



The Albion Academy Headteacher Newsflash

Friday 16th October 2020

Green Cross Code, face masks and school places

Today marks the end of Week 7 and we are heading towards the final week prior to our October half term. In last weeks' Newsflash I reminded parents about the continued battle we are all facing with coronavirus. We can all do our little bit to help reduce transmission; Hands-Face-Space is the simple mantra that I hope you have seen on NHS adverts as well as via our own social media.

Sadly, on Thursday after school one of our pupils was involved in a road traffic collision at the junction of Cromwell Road and Langley Road South. We are not to sure of the full details but as there is a crossing controlled by lights, we just want to reinforce the message to parents that children at secondary school should be aware of how to cross roads safely. Quite often schools are contacted by the public to inform them that children from the school are not always being road safe. Equally some drivers lack due care and attention. With that being said, a young person has been hurt and a family will have to deal with the stress and anguish that these things cause. Please talk to your child about being road safe: look, listen and check.



With regards to staying covid safe I must ask parents and carers to please ensure that your child has a reusable face covering. We are currently handout a large number of disposable face masks, which after Half Term we will need to reduce due to the cost. We sell reusable face masks for 50p on site so there is little excuse not to look after everyone. Simple things such as face coverings is helping limit the transmission of the virus, alongside increased hand hygiene and social distancing measures used together to decrease the opportunity for spreading the virus within the school but also just as importantly throughout the community. Here are some links for you to buy your own face masks if you do not wish to purchase



ours, [Boots the chemist](#), [Superdrug](#) and [Amazon](#) if you are more DIY inclined this [YouTube](#) link will direct you to a long list of videos showing how to make your own mask.

From Monday 2nd November, unless there is a valid medical reason, having a face covering will be an expected part of uniform.

For parents who are reading this who have children in Year 6 by clicking on this [link](#) <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-admissions/secondary/> will take you to the Salford Local Authority web page to make your school choice. We would be honoured to welcome your child into our school

Attendance Matters – Every day counts

Being in school as much as possible is the very best place for children yet we all know that in the current climate this is proving to be very challenging.

We have of course taken a hit on attendance this week with pupils having to self-isolate but again we continue to remain above local and national levels of attendance for secondary schools which we are proud of. I think this was mentioned in a previous NewsFlash but what is very odd is that comparing this point now to same point last academic year we are 1% better now. Which might sound very little but in a school of 750 pupils adding a whole percent to attendance is impressive.

Week ending 16.10.2020					
Year	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
7	93.2	90.8	90.6	91.5	90.2
8	90	88.9	91.1	90.8	85.5
9	84.5	84.5	83.3	83.9	79.1
10	91.3	90.9	82.9	85.1	82.2
11	94.5	91.8	90.2	88.3	84.3
Whole school	90.6	89.4	88.2	88.3	84.6

Around the subject areas

This week are in English with 9A who have made a great start on their persuasive letters, taking on the persona of George from Of Mice and Men to convince someone to sell their ranch! We're really impressed with how the pupils have constructed their letters and developed a strong argument in the "voice" of George.

Dear Mister + Mrs ranch owners,

Hello, my name is George and I came to you about a month ago asking about your ranch. You see, ~~me~~, my buddy Lennie and I are itinerant workers. - we spend our days trailing from ranch to ranch, hoping, praying, we'll garner enough to eat. The both of us are constantly under the influenza and heartstroke from the ~~rough~~ outrageous conditions we face. How's you like to live like that? We're overwhelmed, underpaid and overworked like hell.

Lennie and I have a plan, you see, for the ranch. We're going to get some rabbits, fix an alfalfa patch up, we're going to get a cow, some pigs. That's our dream, our American dream. Don't you have a dream? Don't you want something back from our God-blessed America? All we're asking of you is to settle for a hundred-fifty dollars. Our dear friend, Candy, has agreed to send over ~~some~~ ^{the} money so he can come work the ranch with us. We know you're asking for 350 dollars, ~~but~~ we ain't asking to be disrespectful, and we know y'all serious folk. But we're begging - begging you.

Writing task.

15110120

Steinbeck street.
Soledad.
ST 6VH.

25/8/20.

Sir/~~madam~~^{ma'am}
Stanford street.
Soledad
ST 78U.

Dear sir/ma'am,
I am writing to you today to enquire about your ranch. My name is George Milton, and I currently work for very low pay on a ranch in Soledad. Could you picture yourselves doing that? Imagine spending every day bucking barley on an insecure job, not knowing when you're going to get canned? This is the unfortunate reality for myself and my companions Lennie and Candy.

Our problem is that we long to achieve the American dream, but it is inscridely hard ~~when~~ in times like this. During the great depression, many people have lost their jobs, including myself and Lennie, who have travelled from Weed to find work. Our jobs are difficult to keep, and we spend every day working for a boss who could get rid of us at any second. Could you picture yourself as an Itinerant worker?

My very good friend Lennie struggles mentally, and it is unfair and a strain on the both of us to be moving to different jobs every few months. In addition, our other friend, Candy, is marginalised as elderly and

Standards and expectations

I'd like to remind parents and carers that children should only wear PE kit on days that they have PE. A small number of pupils have said "I thought I had PE today" and arrive in their PE kit, which could be a genuine mistake, but also could be pushing their luck ever so slightly.

PE kit should only be worn on PE days, every other day we expect children to wear their school uniform with pride: school tie, blazer, white shirt, black trousers or skirt and school shoes.

A link to our uniform page can be found [here: http://www.albionacademy.org/academy-life/uniform/](http://www.albionacademy.org/academy-life/uniform/) and we have included [below](#) acceptable styles of shoes, highlighting in green those styles that are very popular.

Year 11 – From Mr Wild

Attendance for Period 6 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday was well over 97% yet again, for the 5th week straight! That level of commitment is breath taking, we are so proud of you Year 11. As said last week you have done an hours 'homework' or revision at school with us so ideally when you get home on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday adding another 40/45 minutes in another subject would help you even more and support those techniques you have in the [5 habits booklet](#).

GCSE examinations and November mocks

Year 11, there are only 19 school weeks left, just 115 days in school, until your first GCSE exam, where is the time going? It is just flying by. So as a reminder your November mocks are scheduled to begin on Monday 30th November. Again, remember that we have provided you with a handy revision guide '[5 Habits of an Effective Learner](#)' to help you to structure your revision time away from the building.

Virtual Open Days

All college open days this year will be delivered virtually. It is important that Year 11 students' book onto these events in order to make an informed choice about their Post 16 options. During this week's "Careers Flash", all students received a letter which states the dates and times of the upcoming events.

This week's virtual open days are listed below:

- Pendleton
- Eccles
- Worsley
- Bury
- Xaverian College

If you would like a copy of the prospectus, please can you email Mrs Baker (Julie.baker@albionacademy.co.uk)

You can also find regular college updates on Twitter by following @MrsBakerAlbion.

SMUG AWARD WINNERS

The awards this week go to...

11A – Kane Harrison, 11L – Rimsha Ali, 11B – Joshua Walsh, 11I – Rehema Terezia and 11O – Ali Abdrhim

Safeguarding

Two weeks ago we introduced to you the national online safety resource, a kind of one stop shop if you like for all the information and parent guides you might need for those things that maybe you feel you should know about, but maybe you're a little too embarrassed to admit that really you have no idea of the difference between what a TikTok is or a YouTube.



To go straight to the webpage all you need to do is click on this link <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> and it will lead you to a world of answers. However, it does come with a health warning; a lot of what our children are able to access is quite unsavoury. Smart phones, social media has opened Pandora's box to all things in the world and every person in the world who uses the vast array of social media, 'fun' apps and online games.

Unfortunately, not everyone who uses the internet or social media is a nice person and lots can be solely there to exploit children, even your child. Having an awareness and knowledge about what your child is doing, who they are interacting with is incredibly important. This week we have included a guide about online grooming.

Remember, you are the parent and you are in charge. Once your child is online, using social media sites or apps they are open to the entire world, if left unchecked, it is an open door for weirdos, keyboard warriors and the entire nastiness of the web.

Next week – Monday 19th October to Friday 23th October

Next week is **WEEK B**

Important dates

The Academy will close for the Half Term Holiday on **Friday 23rd October**. We re-open again on **Monday 2nd November**

INSET day Friday 27th November

Last day of Autumn term is **Thursday 17th December 2020**. Pupils return to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**

Social media



Remember you can follow us on Twitter @albionacademy or on [YouTube](#) 'TheAlbionAcademySalford'

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



Online Grooming is when someone befriends and builds an emotional relationship with a child and communicates with them through the internet with the intent to commit a sexual offence. This type of victimisation can take place across any platform, from social media and messaging apps to online gaming and live streaming. Often it involves young people being tricked, forced or pressured into doing something they wouldn't normally do (coercion) and often the groomer's goal is to meet the victim in a controlled setting to sexually or physically abuse them. In some cases children may be abducted or have long-lasting psychological damage.



What parents need to know about

ONLINE GROOMING



CHILDREN ARE MOST VULNERABLE

Unsurprisingly children are often most at risk as they are easy to target and unlikely to question the person who is engaging in conversation with them. Groomers will use psychological tricks and methods to try and isolate them from their families and friends and will often choose to target more vulnerable children who may be easier to manipulate. Predators will stalk apps and websites that are popular with young people and will use a 'scattergun' approach to find victims, contacting hundreds online to increase their chances of success.



