



Dear Parent/Carer, we thought we would take this opportunity to update you on some non-academic events and also provide you with some safeguarding information which we hope you will find useful.



Our students have been acquiring a record amount of house points this term. Students are rewarded via being 'Stars of the Week' and receiving priority lunch passes. Stars of the term receive a voucher too. Remember, all points lead to the House Cup! Students will be given an update of the total points per house during our final assembly of the term. House merchandise can be purchased via our [online shop](#) which can be found at the bottom of our home page.



### House events/update

The House cup will now run from Easter to Easter rather than per school year. This will allow House Captains to lead a full year's cycle of events that count toward the House Cup. We have had some great competitions so far. Some brilliant house dramas, fabulous cakes in the House Staff bake off and students from all years participated in the House Quiz, as did staff. We also had some marvellous entries into our student House Art quiz. House cross country is currently taking place. In the new year we shall have a student House Debate and a short story competition. We will also hold a House Chess competition. Staff will compete in House Karaoke too. The current points standings are...

1. Kings	1434830
2. Queens	1394237
3. Savile	1297479
4. Porter	1171098

### POPULAR APPS AND GAMES

Students are taught about online safety in school. We have included a factsheet about some of the more popular apps used by teenagers and some of the dangers they may face. Useful sites for further information and parental training can be found on

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/home-activity-worksheets/>

### Uniform!

It's always great to see our students looking smart in their uniform. **Please ensure students have school shoes, not trainers and that trousers and skirts are the required length. Jumpers should be the school grey jumper including a badge or a plain black V neck jumper. Crew neck jumpers or hoodies are not allowed.** Also, our school does not permit nose piercings. Please support us by ensuring your child is dressed accordingly for school as per our [school policy](#). We have set up second-hand uniform shop, currently in Mr Chesters' office in the pastoral base. We have a selection of items available. Should your child need replacement items they can be obtained free of charge from the YMCA in Halifax town centre

### Free School Meals

Did you know that if your child qualifies for free school meals, not only can you save hundreds of pounds on lunches per year: the school also receives extra funds to improve school resources/provision. We do not share this information and funds simply gets discretely added to your child's parent pay account each day. See if you qualify by clicking [here](#)

### Attendance Reminder

We are experiencing a significant number of requests to take students out of school during term time. Students miss out on learning and other peer events that occur. Holidays during term time will not be authorised.



At The Crossley Heath School we adopt a **whole school approach** to safeguarding and this is achieved through our policies and processes in order to operate with the best interests of the child being paramount. We encourage all staff to use their professional curiosity and to always be critical with what they see and hear. The school follows guidance and protocols outlined by Calderdale's Safeguarding Board. Our school is a safe space for all students.

### PREVENT

Prevent is 1 of the 4 elements of CONTEST, the UK government's counter terrorism strategy and aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. As a parent, you need to be aware that individuals and groups with extremist views use the internet and social media to spread their ideologies. Children spend a lot of time online, and this has made them more susceptible to extremism, whether from Islamists or the far right.

Extremist groups tap into young people's insecurities. They often claim to offer answers and promise a sense of identity that vulnerable young people often seek. These feelings of insecurity can become more heightened when a child is feeling:

- Marginalised from society
- Trapped between two cultures
- Excluded from the mainstream

As part of their recruitment strategy, extremist groups also work to undermine the authority of parents. Extremist groups also use very sophisticated methods to trigger feelings of anger, injustice and shame that a child might feel.

### WHO IS PREVENT FOR?

They tackle both the causes and risk factors that can lead someone to become radicalised. It directly supports those who are at risk through early intervention, is resourced to risk and addresses all forms of terrorism and extremism. It is there to be support young people, parents and schools.

### WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM WORRIED ABOUT MY CHILD?

If you notice a change in your child that concerns you. You can contact your child's Pastoral Leader or [PREVENT direct for advice](#). Early Intervention is key. But it's important to remember that any child can be affected by extremism. You can play a vital role by providing emotional support that acts as an alternative to the extremist narratives that your child might feel comfortable believing.

It's not easy to talk to your child about the dangers of extremism, but as with issues such as sex and drugs, it's necessary. Give your child a safe space where they can talk about difficult subjects. The more you talk, the more confident your child will become in challenging extremist narratives.

### SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT CAN BE SOUGHT BY CALLING CHILDREN'S SERVICES.

If the child lives in Calderdale on [01422 393336](tel:01422393336) or Kirklees on [01484 456848](tel:01484456848) or Bradford on [01274 435600](tel:01274435600) or Childline on [0800 111 111](tel:0800111111)

If this a matter which would involve 'PREVENT against extremism' please refer to our webpage for support <https://www.crossleyheath.org.uk/prevent/>

### Safeguarding Concern?

We invest heavily in safeguarding training for staff. Our Progress and Pastoral Leaders are externally trained to Designated Safeguarding Lead level. All staff are routinely trained on national and local issues. If you have a safeguarding concern. You can raise it directly with Mr Chesters by phone or email the school's safeguarding team via

[safeguarding@crossleyheath.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@crossleyheath.org.uk)

### VAPING.

Young people vaping is huge concern in Calderdale. There have been cases of young people ending up in hospital, vapes being spiced with drugs and young people quickly becoming addicted to nicotine. As well as health risks, there are significant environmental risks caused by the manufacture and discarding of e-cigarettes. Vaping is using an electronic or e-cigarette (a 'vape'). E-cigarettes are filled with a liquid known as e-liquid, e-juice or vape juice. They can be bought pre-filled and disposable, or refillable.

The liquid often come in a variety of 'flavours' that can appeal to children, such as berry, watermelon, cola and mint. The e-cigarette heats this liquid until it becomes a vapour, which is then breathed in. It's **illegal** to sell e-cigarettes containing nicotine to under-18s.

In brief, our policy is that:

Possession of a vape in school will be considered 'serious misbehaviour'. Any student caught using or supplying vapes in school risks being excluded from school

**Is your child getting a new phone during the school holidays? We recommend using a parent monitoring app such as Google's family link to ensure only apps you are happy with can be downloaded.**

APP/game	WHAT IS IT?	LISTEN OUT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT:
<b>TikTok</b>	<p>Users share short videos of themselves, often lip-syncing to music, and watch other people's videos</p> <p>You can gain 'fans' and follow other people</p> <p>There are often 'challenges' that spread among users</p> <p>The app uses algorithms to feed users more related content, which can push them towards niche or unsettling videos</p>	<p>Videos that sound inappropriate</p> <p>'Challenges' that are potentially dangerous</p> <p>Strangers they've made contact with through TikTok</p> <p>Content about eating disorders, self-harm and bullying</p> <p>Things they heard or saw on TikTok that don't sound true, or might be fake</p>
<b>Snapchat</b>	<p>Picture, video and message-sharing with contacts</p> <p>'Snaps' disappear and aren't saved on phones</p> <p>Known for sharing nude and semi-nude images</p>	<p>Sharing explicit images and requests for photos</p> <p>Screenshots of 'Snaps' being shared</p> <p>Strangers they've made contact with</p> <p>Videos and photos that sound inappropriate</p>
<b>YouTube</b>	<p>A website and app where users can watch videos uploaded by other people</p> <p>Users can also watch live streams of other people</p> <p>Users can upload their own videos and leave comments on other people's videos</p>	<p>Uploading videos of things that happen at school</p> <p>'Challenges' that are potentially dangerous</p> <p>Videos that sound inappropriate</p> <p>Other pupils' videos that they've found, and making fun of the person who</p>
<b>Instagram</b>	<p>Users upload photos and videos to their profile, and can live stream to other users</p> <p>You can gain followers and follow other people, as well as comment on other people's photos and videos</p> <p>Users can private message each other, send each other private photos and videos, and upload to a daily 'story' that other users can see for 24 hours</p>	<p>Sharing explicit images and requests for photos</p> <p>Screenshots of private messages or photos being shared</p> <p>Pictures or videos that sound inappropriate</p>
<b>Twitch</b>	<p>A website and app where users can watch videos and live streams of other users, typically playing computer games</p>	<p>Strangers they've made contact with</p> <p>Inappropriate content they've seen</p>

APP/game	WHAT IS IT?	LISTEN OUT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT:
	They can also live stream themselves and private message each other	
<b>Kick</b>	Like Twitch, a website where users can watch videos and live streams of other users  Computer gaming streams are popular, as well as gambling	Strangers they've made contact with  Gambling  Inappropriate content they've seen
<b>WhatsApp</b>	A messaging app where users can message each other by text, video and voice notes  Users can also video and voice chat with each other	Strangers they've made contact with  Pictures or videos that sound inappropriate  Screenshots of private messages or photos being shared
<b>Discord</b>	A messaging platform where users can message, video and voice call each other, and join servers to talk to lots of other people  Originally used for communication while playing computer games	Strangers they've made contact with  Pictures or videos that sound inappropriate  Ideas or beliefs that sound extreme

## When should I report?

If you're worried that your child is being [groomed](#) online or [sexually exploited](#) you should [report your concerns to CEOP](#).

It is not always easy to spot the signs of online grooming and sexual exploitation so if you have any concern at all about someone your child is in contact with, you should get in touch.

You should always report if your child is or has been in contact with someone who is:

- Chatting online to your child about sex
- Asking them to do sexual things on webcam
- Asking to meet up if they've only met them online
- Requesting sexual pictures
- Forcing them into sexual activity
- Making them feel unsafe

CEOP is part of the National Crime Agency and can investigate what is happening – with the assurance that the safety and wellbeing of your child is paramount at all times.

**If you are concerned that your child is in immediate danger, call 999.**

## How do I make a report?

You can make a report to CEOP using the [CEOP Safety Centre](#).