

Newsletter



MEADOW PARK
SCHOOL

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

Although this has been a very short term it has been incredibly busy with various visits and visitors to school. I am always extremely proud to show off our students and yesterday when they were approached by an external advisor they did not disappoint. The students spoke with confidence and were articulate to share what they believe are improvements at school, well done ☺

Last Friday, I was asked to judge the Tunnock's Tea Cake Challenge Competition which proved incredibly difficult due to the amazing creativity that the students demonstrated. Further details are included within the Newsletter but I would not be surprised if we have a budding "Star Baker" amongst us!

This week we opened up the field for students to use at lunchtime. I am generally very happy with student's attitudes on the field and it is actually lovely to see them enjoying the school's fantastic facilities. We are very lucky, particularly as a city school to have such wonderful grounds. This is the first time in many years that the field has been opened for students at lunchtimes. Normally it is for PE lessons and Sports Day. I want to trust you to use our great facilities. Students were reminded in this morning's whole school online

assembly about litter and keeping our open spaces litter free, please encourage your child not to drop litter, pick up litter and use the many bins provided around the school site. Your support, as ever, is much appreciated.

Well done to all students who took part in the Bronze DofE Qualifying Expedition. Despite things being challenging at times you all persevered and did the school proud. We are proud of the determination they all demonstrated and how they showed the school values throughout the expedition.

Next week is Half Term, so there is no school. We all return on Monday 2nd June at the normal time – the exception is Year 11 who left after their English exam today. Y11 are now all on study leave returning for public examinations after half term or revision sessions that have been planned by staff – there are further details within the Newsletter. There will be a final Y11 Assembly on 18 June 2025 in advance of seeing Y11 on results day on Thursday 21 August 2025.

I hope you have a lovely half term, stay safe and I look forward seeing all students back on Monday 2nd June!

With best wishes

Mrs Pettman
Headteacher


Nurturing Excellence, Growing Aspiration, Thriving Together



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Issue: 23 May 2025

Meadow Park Uniform Swap Shop



MEADOW
PARK
SCHOOL

**Outgrown a blazer?
Ripped a shirt?
Need PE Kit?**

Come and choose
FREE pre-loved school
uniform at our Uniform
Swap Shop.

We have lots of outgrown, pre-loved branded school uniform, trousers, coats and much more...

Donations

Families can **donate** their old or unused uniform to the shop.

Washed, good-quality uniform, that you no longer need, can be brought to the swap shop or handed in at Reception.

Exchange

Families can **exchange** their old uniform for new **pre-loved** items that fit better. Please bring in any washed, good-quality uniform that you would like to swap.

Free

Our swap shop provides **free** uniform to those who need it. If you do not have anything to swap, you can make a donation for the items you need.

Open

Our **Uniform Swap Shop** is open on the **last Friday every month during term-time** in the old Visitor Reception, next to the Sixth Form Centre, from **9am to 10am and 3pm to 4pm.**

SAVE money, REDUCE waste, HELP the environment. Ask in school for details.



Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Listening

Listening is an important skill that helps us to feel connected to others and the world around us. When we listen, we can learn new things, solve problems and interact with people around us. This is great for our mental health as we are using our minds and connecting with people.



Try out these games to test your listening skills:

1 - Sound hunt!

Close your eyes and listen carefully to the sounds around you. See how many sounds you can identify in a minute.

This type of listening activity helps us to connect with the world around us, which can help us to feel calm.

2 – Weekend catch up

In pairs, partners should take it in turns to talk for 1 minute about their weekend. The children should then ask each other questions about their weekend, to see if the listener could remember what they did. Each partner can score points for each question they answered correctly.

3 – I went to the supermarket, and I bought a...

As a class, sit in a circle. The first person says, "I went to the supermarket, and I bought a..." and they choose an item, for example an apple. The next person has to repeat that sentence and choose their own item to add. For example, "I went to the supermarket, and I bought an apple and a book". Keep going around the circle adding items. If someone forgets an item, you move onto the next player. It gets harder as you go!

These two games encourage 'active listening', where you are taking in the information you are hearing. This is a useful skill to practice. You can also practice this at home, trying to remember what you have heard on a programme or video!

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

Year 11 Exams & Revision 2nd June - 18th June

Date	Morning (09:00 start)	Afternoon (13:00 start)
Monday 2/6/25	GCSE Italian & Urdu Exams No other students required in school	
Tuesday 3/6/25	Maths revision ALL students F06 ERE Target 1-4 F07 MFO Target 5-6 F02 HLA Target 7-9	
Wednesday 4/6/25	GCSE Maths Exam ALL students	History Revision in Theatre JWL & JBU
Thursday 5/6/25	GCSE History Exam	GCSE French Exam English Language Revision Theatre HVW G05 KSK
Friday 6/6/25	GCSE English Language ALL students	GCSE Geography Biology Revision in normal science classrooms

Monday 9/6/25	GCSE Biology ALL Students	GCSE Italian Spanish Revision F12 SHU
Tuesday 10/6/25	GCSE Spanish Exams	Maths Revision ALL Students 14:15 - 16:15 F06 ERE Target 1-4 F07 MFO Target 5-6 F02 HLA Target 7-9
Wednesday 11/6/25	GCSE Maths Exam ALL Students	Geography Revision G11 SSA 10:35 - 12:35
Thursday 12/6/25	GCSE Geography GCSE Tamil Catering Revision 11:35- 12:35 F09 CMA	Chemistry Revision ALL students Combined in Theatre Triple in F02
Friday 13/6/25	GCSE Chemistry Exam ALL Students	GCSE Polish GCSE Persian GCSE Portuguese
	Physics Revision in science rooms 11:35 - 14:15	

Monday 16/6/25	GCSE Physics ALL Students	Spanish Revision F12 SHU
Tuesday 17/6/25	GCSE Spanish	D&T Revision CMA in
Wednesday 18/6/25	GCSE D&T Exam	
	11:30 Year 11 Leavers Assembly	

Mrs Lawrence
Deputy Headteacher

**FREE
REFRESHMENTS!**



PARENT & CARER CAREERS ROADSHOW

WED 18TH JUNE - 5PM

Join Coventry Careers Hub for our **FREE** Parent and Carer Careers Roadshow to support your young person in Year 10, 11, or 12 in making informed decisions about their future!

Get ready for an evening filled with talks by industry experts/student speakers on:

- Higher Education incl. student finance
- Further Education incl. T-Levels
- Apprenticeships
- PLUS a student and apprentice Q&A panel

By attending, you'll also walk away with a free copy of Coventry Careers Hub's Future You Handbook



Hosted at
**COVENTRY TRANSPORT
MUSEUM!**

SIGN UP TODAY!

Limited spots
available



Art trip to Oxford

Students had a great day yesterday visiting Oxford. We visited the Pitt Rivers museum where students spent time getting sketches of the historical objects within the museum. Students were very excited to see the dinosaur skeletons in the natural history museum and enjoyed the historical architecture of the city. They all represented the school very well.



Tunnocks Tea Cake Challenge 2025

Meadow Park students were given the opportunity to enter the challenge to test their style, creativity and presentation skills.

They were asked to design a stunning plate with the focus on this year's theme "Cultures and Celebrations". The plate needed to include a Tunnocks tea cake somewhere on the plate.

In total, we had 5 students who participated in the competition all with wonderful results. They learnt many different techniques as such spun sugar, coral tuile, chocolate work and moulding with royal icing. Once they had learnt these techniques, students considered how their designs were going to look on the plate but also fitting in with the theme

Different themes that were chosen were birthday, wedding, Christmas and Chinese new year.

Mrs Haley would like to congratulate the following students Elly, Moyinoluwa, Demi, Emilia and Roli whom received house points and were rewarded with a school prize. Please come to collect at the end of the day to collect it

3 of the designs will be going forward to the national competition.



Mrs MacLean

Curriculum Lead – Art, Design and Technology



Sol 2's Charity Chocolate Raffle!

Time to announce the winner...

But first – thank you to everyone who participated, and well done to Sol 2 students for being excellent charity ambassadors.

With all of your support we raised enough money to buy **groceries to support a homeless person in Coventry for at least a week.**



Sol 2's Charity Chocolate Raffle!

Time to announce the winner...

And the winner is.....

Praise in Year 9!

Please come and collect your chocolate before you go home from F11.



Miss Chapman
Sol 2 Tutor

Growing Aspirations– Sports Updates

Staff success:

Miss Cross – has received an award for top goal scorer of her club and the league. She has now been invited to play in a National match in London on Monday.

Mrs Fraser – has also received an award for top goal scorer for her club!

Both Miss Cross and Miss Fraser – set a record with the amount of goals scored this season! (beating the men too!)

Miss Cross = Hockey

Mrs Fraser = Football

Growing Aspirations– Sports Updates

Upcoming fixtures:

Wednesday 4th June – Y7 Athletics (emails will be sent out if you are selected)

Mr Kandola and the PE Department

MOTHER TONGUE OTHER TONGUE POETRY COMPETITION WINNER

ƆBRA NE WOARA ABƆ

Me nua e nom me papa nom,
Me nua mbanyin,
Me nua mbasia,
Bɔ wo ho mbɔɔzen wɔ abrabɔ yi mu,
Sɛ eyɛ abɔfra a,
Ekɔ skuul tsede emi so a,
Sua adze yie ma woara wo daakye,
Osiande prɔmpɔm ntse hɔ daa,
Ɔbra nye woara abɔ,
Na abɔ no yie,
Medaase

Your life is who you are
My dear siblings,
My dear fathers,
My dear brothers,
My dear sisters,
Do your best in this life,
If you're a child,
That goes to school like me,
Learn hard, for your future,
Because pampering from parents won't be there forever,
Your life is what you are,
So live it well.
THANK YOU

Sherry - Year 7

**AGE 4-17
YEARS**

Sibling and
multiple
bookings
discounts
available

MULTI- SPORTS

MAY HALF TERM CAMP



27TH, 28TH, 29TH MAY
09:00 - 12:00 £12.00
12:30 - 15:30 £12.00
09:00 - 15:30 £20.00

ALL COACHES LTA QUALIFIED, DBS
CHECKED.



ACTIVITIES SCAN TO BOOK

FOOTBALL
BASKETBALL
SQUASH
PADEL
TENNIS
and more!



CONTACT COLLEN ON 07717057547 OR
EMAIL INFO@EVERYTHINGTENNIS.CO.UK

HELD AT COVENTRY & NORTH WARWICKSHIRE SPORTS CLUB



Head of House Awards

The Head of House Awards were
awarded to:



Tej
Aiva
Gracie
Treasure
Aiden

News from the Library!

Even in just four weeks it's been a very full, busy half term, hasn't it? Mr Spencer got to go book shopping in the first week, and we've been getting the books delivered gradually since then, so keep an eye out for what's new. One Piece and Pokémon Adventures manga have already been very popular!



I hope you all enjoy a rest over half term, even if you're in the middle of revision. We look forward to seeing most of you back for Summer 2; here's the plan for the first week back:

Chillout Monday

Chess Club

Mrs Dearden's Book Club (F17)

After school on Monday

Dungeons & Dragons

Rowdy Tuesday

Stupid Deaths - a very silly new game, where you have to guess which stupid deaths are real and which are made up

After school on Tuesday

Library open

Geeky Wednesday

Harry Potter TCG

Sporty Thursday

Playing card Basketball

After school on Thursday

Pokémon TCG after hours (bring your own cards or play with Mr Spencer's)

Creative Friday

Colouring

Happy reading!

