



Date	Who	Detail, Timing and Venue
Fri 13 th March	Griffins Parents	Celebration Assembly
Thur 19 th March	Phoenix Parents	Residential Meeting 5pm Phoenix Classroom
Fri 20 th March	Whole School	Red Nose Day
Mon 23rd – 27th	Whole School	Parent Consultations
Thurs 2 nd April	Whole School	9.15pm Easter Service: Families welcome
Attendance Roundup:		
Unicorns 95.4% Elves 95.4% Griffins 96% Phoenix 96.5% Whole: 95.8%		

Parent Consultations - Parent consultation meetings will be available to book online for the week commencing 23rd March from 4pm today (Thursday 12th).

Phoenix Parents Information meeting - All our year 4 parents are invited to attend an information meeting about our upcoming residential trip. Thursday 19th March at 5pm.

Scholastic Book Club – Our world book day Scholastic Book Club ends on Monday 16th March, to get your orders in please follow the below link <https://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/C-TBHTC7L1>
20% of all orders gets given back to the school in new books!

Griffins trip – On Wednesday 22nd April we have been lucky enough to be selected as one of the schools for this year’s Field to Food day at the Bath and West Showground. Griffins will be attending along with year 3 children from East Brent. For further details please follow the below link. Others schools who have previously attended have rated this day very highly so we are excited to have been selected. Please consent via MCAS trips, there is a small contribution asked towards the coach cost.

<https://www.bathandwestshowground.com/events/field-to-food-learning-day-2026-2>

Please note children will need to be at school for 8.30am and will return at 4pm

FOLS – Your PTA NEEDS YOU – FOLS is our very supportive and active PTA here at Lympsham and we are incredibly grateful for everything they do to make our school community so special. BUT they need some additional help to be able to keep doing all these amazing events. They need a Treasurer to help manage the financial side of things and they really need some more parents to help organise and run events. If you think you can help please let the school office know. FOLS also need helpers to support on the day with the end of summer party. This is a huge annual event for us and if you are able to offer help on the day please sign up via this link <https://forms.gle/D9uwNWWtpQi3zxI9>

Red Nose Day –

Link to our Justgiving page is below for all donations. We are unable to accept any cash donations, so please use the donations page link attached.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd26-lympsham-church-of-england-academy>

Useful Information

Further information can be found on our website: www.lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk

Our values
'Hope, Enjoyment, Aspiration, Respect, Thankful'

Our Christian Value this term
'Compassion'

Safeguarding
Safeguarding children is everyone’s responsibility. If you are worried about a child, please email office@lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Katie Whiting

Reporting Absence
If your child is feeling unwell, please contact the school office on 01934 750473, or email using the school email address: - office@lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk
Contact must be made on each day of absence.

Lympsham CofE Academy
Rectory Way, Lympsham
Somerset, BS24 0EW
Main Office: 01934 750473
Email:
office@lympshamcofeacademy.co.uk

ATTENDANCE
Every day counts!

Below 90%
Serious Concern.
Persistent absence.

90 - 95.9%
Concern.
Low attendance

At least 96%
Expected attendance.

Expected attendance means having no more than seven days off this school year!

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SCARY ELEMENTS

While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING

Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS

Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS

With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES

Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE

Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER

The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS

Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD

As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 8 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.



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yt @wake.up.weds

Useful Information

Further information can be found on our website: www.lymphamcofeacademy.co.uk



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Wessex
Learning Trust