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Headlands Headlines

Message from Mrs Stamford

As we power through to the end of a very busy year here at Headlands School it is worth commenting on how amazing our students have been this year. They have faced some tough challenges and have shown absolute determination and resilience to succeed across all year groups in numerous areas. We have over 1000 students here at Headlands and we are so proud of the year our students have had.

Thank you for on-going crochet donations and any further donations would still be welcomed, please drop off in the reception area am very excited to see the crochet surprise planned by the Technology team!

Next week our Year 10 students are

on work experience. We hope they have a fabulous week and really engage with their work placements to gain an insight into the skills and knowledge of their chosen placements.

Following on from this, Year 10 will then take part in a college taster day and a Sixth Form taster day to enable them to make some informed choices about their future goals and career aspirations.

Next week we also have our Year 6 transition days. We can not wait to meet our new students and immerse them in some fun and exciting lessons to showcase what life at Headlands School will be like in September 2024.

Tonight we say farewell to our Year 13 cohort at their "Leavers Party." After 7 years at Headlands School (for the majority) we are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved on their Headlands journey and we wish them all the best for their futures wherever that takes them. Lots of them are planning to go off to university, have secured apprenticeships or are going off to travel and explore the world. Shine bright Year 13 - you have been absolute superstars!!

Mrs Stamford
Head of School

D of E Expedition Excellence

A fantastic group of Year 9 and 10 students have successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition on the Yorkshire Wolds!

After months of training, practice and learning the skills they need, students packed their kit bags and tackled two days of lowland walking in tough hot conditions. Navigating, decision making and communicating as a team... All skills they can transfer to their daily lives. Marshmallows were toasted and laughs shared, Along with some ball games to unwind after a long day.

The Students resilience shone through with the sun and they finished with a smile, despite some blisters and sore feet.

A huge WELL DONE from Mrs Malarkey, Mrs Fox-Lawson and Mr Hoult for this fantastic achievement. We are so PROUD of you...

Year 9: Tom P, Jakub N, Greg B, Theo H, Layla H and Bailey H.

Year 10: Jacob G, George T, Freddie R, Eliza E, Bronte H and Clayton H.

If any current Year 8 or 9 students are keen to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh award from September 2024, please come to register your interest with Mrs Malarkey in Room 21.



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Mrs Bone's Newsflash

This time next week we will know the outcome of the countries General Election. Our students have continued to engage really positively in debates and discussions regarding the party manifestos and what they might mean for them, for school and for our local community. Amazing!

On the back of my role for the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) as Regional Representative, and now Membership Officer, we were approached by Sky News to share our views on what we believe the next government should prioritise in terms of education. They visited us yesterday and the interview will be broadcast next week.

To summarise key themes from our interviews (Mr Woolley and I were in the Interview seat!) we shared our views on school funding, special educational needs provision, curriculum development, the recruitment and retention of teachers and how we remain steadfast in our mission to keep children safe and happy whilst students at Headlands School. Ending child poverty needs to be the first priority of the next Government. ASCL estimates over 4 million children live in

poverty. This just isn't good enough. That means they live in homes without running water, heating, beds, and are unlikely to have access to food. In 2024 this is a shocking statistic and within our school community we have an increasing number of children who live in these conditions. Next week those of us eligible to vote have the opportunity to change our country for our children today, not just in the future. Please make sure your vote counts.

In respect of funding, it is worth highlighting here that like many local businesses and indeed for many families, we continue to have to review how and where we spend our funding. As an East Riding School, we know that we are a school in the worst funded Local Authority in the country - something that has been a long standing campaign. There just isn't enough money for us to be able to fund everything we would like to offer.

As budgets are squeezed even tighter we have had to review all of our spending and in particular our extracurricular offer and the costs involved moving forward. Across the county and indeed country, we

know lots of secondary schools do not have the extracurricular offer we have and certainly do not have the trips we provide or even offer a sports day, let alone one on the scale we do! As such, with a heavy heart, we have had to pass the cost of some of these extracurricular opportunities back to families. We will of course keep this under constant review and wherever possible seek to secure external sponsorship to support trips, events and wider opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support - we certainly do not want to have to stop these extracurricular activities- like other schools have, and do not underestimate how stretched family budgets are as well. Let's continue to work together to make sure our students, your children, have the very best school experience here at Headlands School.

Finally, to reiterate - make sure your vote counts for our children now, and in the future, next Thursday.

Best wishes
Mrs Bone
Executive Head

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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about GAMBLING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Gambling can be defined as betting or risking money or something of value on the outcome of a situation involving chance. Under current regulations, gambling is legal for adults in the UK. Its potential impacts on the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities are well documented – emphasising the importance of safeguarding children and young people against these hazards.

MANIPULATIVE ADVERTISING

FREE BET!!

Adverts for online bookmakers and betting exchanges can raise concerns about targeting vulnerable groups, fostering addiction, promoting misleading expectations, impacting mental health, affecting social norms, posing regulatory challenges, influencing minors and other ethical issues. Effective regulation, responsible advertising practices and public education are essential to mitigate these concerns and address the potential harms associated with excessive exposure to manipulative advertisements.

ADDICTIVE FEATURES

All gambling products carry safety concerns, but some can be even riskier and more addictive. The frequency with which people can place bets can encourage them to do so often – with rapid spins and multiple betting options, for example. Betting on sports events, especially with live in-play betting options, can be highly engaging and habit forming. The 24/7 availability of online platforms can also increase the risk of excessive gambling, particularly among young people.

PEER PRESSURE

Exposure to gambling through friends, influencers or social circles can normalise risky behaviour and create unrealistic expectations about the chances of winning. Addressing peer influence requires support services, responsible advertising practices and effective education on the subject to minimise the impact on children and promote healthier choices.

IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH

Gambling can exacerbate mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and stress – especially if it leads to financial loss. Individuals with existing mental health conditions may use gambling as a coping mechanism – but the cycle of gambling can worsen their symptoms, creating a detrimental impact on overall wellbeing. Integrated support services and treatment options are crucial to address these interconnected challenges effectively.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Certain features of other products – such as video games that offer in-game purchases – can lead to gambling among young people. These mechanisms can sometimes be designed to exploit psychological vulnerabilities, encouraging repeated spending to acquire virtual items or advantages. Such practices can normalise the associated risks and desensitise young people to putting their or their family's money in danger.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

The most common impacts of online betting come in the form of financial losses and debt. This, in turn, can lead to distorted perceptions of money, deterioration of relationships, social isolation, and poor academic and career outcomes. Regular gambling can even exacerbate other risky behaviour by making it seem less significant – potentially leading to a cascade of health impacts and financial loss.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Sporting events can be a good opening for conversations about gambling, as some sponsorships may reference and even glamourise it. Talk to children about how these promotions make them feel and encourage frequent conversations about any concerns they may have. Adverts, influencers and online platforms may also feature gambling products. As a child grows, it's important to encourage their critical thinking skills to help them avoid being manipulated by this type of marketing.

MONITOR SPENDING

In-game purchases can be appealing to children, allowing them to unlock new features or cosmetic items in a fraction of the time it would take to win them by playing. Talk to children about how they spend money online; an interest in what video games they play can encourage the conversation. Consider setting up restrictions on their devices, requiring their parent or carer's permission before making any purchases. Talk about finances regularly and openly.

KNOW THE WARNING SIGNS

Parents and educators should be vigilant for signs of gambling harm among young people. Look for changes in their behaviour such as increased secrecy, unexplained money issues, mood swings or withdrawal from their usual activities. Open conversations about gambling risks and maintain a supportive, non-judgemental environment. Try to familiarise yourself with resources and helplines for assistance and guidance.

GET FURTHER SUPPORT

Support and treatment for young people is available via the Young People's Support Service at GamCare, who can be contacted at 0808 8020 133. A link to their website has also been included in the sources of this guide, along with links to several other support networks. Your GP and local NHS gambling clinic are also available if you require additional advice. Don't hesitate to reach out for help if you're concerned about a child's gambling behaviour or their financial situation.

Meet Our Expert

Ygam's mission is to prevent children and young people from experiencing gaming and gambling harms through awareness raising, education, and research. The charity was established in 2014 as a result of the lived experience of their founders.



The National College

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