**Mr Spencer and Mrs Dearden
Librarians**



T-SHIRT UPCYCLING **£10**

Earlsdon Carnegie Community Library

Saturday 31st May

10AM

12 NOON

2PM

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

SCAN QR CODE

or text INFO to 07879672477



Year 11 Prom

Payment is due by Friday 9th May to ensure you have a ticket, payable via ParentPay.

Please see Mrs Symon if you need more information.



REMINDERS



Enrichment Clubs – Half Term 5 and 6 (Up to Summer)

	Break	Lunch	After School
Monday	Basketball Sports Hall 	Chess Club Library Book Club F17 All Year Rounders Field (LTA) 	Cricket Field (GSK) Athletics (Week 1 track event, Week 2 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1600m, 3200m, 6400m, 12800m, 25600m, 51200m, 102400m, 204800m, 409600m, 819200m, 1638400m, 3276800m, 6553600m, 13107200m, 26214400m, 52428800m, 104857600m, 209715200m, 419430400m, 838860800m, 1677721600m, 3355443200m, 6710886400m, 13421772800m, 26843545600m, 53687091200m, 107374182400m, 214748364800m, 429496729600m, 858993459200m, 1717986918400m, 3435973836800m, 6871947673600m, 13743895347200m, 27487790694400m, 54975581388800m, 109951162777600m, 219902325555200m, 439804651110400m, 879609302220800m, 1759218604441600m, 3518437208883200m, 7036874417766400m, 14073748835532800m, 28147497671065600m, 56294995342131200m, 112589990684262400m, 225179981368524800m, 450359962737049600m, 900719925474099200m, 1801439850948198400m, 3602879701896396800m, 7205759403792793600m, 14411518807585587200m, 28823037615171174400m, 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1980704062856608439838598758400m, 3961408125713216879677197516800m, 7922816251426433759354395033600m, 15845632502852867518708790067200m, 31691265005705735037417580134400m, 63382530011411470074835160268800m, 126765060022822940149670320537600m, 253530120045645880299340641075200m, 507060240091291760598681282150400m, 1014120480182583521197362564300800m, 2028240960365167042394725128601600m, 4056481920730334084789450257203200m, 8112963841460668169578900514406400m, 16225927682921336339157801028812800m, 32451855365842672678315602057625600m, 64903710731685345356631204115251200m, 129807421463370690713262408230502400m, 259614842926741381426524816461004800m, 519229685853482762853049632922009600m, 1038459371706965525706099265844019200m, 2076918743413931051412198531688038400m, 4153837486827862102824397063376076800m, 8307674973655724205648794126752153600m, 16615349947311448411297588253504307200m, 33230699894622896822595176507008614400m, 66461399789245793645190353014017228800m, 132922799578491587290380706028034457600m, 265845599156983174580761412056068915200m, 531691198313966349161522824112137830400m, 1063382396627932698323045648224275660800m, 2126764793255865396646091296448551321600m, 4253529586511730793292182592897102643200m, 8507059173023461586584365185794205286400m, 17014118346046923173168730371588410572800m, 34028236692093846346337460743176821145600m, 68056473384187692692674921486353642291200m, 136112946768375385385349842972707284582400m, 272225893536750770770699685945414569164800m, 544451787073501541541399371890829138329600m, 1088903574147003083082798743781658276659200m, 2177807148294006166165597487563316553318400m, 4355614296588012332331194975126633106636800m, 8711228593176024664662389950253266213273600m, 17422457186352049329324779900506532426547200m, 34844914372704098658649559801013064853094400m, 69689828745408197317299119602026129706188800m, 139379657490816394634598239204052259412377600m, 278759314981632789269196478408104518824755200m, 557518629963265578538392956816209037649510400m, 1115037259926531157076785913632418075299020800m, 2230074519853062314153571827264836150598041600m, 4460149039706124628307143654529672301196083200m, 8920298079412249256614287309059344602392166400m, 17840596158824498513228574618118689204784332800m, 35681192317648997026457149236237378409568665600m, 71362384635297994052914298472474756819137331200m, 142724769270595988105828596944949513638274662400m, 285449538541191976211657193889899027276549324800m, 570899077082383952423314387779798054553098649600m, 1141798154164767904846628775559596109106197299200m, 2283596308329535809693257551119192218212394598400m, 4567192616659071619386515102238384436424789196800m, 9134385233318143238773030204476768872849578393600m, 18268770466636286477546060408953537745699156787200m, 36537540933272572955092120817907075491398313574400m, 73075081866545145910184241635814150982796627148800m, 146150163733090291820368483271628301965593254297600m, 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New Parent App and School Communication

Please sign up to our new parent portal MyChildAtSchool (MCAS).



DON'T FORGET to enable push notifications for the MyChildAtSchool app on your phone so you can see all emails and letters the school sends you.

All schools in the Trust are using Bromcom and MCAS so for Meadow Park School, it means MCAS replaces School Synergy.

MCAS is now live, so as soon as you sign up you will be able to see your child's information. As School Synergy is linked to our old MIS it is no longer updating, therefore in order to view your child's timetable, see their attendance and behaviour points you will need to sign up to MCAS.

You have access to all the same information as you had in School Synergy. MCAS allows us to securely share your child's/children's achievement points, attendance, school reports, letters and school diary whenever you wish. The portal also provides general useful information about the school such as flash announcements. This will be our **primary means of communication** with you, from now on. Please make sure you enable notifications for MCAS as this is the way we will send you emails and letters.

To login to the MCAS Parent Portal, we have enabled you to 'self-sign on'. All you will need for this is your email address that the school has on record for you. Enter the school postcode CV34BD (without a space) or use our identifier 15028. Search for Meadow Park School.

School Communication

All communication from school is now via Bromcom and if you sign up to the parent portal MCAS then you will receive notifications from the school via the app. You can view all letters and emails, past and present, in MCAS. If you don't have the app then you will receive a normal email. Please add '15028@bromcomcloud.com' to your address book in order to prevent messages being blocked by your spam/junk filters.

How to Self-Sign Up for Parents

Parents and carers can access the MCAS Parent Login screen in two ways:

1. From within your web browser type **www.mychildatschool.com**
2. Download the free **MyChildAtSchool** parent app from either the Apple App Store or Google Play.

When you use the parent portal for the first time you will need to Sign-Up. Full instructions have been emailed home or they can be found on our website.

If you require any assistance logging in for the first time, please contact the School Office by emailing admin@meadowparkschool.com or telephone 02476 302580.

Uniform



Green school blazer



Grey school sweater



Tie



School shoes guidance

Plain black with no logos
No high heels, 'sliders', boots, sling back or open-toed shoes
Black leather or leather effect

TRAINERS AND CANVAS SHOES (VANS/CONVERSE) ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE

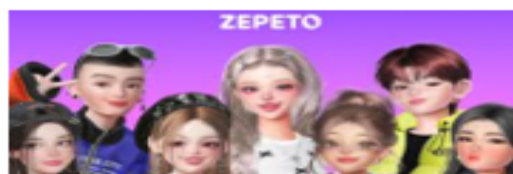


Summer Term 2025

Term Starts	Monday 28th April
May Day Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May
Half Term	Saturday 24th May – June 1st June
Last Day of Term	Friday 18th July
Summer Holiday Starts	Saturday 19th July

ZEPETO, Making Friends Online

Online friendships can be great, especially if you have moved areas, schools or in some cases even countries! However, with that it's important to keep our children safe and know who they are talking to. Continuing with the theme of online games (Minecraft and Roblox in previous weeks) I want to draw attention to the new game ZEPETO and the dangers and considerations that parents need to be aware of, as well as generally re-visiting making friends online (safely). Please find attached two helpful guides for you to look at and discuss with your child(s).



Getting Support from School:



**MEADOW PARK
SCHOOL**

If you have concerns about your child - please remember we are here to help. Our website has information on Supporting Families through Early Help, where to find your local family hub and how to get in contact with your child(s) Deputy Head of House for advice and guidance.

Please visit: <https://meadowparkschool.com/for-parents/safeguarding/>

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

- [Food Bank Information](#)
- [List of Coventry Social Supermarkets](#)
- [Cost of Living Advice](#)
- [List of Contacts for Support Services](#)
- [Coventry Family Hubs List](#)

Stay Safe and have a great Half Term!

Paul Rule
Child Protection Officer & Senior Pastoral Support Manager

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 18% of children aged 10 to 16 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE GROOMING/THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2018, UK police received nearly 14,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 49% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.6% of 11 to 16-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. Even children in custody, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harassment – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Grooming' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 15-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 11 to 16, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 13-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS
ONLINE NOW

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning. Use pressure testing. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and where they're talking to.

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children by building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and self-confidence.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

Meet Our Expert

Debbie Hume is a safeguarding consultant with over 14 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ZEPETO

AGE RESTRICTION
14+

FOR SALE

ZEPETO is a fast-growing app blending social networking with a virtual world experience – attracting around 20 million monthly users, with 18% from Europe. Players create 3D avatars to explore immersive environments, play games and interact with others; however, with minimal safety controls, anonymous chat and moderated content, ZEPETO poses a number of online safety concerns that parents and educators should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

Although ZEPETO is intended for users aged 14 and up, it lacks built-in parental controls or age verification, instead relying on safety features on the device it's played on. The lack of a parental controls feature raises concerns about when children may be interacting with on the platform.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As a social business, a virtual world and a social media platform, ZEPETO features a wide range of user-generated content. Some users may reference mature themes, such as TV series aimed at adults, or include inappropriate material created by other users – all of which children may stumble across without warning.

STRANGER DANGER

By default, users can message and interact with anyone else. This open communication creates an environment where predatory individuals can pose as peers to gain trust, particularly leading to grooming, scams, and exploitation, such as blackmail.

CYBERBULLYING RISKS

As with many social platforms, children can be targeted for bullying, harassment or excluded by both strangers and their peers. Unfiltered chat and open-ended interaction can allow bullying and other forms of harassment to continue, impacting children's wellbeing and mental health.

ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY

Early log-in rewards, such as coins, and in-game incentives can encourage compulsive behaviour, with users aware feeling pressure to check in constantly to avoid missing out. This can lead to excessive screen time and conflict with education or offline hobbies or commitments.

SPENDING REAL MONEY

While the game is free to play, ZEPETO includes a store offering virtual clothing and accessories for avatars. These items are bought with 'ZEM' – a paid currency – and the appeal of exclusive items or limited-edition outfits can make it easy for children to overspend.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Visit the child's profile settings to restrict who can send messages – options include Everyone, Followers Only, or Private. Encourage children to avoid sharing any personal information on their profile, as this is visible even on private accounts.

LIMIT IN-APP TIME

Use parental controls on Android (Google Family Link) or iOS (Screen Time) to restrict app usage by setting hours or daily limits. Encouraging breaks can help children develop healthier habits and reduce app dependency.

CONTROL SPENDING

To prevent accidental purchases, set up purchase approval systems such as Apple's Ask to Buy or Google's Purchase Approvals. Alternatively, consider removing payment methods or using pre-paid cards with set budgets.

HAVE REGULAR CONVERSATIONS

Talk openly with children about when they interact with online and the kinds of things they see or experience. Encourage them to speak up if someone makes them uncomfortable or if they come across inappropriate content. Teach them how to recognise red-flag behaviours such as asking for secrets, giving gifts, or requesting personal information.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of BBC, Tech Radar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



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MEADOW PARK SCHOOL

THRIVING TOGETHER