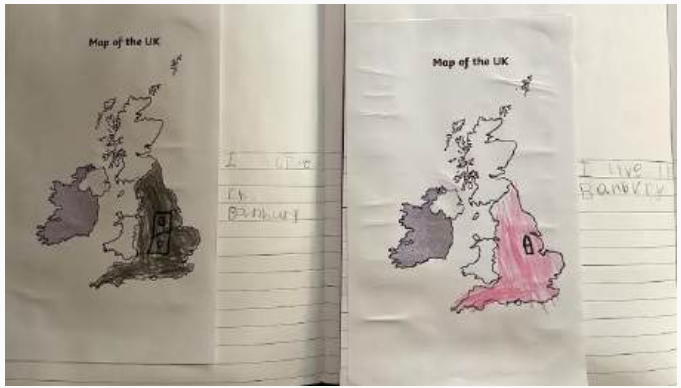
The children in Year 1 have had a fantastic first week. They have enjoyed sharing stories about the summer holidays.

The children have been learning all about our local area. They drew their houses on a map to show they know where Banbury is.

They have worked very hard and the teachers are very proud.







Year 2

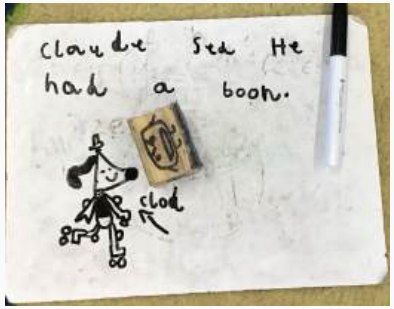
The Year 2 pupils have had an incredible start to the new school year!

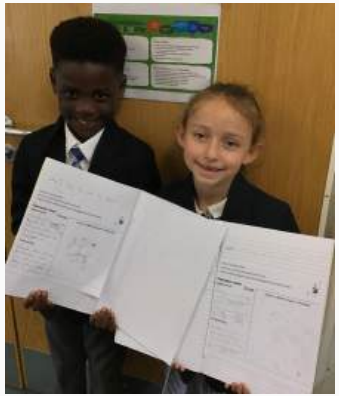
In English, we have been learning all about Claude in 'Claude in the City'!

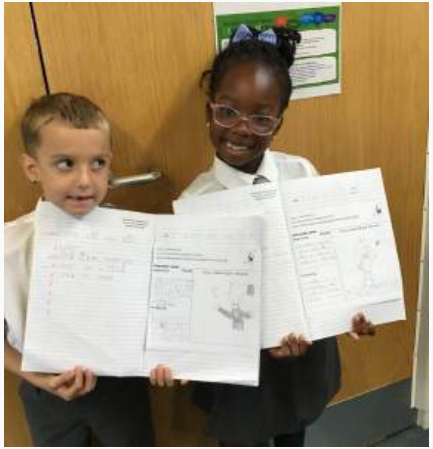
The pupils created some fantastic drawings of Claude during an Art lesson!











Year 3

Year 3 have started their science topic learning about rocks and fossils. We learnt how to work scientifically to investigate different types of rocks. We compared rocks for their strength, permeability and texture and used this information to group the rocks.







Year 4

Year 4 pupils enjoyed travelling to different countries in Europe in their Topic lesson this week.

The children learnt how to clap Flamenco style in Spain, make pizza and eat mozzarella and bread sticks in Italy, count the islands in Greece, find the Eiffel Tower and of course enjoy trying baguette and croissant in France!











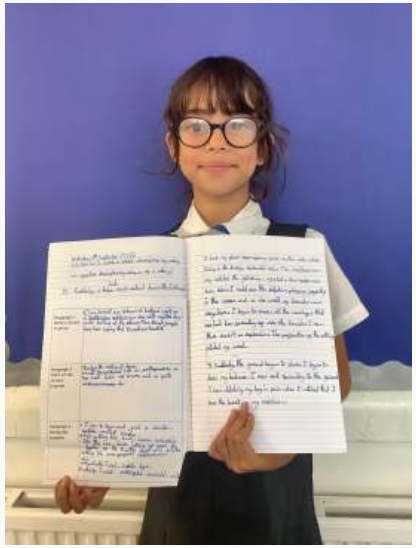


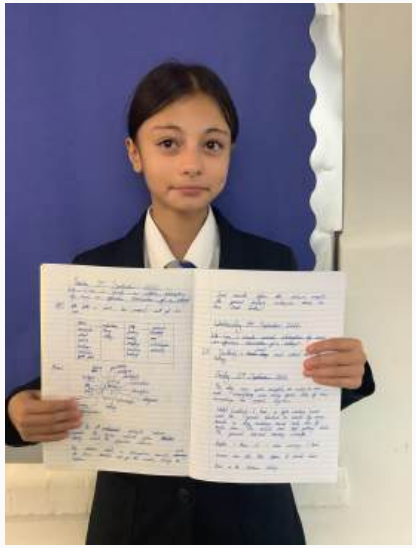


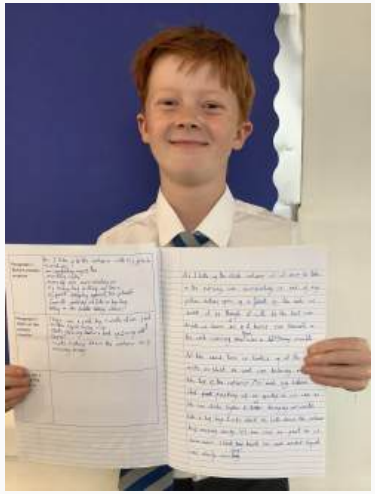

Year 5

Year 5 have started the new academic year off strong; they have demonstrated high expectations and followed routines excellently.

We have started the year focusing on teamwork and the power of collaboration. From acting out scenarios for problem solving to working together to build the tallest structure possible, the students have shown how effectively they can work as a team.







Year 6

This week, Year 6 pupils have hit the ground running with a brilliant start to the new term. They have shown what fantastic role models they are through their leadership, kindness, and hard work.

In English, the children have been diving into descriptive writing; focusing on creating atmosphere by using a effective descriptions of a setting.

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.

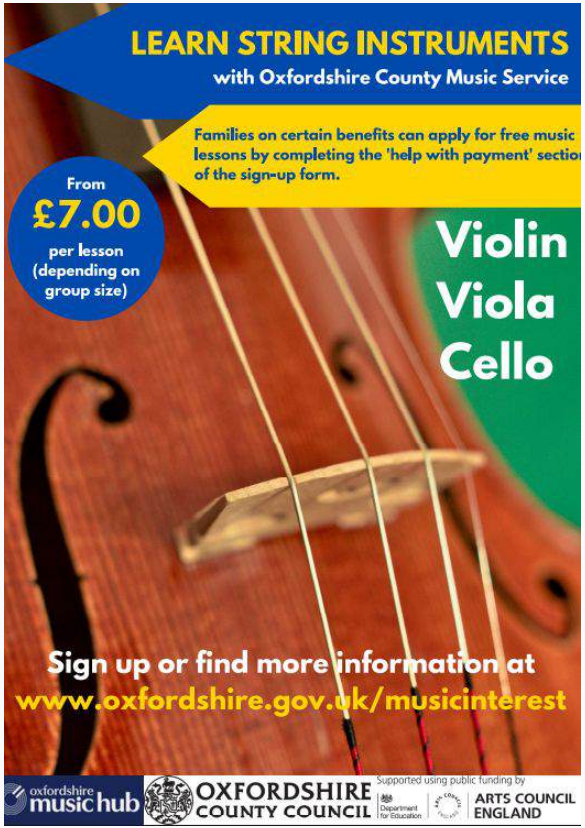
FRESH & SEASONAL – Children enjoy a vibrant variety of flavours while sharing a sit-down meal with friends, building confidence, conversation skills, and even mastering cutlery in a relaxed, restaurant-style setting.

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 at Harriers







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: Ostomy

An ostomy is a lifesaving surgery that changes how your body gets rid of waste, like stool or urine. This happens when part of your digestive or urinary system isn't working properly. Waste leaves your body through a new opening in your abdomen, called a stoma. An ostomy can be temporary or permanent, depending on your condition.

For more information, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower website has easy-read bullet points that you can share with your children.

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

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

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



Mrs Atherton



Mrs Stephens

Safeguarding our children

What is county lines?

County lines is a form of criminal exploitation. It refers to gangs using children and vulnerable adults to move, hold and sell drugs across the UK.

It's known as county lines because children travel across counties and use dedicated mobile phone 'lines' to supply drugs.

Children might start because they get money or gifts. It could also happen because of a sexual or violent relationship with someone who's manipulating them.

Involvement in county lines can happen to any child regardless of age, gender or class, and it happens everywhere.

Although children might break the law while involved in county lines, it's a form of child criminal exploitation.

Please see link for any further information;
https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/types-of-abuse/county-lines/#what-is-it

Harriers Got Talent winners from last term



Achievements outside Harriers



Some of Harriers children took part in the 1km Children's Fun Run at the Banbury 10K event and proudly completed the run and received their medals - Well done!

Storytelling Garden and OPAL

We have got lots of new sports equipment out on the playground now, and its been looking very dynamic and colourful out there!







September Oral Health Newsletter









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 professional from sending messages to you, text STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rate.

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/WWY/

Beezee
ADULTS



Want to feel supported on your weight-loss journey?

Date: Tuesday / Thursday
Time: Tuesday 10am-12 Thursday 6pm to 8pm
Venue: Grimsbury Community Centre Buchester Pl, Banbury OX16 3WT

OR you can join us online instead!

Join our FREE, 12-week healthy lifestyle programme to help you lose weight and keep it off. No diets here, just small, realistic, changes. Our in-person group sessions start on:

Sign up for your FREE PLACE today

03332 208 952

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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 posts, join groups and play games.

SNAPCHAT

SNAPCHAT is one of the most popular apps in recent years. Whilst 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 on 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 GPRS 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 really 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

Fostering in Oxfordshire

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.



oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering



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







Fundraising for Harriers



We're calling on all parents and guardians this summer to help Harriers Banbury Academy fundraise. There's a really simple way you can help without donating anything - simply **get the easyfundraising app**!
It's completely free and when you use it to do your normal day-to-day shopping with 8,000+ online retailers, we'll receive a free cashback donation, AT NO EXTRA COST TO YOU.
Even better, if you get the app and become our supporter this week, we get a £3 bonus donation just for inviting you.

Use the link below and install the app on your mobile device, then fill in the simple steps to become our supporter for free.

This will make a huge difference, thank you! Get the app here:
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/easyfundraising-app/?causeId=175885&utm_campaign=summer-parent-power&utm_source=pmc&utm_medium=email&utm_content=SPPemail1