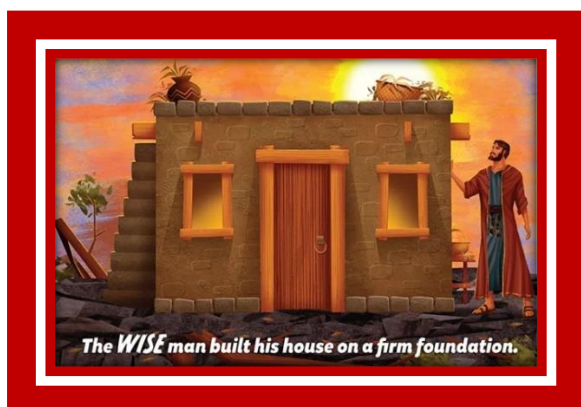




NEWSLETTER

28th March 2025

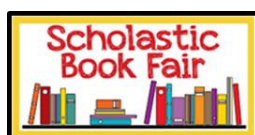


Firm Foundations; Rooted in Love.

Rooted in love, we grow and learn together, supported by our firm foundations. We nurture and respect the individuals within our community, so that all can flourish and succeed, with aspirational hope.

"Do everything in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

Another busy week at Christchurch CofE Primary school! Only one more week until the Easter Holidays!



This week we have held our second Scholastic Book Fair.

Once again we would like to thank the parents/carers who have supported the school by attending these fairs & purchasing books with their children.



Today during our Celebration Assembly Rev. Andrew has given all our children an Easter Cross. The cross is to symbolise Jesus'

triumph over death, His resurrection, and His gift of everlasting life.



After our Celebration Assembly Rev. Andrew & his team have taken our Foxes, Otters &

Badgers children in an interactive RE Hub called "Life Exhibition". We would like to thank them for leading this session which the children enjoyed participating in. We will share pictures in next week's Newsletter.

Next week is the last week before the Easter Holidays!



On Monday 31st March 2025 all our children will be taking part in a 'One Picture Afternoon'.

The work that is produced during this afternoon will be available for parents/carers to see at the parent evenings being held next term.



On Friday 4th March 2025 we are inviting all children to make an Easter Bonnet & wear it to school.

During our Celebration Assembly we will hold a parade & there will be a prize for the best Bonnet! We cannot wait to see the children's creations!

Let's hope the sun continues to shine over the weekend!



Easter Bonnet Competition

Friday 4th April 2025 is the last day at school before the Easter holidays.

We would like to invite all the children to make an Easter Bonnet and wear it on the last day of term.

We are very excited to see the children's creations!

There will be prizes for the best bonnet!





REMINDER TOYS FROM HOME

Please can we remind all our parents/carers that children should not be bringing **ANY** toys into school.

Fidget toys should **ONLY** be brought into school by children to meet their Special Educational Needs with the agreement from Mrs Bishop our SENCO and/or Class Teacher.

Thank you for your co-operation.



*Letters sent home / info on
website for
w/e 28th March 2025*

The following letters have been sent out and/or put on the school website (under Key Information/ Information Hub/ Letters Home).

- LETTER TO RED SQUIRRELS & HEDGEHOGS PARENTS: Little Wandle & Changing Reading Books (dated 26/3/25)
- LETTER TO PARENTS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING MERSEA: Mersea Outdoors 9/6/25 to 13/6/25 Meeting (dated 27/3/25)



Hot Chocolate Friday with Mrs Bishop

The following children have been on the gold star and randomly chosen to have Hot Chocolate with Mrs Bishop.

Evie-Leigh - Red Squirrels

Mabel - Hedgehogs

Rory - Foxes

James - Otters

Elouise - Badgers



Congratulations to you all!



Head of School Stickers

This week Mrs Hall has given Headteacher Stickers to the following children:

Umar - Otters for his excellent use of vocabulary during an English lesson

Toby - Foxes for his amazing RE work

Sofia - Hedgehogs for her brilliant use of sentences about "Timmy the lost Tiger"

Matilda - Hedgehogs for her super work in English about "Timmy the lost Tiger"

Amelia W - Hedgehogs for her fabulous sentence work about "Timmy the lost Tiger"

Lola - Otters for her amazing arithmetic work

Bonnie - Otters - for her brilliant arithmetic work

Ruby - Otters for her super arithmetic work

Toby - Foxes for his amazing arithmetic work



PE DAYS - Spring Term 2 2025

Please can children come into school wearing their PE kits on the following days:

Monday - **Hedgehogs** (all Year 1 & Year 2)

Tuesday - **Red Squirrels** (EYFS only)

Wednesday - **Foxes & Otters**

Thursday - **Red Squirrels, Hedgehogs, Foxes, Otters & Badgers**

Children should come to school wearing their PE kits on these days. If for any reason your child is unable to take part in their PE lessons, they should come to school wearing their normal School Uniform and bring a letter explaining why they are not participating. Please note all long hair **must** be tied back during PE lessons.



Gymnastics Awards

Well done Sophie, Emily & Esme who have all this week received Gymnastics Badges.

Sophie from **Otters** class received her level 1 Gymnastics Badge.

Emily from **Foxes** class received her level 2 Gymnastics Badge.

Esme from **Foxes** received her level 6 Gymnastics Badge.

Well done girls keep up the amazing work!



Helping Hands Box



We are delighted that so many of our parents/carers are using our Helping Hands Box which is located in the school office foyer.

If you have any items in your cupboards which are in-date & you are able to spare then we would be very grateful for any top ups - please just add them to the box.

We all need to look out for each other & we really appreciate any contributions received.

Thank you to all those who have topped up our box your continued support is very appreciated.



Tiptree Scout Group

Well done to **Elliot from Badgers** who has recently joined Tiptree Scout Group. On Wednesday evening he was invested into this scout group.

We are sure you will enjoy your time in the scouts Elliot & we look forward to hearing all the activities that you take part in!



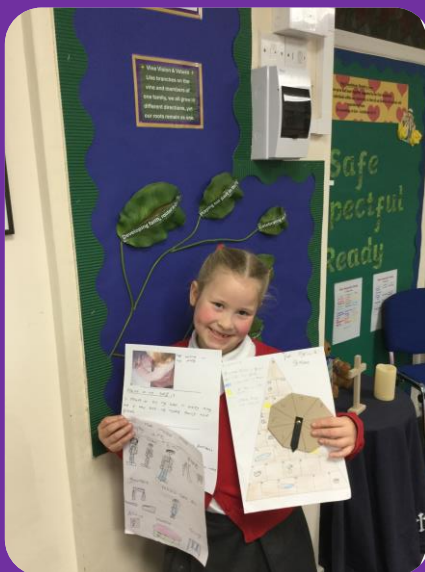


The Big Vine Challenge Passport

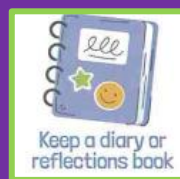
Well done to **Sophie - Otters** who has been busy again completing more of her Vine Challenge Passport!

This week she has completed the following sections - keep up the excellent work!

EMPOWERING MY FRIENDS & FAMILY



DEVELOPING FAITH



AMBITIOUS LEARNING





The Big Vine Challenge Passport

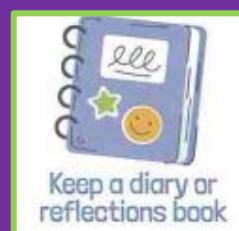
Well done to **Elliot - Badgers** who has been busy completing some of the sections on his Vine Challenge Passport!

This week he has completed the following sections - keep up the excellent work!

EMPOWERING MY FRIENDS & FAMILY



DEVELOPING FAITH



AMBITIOUS LEARNING





Patricia's – Uniform Sale

Patricia's, based in South Woodham Ferrers, currently hold stock of our school uniform with the old "Latchingdon Logo".

In order to clear this stock they are currently holding a 50% sale.

As previously mentioned, if you have purchased our Latchingdon uniform, this is still ok whilst we change over to our new name and uniform.



Book Swap

We have a rack of books in the school office foyer for our parents/carers to take a book to read and, if able, to replace with a book you have already read and no longer have need of.

Happy reading!



Arbor and Communication

Could we please remind all our parents/carers to ensure that you have signed up to Arbor and are able to access the alerts.

Over the Summer term, we will be reducing the use of paper copies of letters and these will be sent to you via Arbor.

This is to ensure that everyone receives an email copy and will also help both the planet and save costs with purchasing additional paper.

If you need any help with signing up to Arbor, please let us know.

Thank you for your co-operation.





Reading Raffle

Reading is an important life skill. We want to reward and encourage children to read at home. Therefore, we have launched our Reading Raffle!

For your child to be entered into the Reading Raffle each week, your child needs to
They need to have their **Reading Diaries signed**
and shown to their class teacher on a Thursday.
The raffle will run from Friday to Thursday each



If your child has read **at least 4 out of 7 times**, then their name will be entered into the raffle.

A name will be picked at random from each class. The winner of each class will win a book! This raffle will be every week and we hope to see all children entering every week!

Congratulations to this week's winners - we hope you enjoy reading your new books!

Isobel - Red Squirrels

Chloe - Hedgehogs

Louie - Foxes

James - Otters

Harrison - Badgers



Attendance - w/e 28/3/25

The winning class for the week ending 28th March 2025 is **Foxes class**.

Year	Attendance %
R / 1 (Red Squirrels)	95.3%
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	95.47%
3 / 4 (Foxes)	96.67%
3 / 4 (Otters)	96.25%
5 / 6 (Badgers)	92.11%

Each Friday we hold a raffle for all pupils in school, on time all week. This week the raffle was drawn and the winning pupil was **Summer** from **Red Squirrels class**.

If your child is not in school, please remember to phone each morning before 9 am and leave a message for safe guarding reasons we must have a reason.

If you receive a in-app message, please contact the school to explain the absence. If we do not hear from you telephone calls will be made and if we are unable to contact you then a home visit may be appropriate.

If you child arrives late then please could an adult accompany them into the office to sign them in. Anyone arriving after the registers close (after half an hour) will be classed as an unauthorised absence unless we are aware of the reason in advance.

At Christchurch, we recognise that positive behaviour and good attendance are essential for pupils to get the most of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing and wider life chances.

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education and where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly, on time.

Thank you for working with us to ensure your child/ren at Christchurch have good attendance.

Stars of the Week - w/e 28/3/25

Year	Name
R / 1 (Red Squirrels)	Pippa & Stephen-John
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Leila & Summer
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Lexi & Daisy
3 / 4 (Otters)	Travis & Bonnie
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Elliot & Dounya

Good Manners - w/e 28/3/25

Year	Name
R / 1 (Red Squirrels)	Mia & Katie
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	Sofia & Logan-Jack
3 / 4 (Foxes)	Stanley & Esme
3 / 4 (Otters)	Ruby & Abigail
5 / 6 (Badgers)	Reggie & Catalina

Lunch Time Stars - w/e 28/3/25

Rory - Foxes
Travis - Otters



Reading Challenge - w/e 28/3/25

Year	% children reading at home regularly
R / 1 (Red Squirrels)	56%
1 / 2 (Hedgehogs)	70%
3 / 4 (Foxes)	100%
3 / 4 (Otters)	71%
5 / 6 (Badgers)	50%

Each week the Friday Assembly is led by members of **Badgers Class**. This week's leader was **Ralph**.

Well done to you all!



Please see our website for full details of Dates to remember. Details of any events will be sent out nearer the time.

Please note that all events are for the children/staff only unless specified.

Academic Year 2024-2025



March 2025

31st March 25 - Reception & Year 6 - Height & Weight & Vision checks - Letter issued 20/3/25 refers

April 2025

3rd April 25 - 9.30am - Mersea Residential Meeting - Letter dated 27/3/25 refers

3rd April 25 - 4.45pm - Mersea Residential Meeting - Letter dated 27/3/25 refers

4th April 25 - Easter Bonnet Competition closes - Newsletter post 21/3/25 refers

7th April to 21st April 25 - EASTER HOLIDAY

10th April 25 - 9am to 3pm - High Class Sports - Easter Sports & Activity Day - Flyer issued 19/3/25 refers



22nd April 25 - First day Summer Term

24th April 25 - 8.30am to 9am - EYFS/KS1 Phonics Parent Workshop - Letter dated 26/3/25 refers

25th April 25 - 9.15am - EYFS/KS1 Easter Service at Christ Church - Parents invited - Letter dated 17/3/25 refers

