



Friday 28th February 2025

Headteachers report of the week

Our school media group recently participated in a Trust Day event, where they delved into the world of filmmaking and the importance of inclusivity. The day was filled with interactive workshops led by industry professionals. Team-building activities further strengthened their collaboration and communication skills, making it a memorable and inspiring day for all involved.

In our history classes, learners embarked on an exciting journey back to the Viking Age. Through engaging hands-on activities, they learned about the daily life, culture, and adventure of the Vikings. Highlights included creating Viking shields, learning about Norse mythology and even participating in a mock Viking raid! These activities not only made history come alive but also helped learners appreciate the rich heritage and contributions of the Viking civilisation.

Lego bricks stand as timeless tools of creativity and imagination. These colourful, interlocking pieces are more than just toys; they are gateways to endless possibilities, allowing children to construct their dreams, one brick at a time. Primary have been enjoying using their imagination and seeing where it takes them.

In our primary classrooms, teachers are incorporating matching games into their lesson plans to make learning interactive and enjoyable. Learners work in pairs or small groups, fostering a collaborative learning environment. The games are designed to be challenging yet achievable, ensuring that all learners can participate and benefit. We encourage parents to try matching games at home as well. They are easy to create and can be customised to suit your child's interests and learning needs. It's a great way to spend quality time together while reinforcing what they learn at school.

Best Wishes

Jules



Woodlands Team Media

We are excited to share the wonderful experience our Woodlands Media Team had during their recent Trust day event. This special day was dedicated to learning about the art of filming and the importance of inclusivity and belonging.





The Trust Day event was designed to provide our media group with hands-on experience in various aspects of media. Learners participated in workshops led by industry professionals, covering topics such as camera operating, interviewing and planning/scripting.





Shannon and Scott interviewed Andy, one of the industry experts of the day. He shared his experiences and insights, providing valuable advice and inspiration.



Practice makes perfect! By working together on various challenges and with the experts of the day, learners developed a deeper sense of camaraderie and mutual respect. Fun and engaging challenges helped learners develop trust and teamwork skills.

The Trust Day was a resounding success, leaving our Media Team motivated and equipped with new skills. They are eager to apply what they have learned to their future projects, ensuring that their work is not only technically proficient but also inclusive and impactful.



We are proud of our media group for their dedication and enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing the amazing content they will create, reflecting the values of inclusivity and creativity that were the focus of this memorable day.

Colourful Curry



Scott and Shannon made a very colourful curry. They used Tikka flavours.

- Debbie J

Making Burgers with Acorns 1



This morning Acorns 1
made burgers,
chopping onions, using
the bridge grip,
seasoning and cooking,
checking core
temperatures were safe
for them to eat.

- Debbie J





The best bit was taste testing, all enjoyed their Thursday Brunch.

