



Pleckgate Weekly Newsletter

A weekly newsletter for pupils and parents during the school closure

Week Ending: Friday 15th May 2020

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Message from the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Firstly, I hope you and your family are all well.

I know the recent announcements about schools reopening will be causing some concern, not least because of a lack of clarity and detail at the moment.

All this week and continuing over next week, various discussions will be taking place in school, with the Local Authority and our Multi Academy Trust to put together a sensible, safe and workable plan for providing more support for Year 10, and the increasing number of children who may start to attend our school. I want to reassure you that as soon as there is a plan we will let you know. We are not going to rush into making rash decisions and will ensure that any wider school opening is cautious and phased in at a manageable pace, anchored in making sure that all reasonable measures are implemented to minimise risk.

If you are a key worker and now find yourself in the position that you may need to send your child back into school, please make contact with us by emailing info@pleckgate.com so we can support you.

We will be continually mindful of pupil and staff wellbeing and health and as soon as we have made any decisions on how and when school may start to open more widely to meet with year 10 students and support their ongoing learning, we will be in touch.

In the meantime, I would ask that as parents and carers you take this time to reflect on what will be a very personal decision you will have to make around sending your child back to school at some point. In the near future, we will be asking for the views of year 10 parent/carers on any potential wider school opening.

As always, I thank you for your ongoing support and wish you and all your family the very best.

Kind regards



Mr Cocker Headteacher

VE Day #bakeforvictory WINNERS!

Thank you to the Mayor of BwD councillor Jim Shorrock for selecting the winning cakes.

We wish to thank everyone who took part, you are all winners and I'm sure the best part of this competition was eating the finished product!



1st
Aliyah



2nd
Ismael



3rd
Maryam M

Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

Pupil Rewards for OUTSTANDING Work

A number of students will be receiving **AMAZON VOUCHERS** though the post for outstanding work...



Student of the Week

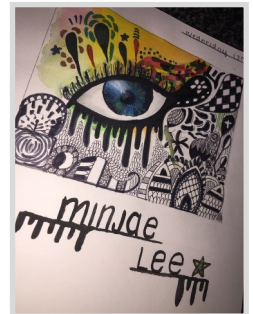
This recognises and rewards students who have been working exceptionally well at home, and teachers have been asked to nominate students for this reward. There are 2 winners in each year group and I am delighted to say that **Soha** has been chosen to receive one of them. The reward is a £10 amazon voucher which will be posted to you in the next week or so.

Keep up the good work and many congratulations and well deserved!

Miss Hartleys's Year Group Award

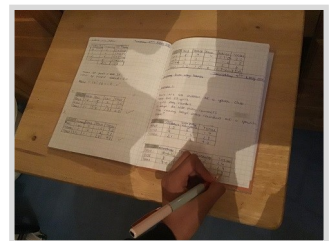
Miss Hartley was delighted to say that **Aisha** has been selected to receive the award for outstanding work over the past week. You were nominated by at least two subjects which is absolutely brilliant.

Keep up the good work, see an example



Mr Cadmans's Year Group Award

Mumina has been really committed to her studies, regardless of the current lockdown. She has completed work in all of her subjects and it has been particularly noted in technology and science. It is difficult at times, but **Mumina** has motivated herself to continue to learn. A brilliant effort!



Arbaaz is working extremely hard and applying himself well at home. He has been nominated in a number of subjects including Geography and technology.'

Mrs Millest's Year Group Award

Ghausmohammed and **Layeena** both students have been nominated by several of their teachers this week as consistently making an effort, completing tasks fully and on time and maintaining their presentation of work to a high standard.

Miss Ashford's Year Group Award

Miss Ashford's reward is going to **Sara** HSW. She has been nominated by two subjects and submitted a fantastic prefect letter.

Useful Tips & Links For Pupils & Parents

Brainiac

Calling all young scientists Learn some science that you will not be allowed to do at school with the seminal science series BRAINIAC on You Tube

Please see the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOyWqUnLknacYeSI4CvG6FA/featured>



Dekko Comics

Dekko Comics covers English, Maths, Science and more through wacky characters and funny comic strips.

Use the link below:

<https://dekkocomics.com/issue-list-home>



Year 11's Interested in Apprenticeships

If your in Year 11 and interested in apprenticeships you can visit the Lancashire Forums's "SORTED" website www.lancsforum.co.uk/sorted/ and "Training 2000's" website www.training2000.co.uk search for apprenticeships and apply online.



TRAINING 2000

Help and advice for families in a digital world

There is valuable support available online for parents and carers to keep their children safe online.

Use the link below:

<https://parentinfo.org/>



Safeguarding

Remember you can find safeguarding information via the website or follow us on twitter for regular updates. Although we might not be in school the Pleckgate safeguarding email address can still be used by any student to share concerns. This can be done by signing in and sending an email by anyone with a Pleckgate email domain.

