

Scarborough UTC News Flash

Friday, 24th May 2024

INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents/Carers,

Very short and sweet this week as it has been an intensive week for examinations. It is lovely to see the Year 10 out enjoying their field trip and the CCF prepping for their weekend away and the Armed Forces day.

Year 11 News:

The last whole year group examination is GCSE statistics paper 2 at 1pm on Monday 17th June. There is a masterclass starting at 10am and we look forward to the attendance of as many of Year 11 as possible. Once the examination is finished (plus extra time), students will be asked to empty their lockers and then meet for a final assembly. **It is important that all students attend this assembly – even those on study leave, as important information will be shared in relation to the collection of results.**

Events next week include:

Monday 17th	Y10 English – visiting speakers	Monday 24th	Y10 Mock examinations begin (for 2 weeks)
Tuesday 18th	Y10 Hull university trip (Engineers only) Y9 Geography – visiting speakers	Tuesday 25th	Hosting the Further Maths Regional Day Employer of the month Assembly
Wednesday 19th	New 2024/2025 Y9/12 Transition Evening 5-8pm	Wednesday 26th	UTC Careers Fair (am) Year 11 Prom-7-11pm
Thursday 20th	Y10 York University visit (Health only)	Thursday 27th	Northern Power grid event for Y9 all day
Friday 21st		Friday 28th	Northern Power grid event for Y9 all day

Sadly, we needed to cancel the Alton Towers trip due to lack of interest, monies have been refunded.

Reading @UTC

Please can I ask for your support in checking the reading book your child has chosen to read. Reluctant readers in particular are opting for books that are designed for very young children, or picking

magazines instead. We cannot permit a magazine as a reading book, particularly because the adverts often found at the back in these magazines, are often inappropriate, and on occasion we have found them to be pornographic. We have a reading space at college where students can take a book and swap it once read; we expect all children to always have one with them, thank you.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind Regards

Helen Dowds

Principal

COMBINED CADET FORCE SCARBOROUGH UTC

Cadets are continuing with their sailing training at Wykeham Lakes. The first of the four-week group of cadets comes to an end next week on the 21st June and after that we hope that another group of cadets will take up the challenge and work towards their Royal Yacht Association Training Dinghy Sailing 2 Award. This is an internationally recognised award through the RYA (Royal Yacht Association) and is good for both personal and professional development.

Next week sees the CCF contingent go on their first Annual Camp at Wykeham. Here the cadets will be assessed for their Dinghy Sailing Awards but also continue to train and start working to Level 3. They will also experience camping out and we have Cinema Evening with Fish and Chip Supper and a BBQ on the cards for evening meals. If this camp is a success, then we hope to make this a permanent part of the CCF yearly activities.

This year has seen several firsts for the CCF. We have participated in the Commonwealth Day Celebrations in March and only last week a group of cadets participated in the DDay Celebrations commemorating 80 years since Operation Overlord, The Invasion of Normandy. This event saw some of the events appearing briefly on the ITV News.

Next week is the camp and the following week we are participating in the Armed Forces Day Celebrations on the Sea Front. Our Gazebo will be situated on Sandside in the cadet village. Please pop along and see us there. For those cadets who are attending we will be taking part, for the first time in the large march past whereby the VIP guest will take the salute.

We will also be taking part in the Flag Raising Ceremony on the 24th June to mark the start of the Armed Forces Week.

Thank you once again for your support.

We have a great link to the national college online safety resources – they recently published this guide for parents; really worth a look.

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+

Snapshot is a messaging app which allows users to send images, videos and texts to others. Its best-known feature is that anything sent 'disappears' 24 hours after it's been viewed; however, users are known to take screenshots or use another device to obtain a photo of their screen. In 2023, Snapchat added a chatbot function called 'My AI'.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCAMS AND BLACKMAIL

Predators can exploit Snapchat's disappearing messages feature by, for example, telling a user they have naked photos of them (regardless of whether it is true or not) and will share them online unless they send them money. Teens then (understandably) panic and worry about the long-term consequences. Snapchat's own research found that 65% of teenagers had experienced this – either on this app or others.

EXCESSIVE USE

Snapchat works hard on user engagement, with features like streaks (messaging the same person every day to build up a high score). The app also has sections called 'Discover' and 'Spotlight'. It claims the content shown here is relevant to each user, but it could also be seen as an easy way to hook users into watching videos endlessly. Furthermore,

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat simply 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.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

My AI is Snapchat's new chatbot, which replies to questions in a human-like manner. However, the software is still in its infancy and has significant drawbacks, such as biased, incorrect or misleading responses. There have already been numerous reports of young users turning to AI for medical help and diagnoses, which could be inaccurate and therefore potentially dangerous.

ONLINE PRESSURES

Although many of Snapchat's filters are designed to entertain or amuse, the 'beautify' effects on photos can set unrealistic body image expectations – creating feelings of inadequacy if a young person compares themselves unfavourably with other users. Snapchat now also has 'priority' notifications (which still get displayed even if a device is in 'do not disturb' mode), increasing the pressure on users to log back in and interact.

VISIBLE LOCATION

A feature called 'SnapMaps' highlights your device's exact position on a virtual map, which is visible to other users. There are options to restrict who can see this information: all friends, selected friends or just you. Snapchat also has real-time location sharing, which is intended as a buddy system to help friends keep track of each other – but it could also be used to track a young person for more sinister reasons.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CONTROLS VIA FAMILY CENTRE

Snapchat has parental controls called 'Family Centre'. You must invite a child to the Family Centre for them to join. This allows you to view their friends list, see who they have chatted with in the last 7 days (but not to view the specific messages) and report any concerns.

TALK ABOUT REAL LIFE SCAMS

If a young person is mature enough to have Snapchat, then they are mature enough to have a conversation about scams, nudes and blackmail. Have this discussion before you let them join. Share some real-life examples. Discuss the importance of never adding strangers and discourage them from sharing nudes. If they are lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately, then block and delete the predator and screenshot any evidence.

DISCUSS AI

Although My AI's responses can often give the impression that it's a real person, it's essential that young people remember this certainly isn't the case. Encourage children to think critically about My AI's replies to their questions: are they accurate and reliable? Remind them that My AI shouldn't replace chatting with their real friends, and that it's always better to talk to an actual person in relation to medical matters.

CHAT ABOUT CONTENT

It may feel like an awkward conversation (and one that young people can be reluctant to have) but it's important to talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting. Remind children that once something's online, the creator loses control over where it ends up – and who else sees it. Likewise, it's vital that children understand that some 'challenges' which become popular on the platform may have harmful consequences.

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

Profiles are private by default, but children may make them public to gain more followers. Snap Stories are visible to everyone a user adds unless they change their settings. On SnapMaps, their location is visible unless Ghost Mode is enabled. It's safest for a child to avoid adding people they don't know in real life – especially since the addition of My Places, which allows people to see where users regularly visit.

BE READY TO BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger *does* connect with a child on Snapchat and begins to make them feel uncomfortable through bullying, pressure to send explicit images or by sending sexual images to them, the child can select the three dots on that person's profile and report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user – such as annoying or malicious messages, spam or masquerading as someone else.

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.

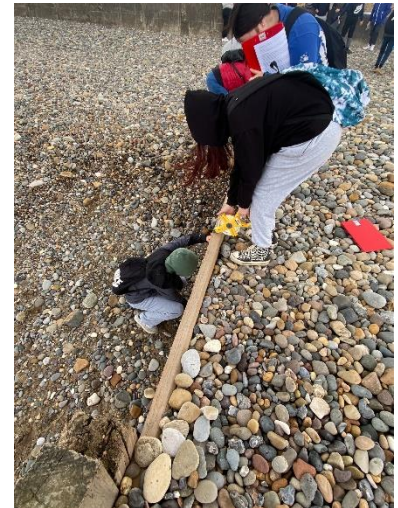
Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat-2021>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Release date: 17.05.2023 Last reviewed: 31.05.2024

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY

Year 10 completed their first piece of geographical fieldwork on Tuesday. They investigated if the groynes (wooden defences) stopped longshore drift to protect the coastline at Hornsea from erosion. They also got to visit Flamborough to see processes of erosion and the formation of sea stacks and caves. It was a great opportunity to see their theory work in action. Well done year 10!



ATTENDANCE

All medical and illness absences should be reported daily by parents using our absence line or enquiries to Miss. Brown our Attendance and Data Manager. Should you make a call for a reported student illness— please expect a phone call back from the attendance team to check details and provide support as required.

Attendance will always be a continual reminder. Excellent attendance is above 96.5%. All students with 100% receive 10 professional points per week. Students above the 96.5 target receive an extra 5 points per week.

Attendance monitoring and formal procedures are followed robustly. We work closely with NYCC attendance team to address attendance concerns at the earliest stage.

ACHIEVING PROFESSIONAL REWARDS AND ATTENDANCE REWARDS

Student's positives are identified and can be viewed on BROMCOM MCAS. The points identify the elements of our college ethos and that of being a "Young Professional ". We encourage students to

review progress regularly. Each week reward vouchers are issued in assembly to recognise achievement and hard work.

Additional Professional points have been applied to recognise exceptionally good attendance or improving attendance, so look out for this on My Child at School.

SAFEGUARDING

It is essential for safeguarding purposes **that Lanyards and identity cards are worn at all times.** Should cards become lost or damaged these have to be replaced. **Replacements can be purchased via parent pay. Students without ID cards and Lanyards will have replacements charged to parent pay.**

Lanyards are required for identification for all students and working staff within the building. Students who forget such items are required to sign into college manually receive a Stage 1 and have to hand in their devices -this adds to workload. It is our student's responsibility to ensure they are prepared for each day.

Safeguarding Advice and Contacts

We are committed to our students and families and we continue to provide support and points of contact.

NHS Link

This is a good signposting link for families where school attendance, linked to emotional health, is a worry.

<https://thegoto.org.uk/im-a-parent-or-carer/is-your-child-struggling-to-attend-school/>

Should you be concerned and feel that you need to share information please contact and refer information to the following email: dsl@su.coastandvale.academy

SUTC Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead monitor the email.

NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY SAFEGUARDING NOTIFICATION

Following the latest CEOPS guidance there have been recent cases identified locally on the Yorkshire Coast.

Be aware that online messaging Apps, video sharing (Tik Tok) and online gaming pose a significant risk.

Sextortion is a significant risk to students aged 14-18.

This type of crime involves an adult offender (often from an organised crime group based overseas) threatening to release nude or semi-nude images and/or videos of a child or young person, unless they pay money, or meet another financial demand, such as purchasing a pre-paid gift card.

Victims of any age and gender can be targets, however a substantial proportion of cases have involved male victims aged 14-18.

A child or young person is never to blame if they have been a victim. Offenders will have tricked, groomed and/or manipulated them into sharing an image. Find out more about online blackmail on CEOP Education's parents and carers website.

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/online-blackmail/>

HEALTH ADVICE

Within the local community there can be outbreaks of infectious childhood diseases. We have been informed locally that Hand, Foot and Mouth is prevalent at this time. Please see the NHS guidance on symptoms.

www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease

As with all infectious diseases it is important to note that students have access to hand washing facilities on the ground floor. This is especially important before and after eating at break and lunchtimes. Regular hand washing is a very effective method of preventing and avoiding infections to improve overall health.

MONITOR, REPORT, ENCOURAGE

All students have been issued with emails and online accounts and all are reminded of the importance of maintaining security using college account usernames and passwords and to report concerns if they feel that accounts have been compromised.

Online messaging and chat rooms

We are continually reminded of the dangers of on-line chat groups. It is important that if these are used they are used with care and supervision -the safest guidance is not at all

<https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2022/09/30/dangerous-chat-rooms-alert/>

Resources

BBC News article on illegal vapes

'Zombie' drug xylazine found in cannabis THC vapes in UK - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-68760301>

The Go-To - Emotional wellbeing and mental health <https://thegoto.org.uk/>

Email: info@community-counselling.org.uk

Website: www.community-counselling.org.uk

Telephone: 01653 690124

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/mobile-phone-safety/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/explore-mental-health/a-z-topics/physical-activity-and-mental-health>

ORGANISATION AND EQUIPMENT

Be study ready. Carrying the correct equipment and the stationery for each day is essential – **a reading book, reading record**, a clear pencil case with a pencil, black and green pens, ruler, maths equipment and importantly, a scientific calculator and a **college or clear reusable water bottle**. Checks are made each lesson and positive stages given for good organisation

LOCKERS AND MOBILE DEVICES

Each student has been assigned a locker and this must be used to store all bags, equipment, and mobile devices. Mobile devices must be secured in lockers during the college day.

Use of padlocks provides essential security for valuable items including mobile devices, smart watches and ear buds etc. Storing mobile devices correctly in the locker prevents confiscation in line with our policy.

ACADEMIC YEAR DATES

Summer 2024 GCSE and GCE examinations	Commence Thursday 9 th May 2024 and ends on 19 th June 2024
Term Ends	Friday 19 th July 2024
Professional Development Training Day	Monday 22 nd July 2024
A Level Results Day	Thursday 15 th August from 0830
GCSE Results Day	Thursday 22 nd August from 0830
Start of term 2024/2025	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024