



BROOKDALE BULLETIN

Brookdale Primary School's Weekly Newsletter

Online Safety

This week's online safety guide focuses on **Snapchat**, a popular social media app used for messaging, sharing photos and videos, using filters and viewing stories. Although Snapchat can be a fun way for young people to communicate, it also brings some important risks for parents and carers to be aware of, including location sharing through Snap Map, disappearing messages, contact from unknown people, image sharing and screen time.

The guide below explains how Snapchat works, what features families should know about, and how to use privacy and safety settings to help keep children safe online.[Click here for the guide.](#)



Golden Table Awards

F2 - Noah Kim-Walsh

Year 1 - Mabel Stronghill

Year 2 - George Croman

Year 3 - Finley Jones

Year 4 - Aisla Irvine

Year 5 - Alana Pollard

Year 6 - Marcus Minks



Stars of the Week

Pre-School - Maisie Palmer

F2 - No awards this week

Year 1 - Alara Afridi

Year 2 - Emilia Cross

Year 3 - Sofia Johnson

Year 4 - Max Ault

Year 5 - Will Cookson

Year 6 - Callum Hanson



School Values and Growth Mindset Awards

Pre-School - Ella Cross

F2 - No awards this week

Year 1 - Dahlia Hanson

Year 2 - Lauren Hutchinson

Year 3 - Charlie Simmons

Year 4 - Matilda Woods

Year 5 - Ella Quirk

Year 6 - Ivy Lee



ATTENDANCE



F2	96.3
Year 1	93.7
Year 2	96.6
Year 3	97.9
Year 4	97.5
Year 5	99.0
Year 6	96.6
Whole School	96.8

Next School Week

Monday 28th September

- F2 Curriculum Moring - 9.00am - 10.30am
- Chess Club - 3.15pm - 4.15pm
- Birkenhead Park Cross Country - 4.00pm
- PTA AGM - 5.00pm - 6.00pm

Tuesday 29th September

- Pre-school Curriculum Morning - 9.00am - 10.30am

Wednesday 30th September

- Tranmere Rovers Under 11's Kids Cup - 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Thursday 1st October

- KS2 Digital Wizards Club - 8.00am
- Year 3/4 Football Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Friday 2nd October

- Celebration assembly - 2:35 pm
Parents of children who have been notified that they are receiving awards are invited
- KS1 Multi-skills 3.15pm - 4.15pm

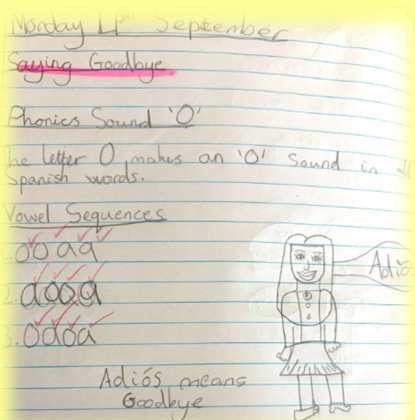
BPS Vision Statement

'Inspiring, engaging and nurturing our children to achieve and flourish as citizens of today and the future.'

BROOKDALE BULLETIN

Brookdale Primary School's Weekly Newsletter

This Week's Gallery



BROOKDALE BULLETIN

Brookdale Primary School's Weekly Newsletter

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 SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 'streak' icon. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

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.

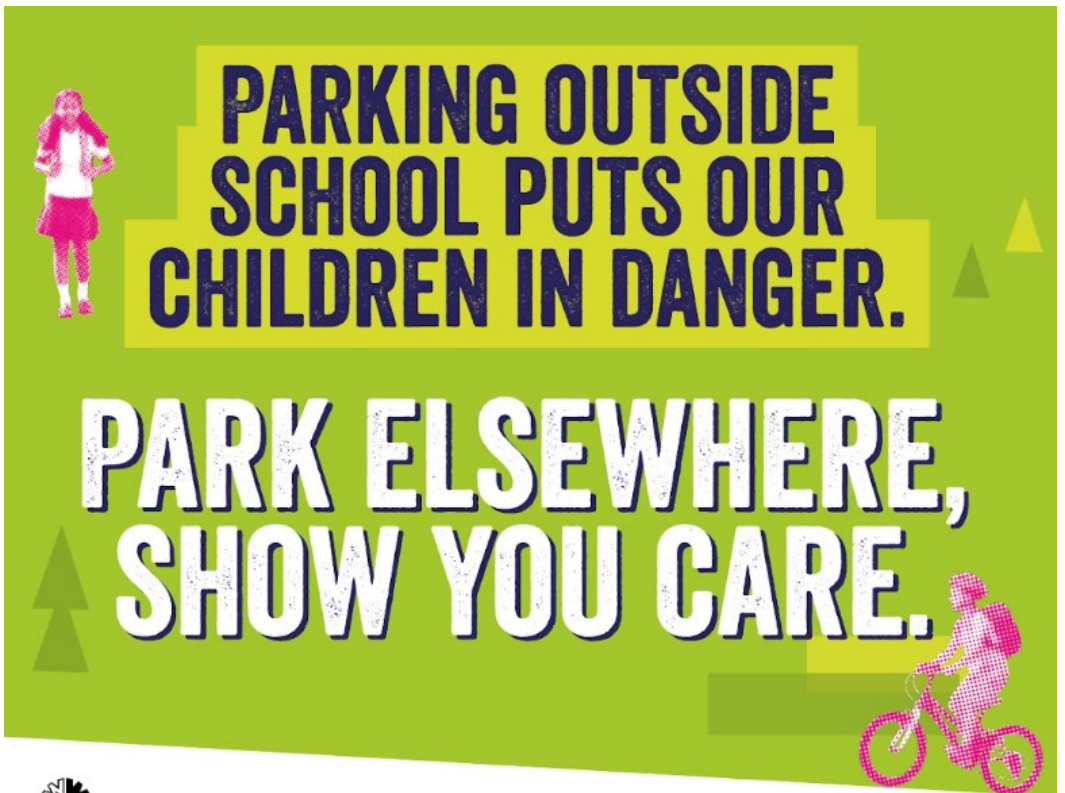
#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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

[@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: 17.09.2025



PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL PUTS OUR CHILDREN IN DANGER.

PARK ELSEWHERE, SHOW YOU CARE.



BROOKDALE BULLETIN

Brookdale Primary School's Weekly Newsletter

PUPIL'S SPECIAL LUNCH

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2026

BATMAN BURGER



A mighty beef burger worthy of an Avenger! OR
WOLVERINE WRAP Tender chicken wrapped with fresh salad for maximum superhero energy.

HERO SIDES



WONDER WOMAN WEDGES
BATGIRL BAKED BEANS
GREEN ARROW BEANS

LUNCH FOR HEROES @ BROOKDALE BISTRO

SILVER SURFER ICE CREAM SMOOTHIE

OR

SPIDER-MAN'S CHOCOLATE WEB COOKIE

A cool treat straight from the realms of Marvel.



DESSERT

A delicious chocolate cookie spun with superhero goodness.

MILKSHAKE



Strawberry or Chocolate flavoured milk



DRINKS


GLUTEN FREE


VEGETARIAN


DAIRY FREE


HALAL



ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE

BROOKDALE BISTRO

Lunchtime Menu for Week Beginning Monday 28th September

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pasta Bake Vegetables and pasta spirals served in a rich tomato sauce topped with cheese and baked in the oven <i>(Vegetarian alternative available)</i> 	 Chicken Curry Homemade chicken curry served with steamed rice and a slice of naan bread <i>(Quorn alternative available)</i>	Butchers Sausage served in a soft roll 100% local Butchers pork sausage served in a finger bun together with sweetcorn <i>(Quorn alternative available)</i> 	Pupil's Special  See Menu	Fish Friday Fish fingers or Quorn nuggets served with chips, peas or baked beans 
All hot dishes are served with a selection of fresh vegetables including garden peas, corn on the cob, cauliflower, carrot and swede, green beans, broccoli, sweetcorn and mixed roasted vegetables				
Jacket Potatoes with fillings or a warm panini are also available daily as a hot alternative				
Deli Bar - Available Everyday Design your own sandwich - choice of wraps, sliced bread or a batch - fillings including ham, cheese, tuna or chicken - selection of salad including iceberg lettuce, tomatoes, grated carrot, cucumber, sweetcorn, coleslaw, tri coloured pasta and mixed peppers				
Selection of desserts including sponge cake, jelly, muffins, flapjacks, cookies, shortbread and hot pudding and custard - ALL BAKED INHOUSE - Or Alternatively there is always a choice of Fresh Fruit, Yogurts or Cheese and Crackers				
Drinks - cordial, milk or water				