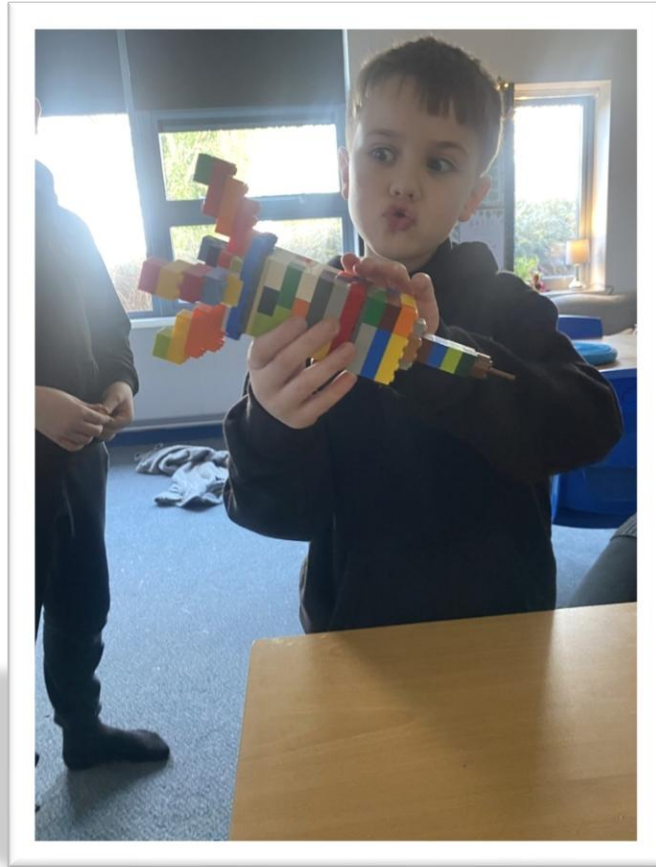
- Debbie J



LEGO – Fuel to ignite learners imagination

Sitting down with a pile of LEGO bricks, Oscar embarked on a journey of imagination. Each brick became a block of his creativity. Oscar envisioned his idea and brought it to life.





This term our focus subject is Race
to Space

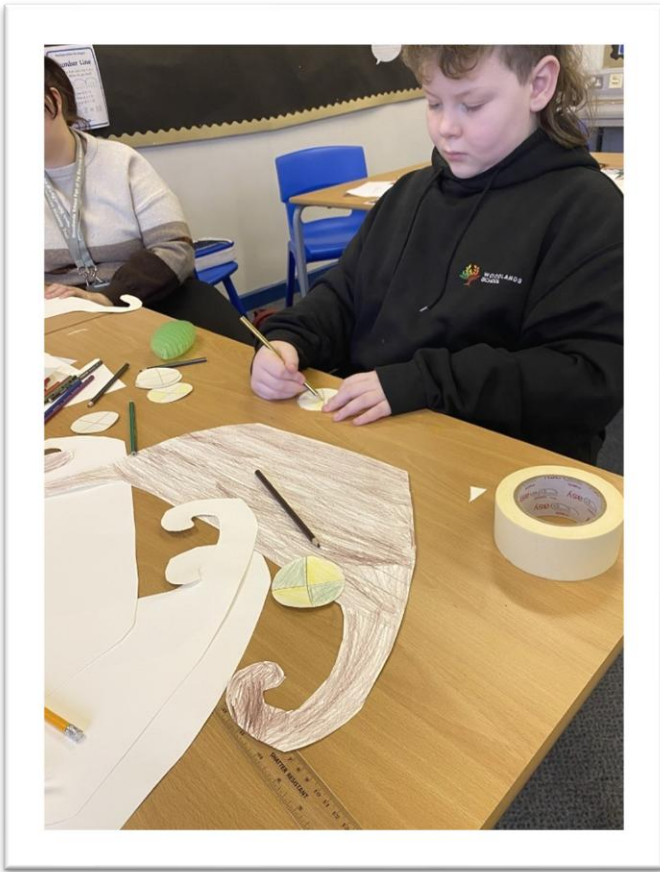
Today we asked Acorns 2 to build
their own space rockets - this was
Michael
- Leah

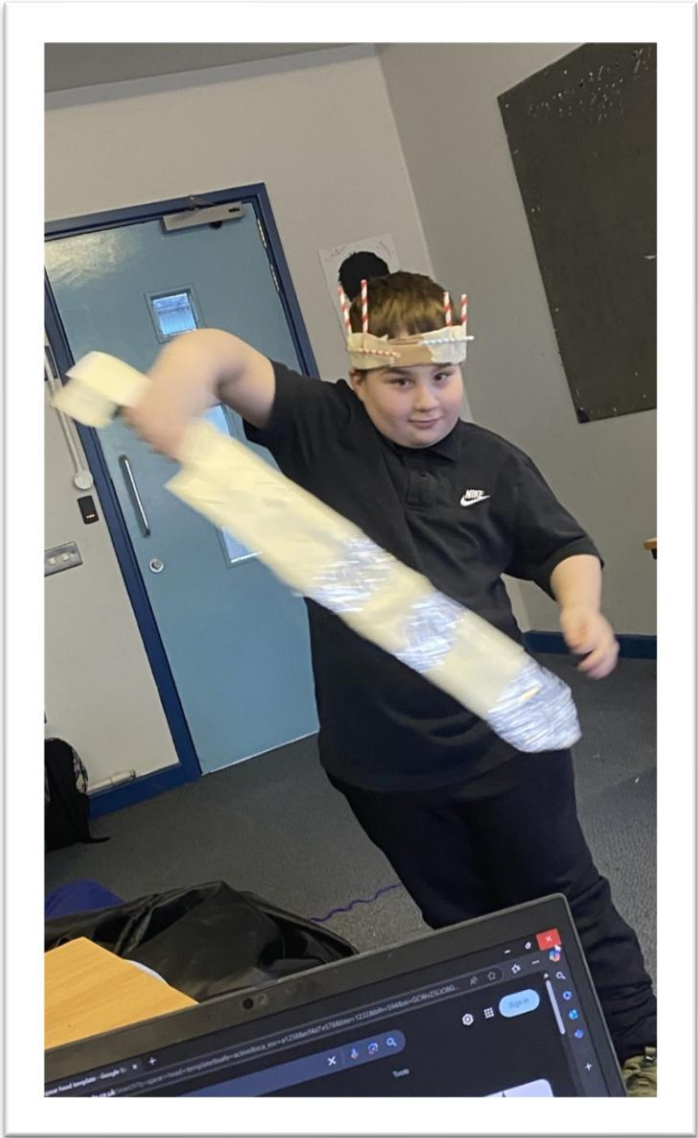
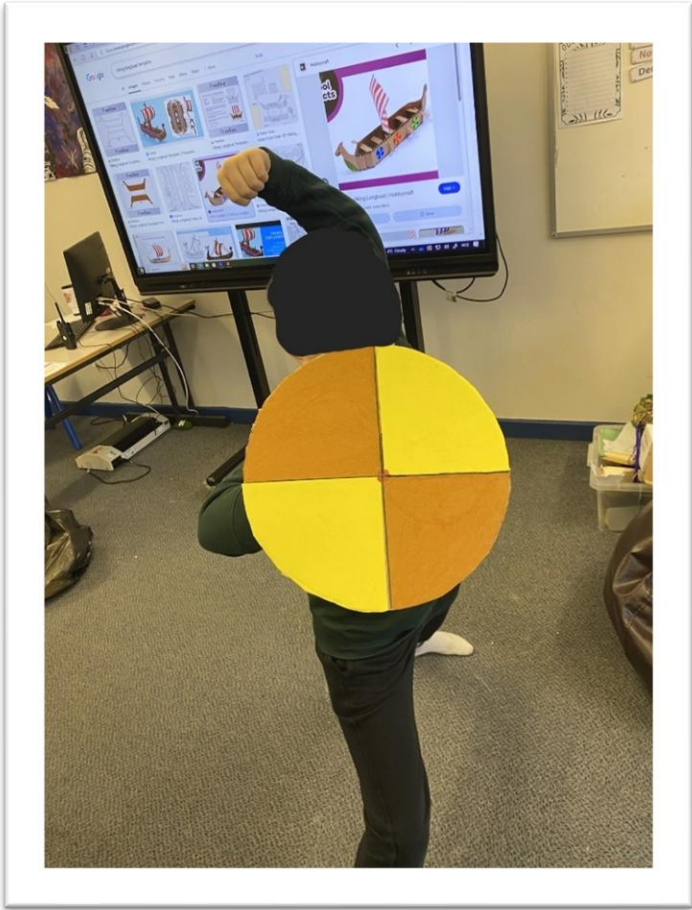


Oscar with the support of adults learnt how to handle Willow, Woodlands Corn Snake. Oscar learnt that Willow is very gentle and docile and she likes to be supported by her body so she is comfortable.

Acorns 2 studied the vikings and they made their own shield, swords and long boats.

- Leah







Career of the week

Bricklayer

Bricklayers build houses, repair walls and chimneys and refurbish decorative stonework. They also work on restoration projects.