LIVE STREAMING CONCERNS

Predators may use live video to target children in real-time using tricks, dares or built-in gifts to manipulate them. This is often done in the form of a game where children receive 'likes' or even money for performing sexual acts. Social media channels, such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, all have live streaming capabilities, but there are many apps which children can use to live stream, including Omegle, Live.me, BIGO Live, YouNow and many more.



ANYONE CAN BE A PREDATOR

The internet has made the ability to interact with strangers online easy. Many sites and apps are reliant on individual users entering their own information when signing up. However individuals can remain anonymous if they choose to enter inaccurate information and many online predator cases are due to groomers using impersonation techniques. However, often the greater threat comes from adults who 'hide in plain sight', choosing to befriend young children without hiding their real identity.



CAN BE DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Unfortunately, most children find the grooming process (before any meeting) an enjoyable one as the predator will compliment, encourage and flatter them to gain their trust, friendship and curiosity—a 'wolf in sheep's clothing' scenario. This often means children fail to disclose or report what is happening. If the groomer is also previously known to the child, their family and their friends, then this can make detection even harder.



FROM OPEN TO CLOSED MESSAGING

Online predators may contact their victims using any number of ways including social media, forums, chat rooms, gaming communities or live streaming apps. Sometimes there is little need to develop a 'friendship' / rapport stage, as the victim has already shared personal information online and is communicating openly with others. Children may also be prepared to add other online users they don't know so well to gain 'online credibility' through increasing their friends list. Predators will often seize this opportunity to slowly build a relationship and then move their conversation with the child to a more secure and private area, such as through direct messaging.

EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENTS

Online predators will use emotive language and aim to form close, trusted bonds with their victims through showering them with compliments and making them feel good about themselves. Often victims will refer to them as their 'boyfriends' or 'girlfriends' and it can be difficult to convince some young people that they have been groomed, often leading to lasting psychological effects.

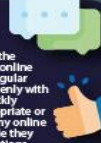


Safety Tips for Parents & Carers



IT'S GOOD TO TALK

It's unlikely that you can stop your child using the internet, nor can you constantly monitor their online activities, but you can talk to your child on a regular basis about what they do online. By talking openly with them about online relationships, they can quickly ascertain the kind of behaviour which is appropriate or inappropriate. Ask them whether they have any online friends or if they play online games with people they haven't met. This could then open up conversations about the subject of grooming.



CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

In order to give your child a safer online experience, it is important to check privacy settings or parental controls on the networks, devices, apps, and websites they use. Disable location sharing if you can. If you use location-sharing apps to check where your child is, remember that these could always be used by strangers to follow your child without their knowledge. Ensure that you check options so that location information is never shared with anyone except those they have permission to share with.



MONITOR SOCIAL MEDIA & LIVE-STREAMING USE

It's important to be aware of what your child is sharing on social media and with whom. Create your own profile and become 'friends' with them or follow them so that you can monitor their activity. Similarly, always check on them if they are live streaming and implement privacy controls. Choose a generic screen name and profile picture that hides their identity. You may also feel more comfortable being present each time they live stream.



STICK TO 'TRUE FRIENDS'

Make it clear to your child that they should not accept friend requests from people they don't know and to verify friend requests with people who they do know. Encourage them to only interact and engage with 'true friends' i.e. those friends who don't ask personal questions such as close family and friends. Remind them to never agree to chat privately with a stranger or someone they don't really know and to never divulge personal information, such as mobile phone numbers, addresses, passwords or the name of their school.



DISCUSS HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Talk to your child about what a healthy relationship looks like and how to detect someone who might not be who they claim to be. Explain that groomers will pay your child compliments and engage in conversations about personal information, such as hobbies and relationships. They may admire how well they play an online game or how they look in a photo. Groomers will also try and isolate a child from people close to them, such as parents and friends, in order to make their relationship feel special and unique.

BE SUPPORTIVE

Show your child that you will support them and make sure they understand they can come to you with any concerns they may have. They need to know they can talk to you if someone does something they are uncomfortable with, whether that is inappropriate comments, images, requests or sexual comments.



Meet our expert

Jonathan Taylor is an online safety expert and former Covert Internet Investigator for the Metropolitan Police. He is a specialist in online grooming and exploitation and has worked extensively with both UK and international schools in delivering training and guidance around the latest online dangers, social media apps and platforms.



LOOK OUT FOR WARNING SIGNS

Child safety experts have identified key grooming patterns and advise parents to look out for:

- Secretive online behaviour.
- Late night internet or smartphone usage.
- Meeting new friends in unusual places.
- Becoming clingy, develop sleeping or eating problems or even bedwetting.
- Lack of interest in extra-curricular activities.
- Having new items, such as clothes or phones, unexplainably.
- Seem withdrawn, anxious, depressed or aggressive.
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

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