



The Appleton School Parent Bulletin

Newsletter dated: 20.10.23

Key Dates

- Monday 30-10-23
Year 9 & 11 school photos
- 6-11-23
Y11 Exam week begins (see the last page of bulletin for revision support)

Follow us on:



Facebook

[The Appleton School](#)



Instagram

[The Appleton School](#)

House System

Congratulations to all pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 for your achievement points that you have earned since the start of the academic year.



House	Grand Total
Austen	5772
Nightingale	5316
Tull	4432
Turing	4859
Grand Total	16607

Attendance & Achievement

How much does attendance impact on achievement and success?

The school's expectation of attendance is at least 97%. The impact on good attendance on your progress is shown in the table below with 94% of students achieving their target grades at the end of year 11. The higher your attendance the best possible chance of personal success!

Attendance %	Achieve expected target grades.	You will only achieve your target grade in:
<80%	20%	2 of your subjects
80-84.9%	33%	3 of your subjects
85-89.9%	46%	4 of your subjects
		You will achieve your target grade in:
90-91.9%	53%	5 out of 9 subjects
92-95.9%	75%	7 out of 9 subjects
96%	84%	8 out of 9 subjects
97%	94%	9 out of 9 subjects



GENERAL NOTICES

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thank you to everyone that attended our Sixth Form Open Evening, we welcomed well over 350 people through our doors. The enthusiasm from our Year 11s and our Year 12/13 helpers was infectious, there were great questions being asked and everyone seemed to have an enjoyable evening—the two hours flew by.

Thank you to all of our helpers in Year 9, 10, 12 and 13 without you the evening would not have been so successful!

For more information about our Sixth Form, admissions and subject offering then please see our website: <https://theappletonschool.org/sixth-form/appleton-sixth-form>

Essex ActivAte Half Term Programme

Welcome to the Essex ActivAte booking page for Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point and Rochford!

The half term clubs are funded through Essex County Council to provide free places for school aged children who are eligible for benefits based free school meals and children from 'low income' working families to book onto our clubs.

Please head back to the central booking page to view our SEND and secondary half term clubs.

We are pleased to be able to provide a free, nutritious meal for all children on benefit based free school meals. For more information and meal plans, please contact the club directly. If you make the decision to send your child in with a packed lunch, please make sure it's as healthy and nutritious as possible.

<https://www.activeessex.org/children-young-people/essex-activate/south-essex-activate-bookings->

School Photographs

Year 9 and Year 11 students will have their school photographs on Monday 30th October, please ensure your son/daughter arrives in school with correct uniform for these pictures.

Lateness

Punctuality is an important life skill, we need to equip our students with this vital skill to help prepare them for the world of work. Students arriving late will receive a same day sanction during social time.

We do appreciate that unexpected circumstances, outside of your control, can occur in the morning; if this does happen and it will cause your son/daughter to be late then please contact the school.



Shout outs

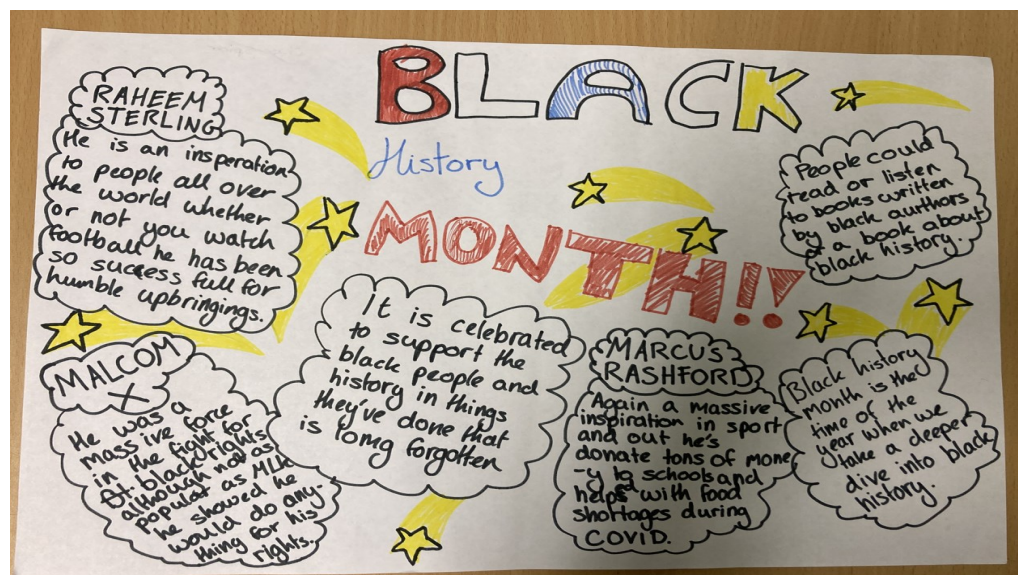
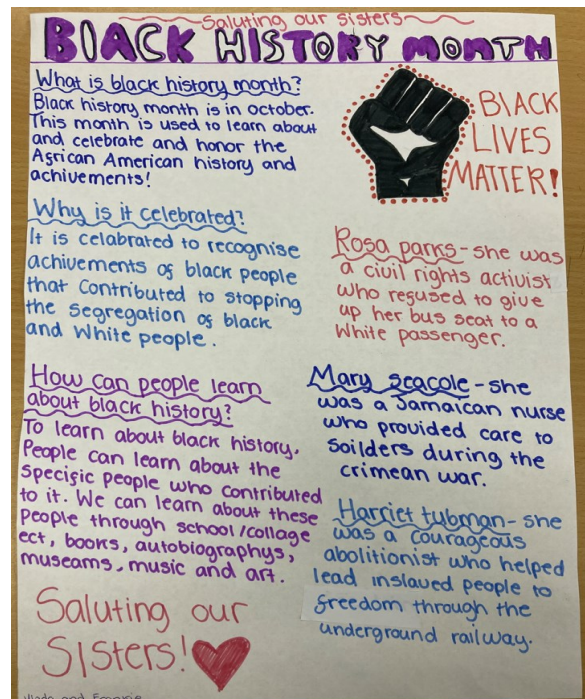
A few shout outs below from Miss Beardsell:

English

9Y5 - Lilly and Chloe have been working together to make useful revision notes in the back of their books, have kept up to date with homework tasks and are becoming more confident to contribute in class.

CAPE

10.03 - Chase, Frankie and Vlada produced clear and informative posters to celebrate Black History Month. (Photos attached.)





Shout outs

Mrs Benson gives a shout out to:

Freya Whale in Beauty (1004) -received 100% in her half term topic test and demonstrates a mature and positive attitude to learning.

Mrs Eaglesmith gives a shout out to

Oluwakemi in 10.10 for having the most incredible and expansive vocabulary when we play free rice in form time.

Miss Graystone gives a shout out to

Gilberta Biney in 7y1 Maths just presented a phenomenal piece of work in maths. As a stretch challenge for the end of term for Mean Median Modes and Range students were tasked with a homework to create a survey and collect their own data which they needed to analyse and summarise in lesson by finding the MMR and discuss what the findings mean. Gilberta's question had been "how many healthy homemade meals do you eat in a week". Gilberta presented the findings to the class in a fun, informative and entertaining way.

Miss Pert gives a shout out to

The U14s girls football team beat Beauchamps 3-1 in their Essex Cup Fixture. Great performances all round, with goals coming from Chloe Banham, Abigail Barber and Rosa Brin

Mrs Bowen wants to give a shout out to:

Year 7

Mrs Bowen's Year 7 Computer Science Class - Positive attitude to learning and excellent work in their Black History Month lesson. They looked at the work of Gladys West and the importance it had in GPS technology.

Year 9

Chloe Banham and Jamie Bean - Excellent Work on their Black History Month lesson in Computer Science - highlighting the benefits and drawbacks of facial recognition technology.

Year 10

Jake Humphries, Ross Bowers, Billy Johnson, Finn Wightman and George Ponting-Day for top marks in their Boolean Logic End of Topic Test in GCSE Computer Science.

Year 11

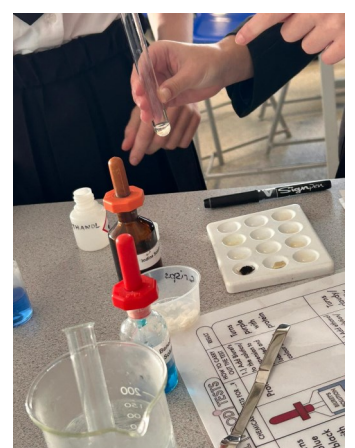
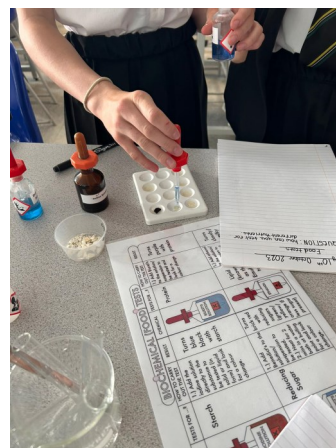
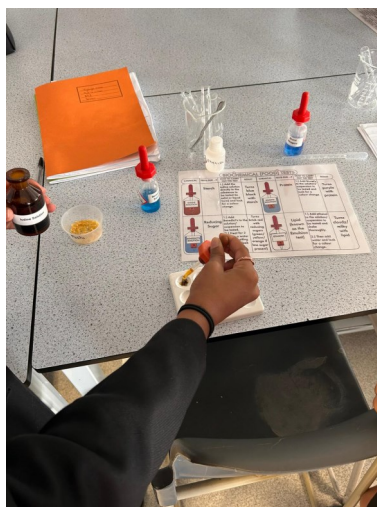
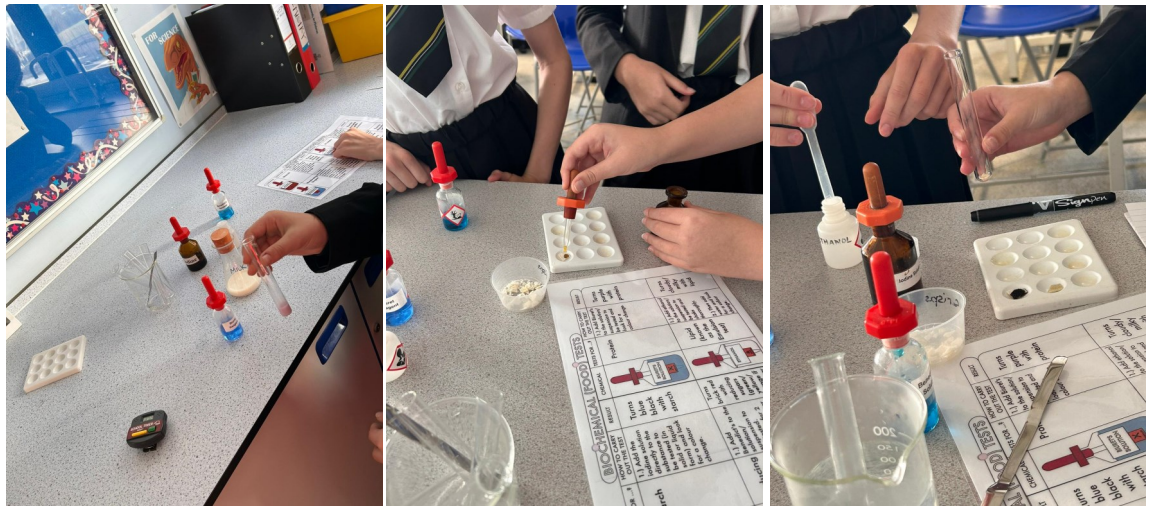
Nicholas Skinner, Thomas Cresswell and Kieran Hammond for working above their target in their Systems Software End of Topic Test in GCSE Computer Science.



Back to normal...

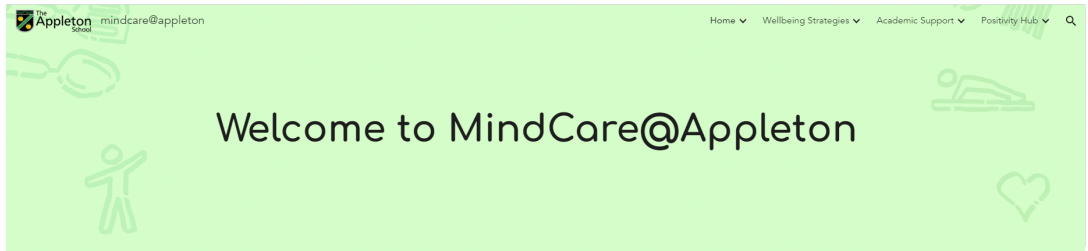
It has been fantastic to get back to normal, the food technology rooms have incredible aromas wafting through the corridors, DT workshops with the smell of sawdust, the sound of the piano through I block and that distinctive smell as soon as you enter the Science area. Practical subjects across the school have been eager to get back to doing what they do best, giving the students hands-on experiences of the subjects they love.

Below are some images from Year 7 Food Tests in Science.





Wellbeing and Mental Health



We are delighted to invite you to a special space dedicated entirely to your well-being and happiness – the Appleton MindCare Hub. This page has been thoughtfully crafted with your needs in mind, offering practical strategies and valuable resources to support your physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

Here, you'll discover strategies, tips, and insights to cultivate a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Whether it's dealing with stress, managing emotions, or finding ways to stay active and positive, we've got you covered.

It's also a place to access essential resources and information shared for significant wellbeing events that matter to our Appleton community. Whether it's exam preparation, or wellness campaigns, you'll find timely updates and helpful resources right here.

Remember, your well-being is of utmost importance, and we are committed to providing you with the tools and knowledge you need to flourish. Together, let's make Appleton a place where every student shines brightly!

©

We are excited to launch the new MindCare@Appleton website, spearhead by Ms Sangha our Head of Wellbeing and support. This webpage is for our students to help their wellbeing and mental health, and it is informed by the results from the Student Surveys conducted last term.

Please click [here](#) to access it. students will need to log in using their school google accounts to access it.

At the Appleton School, your child's emotional wellbeing is important to us.

With the current situation in school, we understand that your child may be experiencing some anxiety, or have some worries adapting to some of the temporary changes we have had to make in school.

If, you feel your child may need some support with their wellbeing, or would benefit from further intervention, then please feel free to contact me at the following email address: info@theappletonschool.org where it can then be forwarded onto Mrs Benson.

Where appropriate, Mrs Benson will work with your child, either remotely or in person in order to support them. If necessary, Mrs Benson is able to signpost parents/carers to other members of staff or external organisations.

May we remind you that if you have any Safeguarding concerns, then these should be directed to the school Safeguarding Team, in accordance with the school's Safeguarding Policy. This information can be found on the school website.



Careers Newsletter

Craeermag for Parents

Developed by **Careermap**, Craeermag for Parents is a termly publication with information for parents of school aged children offering support and information on careers and qualifications.

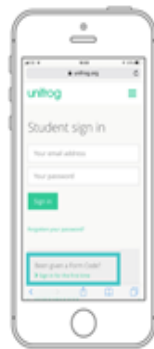
It also includes information on how to help support young people with mental health issues, managing the UCAS system, apprenticeships and in-depth features on various sectors and opportunities in them.

The magazine subscription is free. It can be shared with parents and can be posted on a school's career page as a career resource.

You can subscribe and download the recent edition here:

<https://careermap.co.uk/subscribe-to-careermag/>

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY



Parents & guardians, get signed up to Unifrog!

Unifrog provide a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school

Scan this QR code or go to www.unifrog.org/student and click 'Sign in for the first time'



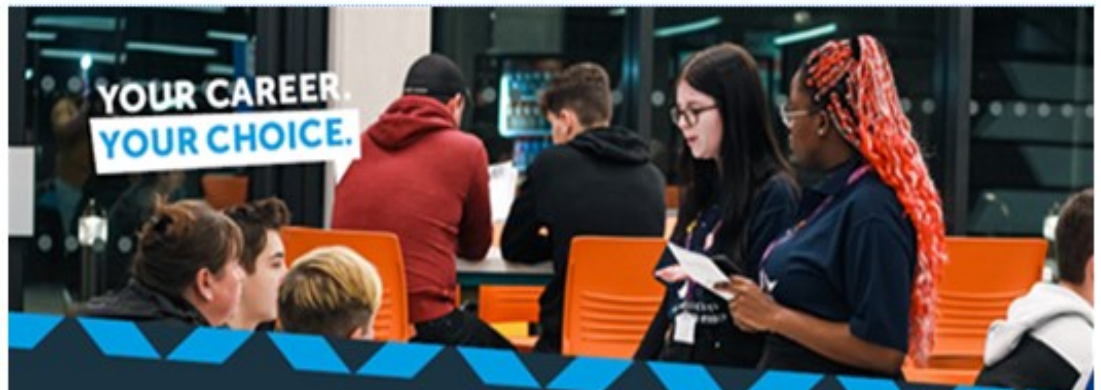
School for the Creative and Cultural Industries Undergraduate Open Afternoon: Wednesday 25 October 2023



You are invited to our **School for the Creative and Cultural Industries Undergraduate Open Afternoon** on Wednesday 25 October 2023, 1.30-5pm. This event is open to teachers, prospective students and parents.

The Open Afternoon is a chance to meet academic staff, tour our cutting-edge facilities at UCL East and learn more about our future-focused, interdisciplinary degree programmes in these fields:

Creative Arts & Humanities BA
Heritage, Sustainability & Society BA
Information in Society BSc
Media BA



SOUTH ESSEX COLLEGE GROUP OPEN EVENTS

- Check out our fantastic facilities
- Meet course tutors
- Careers, finance and funding advice

BASILDON COLLEGE CENTRE FOR CONSTRUCTION

Stephenson Road, Southend, SS9 5LY

Wednesday 8 November 2023 - 5-7pm
Tuesday 9 January 2024 - 5-7pm
Tuesday 30 April 2024 - 5-6.30pm

BASILDON COLLEGE CENTRE FOR ADVANCED ENGINEERING

Luckyn Lane, Basildon, SS14 3AX

Thursday 30 November 2023 - 5-7pm
Wednesday 28 February 2024 - 5-7pm
Tuesday 14 May 2024 - 5-6.30pm

BASILDON COLLEGE CENTRE FOR DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

College Way, Basildon, SS14 1DF

Thursday 2 November 2023 - 5-7pm
Wednesday 13 March 2024 - 5-7pm
Wednesday 15 May 2024 - 5-6.30pm

THURROCK COLLEGE THURROCK CAMPUS

High Street, Grays, RM17 6TF

Wednesday 18 October 2023 - 5-7pm
Thursday 11 January 2024 - 5-7pm
Tuesday 16 April 2024 - 5-7pm

SOUTHEND CITY COLLEGE SOUTHEND CAMPUS

Luker Road, Southend, SS1 1ND

Tuesday 3 October 2023 - 5-7pm
Thursday 16 November 2023 - 5-7pm
Tuesday 13 February 2024 - 5-7pm



www.southessex.ac.uk/OE



**SOUTH ESSEX
COLLEGE GROUP**



Subject Spotlight

WHY STUDY... CHILDHOOD STUDIES

Check out some of the jobs you can do, the skills you'll develop and pathways available!



JOBS

Family Support Worker
Health Play Specialist
Learning Mentor
Play Therapist
Primary School Teacher
SEN Teacher
Social Worker
Teaching Assistant
Youth Worker
Early Years Teacher
Education Consultant



RESOURCEPLA CAREERS
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SKILLS



Teamwork



Leadership



Problem Solving



Creativity



Communication



Interpersonal

PATHWAYS

APPRENTICESHIPS

- Health Play Specialist
- Early Years Educator
- Early Years Lead Practitioner
- Early Years Practitioner
- Healthcare Engineering Technician
- Ambulance Support Worker
- Advanced Clinical Practitioner
- Nursing

FURTHER EDUCATION

- A Level - English Literature and Language
- A Level - Biology
- A Level - Physical Education
- T Level - Education and Childcare
- T Level - Health
- T Level - Healthcare Science
- BTEC - Childcare
- BTEC - Health and Social Care
- BTEC - Children's Play, Learning and Development

HIGHER EDUCATION

- BSc (Hons) in Nursing (Children)
- BA (Hons) in Children and Early Childhood
- BA (Hons) in Children, School and Families
- BA (Hons) Working with Children and Families
- BSc (Hons) in Childhood Development
- BA (Hons) Childhood Studies
- BA (Hons) in Early and Middle Childhood

SCAN ME
TO FIND OUT MORE



Greater Essex
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMPANY



Safeguarding

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

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

EA SPORTS FC 24

After two decades of holding the official FIFA licence, EA Sports' phenomenally successful football video game series has embarked on a solo run at goal. This season's iteration marks the debut appearance of a new name and branding, but don't let those fool you - EA Sports FC 24 is still a very similar proposition to last year's FIFA 23. Popular features such as Ultimate Team remain a big focus, meaning that potentially costly in-game spending is still among the line-up of risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?



RECURRING RELEASES

EA Sports FC 24 effectively picks up the FIFA template - meaning that after a year, we can expect EA Sports FC 25 to hit the shelves. Updates between versions of the FIFA franchise tended to be minor, but young fans of the game are almost certain to want the new edition in around 12 months' time, so they can keep playing with updated team kits, players and squad lists.

ULTIMATE TEAM SCAMMERS

Since the mode was introduced, Ultimate Team has been a target of scammers who attempt to coax players into buying or selling outside the terms of service from EA and console manufacturers. This shady practice can lead to accounts being banned and in-game items being lost. In some cases, young gamers have also been hoodwinked into handing over their payment details to the fraudsters.

OFFENSIVE VOICE CHAT

FIFA 23 introduced cross-platform play and EA Sports FC 24 goes a step further with Clubs, Seasons and Ultimate Team cooperative modes across PlayStation 5, Xbox Series X and S, and PC. That's exciting news for youngsters who love to play with friends online - but connecting a much wider audience does potentially open lines of communication between children and far older online gamers.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

Just like real-life football, EA Sports FC 24 offers a thrilling, dynamic blend of tactical awareness and skill that fans find absolutely engrossing. Among younger players in particular, this could lead to identifiers of a gaming disorder as they play for 'just one more game' before bedtime or spend practically all weekend playing more matches to earn additional Ultimate Team packs.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In FIFA, Ultimate Team proved to be a profitable innovation for developers Electronic Arts (EA), and is now found in many of their other titles. Players spend in-game currency to recruit better footballers for their team, but this process can take a frustratingly long time - so young fans may be tempted to skip the grind by paying real-world cash to unlock that coveted star midfielder.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CONTROL SPENDING

If your child enjoys Ultimate Team mode, check that your payment details aren't linked to their account. Bundles of FC Points (the game's currency) start at just £1, so multiple payments can easily slip under the radar. You could consider setting your child an in-game allowance, perhaps through a prepaid card, which will help them to realise that online spending has a real-world effect.

DEFEND AGAINST SCAMMERS

EA does contact players via email (although not to ask for usernames or passwords, so watch out for that scam tactic), but never through the game itself - so be wary of incoming messages and consider blocking and reporting suspected spam. Your child should avoid buying coins (the in-game currency) from external sites; it could end with them losing their money and being banned from the game.

AVOID EXTRA TIME

Many parents of young football-oriented gamers worry about their child playing too much EA Sports FC. There's now also a companion mobile app, which can also often provide another indicator that a child is struggling to disengage from the game. You could initiate discussions around set hours of play - or take stronger action by utilising the parental controls on their console or phone.

SHOW TOXIC CHAT THE RED CARD

Playing EA Sports FC 24 with friends is highly enjoyable, but if competitive types start to turn toxic online, it can ruin everyone's fun. You could occasionally listen in on the voice chat of your child's game for any warning signs that things may be about to boil over. This goes double when playing online with strangers; voice contact with unknown players can be turned off in the game's settings.

CELEBRATE THE VARIETY

Ultimate Team may be the game's 'star player', but there's plenty more to do in EA Sports FC 24 - including modes which allow access to all of football's big names without needing to spend money on packs to unlock them. This new version of the game includes even more women's teams, marking another step forward in representation: an important subject to discuss and celebrate with children.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site OGLive.com and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



Source: <https://www.withlovegaming.com/youngsters-spend-over-2000-11b-also-highlighting-prohibitory-game-buying-co/> <https://www.who.int/news-room/quarterly-news-digest/20190524-the-behaviour-of-gaming-addicts> <https://www.eurogamer.net/a-european-commission-calls-for-better-regulation-of-foot-boxes-to-bring-over-hyped>

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety)

[@national_online_safety](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.10.2023



Essex Local Offer Roadshows



 Essex County Council
Special Educational Needs
and Disabilities

Essex Local Offer Roadshows

Are you the parent/carer or family member of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? Do you have questions about accessing support in your area or questions about SEND support available in Essex through Health, Education and Social Care? Would you like to link up with other parents in your area?

If you do, please come along and see us at the Roadshow. There will be representatives from Essex Family Forum, SENDIASS, health, social care as well as representatives from the education teams, SEND Navigation Leads and local support groups. The roadshow is a drop-in event with no need to book.

This term for South Essex we will be at:


Ingatstone Community Centre, 7 High Street, Ingatstone, Essex, CM4 9ED

Thursday 2 November
9am to 12.30pm

Please go to the Essex Local Offer to find out addresses and more (QR and link below).

In Partnership with



 SCAN ME

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>



Anyone for Tennis?

24TH & 25TH OCTOBER
KIDS OCTOBER CAMPS
HADLEIGH PARK LAWN
TENNIS CLUB

Looking for an activity for your kids over the school holidays?

Why not join us and sign them up for a tennis camp?



10 AM - 2PM MINI RED & ORANGE (4-9 YEARS)

10AM - 2PM JUNIOR GREEN & YELLOW (10+ YEARS)

Prices:

Member - £20 per day

Non Member - £22 per day

For more information or to book a place, please contact Graham on
07745 943403

**THE APPLETON
SCHOOL**

Croft Road
Benfleet
Essex
SS7 5RN

Phone:
01268 794215

Email:
info@theappletonschoo.org

Website:
www.theappletonschoo.org

Quick Links

[EduLink](#)

[ParentMail](#)

[Google Drive](#)

[Satchel One](#)

[Microsoft Teams](#)

[Never Acceptable](#)

Autumn Term Dates

Friday 20th October non pupil day

Monday 23rd October– 27th October Half Term

Wednesday 20th December last day of term

Spring Term Dates

Thursday 4th January 24 students return

Monday 19th February –23rd February Half Term

Friday 8th March non pupil day

Thursday 28th march last day of term

Summer Term Dates

Monday 15th April students return

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

Monday 27th May-31st May Half Term

Friday 19th July last day of term

GCSE Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschoo.org/students/revision-resources>

A-Level Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschoo.org/sixth-form/student-life/ks5-resources>