Average salary (a year): £17,000 (starter) to £40,000 (experienced)

Typical hours (a week): 42 to 44 a week (between 8am and 6pm, could be away from home)

You can get into this job through:

College

You could take a college course, for example:

- Level 1 Certificate in Construction Skills
- Level 2 Diploma in Bricklaying
- Level 2 Diploma in Trowel Occupations
- T Level in On Site Construction

Entry requirements

You may need:

- 2 or fewer GCSEs at grades 3 to 1 (D to G), or equivalent, for a level 1 course
- 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2 course
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9-4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T level

Apprenticeship

You can do a:

- Bricklaying Level 2 Intermediate Apprenticeship
- Craft Bricklaying Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship.

These usually take between 2 and 3 years to complete. You'll do on-the-job training and spend time with a college or training provider.

Entry requirements

You may need:

- some GCSEs, including English and maths, for an intermediate apprenticeship
- 5 GCSEs at grades 9-4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

Work

You could start as a construction site labourer with a bricklaying 'gang' and take training on the job to become a bricklayer.

More information

Registration

You'll need a Construction Skills Certification (CSCS) card or equivalent to train and work on a construction site.

Further information

You can find out more about becoming a bricklayer from [Go Construct](#) and [House Building Careers](#)

Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- knowledge of building and construction
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with your hands
- physical skills like strength, balance and co-ordination
- the ability to organise your time and workload
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Day-to-day tasks

In your day-to-day tasks you could:

- measure work areas and set out the first rows of bricks or blocks
- mix mortar by hand or with a mechanical mixer
- use a trowel to lay bricks and mortar
- shape and trim bricks using hammers, chisels and power tools
- check that rows are straight using a spirit level, laser level or plumb line

Working environment

- You could work on a construction site
- Your working environment may be dusty, physically demanding, outdoors in all weathers, at height and you'll travel often
- You may need to wear protective clothing.

Career progression

You could specialise in a particular type of bricklaying like heritage work or stonemasonry.

You could become self-employed and set up your own business.

With experience, you could become a construction site supervisor or move into related areas like estimating, training or teaching apprenticeships or students in a further education college.



Headteachers Awards



HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD



THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO

Caleb

FOR

exceptional response to the lockdown procedures!!



28/02/2025

DATE

CONGRATULATIONS

Jatayin
SIGNATURE



WOODLANDS SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD



THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO

Leighton

FOR

exceptional response to the lockdown procedures!!



28/02/2025

DATE

CONGRATULATIONS

Jatayin
SIGNATURE



WOODLANDS SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD



THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO

Tommy

FOR

being an awesome pupil panel member for the interviews



28/02/2025

DATE

CONGRATULATIONS

Jafay W
SIGNATURE



WOODLANDS SCHOOL

HEAD TEACHER'S AWARD



THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO

Tommy

FOR

A really positive first week back and listening to advice and following it.



28/02/2025

DATE

CONGRATULATIONS

Jafay W
SIGNATURE



WOODLANDS SCHOOL

Tutor Shout Outs



- Shout out to Frankie-Lee excellent first week in school! – Debbie G
- Scott, shout out for attending and working in his lessons and for his attitude towards the new candidates during the interview process. – Debbie J
- Tommy has been an excellent role model to the class this week and made some really mature decisions. – Magz
- Emilia, Shannon, Scott and Ryan for volunteering for the student panel and being warm and welcoming to our recent visitors. - Schem

This Week at Woodlands

Be your best!



Be brave.

Engage positively.

Sensible and safe behaviours at all times.

Take responsibility

- **Scott and Shannon were brave and attended the Media Team Trust Day, they engaged really well, took responsibility in performing all tasks and were sensible and safe at all times. We are really proud of you Scott and Shannon; you represented the school brilliantly!**
- **Billy's first forest school this week! – Billy was Brave, Engaged and showed Safe behaviour - Well done Billy – What a Superstar!**
- **Nest had a great day and engaged well – all learners leaving with happy smiles. – Fantastic – what a great day!**
- **Oscar L had a really mature and engaging conversation with a visitor in school – So lovely to hear Oscar, Well done!**
- **Olly N had an amazing day today!! Superstar Olly!**
- **The three learners in Shore today, Tommy, Taylor and Kieran, they were sensible and safe during the lockdown procedure. Previous to that they had showed great teamwork, making Pizza's and Spaghetti Bolognese. – Fantastic work boys!**

Sending an Email to the Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk

- If you have any worries Parents/Carers or Students, please email the above address.
- Students, you can use your school accounts or personal email addresses.