Request any help via safeguarding@pleckgate.com

This can help to arrange to provide support, information and guidance.

Digital Safety During Covid-19 (Safeguarding from harmful influences online) see the attached information at the end of this newsletter.

Staying Connected

Please send any photos and information for the next weeks newsletter to

info@pleckgate.com by **Thursday lunchtime**.

If you have any queries or questions relating to the newsletter please use the email address rather than phoning into school.

Quote of the Week

Chosen by Mr Haworth (PE Department)

"I hated every minute of training, but I said, 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.'"

Muhammad Ali

Stay connected and follow us on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>



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Eid Card Competition

"A chance to unleash the artist within you"

Open to
Year Groups
7, 8 and 9

Deadline
Thursday 21st May

TASK
Design a Eid
Celebration card

To enter the competition we are asking students in year 7, 8 and 9 to have a go at designing a Eid Celebration card.

Return your completed designs by Thursday 21st May to your Head of Year by email.

zmillest@pleckgate.com

scadman@pleckgate.com

nhartley@pleckgate.com

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DIGITAL SAFETY DURING COVID-19: **SAFEGUARDING FROM HARMFUL INFLUENCES ONLINE**

- The impact of COVID-19 means that most of us will be at home for an extended period and are likely to be spending increasing amounts of time online.
- The online world is a necessity for many children in accessing school work and it delivers huge benefits, not least in enabling us to stay connected to family and friends during this period. However, many parents may feel concerned about the content their children are accessing.
- Although rare, there is a risk that increased online activity and feelings of stress and isolation may be exploited by negative influences and online groomers of all kinds to target vulnerable children and young people directly.
- An understanding of digital safety will help parents and carers safeguard loved ones from a range of harms, whether that's child sexual exploitation, fraud, or extremist influences seeking to radicalise vulnerable people.
- Extremists may use the COVID-19 outbreak to promote hateful views, for example through conspiracy theories blaming a particular group for the virus, or through spreading misinformation regarding these groups' responses to it.

What steps can I take to keep my child safe online?

If you have downloaded new apps or bought new technology to help stay connected at this time, remember to review and adjust **privacy** and **safety settings** if you or your child is signing up to a new online

You can switch on family friendly filters to help prevent age inappropriate content being accessed on devices in your home.

- The **UK Safer Internet Centre** provides [guidance](#) on how to do this.
- **Internet Matters** has also provided [step by step guides](#) on how to setup parental controls.

Government has encouraged Internet Service Providers to allow parents to easily filter content to put you in control of what your child can see online

What are the signs that my child may be being exploited online?

- Online exploitation is often hard to recognise because it is a complex issue. When it comes to being drawn into extremist ideas online, sometimes there are clear warning signs, in other cases the changes are less obvious.
- Although some of these traits may be quite common among teenagers, taken together they could be indicators that your child may need some help

- Exploring new and unusual websites, chat forums and platforms. Harmful influences may push individuals towards platforms with a greater degree of anonymity.
- Joining new or secret groups since isolation.
- Speaking with new friends or being secretive about chats during online gaming or in forums.
- A strong desire to seek new meaning, identity and purpose.
- Using language you wouldn't expect them to know.
- Watching, sharing or creating films online linked to religious, political or racial hate.
- Becoming increasingly argumentative or refusing to listen to different points of view.

Should I be concerned that a loved one is being exploited online?

