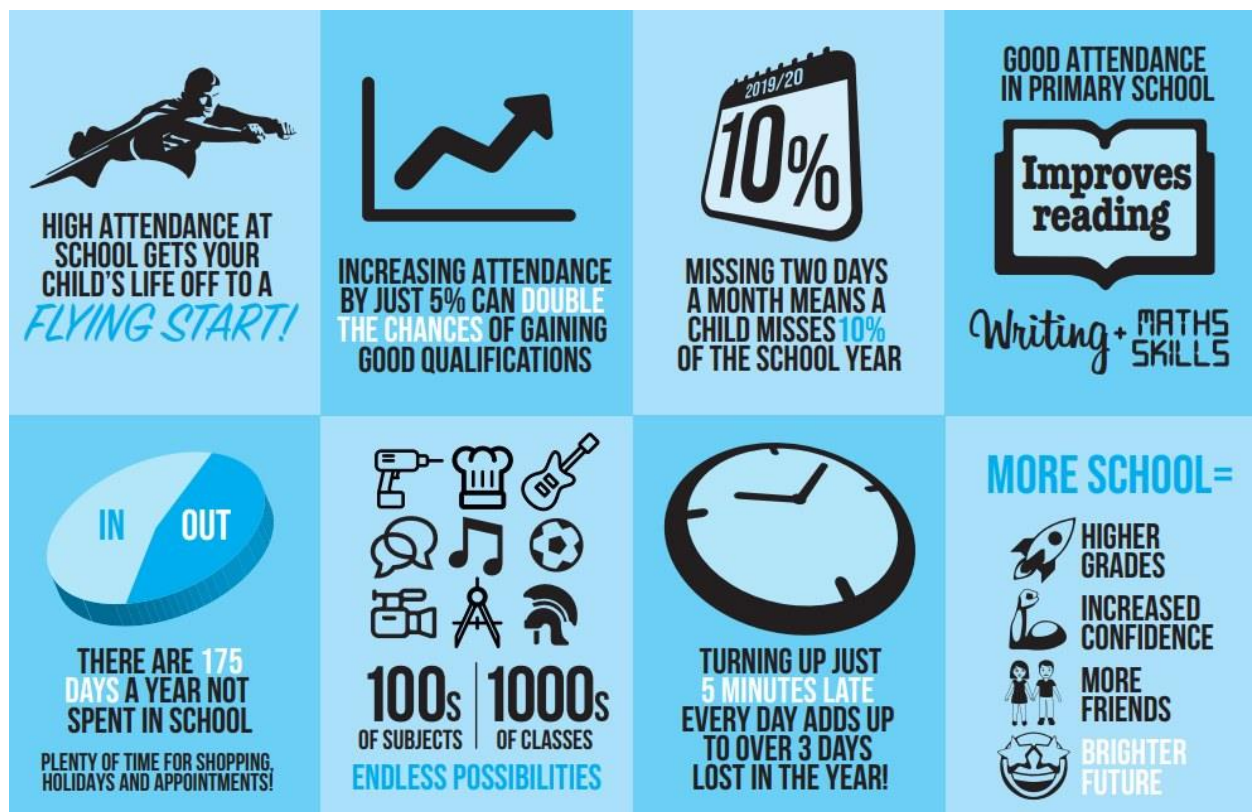




Newsletter for 6th December 2024

Every lesson counts - your child must attend school every single day for the best chance of success!





**"THIS MORNING, HE
WAS WORRIED ABOUT
SCHOOL... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!"**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Head to the Education Hub to find out more.



Prizes to be won!

Every Day Counts



From Monday 25th November for 3 weeks, we will be holding our 'Every Day Counts' prize draw.

If you are in school every day, on time, 100% of the week, your name will go into the class prize draw.

Every child who has been in 100% and on time will receive a certificate to add to your collection. You've got this!

Attendance Team

Headteacher's Message



Dear Families,

In school this week, we have been preparing for festive fun. The children in Years 1 to 6 have been practising their songs for the Festive Singalong, the children in Reception and Nursery have been perfecting their acting skills for the Nativity performances, and Santa has been busy preparing his grotto for the Fayre ! You can find out the dates and times for all of these parent carer invite events at <https://www.manorparkacademy.co.uk/school-calendar/>. Thursday 12th December is our Festive Fayre and is also Christmas Jumper Day so your child can come into school wearing something festive.

At each event, there will be refreshments available for parents and carers. There is a small charge for these: £1 for a hot drink and a mince pie at the Singalong and Nativities; a range of prices at the Fayre for a variety of foods.

Visit <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/fKzt40mOpgEexlvB?ref=Link> to see posters of our food menu with prices and for details of booking a visit to Santa. Our Santa slot 3:30-4:00 is now full so please select a later time slot for your visit if you can.

Miss Walters starts her maternity leave today; we wish her and her family all the best at this special time.

Next week, many of our Year 4 children will be visiting Aston Villa to celebrate their 150 Year History event. The other children will be taking part in a range of specially organised creative activities. We hope that they all enjoy the day!

On Friday 13th December, all of those children who have 100% so far this year, will celebrate in an Attendance Movie Morning.

The DfE now provides us with up-to-date attendance data so that we can compare our school attendance with other schools in the Birmingham Local authority, and with primary schools nationally. Manor Park Primary Academy is currently ranked 213 out of the 296 Birmingham schools. We need your support to improve the attendance for children in our school and to move out of the bottom 30% of Birmingham schools!

If your child needs to go to a medical appointment during the school day, they must attend school beforehand, and proof of the appointment needs to be shown at the school office. Bring

your child to school on time so that they avoid an absence mark. If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can come to school. When a child is frequently absent, or late arriving at school, they miss out on vital classroom teaching, and this leads to gaps in their knowledge and skill development.

Always visit <https://shorturl.at/j7pe7> for NHS advice on whether your child is too ill to come to school. See QR code below too.

Have a lovely weekend,

Christine Chapman

Headteacher

Apply for free school meals



[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Did you know that by registering your child for free school meals, you're not only ensuring they get a nutritious, hot meal every day but also supporting our school's funding? Every child who is registered for free school meals generates extra funding for the school, which we can invest directly back into your child's education and wellbeing. This funding helps us provide more resources, better learning environments, and additional support for our pupils. While all children in Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 (as well as those under the Mayor's Meals scheme in London) automatically receive free school meals, we only receive extra funding if you officially register your child. Please read the attached letter for information on how to apply.

FREE Vouchers for Milk and Food



What is Healthy Start?

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks.

You can use your card to buy:

-
-
- *plain liquid cow's milk*
 - *fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables*
 - *fresh, dried, and tinned pulses*
 - *infant formula milk based on cow's milk*
-

You can also use your card to collect:

-
-
- *Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding*
 - *vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old*
-

*For more information and **to apply online**, please click the link [Get help to buy food and milk \(Healthy Start\)](#)*



We have a number of children (and grown ups!) who have nut allergies in school. With such allergies, sometimes just being around nuts (smell and touch) can trigger a dangerous allergic reaction.

Please do not send any products containing nuts into school.

Thank you,

Becky Lewis

Deputy Headteacher

Safe Treat List - Important



We do not want to prevent children from bringing in treats for their friends if it is a special occasion such as a birthday. This is a long standing tradition that we would like to continue but it must be safe for all children.

Please see ideas for safe treat options that do not contain nuts below;

-
- Cadbury Dairy Milk
 - Cadbury Twirl
 - Cadbury Caramel
 - Cadbury Wispa
 - Cadbury Eclair
 - Cadbury Fudge
 - Cadbury Crunchie

- *Cadbury Buttons*
 - *Galaxy Minstrels*
 - *Galaxy Milk Chocolate*
 - *Galaxy Caramel*
 - *Galaxy Ripple*
 - *Mars bar*
 - *Kitkat (original)*
 - *Halal Haribo*
 - *Cadbury's Heroes (but remove mini Double Deckers - they are not made with nuts but made in a factory that processes nut products)*
-

School Term Dates for Next Year - 2024/25

Please see the calendar below showing all of the school term dates, bank holidays and teacher training days for the next academic year.



Manor Park Calendar 2024/25

August 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
31				1	2	3 4
32	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
33	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
34	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
35	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
35						1
36	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
37	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
38	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
39	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
40	30					

October 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
40		1	2	3	4	5 6
41	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
42	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
43	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
44	28	29	30	31		

November 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
44					1	2 3
45	4	5	6	7	8	9 10
46	11	12	13	14	15	16 17
47	18	19	20	21	22	23 24
48	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2024						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
48						1
49	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
50	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
51	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
52	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
1	30	31				

January 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
1			1	2	3	4 5
2	6	7	8	9	10	11 12
3	13	14	15	16	17	18 19
4	20	21	22	23	24	25 26
5	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
5						1 2
6	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
7	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
8	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
9	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
9						1 2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8 9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15 16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22 23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29 30
14	31					

April 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
14		1	2	3	4	5 6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
18	28	29	30			

May 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
18				1	2	3 4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10 11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17 18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24 25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
22						1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7 8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14 15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21 22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28 29
27	30					

July 2025						
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa Su
27		1	2	3	4	5 6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12 13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19 20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26 27
31	28	29	30	31		

Bank holidays 2024/25

26 August '24	August Bank Holiday	26 December '24	Boxing Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	5 May '25	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '24	Christmas Day	1 January '25	New Year's Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday

Teacher Training Days

2 September 2024	3 September 2024	29 November 2024	31 March 2025	21 July 2025
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Star of the Week



Congratulations to our Stars of the Week!

Nursery – Asma

Indigo – Ilyas A

Gold – Omaira

Copper – Aisha S

Aqua – Osman

Turquoise – Muskaan

Cerise – Ruben

Crimson – Eisa

Ochre – Ramia

Bronze – Ethen F

Topaz – Malaika

Ruby – Areesha

Emerald – Arman

Teal – Mysha

School Policies

Please find our school policies on our website by clicking here:

<https://www.manorparkacademy.co.uk/about-us/policies/>

Have you moved house or changed your number?

Please let the main office know if any of your details change such as:

- *Your address*
 - *Your phone numbers*
 - *Your emergency contacts*
-

Just call 0121 3271023 or email enquiry@manorparkacademy.org

Thank you!

Apply for our Nursery or Reception Classes!



Do you have a child or know another parent with a child born between 01.09.2020 - 31.08.2021? We have spaces available in our lovely Nursery!

If you also have or know a parent with a child born between 01.09.19 - 31.08.20, we have spaces in our amazing Reception classes too!

Please contact the school office for a tour and a chat with our friendly team. You can also see more information here on our website: [Early Years – Manor Park Primary Academy \(manorparkacademy.co.uk\)](http://manorparkacademy.co.uk)

Dates for your Diary



ESOL Classes - Every Thursday 1.15pm - 3.15pm

Reception Nativity - 11th December at 9:00 (9:30 start) and 2:00 (2:30 start) Refreshments available before show starts

Winter Fayre - 12th December 3.00pm

Festive Sing Along - 17th December 2.00pm

Attendance Procedures



Please call 0121 327 1023 to report your child's absence by 9.30am

If you need support with your child's attendance, please contact Jo Green via email at enquiry@manorparkacademy.org or call the school office.

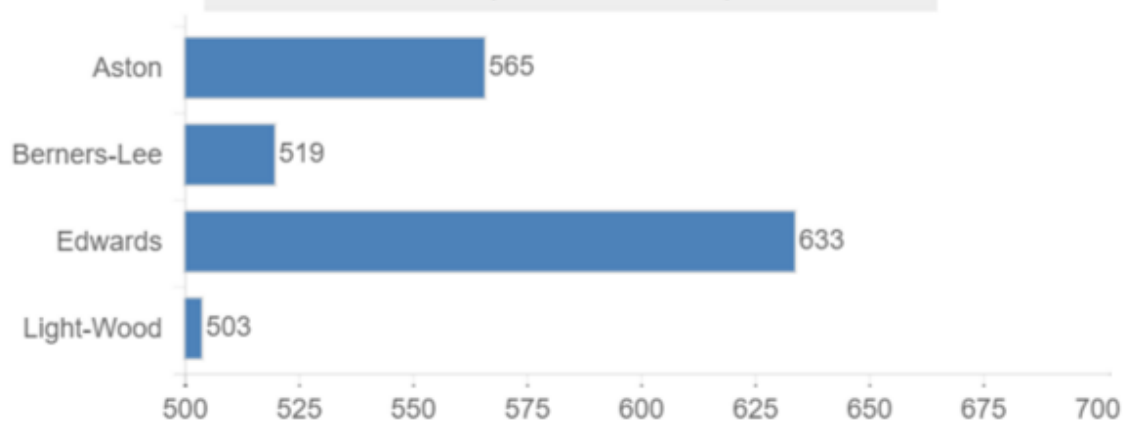


— AND — THE WINNERS *are...*

*House Points are now collected using Marvellous Me. **You can see you child's individual house points by clicking on the 'thumbs up' button.** However many 'thumbs up' they've had, this is the number of house points they have received in school!*

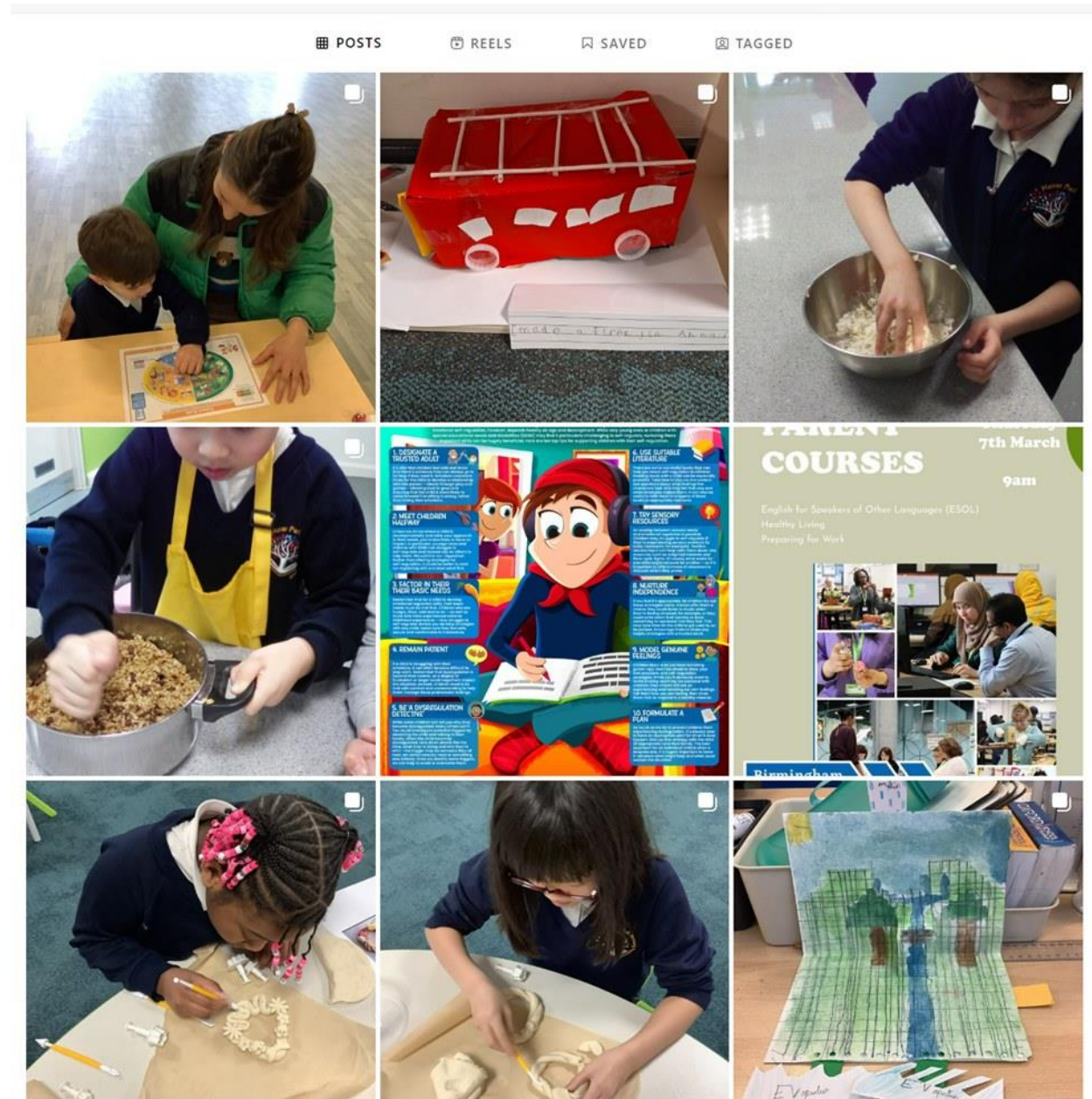
This week's winners overall are Edwards

Number of Thumbs Ups awarded in the period selected.



Give us a follow on Instagram!

<https://www.instagram.com/manorparkprimaryacademy/>



Safeguarding and Wellbeing Update - Mental Health and Wellbeing Apps



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

When looking at options for supporting a child's mental health, the sheer volume can be overwhelming. There are many wellbeing apps available, but unfortunately not all are trustworthy. It's important to evaluate which resources are suitable, reliable and effective. This guide lets you know what to consider before installing such an app, to determine just how useful it's going to be.

QUALITY & RELIABILITY

Mental health apps can be a useful starting point when looking for wellbeing advice and strategies and can be a useful extension to the in-person services available. However, they aren't a substitute. Information on the quality of some of these apps is scarce. They may look cute and child-friendly, but have they been designed by a mental health professional? Furthermore, do they have research to back up their content?

PLACE RESPONSIBILITY ON CHILDREN

Some apps add the words 'kids' or 'children' to their title or use cartoon icons to make them more appealing to young people. When signing up for some of these apps, some will speak to the parent directly, saying something along the lines of "Your child is good to go. Let them take it from here". It's important to remain involved in the child's mental health journey, so regular check-ins are recommended.

DISREGARDING APPROPRIATE SUPPORT

Young people who feel anxious and have trouble sleeping may download a mindfulness app to help. While this is a good strategy initially, it's not addressing the root of the problem. A child could simply try managing these symptoms themselves (as opposed to speaking out and seeking professional help), which could potentially worsen their anxiety in the long run.

LACK OF PERSONALISATION

Mental health or wellbeing apps are useful tools for the short term, teaching users several helpful habits to manage their condition – such as keeping an illness diary, improving nutrition and practising mindfulness exercises. As every person is unique – and children especially will grow and develop in different ways – these apps struggle to tailor themselves to users' individual needs. For example, many apps don't distinguish between the ages of users and can offer extremely generic advice.

DATA SECURITY

As with any other app – not just these for mental health and wellbeing – it's wise to check out the privacy policy before downloading it. Some of these applications may share data with third parties for numerous reasons (such as targeted advertisements), and if a user is sharing personal and sensitive information within the app, they probably don't want it ending up elsewhere without their consent.

IN-APP PURCHASES

Many apps will provide their most basic features for free but will require you to pay for other aspects – such as a more tailored experience or access to additional resources. This could be a one-off fee or a regular subscription. Consider whether this is actually required. Is it benefiting the child, or could they receive the same support from a medical professional?

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK THE CREDIBILITY OF THE APP

Before you download a mental health and wellbeing app, investigate the developers. Have they consulted with qualified mental health professionals to create their resource? Also check whether the app is affiliated with any government or mental health organisations, as these are solid indicators of legitimacy. Reviews can also be a useful signpost to the app's quality. There are many good apps out there, but there are just as many that miss the mark.

SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

Trusted mental health and wellbeing apps designed by qualified, reputable organisations can be used alongside the personalised advice and support of fully trained professionals. These apps should never be considered a substitute for counselling or other tailored medical help. If you have real concerns about a child's mental wellbeing, you should seek appropriate advice from a suitable source, such as their GP – or Childline, who can be contacted by calling 0800 1111.

READ THE PRIVACY POLICY

Look into the app's terms of service – especially its privacy policy. Do so by yourself first, then go over it with the child who is considering using the app, to ensure they know what data will be collected and how exactly it will be used. Use all of this information to make an educated decision on whether or not to download that particular app.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Mental health and wellbeing apps can be useful for writing down feelings, tracking your own health and other such activities. These can help if the problem is short-term and temporary – such as a child getting stressed about an approaching exam – or if you're currently waiting for professional support. Nonetheless, it is important that children aren't solely reliant on the app and have a safe space to talk about their feelings and experiences in the real world.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/mental-health-apps>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.12.2024

e-Visas Important Information



The UK Government is replacing physical immigration documents with eVisas, a digital proof of immigration status.

Parents and guardians of children who are not British or Irish citizens, and whose children have either a biometric residence permit (BRP) card expiring on 31 December 2024, or a passport with an indefinite leave to remain ink stamp or vignette sticker, should take action to [access their eVisa now](#), and do so on behalf of their children too.

An eVisa cannot be lost or stolen and can be accessed online by visa holders at any time to prove their rights in the UK. It's free and their immigration status won't be affected

Click link above or here

https://homeoffice.brandworkz.com/BMS/albums/?album=3435&lightboxAccessID=9DCD0592-A9F9-45D9-BE76EEF9D44B9B30&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



**At Manor Park Primary
Academy everyone
has the right to feel safe.**

**At Manor Park Primary
Academy everyone
has the right to learn.**



**We are your Designated Safeguarding Leads.
We can help you.**



Ms Christine Chapman
Headteacher
DSL



Mrs Saima Mahmood
Teacher
DSL



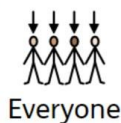
Miss Becky Lewis
**Deputy
Headteacher**
DSL



Mrs Natalie Brindley
SENDCo
DSL



Miss Jo Green
Lead DSL



Everyone



has

a



right

to



to feel safe.



Please



talk to



us.