25th April 25 - 10.30am - KS2 Easter Service at Christ Church - Parents invited - Letter dated 17/3/25 refers

26th April 25 - 12pm-5pm-St Georges Day Celebration at Latchingdon Village Hall - Newsletter post 28/3/25 refers

29th April 25 - iSing POP Vine Schools Trust Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral - Letter dated 10/3/25 refers

May 2025

5th May 25 - BANK HOLIDAY

12th May to 15th May 25 - YEAR 6 SATs

23rd May 25 - Dress down day - details to follow

23rd May 25 - 3.15pm to 6pm - PTFA Inflatable Day - details to follow

26th May to 30th May 25 - HALF TERM HOLIDAY

June 2025

2nd June 25 - NON-PUPIL DAY

5th June 25 - 4.30pm - Mersea Residential Meeting for final questions - details to follow

9th June to 13th June 25 - Mersea Residential

23rd June 25 - Ormiston Rivers Year 7 Transition Day - details to follow

26th June 25 - Dengie Sports Day - details to follow

July 2025

1st July 25 - Year 3 & Year 4 - Bradwell Pilgrimage - details to follow

11th July 25 - Sports Day - details to follow

17th July 25 - Reserve Sports Day - details to follow

18th July 25 - 4.30pm to 6.30pm - PTFA End of Year Party/Festival - details to follow

21st & 22nd July 25 - NON-PUPIL DAYS

23rd July 25 - SUMMER HOLIDAY

PLEASE NOTE BELOW CHRISTCHURCH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026



Christchurch C of E Primary School

School Term Dates - Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
									1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		8	9	10	11	12	13	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30	31				
29	30																											

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29		27	28	29	30			
														30	31													

May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																						31						

	= Schooldays		= School holidays		= Bank holidays
	= Weekends		= Non-pupil days		

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 <i>Half Term 27 October – 31 October</i>	75 days
Spring Term:	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 <i>Half Term 16 February – 20 February</i>	55 days
Summer Term:	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 <i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday – 4 May</i>	65 days
		<u>195 days</u>

Please note:

The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.

You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

EASTER SPORTS AND ACTIVITY DAY

Thursday 10th April 2025

For children in school years R-YR 6

Join High Class Sport for Easter themed fun and games!



9.00am - 3.00pm



£25.00 per child per day

Instagram - @Highclass_sport

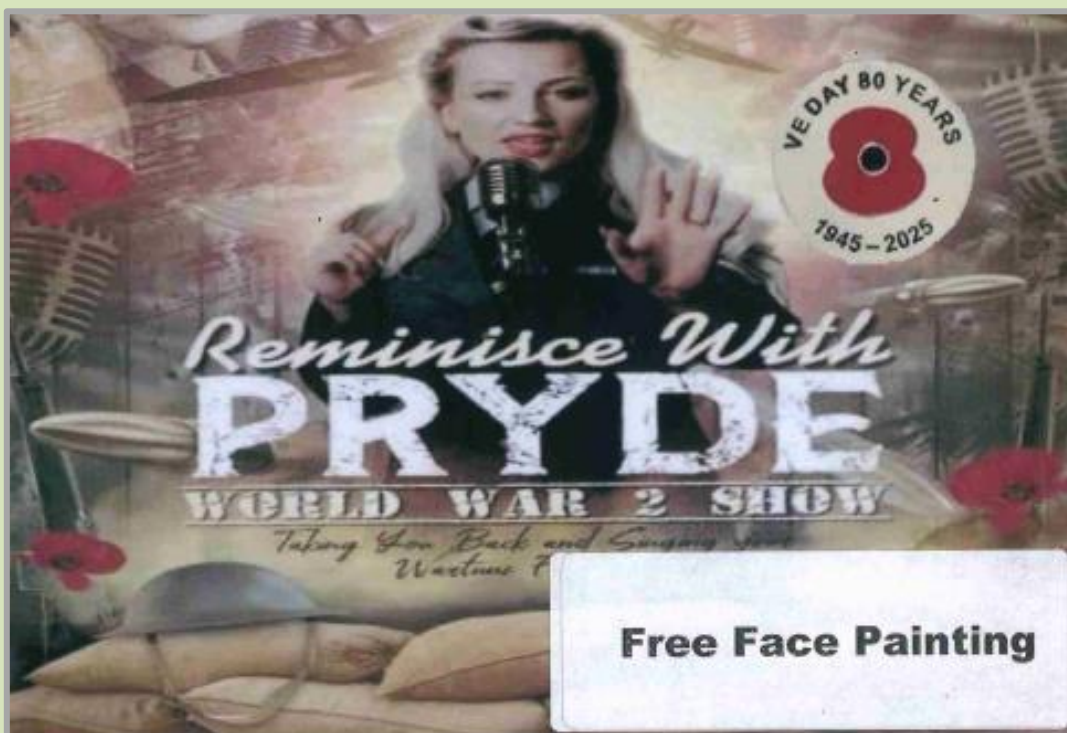
Join Mr Perry and Co at Christchurch Primary for a day of sports and fun games!
Activities include Football, Dodgeball, Benchball, Nerf Wars, Archery, Arts and Crafts and Easter Egg hunts.

Venue - Christchurch Primary School (Latchingdon)



To book your place visit <https://bookwhen.com/highclasssport>





St. Georges Day Celebration

Sat 26th April

12pm - 5pm

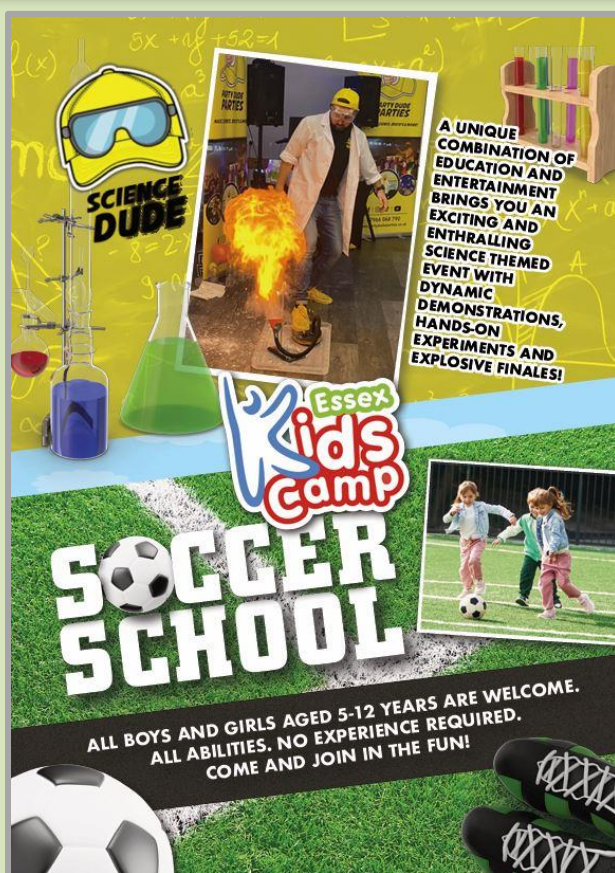
Latchingdon
Village Hall



The Raffles Duo

Traditional Pie & Mash
Mobile Licensed Bar
Free Community Event





SCIENCE DUDE

A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF EDUCATION AND ENTERTAINMENT BRINGS YOU AN EXCITING AND ENTHRALLING SCIENCE THEMED EVENT WITH DYNAMIC DEMONSTRATIONS, HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTS AND EXPLOSIVE FINALES!

Essex Kids Camp

SOCCER SCHOOL

ALL BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-12 YEARS ARE WELCOME. ALL ABILITIES. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!



EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

Essex Kids Camp

COME JOIN US FOR OUR SUPER FUN EASTER CLUBS AT ST LEONARD'S SCHOOL, SOUTHMINSTER. CLUBS ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

MON 7th APRIL
FEATURING SCIENCE DUDE!

TUE 8th APRIL

WED 9th APRIL

THUR 10th APRIL

MON 14th APRIL
FEATURING SOCCER SCHOOL!