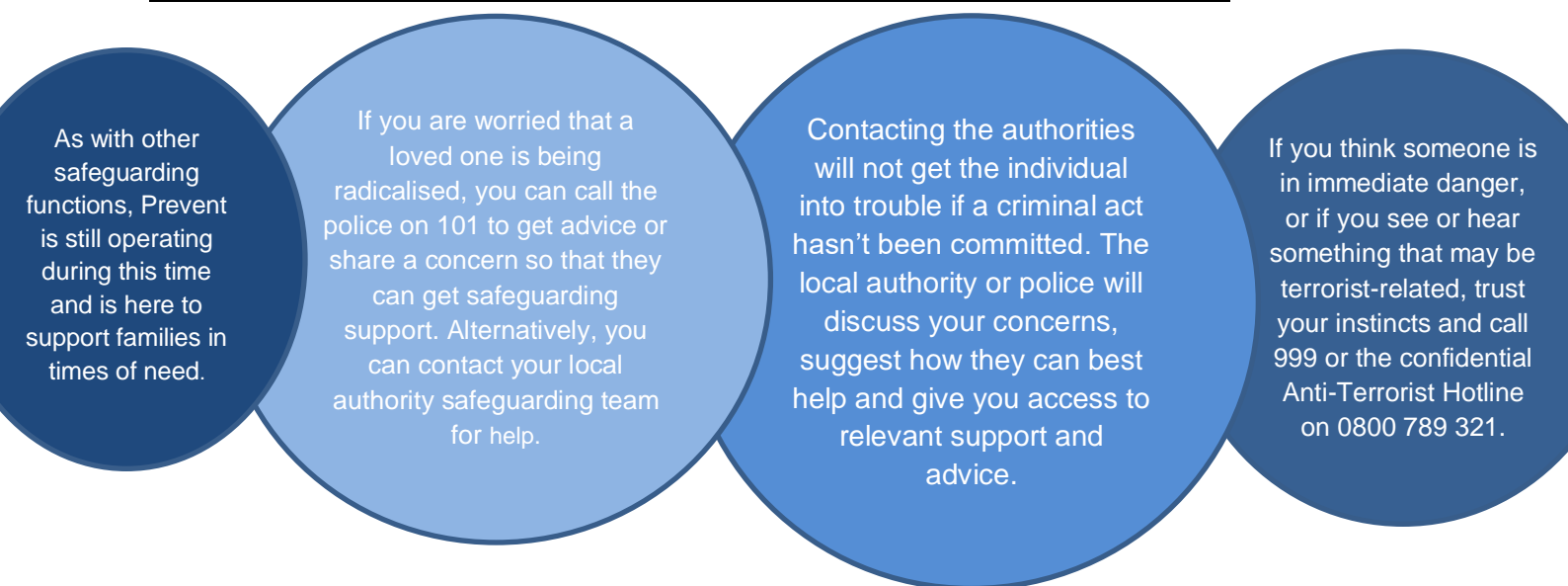
- The above are merely signs that they might need help, but you know your child best and you will want to speak with them first. Check in with them and ask about what they are viewing, who they are speaking to and how they are feeling. This might feel difficult, but here are some pointers to help you:
- Listen carefully to their fears and worries. Find some helpful tips [here](#).
- Avoid explanations that could be interpreted as antagonistic, belittling or frightening.
- Advice and support is available to help them [understand COVID-19](#).
- If they are finding it hard to cope with bereavement and grief - advice can be found [here](#).

What help is available if my child is being exploited online?

- It is important to safeguard loved ones from a range of online harms, whether that's child sexual exploitation, fraud, or extremist influences seeking to radicalise vulnerable people.
- If you are concerned that your child may be at risk of radicalisation, help is available to make sure they get the support they need to move away from harmful influences.
- Teachers, healthcare practitioners, social workers, the police, charities, psychologists and religious leaders work together to safeguard those vulnerable to radicalisation through a safeguarding programme known as Prevent.
- Prevent protects people from being drawn into hateful extremism – regardless of the ideology. It works in a similar way to safeguarding processes designed to protect people from gangs, drug abuse, and physical and sexual exploitation.
- Receiving support through Prevent is voluntary, confidential and not any form of criminal sanction. It will not show up on any checks or negatively affect an individual's future in any way.

- The type of support available is wide-ranging, and can include help with education or careers advice, dealing with mental or emotional health issues, or digital safety training for parents; it all depends on the individual's needs.
- With this specialist help, vulnerable people across the country have moved away from supporting hateful extremism, enabling them to live more stable and fulfilling lives.

How can I access support and advice for a loved one being radicalised?



I have seen concerning hateful content online that could cause harm. What should I do?

- Prevent takes robust action to tackle radicalisation online and to counter the ideology promoted by extremists. This includes removing terrorist-related material and action to suspend the accounts of those fuelling these views.
- Any member of the public can report terrorist content they find online through the [GOV.UK referral tool](#). The [Action Counters Terrorism campaign](#) provides more information on this.

Further resources

- There are resources available to help you understand and protect your child from different harms online.
- [Educate Against Hate Parents' Hub](#) provides resources and government advice for parents and carers on keeping young people safe from extremism.
- [Let's Talk About It](#) provides support for parents and carers to keep children safe from online radicalisation.
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#) has guides on the privacy settings, parental controls and internet safety features of the major internet service providers.
- [Parent Zone](#) works with Prevent to provide digital safety advice for parents.

- [Thinkuknow](#) provides resources for parents and carers to help keep children safe online.
- [Childnet](#) has developed [guidance for parents and carers](#) to begin a conversation about online safety, and [on keeping under-fives safe online](#).
- [Parent Info](#) provides digital support and guidance for parents and carers from leading experts and organisations
- [NSPCC guidance for parents and carers](#) is designed to help keep children safe online. Their [Net Aware](#) website, produced in collaboration with O2, provides specific safety information on popular apps and websites.
- [Childline](#) can provide advice and support if your child is worried, from dialling 0800 1111 or downloading the 'For Me' app.
- This [list of online education resources for home education](#) includes resources to support your child's mental wellbeing.

Local Contacts and Information:

