



Message from the Headteacher

Dear parent/carers,

I hope you and your family are all safe and well.

On the 24th May, the Prime Minister announced that secondary schools should plan a phased return for **Year 10 students** from Monday 15th June, subject to the government's 5 tests being met. For all year groups, including year 10, the remote education your child has been receiving will continue to be the main mode of learning until the end of this school year.

Thank you to those parents/carers of year 10 students who recently completed the online survey confirming their school place and returned the updated Home School Agreement to info@pleckgate.com

Please be aware that students will not be admitted into the building unless their school place has been confirmed and under no circumstances should students be on school grounds if they are not meant to be. Letters will be sent early next week to ensure students know what day and time to attend school.

As a reminder, the points below provide some key guidance around school re-opening for year 10's.

- Teaching groups will be run in small cluster groups of a maximum number of 12 students in the same classroom
- Sessions will run for approximately 2 hours from entrance to departure to the building
- Small groups of students will arrive and start and leave school at staggered times (start and finish times will be communicated to parents once the groups have been finalised).
- Students will come into contact with a maximum number of two teachers during their session in school
- Students will have one 2-hour session per week on the current model, subject to regular review
- There will never be more than 25% of the year group in school on any particular day.
- Students will have access to the same toilets for their own cluster group only.
- Students are expected to wear uniform but not their blazer or jumper, if the weather permits.

To minimise the risk of transmission of Covid-19, the school has taken the following actions:

- All staff have completed infection control training and a thorough risk assessment of the building has been completed to minimise any risk and ensure that the school complies with all public health guidance.
- Student staggered entry and exit times are in place to minimise social contact beyond their classroom group
- All classrooms, toilets, high contact surfaces and surrounding areas will be subject to a rigorous cleaning routine
- The length of the sessions should allow students to eat before or after their arrival into school. FSM vouchers will continue to be issued for the rest of the summer term
- There will be a student induction prior to sessions commencing, to ensure your child is aware of the expectations around infection control including thorough hand washing, 'catch it, kill it, bin it' and social distancing.
- The Home School Agreement and behaviour policy has been updated to make it explicit what our expectations are around acceptable behaviours. This can be accessed on the school website.

To those students not taking up a place and students from all other year groups, please continue to persevere with your remote learning. Once you return to school, it is crucial that you have a good platform to build from to make up for any lost learning time.

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter and wish you and your family all the best.

Kind regards



Mr Cocker
Headteacher

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. 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!

This Weeks WINNERS

YEAR 7

Arafat APP
Maryam HOC



Arafat working hard

YEAR 8

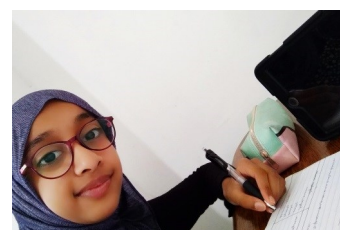
Usman SMI for completing all tasks really carefully and showing great improvements in his understanding.

Nabiha DBL for always trying her best, submitting work on time and working consistently hard. She has received 5 subject nominations in 2 weeks

YEAR 9

Ali EHA
Nada UMA

Although Nada is a fairly new member to the year group she has worked extremely hard during lock down and this award is well deserved.



Nada Working hard from home

YEAR 10

Saira JBA - At first Saira found it very difficult to adjust to school life in lockdown but recently has got into the swing of things and completed some great work!

Ateeq HSW - For completing some fantastic Geography work!

Hashim Building For SUCCESS

Hashim's mum wrote in to the newsletter to tell us what Hashim has been up to

For Hashim's Eid gift he was given a Lego Bugatti Chiron as Hashim has had a passion for building lego sets for the last 6 years. The Buggati Chiron is for 16+, yet within 3 days Hashim had built this model car at age 13. The lego set had 3599 pieces in total.



What an achievement. Hashim's career ambition is to become an engineer.

Well done Hashim!!

Pleckgate EXCLUSIVE - Tez Ilyas Interview

Pleckgate's History Department managed to get a exclusive interview with Blackburn born comedian Tez Ilyas

It has been a depressing time where Blackburn was portrayed in the national media in a negative light after the tragic shooting of 19 year old student Aya Hachem.

However an interview with **Blackburn born comedian Tez Ilyas** delivered a message of hope and inspiration for the pupils of Pleckgate High School.

Tez gave his time freely and proved to be honest, charming, down to earth and of course very funny.

Tez credits his Muslim faith and upbringing from his parents with developing his strong morals and work ethic.

The jobs he has done include call centres, paper rounds, summer camps and being a steward at his beloved Blackburn Rovers.

The sharp Blackburn wit and sense of humour has influenced his comedy style, "the dry humour of my Dad and the people of Blackburn inspires me the most!"

One childhood memory sums up the Blackburn "Ripping" humour that is part of Tez and his comedy, see if you can think of the answer by the end of this interview...

"Why was Shampoo Man the nickname of a man on Whalley Range?"

The rest of the interview can be found on Pleckgate's Twitter feed

<https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>



Recipe of the WEEK

Why not have a go at baking Mrs O'Connors recipe for banana loaf bread. Who is going to have a go at baking it? Share your photos of your finished bread with us.

Banana Loaf – everyone's doing it, we've got to have a go!

Ingredients:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 ripe bananas – mashed with a fork | 2 large eggs |
| 100g wholemeal flour | 142g natural yoghurt |
| 150g Self-raising flour | 150g currants/sultanas/raisins |
| 2 level tsp. Baking powder | 2 tbsp. milk |
| 100g margarine | |

Method:

Heat the oven to 180C/GM4. Grease and line a 2lb/900g loaf tin (or a deep 25cm round cake tin). Measure all the ingredients in to a large mixing bowl, except for the dried fruit. Beat well until thoroughly blended. Fold in the dried fruit. Turn in to the prepared tin and bake for about 1hr 30 mins. until a skewer or knife comes out clean. Leave to cool in the tin for about 15 mins. before turning it out and finish cooling. Serve sliced with butter.



Useful Tips & Links For Pupils & Parents

Place2Be is the location that can be used to find support for emotional well-being with lots of useful information to help explain the Covid-19 pandemic.

Use this link <https://www.place2be.org.uk/>



Parent Info is a site that is available to find support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online.

Use this link <https://parentinfo.org/>



Kooth is a free safe and anonymous online counselling support, if your feeling low, worried and would like to talk to someone online. Use this link

<https://www.kooth.com/>



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.

A reminder to parents and pupils to be safe online:

Please read the Digital Safety 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 Miss S Haworth (English Department)

"I had the epiphany that laughter was light, and light was laughter, and that this was the secret of the universe."

Donna Tartt "The Goldfinch"

Stay connected and follow us on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/PleckgateHigh>

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?

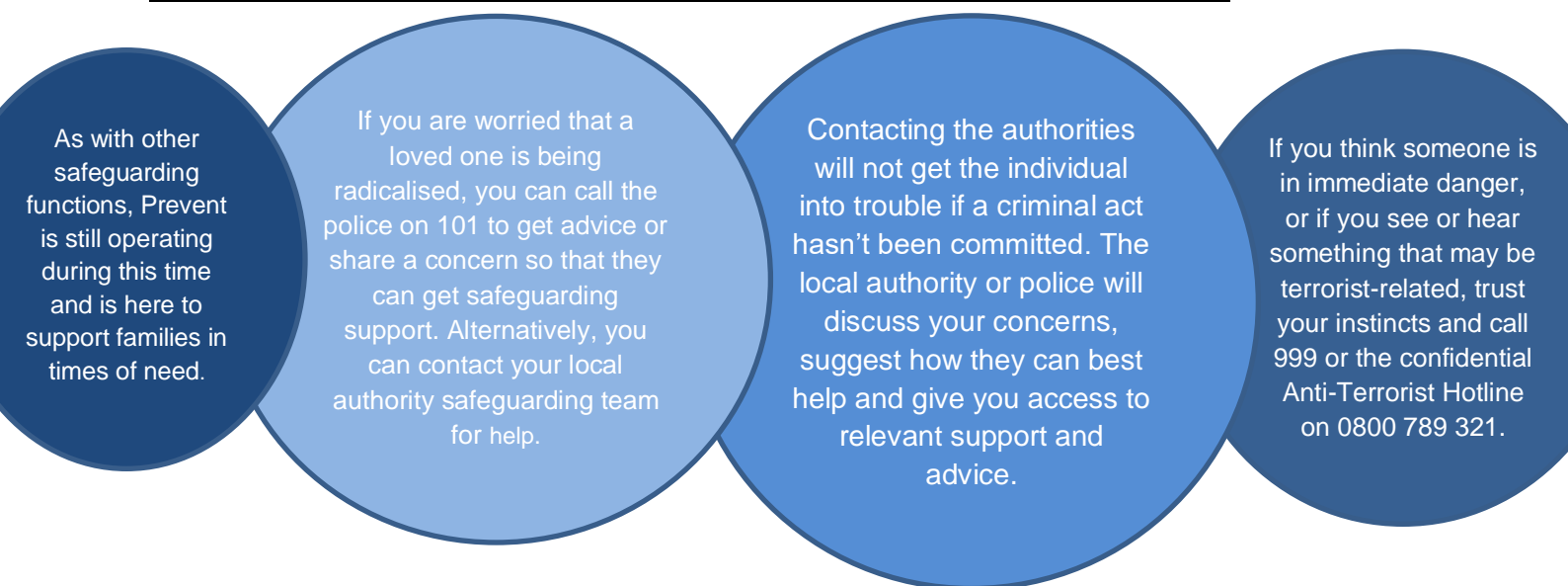
- The above are merely signs that they might need help, but you know your child best and you will want to speak with them first. Check in with them and ask about what they are viewing, who they are speaking to and how they are feeling. This might feel difficult, but here are some pointers to help you:
- 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:

