



# Newstead News

## Friday 1 December 2023

### Headteacher's Update

December has arrived and, as if by magic, it's been snowing here at school all morning! The flakes have already melted, but it's a fitting way to start the festive season.

It's been another busy week this week at school, and looking ahead to the last two weeks of term, this is how it is set to continue. I've written separately with the key dates for concerts, Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper Day so please do make a note of these on your calendars.

Our Senior Music Competition took place on Wednesday afternoon, and the number of entries was so great that we have had to hold the second half of the competition this afternoon. I'm looking forward to seeing the six house ensembles perform at the end of the day. Look out for the results and photos in next week's newsletter!

This morning, our Sixth Form Lecture was delivered by Nottingham University. Separately, all students had the opportunity to hear from Zara Loughridge, Senior Economist at Oxford Economics' Economic Impact Consulting team, who gave a fascinating talk to students on Wednesday.



Our very own Mrs Buick was joined by Captain Louise Weatherhogg and Captain Adam Kane from British Airways at our Careers@lunchtime session on the Aviation Industry and the new Pilot Apprenticeship scheme recently launched. They all talked about their careers as pilots with British Airways. They then went on to explain how British Airways and Tui are now running Cadet Schemes which offer fully funded pilot training. They explained the skills required to become a pilot, the training cadets can expect to receive as well as plenty of memories of their careers.

If you would like to find out more, please email [careers@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:careers@newsteadwood.co.uk) and Mrs Green will email you the presentation. Thank you to Mrs Buick for organising this talk on behalf of the Careers Department.

Dr Abigail Shinn from Goldsmiths University visited Newstead to give a lecture on Romeo and Juliet to our Year 11 students. She offered some fascinating interpretations of the play, including insights into tragedy, morality, gender and language.

As the King makes his speech urging rapid environmental repair today to at the opening ceremony of the COP28 UN Climate Summit in Dubai, members of Year 13 are attending a COP28 Simulation Event in London organised by the British Council.



Our Year 8 First Give competition is hotting up as we head toward the final next Wednesday. Students have been busy holding final sales at lunchtime and publicity events for their chosen charities. I have purchased quite a few items, including some new Christmas decorations in support of these charities!

Year 9 present the monsters they have been busy making this half term to their clients at Crofton Junior school next week. Our DT department have led a fantastic new project where the children at Crofton designed a monster, and our Year 9 Textiles students have risen to the challenge of making them ready to present to their clients!

Special mention must also go to 7S who have made a charity Christmas song to raise money for the charity Young Carers!

To download the video please log onto WisePay where you will find a link to download the video in return for a voluntary donation of any amount you are able (we recommend £1).



And finally, it's the time of the year where our Year 13 students who have applied to Medicine, Veterinary or Dentistry courses and Oxbridge across all subjects are starting to be called for interview. Our Sixth Form team would be delighted to hear from anyone who might be able to support them by offering a mock interview. These can take place online, and at a mutually convenient time. Please do get in touch via [sixthform@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@newsteadwood.co.uk) if you are able to offer some time.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Alan Blount  
Headteacher

## Dates for your diary

Tuesday 5 December	Year 8 Curriculum Evening – Studying for Success in Year 8
Thursday 7 December	Christmas Concert
Wednesday 13 December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 15 December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Fair
<i>21 December-2 January</i>	<i>Christmas Holiday</i>

Wednesday 3 January	CPD Day – School Closed to Students
4-19 January	Year 13 Mock Exams
Wednesday 10 January	Learning Together Forum
Thursday 11 January	Year 11 Parents’/Carers’ Evening
Tuesday 16 January	Year 9 GCSE Options Evening
Wednesday 24 January	School Photos
24-26 January	School Production – Oliver!
Wednesday 31 January	Year 9 Parents’/Carers’ Evening
Friday 9 February	CPD Day – School Closed to Students
<i>12-16 February</i>	<i>Half Term Break</i>

Term dates for 2023-4 and 2024-5 can be found on our website [here](#).



guest  
speaker



**We have some fantastic speakers for you in our Autumn Term Guest Speaker Programme. These talks are open to students and parents. To book a place, click on the name of the speaker.**

**Wednesday, 13 December, 4pm:**

**[Dr Emily Emmott](#)**, Lecturer and Teaching Fellow in Biological Anthropology, University College London: *Adolescent Sociality across Cultures & Academic Career Advice*

Dr Emily Emmott is a Human Behavioural Ecologist at one of the leading universities in the world, who studies how the social and physical environment influences human development and behaviour. Her academic interests focus on child-rearing systems and their implications for health and wellbeing. She will be talking on her research into fascinating areas of biological anthropology, as well as giving academic career advice. Anyone interested in attending a top university, establishing an academic career, or who is interested in Dr Emmott’s areas of study should absolutely attend!

## **Around Newstead**

### **Bebras Computational Challenge 2023**

Newstead celebrates another year of success in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge 2023. Approximately 600 students from KS3, KS4, and KS5 showcased their computational thinking skills in this national competition. An impressive 165 students earned Gold Awards, ranking them in the top 10% nationally for their respective age groups.

The University of Oxford and Raspberry Pi Foundation continue their support and sponsorship of this event and subsequent rounds.

Congratulations to all certificate recipients and participants. Every student demonstrated excellent problem-solving and computational thinking skills, along with enthusiasm and determination to perform their best. Anticipation grows for more success stories as qualifying students approach the next round in January. Special commendations to the Best in School certificate winners in each category:

- Junior (Year 7): Nora F
- Intermediate (Year 8 and Year 9): Ava B - Year 9
- Senior (Year 10): Lily E
- Elite (Year 12): Alec B

### **Netball Report: Darrick Wood vs Newstead Netball - Year 7**

After a tough match vs Bromley High on 15th November, the Newstead Wood Y7 Netball B team enjoyed a great win vs Darrick Wood! Playing their B team, Newstead won 11-0 with frequent goals by Carla K and Ayana H. In the second half, we scored fewer goals but still enjoyed a dominating half. The Netball B team needed to drive forward more, which they strongly developed in the next match, winning 8-0 against their A team. The team were confident in attack and strong in defence and performed fabulously throughout. Well done to Ayana for the player of the match and some incredible goals. The A team beat their oppositions 14-0 and 14-0. So an absolutely brilliant match to get the season fully underway. By Iris D 7W (B team captain)

### **Sparx Update**

Well done to this week's top 10 Sparx Readers:

- Senumi W V in 8S
- Vidhi P in 9S
- Ramiyah A A in 7G
- Zainab R in 7F
- Aleeza R in 9W
- Rebecca P in 8N
- Ojal S in 8P
- Aksha D in 8P
- Muna O in 8G
- Juliet J in 7N

## Debating Society News

Another excellent Debating Society session again this week, with the motion: 'This House Would pay one parent to stay at home.' The proposition have it! It was also amazing to have our alumna and Oxford Union debater, Melanie Pope, who will be coming in regularly to support us to new heights!



## History Club

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at History Club! This week they were making Victorian paper chain decorations

## Congratulations:

Congratulations from the Careers Team to Year 13 students, Ethan, Sasha, May-Lynn, Aaron, Inessa, and Nana who have secured places on the PwC In-person Graduate Scheme Information Event. This is a great achievement as this event is extremely popular and heavily oversubscribed. We hope that the students benefit from and enjoy the event.



## Year 13 Biology Trip to Flatford Mill



## Design and Technology Update

### Year 9 Product Design:

Year 9 DT Chair Project: Students have been modelling and laser cutting their design developments this week. There have been some great designs and students have learnt a lot taking their designs from sketching, to CAD to physical models.



### Food & Nutrition:

Students across the years have been working on completing ever more complex dishes. A huge well done to Year 10 for completing their first two part practical – Lemon Meringue Pie. Also well done to KS3 food tech classes on their excellent preparation and execution of an assessment practical over the last few weeks.





### **LEGO #BuildtoGive**

This year's LEGO #BuildtoGive campaign is underway. LEGO will donate a brand new LEGO set to a child in need each time a LEGO heart is shared on social media with the hashtag #BuildtoGive. If you can share a couple of minutes over the weekend, we would love the Newstead Wood community to be involved. Your photos can be shared via Instagram, Facebook or LinkedIn. So far in the 6 years of running this program the LEGO Group has donated over 6.5 million LEGO sets through this campaign.



### **The Design Wall:**

We are starting to collect examples of products that embody 'excellent' or 'classic design'. The Design Museum has a similar wall - [here](#) is some information on their collection. We would love any ideas you have about products that you think should be included. Or if you have something at home that you would be happy to donate, it would be gratefully received and appreciated. The products we have already collected include:

- A Gameboy Colour
- Dyson vacuum cleaner
- Rubik's Cube
- A radio
- Juicy Salif Juicer
- A converse shoe
- A windup torch.
- A no tip, sip cup.

Things we would love to include on our wall:

- An original Sony Walkman cassette player
- An Ipod
- Any Dieter Rams/Braun products
- A Margaret Calvert designed street sign
- A Bialetti coffee maker

We would also love more suggestions as to products that you think should be displayed on our wall. Please email [ncameron@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:ncameron@newsteadwood.co.uk) if you have any ideas or donations. Thank you.



## Library Update



### Monthly Borrowing Overview

Star

November 2023:	Borrowers:	Issues:
Year 7	102	455
Year 8	82	315
Year 9	74	241
Year 10	50	157
Year 11	26	85
Year 12	39	98
Year 13	29	89
<b>Total</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>1440</b>

### Borrowers

Neevh	7N	Kinjal	7G	Riya	8G	Kelechi	10W
Florence	7N	Olivia	7G	Yasmin	8G	Finn	10F
Abigail	7N	Mehr	7G	Anjali	8G	Nandana	10G
Amelie	7N	Sophie	7P	Tarika	8G	Kierujaa	10G
Lea	7N	Mariam	7P	Isla	8G	Isabelle	10P
Khushi	7N	Naomi	7P	Aksha	8P	Anthiya	10P
Anisah	7W	Jemima	7P	Hannah	8P	Lucy	10P
Ananya	7W	Kyra	8N	Layla	9N	Lizzy	10P
Electra	7W	Akshara	8W	Aleena	9W	Aayushi	11W
Simran	7W	Ashwati	8S	Veronica	9W	Sorena	11S
Denosha	7S	Charlotte	8S	Lola	9S	Klementyna	11S
April	7F	Reika	8S	Sophiyaa	9S	Jia	11P
Merisha	7F	Nmesoma	8S	Eunice	9S	Frances	12N
Tripti	7F	Itihaa	8S	Leila	9S	Fran	12W
Dia	7F	Isla	8S	Precious	9S	Julia	12S
Zainab	7F	Senumi	8S	Abigail	9F	Evie	12P
Aarushi	7F	Imaan	8F	Christina	9G	Nana	13N
Jasmine	7F	Avni	8F	Kurangi	9G	Aimee	13N
Fiona	7F	Rose	8F	Keerthana	9G	Rowan	13S
Ariadne	7F	Veda	8F	Tanisha	10N	Imaan	13P
Sophie	7G	Anushka	8F	Ariane	10N		
Abisha	7G	Sara	8F	Oluwatoni	10W		

## House Competition



Thanks to all the students who completed our student survey! As promised, we have awarded house points based on the numbers of students who completed the survey - it was very close but Griffin came out on top and maintain their position in first place in the overall competition, with Phoenix snapping at their heels.

The completion rates were:

Griffin	62%
Falcon	61%
Nightingale	60%
Swift	57%
Phoenix	56%
Wren	54%

Special thanks to 7S who were the highest completion rate in the school at 84%!



## Languages News

### Word of the week

Answers to this week's words of the week:

French: le bois - wood

German: der Schnee - snow

Spanish: heladería - ice cream shop

Chinese: 滑雪 - ski

Japanese: かわいい - cute

Latin: maximus - the biggest, greatest

The words for next week are:

French: démodé

German: der Regenbogen

Spanish: barquillo

Chinese: 礼物

Japanese: あつい

Latin: numquam

## **National Language Competition 2023**

Back at the start of this month (6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> November), Year 9 had a great opportunity to take part in a nationwide competition run by GCHQ. It involved students working in teams of up to 4 students and completing as many challenges as possible via an online portal to collect points. Challenges involved using their language skills, as well as problem solving and higher level thinking skills. The prize was a visit to GCHQ in Cheltenham and being presented with a trophy!



This year, we did not manage to win on a national or regional level as the highest scorers (competition was tight!), but we have done well for our first year, given that multiple teams across 500 different schools took part! A very well done to the teams that participated this year - all their participation took place outside of their lessons, at break/lunch and before/after school.

Place nationally	Team name	% completed	Points
#249	handsome talented lark (Olivia + Keerthana 9G)	44%	3125
#507	distinct talented armadillo (Anika + Izabelle 9S)	24%	1690
#737	elated gleaming kiwi (Tanika, Prajnaa + Hareena 9P)	19%	1070
#1041	clever fancy newt (Christine, Thea + Sophie 9P)	8%	610
#1260	funny blushing cuckoo (Chioma + Cavira 9P)	8%	380
#1484	precious smart whale (Nadia 9N)	4%	230

Keep your eyes peeled for the GCHQ Christmas Challenge happening on 14 December 2023, for a smaller scale, festive language-related puzzle! In the meantime, here are a couple of sample NLC challenges that students had to complete in previous years:

<https://www.gchq.gov.uk/files/NLC%20Challenge%20no1.pdf>

<https://www.gchq.gov.uk/files/NLC%20Sample%20Challenge.pdf>



WUNSCHZETTEL UND WEIHNACHTSBRIEFE

# SCHREIB EINEN BRIEF AN DAS CHRISTKIND IN ENGELSKIRCHEN

DU ERHÄLTST EINE PERSÖNLICHE ANTWORT!

put your letter into the letterbox by Dec 7th  
(or hand it to Ms. Lacey / Mr. Gmeiner)



## USEFUL PHRASES AND IDEAS

### Wünsche

In diesem Jahr wünsche ich mir...  
Es wäre toll, wenn du mir dieses Jahr ... schenken könntest.  
Ich habe lange überlegt und mein Wunsch ist meine Wünsche sind...

### Abschluss

Ich freue mich schon sehr auf ...  
Ich werde eine Kerze für dich anzünden und an dich denken!  
Vielen Dank im Voraus!  
Frohe Weihnachten aus ...

Liebe Grüße,  
Mit lieben Grüßen,  
Dein e (Name)

### Einleitung

Liebes Christkind,  
Hallo liebes Christkind,

### Danksagung

Vielen Dank für...  
Ich möchte mich für ... bedanken.  
Danke für deine Liebe und Fürsorge!

*Viel Spaß beim Schreiben  
deines Briefes an das  
Christkind*



AN DAS  
CHRISTKIND  
51777  
ENGELSKIRCHEN  
DEUTSCHLAND

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# Talk with German Food Blogger Maya Leinenbach

Come to Ms. Lacey's room (L21) and join the talk!!



**DON'T MISS OUT!**

Meet Maya, Germany's top vegan food blogger, as she joins the Goethe-Institut London on December 6th for a live conversation about vegan cooking, inspiring your students with recipes and launching an engaging classroom competition!



## The German New Ways Friendlier December Challenge

To all students/staff/parents and carers! Complete as many challenges as possible and keep a record of them. Email Herr Gmeiner

([mgmeiner@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:mgmeiner@newsteadwood.co.uk)) and Frau Lacey ([vlacey@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:vlacey@newsteadwood.co.uk)) to share your

experiences  
Download your free "action for happiness" calendar here...



<https://actionforhappiness.org/calendar#download-block-anchor>





## **Newstead Wood School**

### **Exam Invigilators required for 2024**

We are currently seeking to recruit Exam Invigilators to assist in the smooth running of public and internal school exams throughout the academic year, but predominantly May to the end of June.

You will need to work professionally as a member of a team ensuring that JCQ regulations are followed. Successful applicants should be available daily between the hours of 8.30am and 4.30pm.

Experience of working in a school environment preferred but not essential as training will be given. Good time keeping, availability, flexibility and reliability essential.

Please apply here [Current Vacancies \(newsteadwood.co.uk\)](https://www.newsteadwood.co.uk) and email your completed application form to [recruitment@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@newsteadwood.co.uk)

#### **Applications to be received by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December**

Newstead Wood School is an equal opportunities employer and requires enhanced DBS clearance as part of its commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We are committed to equal opportunity for all staff and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, disability, sex, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and marriage and civil partnerships.

**Newstead Wood School, Avebury Road, Orpington, BR6 9SA**

**01689 853626 [www.newsteadwood.co.uk](https://www.newsteadwood.co.uk)**



## Newstead Wood School Parents' Association News



We had a good PA Zoom meeting on 29 November 2023 at 7pm: thanks to those who attended. We encourage more parents to join in the Zoom meeting for next one on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7pm.

The PA meeting discussed funds of around £50k to be handed for the school project. The meeting also discussed how to set up familiarisation tests for next year and discussed organising upcoming events.

Our upcoming events include:

- **Uniform sale next week Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 3.15pm**
- **Evening Quiz to be around March 2024**
- **Familiarisation test to be around April/May/June 2024**

**We are currently looking for volunteers to help with half-termly uniform sales; to help organise a quiz in Feb/March; and to help with the familiarisation tests on some April/May/June Saturdays next year.**

All parents and guardians of Newstead Wood students automatically become members of the NWPA so we hope you can join us in organising and attending some events this year. We aim to enrich the school community by helping at school events like plays and open days; we provide practical services, like the secondhand uniform sales; we encourage parents to support each other through social events and the individual class WhatsApp groups; and we run fundraising activities like the Summer disco and the Family Quiz. We look forward to you joining us!

If you have any questions about the Parents' Association, would like to know how to join your class parents' WhatsApp group, need information on uniform, or would like to volunteer to join one of our teams, please get in touch at [pa@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:pa@newsteadwood.co.uk).

There's something for everyone, please get involved!



**VOLUNTEERS**

**NEEDED**

**GET INVOLVED**

**OUR PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ARE LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT AND JOIN THE GROUP.**





**Revision books, uniform, PE kit: for sale from the PA Hut on  
Tuesday 5 December 3.15 - 4pm**

***Volunteers are needed from 2.30pm to 4pm***

*Great condition... great prices... great for the environment...and great for the school!*

Jumpers (£3 each/2 for £5), 6<sup>th</sup> form blazers (£5), Skirts (£3/£4), shirts (£2 each, 3 for £5), trainers and astroturfs (£3), umbrellas (£1) and other items are also available, plus textbooks and revision books (£2 each, 3 for £5) in many subjects. Payment by cash or card.

**VOLUNTEERS** to help for an hour or so occasionally would be very welcome, please email [pauniform@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:pauniform@newsteadwood.co.uk) for more information. No special skills needed, all training given!

**DONATIONS** of uniform, PE kit, coats etc. all welcome and can be left at reception anytime. Please remove or cross out names if possible and label the bag 'donations'. Thanks very much for all the donations we've had so far; keep them coming!

**Thank you for your support as we help the school, help the environment and help you with your shopping!**

# STIKINS® Name Labels

**SIMPLY STICK IN & STAY IN  
NO SEWING & NO IRONING**



Save time and money with one multipurpose name label for clothes, shoes, lunch boxes, and all school items

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If your school has a fundraising number, please use it when you order. (Default save up to 30% commission)



Only apply Stikins onto the wash-care label of clothes, never directly onto the fabric or any other label.



Use every name label with multiple uses for all kinds of personal items, including clothes and shoes.

	Price	Price/1000	
1000 Standard Name Labels - 10/100	£14.99	£14.99	Please include SBI & UK Delivery
25 Standard Name Labels - 25/100	£1.75	£1.75	
50 Standard Name Labels - 50/100	£1.25	£1.25	
10 Standard Name Labels - 10/100	£0.25	£0.25	

Order online at [www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk) • Pay by Credit Card, PayPal, or Apple Pay  
Order by phone on 01276 668876 • Pay by Credit/Debit Card

The PA are excited to announce that we have teamed up with Stikins to offer parents the opportunity to purchase quality labels for your children's school uniform, whilst earning the school commission at the same time! This money can then be used to continue to help purchase some of the fantastic resources that benefit our children's learning.

As we all know, lost property is a problem in all schools and I am sure we are all familiar with our child, at some point, coming home from school with a missing item. As parents, we are aware that time is precious, which is why we think these labels are such a great idea; they simply stick onto the wash-care label of clothing. They can even be used in shoes! Naming of clothing is a school requirement and we are hoping that with this opportunity we can start to eliminate some of parents' frustrations that surround these issues.

### How it works:

Each order placed quoting the school reference number **14318** will provide the school with 30% commission. If you use the link on our school website's [Uniform Page](#) to order your labels online, the number is filled in automatically for you!

# Please take care of your library books

**Treat them like you would treat your phone - with care and respect.**

**Treat them carefully when taking them home and reading them.**

**Keep them safe - they are your responsibility when borrowed.**

**Make sure they are kept clean.**

**Remember - other students want to read your favourite books too!**



# e-scooters are **illegal** in Bromley

**except on private land with the  
landowners permission!**

## e-scooters and the law

Under Government regulations, e-scooters are classed as 'powered transporters' – a term used to cover a variety of novel and emerging personal transport devices which are powered by a motor.

This means they are treated as a motor vehicle and subject to the same legal requirements such as MOT, licensing, tax and insurance.

**As e-scooters don't have number plates, signal ability and don't always have a visible rear light, they can't be used legally on the roads.**

**Their use is also prohibited on cycle lanes and pavements.**

e-scooters are currently only legal to ride on:  
- private land with the landowner's permission,  
**or**  
- as part of a Government trial rental scheme, which Bromley is not part of.

Any **illegal** e-scooters stopped by the Police can be seized, and riders can be **fined in excess of £300.**



Scan the QR code for  
more information



Supported by



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

# What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools ...

## WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

### HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

### ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

### MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

### HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

### NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

### REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

### AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

## What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

### KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on 'protecting people from illegal harms online' will be running until February 2024.

### REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

### WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

### UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

### ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

### Meet Our Expert

Luke Ramsden is Senior Deputy Headmaster and Director of Safeguarding for the St Benedict's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes in the TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



**NOS**  
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#WakeUpWednesday

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[@national\\_online\\_safety](https://tiktok.com/@national_online_safety)

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## Contact us and keep in touch

General email enquiries [office@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:office@newsteadwood.co.uk)

Attendance reporting [attendance@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:attendance@newsteadwood.co.uk)

Need to contact a subject? Email the subject name e.g. [science@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:science@newsteadwood.co.uk)

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## Easyfundraising

Help out when you check out! Support Newstead Wood School Parents' Association

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/newsteadwoodschool>

Thank you to all of you who are supporting the school through a monthly donation – if you still haven't got round to setting this up, forms can be [found here](#). And thank you to all of you who are supporting the school library through our [Amazon Wishlist](#).