TUES 15th APRIL

WED 16th APRIL

THUR 17th APRIL

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO BOOK VISIT:
Book online: www.essexkidscamp.co.uk/activities
Email: info@essexkidscamp.co.uk

Essex Kids Camp

EASTER OBSTACLE RUN



2K • 15 OBSTACLES

18TH, 19TH AND 21ST APRIL
10.30AM FIREPIT INCLUDED
BRING YOUR OWN MARSHMALLOWS & STICKS



£24 PP + BOOKING FEE

BOOK 4 FOR THE PRICE OF 3



EASTER HOLIDAYS

JUST GET OVER IT

£22

+ BOOKING FEE

APRIL
TUE 8
THU 10
TUE 15
THU 17



- Age 6+
- Hot chocolate
- Marshmallows around the fire
- Zipwires into water for age 12+
- Slip 'n' Slide



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about BLUESKY SOCIAL APP

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
With an App Store rating of 17+ & Google Play rating Mature

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

While Bluesky has been around since 2019, it's suddenly taken off in a big way thanks to a significant exodus from X (formerly Twitter). Indeed, it looks and behaves a lot like Twitter before Elon Musk bought the platform. Bluesky has been touted in recent months as a safer, more open-minded alternative to X – but like any social media site, it still has its share of risks.

NO PRIVATE ACCOUNTS

While most social networks allow accounts to be private, at the time of writing, all Bluesky accounts must be public. The development team has indicated this might change in the future, but the app is built on a public-first protocol. If private accounts are ever introduced, it may only be in a limited way – such as through the implementation of group chats.

INTERACTIONS WITH STRANGERS

Every account being public means that anyone can be contacted by anyone else. While users don't have to respond and can easily block people and move on, it does mean that youngsters are at particular risk of being conned by scammers, messaged by predatory adults or exposed to others with ill intentions. These hazards can be compounded by the fact that Bluesky doesn't require its users to provide their real name.

TROLLING AND BULLYING

While Bluesky currently feels a lot friendlier than X seems to have become, its lack of private accounts means that there's nothing to stop users from trolling and cyberbullying younger people. While accounts can be blocked and reported, a persistent bully could simply create a new profile, potentially making their victims feel unsafe in continuing to use the app.

DANGEROUS MISINFORMATION

Established news organisations have fact-checking and editing processes, but social networks have no such controls and can often serve as breeding grounds for misinformation and disinformation. Bluesky will possibly be no different once it reaches a certain size, and children may not have the critical thinking skills to tell fact from fiction – or to discern an informative, honest user from a malicious one.

ADULT TARGET AUDIENCE

Bluesky isn't designed with children in mind, and there aren't many parental controls on the platform. In an interview with the BBC, Bluesky's CEO originally said that the app would only allow users aged 18 and above to sign up, but a spokesperson later clarified its age restriction as 13+. This could imply the app was originally meant for an adult audience and suggests that making the platform more child-friendly might not currently be a priority.

RAPID GROWTH

At the time of writing, Bluesky seems calm in comparison with other social networks where moderation is lax and the atmosphere toxic – but that's due at least in part to its smaller community. The app has recently been adding as many as a million users per day, and if that continues, there'll be more unpleasant users to handle, and moderators could struggle to maintain the pleasant environment Bluesky is currently known for.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE THE ADULT CONTENT FILTER

Bluesky doesn't have much in the way of parental controls, but there are content filters which can hide sexual and graphic imagery. These are enabled by default for underage accounts but can be manually turned on in the 'Moderation' section of the app's settings. The advanced Bluesky Moderation Service lets you restrict content even further, hiding – for example – self-harm content, extremist rhetoric, and even rude posts.

ENCOURAGE BLOCKING AND REPORTING

Another tool that Bluesky uses to ensure a decent experience is muting and blocking accounts. The former prevents you from seeing a specific user's content, while the latter stops them from seeing yours. If a child is encountering trolls or bullies on the platform, encourage them to use this function, while also reporting the offenders to help make the platform a nicer place for everyone.

LOOK OUT FOR FAKES

Impersonation is a problem on all social networks. While the consequences are usually benign, imposters sometimes attempt to scam or groom children by pretending to be a popular influencer or online personality. Bluesky is unique in that it can be connected to official domains, with users' handles linking to other sites; while this isn't widely used right now, it could be a reliable way to verify celebrities and public figures in future.

KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

As with all social media platforms, moderation and content filters can only do so much; it's highly likely that a child will eventually face something unsavoury. For that reason, it's important to make sure that young people are aware of the risks and know how to handle the technology if anything they see on the app makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/bluesky-app>



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