Why not follow us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsShropshire/>

Or

Take a look at our website!

www.woodlands.school

Or

**Join the conversation - We love hearing from you!
Share your thoughts, questions, and suggestions
with us.**

rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk

Year 9 and above

Shropshire Council are putting on some virtual workshops for young people with SEND who are preparing for adulthood and parent carers. If you would like to attend, please complete this

Microsoft Form

<https://forms.office.com/e/zUHZ>

[FLHCR1](#)



PREPARING FOR ADULTHOOD



Shropshire Council are holding some online workshops for Parent Carers of young people with SEND to support them to understand navigating their young person's journey

| Date/Time | Session Name |
|--|---|
| Monday 24th February 2025 10:00 – 12:30 Microsoft teams | Understanding Mental Capacity. Delivered by Vicky Dudley from Joint Training, this session is designed for parent carers. |
| Tuesday 25th February 2025 13.30 – 14.30 Microsoft teams | Transition to Adult Social Care and Care Act Assessments (including VCS) Delivered by the Preparing for Adulthood Team |
| Wednesday 26th February 2025 13.00 – 14.00 Microsoft teams | Adult Social care and Financial Assessment Delivered by the Financial Assessment Team. |
| Thursday 27th February 2025 13.00 – 14.00 Microsoft teams | Supported Internships Delivered by Enable |
| Wednesday 5th March 2025 13.00 – 14.00 Microsoft Teams | Assistive Technology and TEC Delivered by TEC Team |
| Thursday 6th March 2025 11.00 – 12.00 Microsoft teams | Education, Health, and Care Plans. Delivered by the EHCP Team |

Book your place now:

<https://forms.office.com/e/zUHZFLHCR1>



Shropshire
Council



Coffee & Chat Prees

1st Wednesday of each month

12pm until 3pm

Prees Primary School, Cross End, Prees,
Whitchurch SY13 2ER

All families within the local area welcome

Free information, support
& advice around:

Family Life

Housing & Finance

Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)

Parenting Support

Training & Employment

Domestic Abuse Support

And much more...

refreshments will be provided
*Please bring your own sealed
cup/travel mug*



shropshire.gov.uk/early-help



Shropshire
Council



COFFEE & CHAT

stay and play



Every Tuesday



9.30 am until 12.30 noon

**Raven House, Prospect Road,
Market Drayton, TF9 3AH**

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN SEALED CUP/TRAVEL MUG

Open Access Clinic
(0-5 years)
every other week



**Free information, advice
& support around :**

- *Family Life*
- *Housing & Finance*
- * Special Educational Needs and/or
Disabilities (SEND)
- *Parenting Support*
- *Training & Employment*
- *Domestic Abuse support*
- And much more...



shropshire.gov.uk/early-help



**Shropshire
Council**



Coffee & Chat Wem

1st Thursday of each month

10am until 1pm

Wem Library, 3 High St, Wem,
Shrewsbury SY4 5AA

All families within the local area welcome

Free information, support
& advice around:

Family Life

Housing & Finance

Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)

Parenting Support

Training & Employment

Domestic Abuse Support

And much more...

refreshments will be provided
*Please bring your own sealed
cup/travel mug*





Coffee & Chat

Tern Hill

Last Wednesday of each month
9am until 12 noon
(Starting 26th February 2025)

Buntingsdale Primary School, Market
Drayton TF9 2HB

All families within the local area welcome

Free information, support
& advice around:

- Family Life
- Housing & Finance
- Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)
- Parenting Support
- Training & Employment
- Domestic Abuse Support
- And much more...



refreshments will be provided
*Please bring your own sealed
cup/travel mug*





Coffee & Chat Hodnet

1st Tuesday of each month

9am until 12 noon

Hodnet Primary School, Shrewsbury St,
Market Drayton TF9 3NS

All families within the local area welcome

Free information, support
& advice around:

Family Life

Housing & Finance

Special Education Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND)

Parenting Support

Training & Employment

Domestic Abuse Support

And much more...



refreshments will be provided
*Please bring your own sealed
cup/travel mug*



shropshire.gov.uk/early-help



Shropshire
Council



Wem

SEN HUB

PARENT CARER

COFFEE MEET-UP
0930 AT WEM TOWN HALL
(FIND US IN THE GALLERY)

Friday 17th January
Monday 3rd February
Friday 28th February
Monday 17th March
Friday 11th April



Are you a parent carer or a young person with a diagnosis or special needs or learning differences, with or without a diagnoses.

Join us for a cuppa, company and chat with others experiencing a similar journal.



@Wem SEN Hub

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MARVEL RIVALS



ESRB advise nobody under the age of 13 should play

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Marvel Rivals launched in December 2024 and amassed a player count of nearly 150,000 in mere weeks. This player versus player (PvP) shooter packs in a host of recognisable comic-book characters, pitting two teams of six against each other. Despite the game's cartoonish nature, there are several potential risks for parents and educators to be aware of.

IN-GAME CHAT

Voice chat allows players to speak to teammates and opponents within the game, but in a competitive environment, some conversations can become unpleasant. Text chat is equally prominent among those playing on PC and will be shown on the side of the screen. Moderation on chats is relatively lax, so it's important to recognise that potentially inappropriate messages could arrive at any time.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

While Marvel Rivals is free, there is an in-game store, selling character skins from recognisable movies and comic-book titles. Each season also includes a £10 Battle Pass (much like those seen in Fortnite and Call of Duty), offering a series of exclusive cosmetic items. These passes don't expire – but they can't be purchased once the next season rolls around, creating a fear of missing out.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

With such a huge player base, it's impossible to predict whom your child will be teaming up with or playing against. They're virtually certain to run into strangers through voice and text chat, for starters. Most of these people will just be ordinary gamers enjoying the action, but there is the risk of some users behaving inappropriately with younger players – either intentionally, or because they don't realise that they're speaking to a child.

VIOLENT CONTENT

There's no gore in Marvel Rivals, and the violence depicted is comparatively cartoonish – but the playable characters available vary between more traditional superheroes and supervillains, and figures like Black Widow and The Punisher, who use more realistic firearms. Given the game's nature as a shooter, this may make some parents and carers uncomfortable as some players will be firing these weapons at each other.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The game includes some innuendos and mature themes in the dialogue, which could expose youngsters to content unsuitable for their age, detracting from a safe and family-friendly gaming experience. As we mentioned previously, the content of the in-game chat could also be age-inappropriate, ranging from swearing to mature themes to potentially harmful content.

FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

The inclusion of iconic characters might make Marvel Rivals appear more approachable than other games in the genre, with recognisable heroes and villains like Spider-Man and Venom. This could lead to more interest from younger players, increasing the likelihood of children playing the game without properly understanding the risks.

Advice for Parents & Educators

FOLLOW ESRB RATINGS

The ESRB rating for Marvel Rivals says the game shouldn't be played by anyone under 13. Most children of that age will be able to appreciate the moral compass of the roster of characters (people can play as Hela, the Goddess of Death, for example), while also ensuring that the violence, however cartoonish, won't overwhelm them.



FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

The game's inclusion of fan-favourite characters like Iron Man and the Hulk, plus its increasing popularity, means that younger Marvel fans will likely be eager to see what the fuss is about. Since it's free, consider playing Marvel Rivals yourself to gauge how you feel about a child playing it. Alternatively, you could let them play against the game's AI in Practice Mode, until they're old enough to compete online.

MONITOR OR TURN OFF CHAT

Voice and text chat can both be adjusted within the in-game settings. If you're particularly concerned about exposing children and young people to them, however, you can disable both forms of chat in the game's settings. If a child wants to play alongside friends, remind them that they can use their console's party chat feature or host a call on a third-party service like Discord.



DISCONNECT PAYMENT OPTIONS

Parents should ensure that no payment options – such as debit cards – are linked to the game, to prevent unauthorised purchases and charges. Children can be tempted by enticing in-game offers without fully understanding the costs. Removing payment methods avoids impulsive in-game spending and instils a sense of financial awareness, teaching young people to be careful with their money.



Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Games Editor at the Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, he has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.

