



Newsletter 05.03.2021

Issue 18

Message from Mr Inglis, Head of School

It will be a genuine pleasure to welcome all our pupils back to school from Monday, certainly we are all looking forward to seeing them again and finally returning to some sort of normality. Whilst the live lessons have gone well, attendance has been good and the pupils working onsite have been exemplary, nothing can replace the buzz of a school full of pupils and staff working together, safely of course, following the Covid-19 control measures to the letter. The information for returning to school has been sent out this week and I do appreciate the volume of information you have been given. Please ensure you read it through carefully with your son and if you have any questions, please contact the school via email: contact@tgbs.co.uk

Thank you to all families for your support for the school during this period of lockdown, and thank you in advance during the process of re-opening to all pupils and beyond.

NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. The school will provide test kits and guidance to pupils following their third test onsite, but are unable to provide for other members of the household or support bubble. Test kits can either be collected or ordered online, as set out below.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees

- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

If you have any queries about the tests, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm. Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

Further information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Message from Thomas Fage, Head Boy

Pupils,

I know a lot of you are looking forward to return to a proper academic environment rather than sat at an electronic device for six hours a day. I would consider myself one of you, I'm really looking forward to returning to finish my time at Turves Green Boys' and achieving the best possible grades I can. Now, I do understand that some of you may be slightly nervous or apprehensive about returning to school and I totally understand that. We have missed a massive chunk of learning time and people are worrying about how it will affect their predicted or target grades after missing so much. I want to reassure you; we are all in this together. None of us, at the moment, have any academic advantage of anyone else as we have all had to deal with online lessons via Microsoft Teams for a good 2 months or so, but I want to stress the importance of, when you return to school at some point in the week beginning 8th March, knuckling down, and making the most of the opportunities given to you and most of the time you have left of this academic year.

Year 11, I understand the government guidelines regarding our exams have changed a number of times but all we can do is make the most of the time left, complete EVERY piece of work set in order to make sure your knowledge is of a good standard in order to complete whatever assessments or mini exams are given to us at the best of your ability.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at school next week at some point and I hope you take into account what I have expressed.

Thomas Fage

Head Boy of Safeguarding (TGBS)

Message from Hector Panos, Senior Prefect

Dear Turves Green Community:

I hope you are well and safe, eagerly and happily waiting for the return to school from March the 8th onwards. It has been a whole difficult two weeks, with updates on the easing of the coronavirus

restrictions by the Prime Minister as well as the release of the guidance for GCSE exams this year. To each year group, I would like to get some personal messages through:

Year 7: Since you first entered our school community, you have been a year group that has been so resilient, confident and hard-working. Year 8 is coming soon, so keep working hard.

Year 8: As it is your second year at Turves, you have already gained a lot of knowledge as well as a greater understanding of many subject-specific skills. In year 9, you will start a wonderful journey. I wish you a good luck on that journey, with the hope that everything will go well and that exams will go ahead as usual.

Year 9: I know it has been a very stressful start to your GCSE course, but you can do it! Working during lockdown is not the best, but it has at least provided that foundation of knowledge for your progression through your GCSE course. Show the best possible version of yourself to your teachers, because this will certainly make you improve more and more as you move towards Year 10 and Year 11.

Year 10: I know that this third national lockdown has been a very stressful time for you, as for all. As we return to school, it is important to consider the future that lies ahead. You will be the first year group that after 2 years will be sitting actual GCSE exams in 2022. It is vital and important that you keep up with your studies, as you progress and become more confident with the content of the GCSE course.

Year 11: We are now entering our final two months of school in Turves. This pandemic has particularly affected our learning, social interaction but on top of that exams were cancelled. We have got until May half-term to prove ourselves the best way possible, whether that be through mocks, other assessments and coursework. We must all keep up with our work, as this year, as it would be with every normal year before the pandemic, a longer summer holiday is waiting for us as a reward for all of our hard work and resilience. Let's all work hard throughout those final months, as it will give off its fruits and will very positively influence our final GCSE grades this year.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all week beginning the 8th of March.

Hector Panos,

Senior Prefect

Welcome Back from West Midlands Police

Dear Students, Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK! FROM WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

Monday 8th March is just around the corner and I'd like to take this opportunity of welcoming you all back to your schools.

The past eleven (nearly twelve) months of this pandemic have been incredibly hard for everyone. So many different things have impacted upon us all, from work, recreational time and not to mention your schooling.

Everyone has made sacrifices and my deepest condolences for those most sadly affected.

We are it seems, at a turning point and there defiantly **is** light at the end of the tunnel. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all of you for your help, amazing support and the maturity that you have shown. You have all conducted yourselves brilliantly, and for that you should be immensely proud, as I know your parents/carers and teachers are, as am I.

Now I know that for many of you, 8th March will be the first time in a long time that you have attended your schools. Some of you may be feeling excitement (I hope) at going back and seeing your friends again, being able to sit in a classroom opposed to having to complete your online lessons.

Some of you may be feeling anxious, and this is completely normal. Please do not worry yourself, your excellent school staff are there to help - contact them if you are worried about anything. If it's something I can help with, ask them to get in touch with me.

With the excitement of going back, please let's not forget our school values. This is YOUR school. YOUR community.

YOUR futures.

Our schools staff have had an incredibly hard time also, making sure that everyone is safe and having to put into place rules which some of you might not fully understand. That's ok, just be assured that the rules are there to keep us all safe.

Starting from Monday 8th March I know that many will be going in for Covid tests and then returning home. I have asked that some of my PCSO colleagues will be in and around your schools. I will be there also. Don't be alarmed if you see them or me, we are there to welcome you back. Say hello and give us a wave!

This is a new start for many of us, and I am thrilled to say that over this year, I will be bringing some outside provision into the schools to add and complement your learning. These include taster sessions with Redditch United Football Club, Birmingham Bulls American Football Club, Birmingham Opera Company, Martial Arts and I will be delivering inputs on AllStars with the RSPCA, covering lots of different topics, amongst others.

I look forward to seeing you all soon,

PC 3264 Matt Shakespeare

Northfield Constituency Schools & Young Person Link Officer

West Midlands Police.

West Midlands Police Campaign against County Lines

West Midlands Police have launched a campaign warning how drugs gangs are grooming children in Birmingham – and they are urging everyone to be alert to the signs indicating young people could be at risk.

The Eyes Open campaign will run for a month across social media and uses real life accounts from teenagers as young as 15 who have been lured into dealing drugs.

They were groomed with the promise of quick cash or designer clothes –but found the reality to be shocking.

One has told how they were left stranded in a drugs den far from home and expected to deal cocaine on the streets, while another recalled sleeping on a needle-covered floor.

A 15-year-old girl said: *"they make you feel like they're friends...but you're nothing to them"*.

West Midlands Police will be telling their stories – anonymously to protect their identity – in a series of animations and graphics across our social channels over the coming weeks.

[The campaign has been part funded by the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit.](#)

Chief Inspector Corrina Griffiths, who has been leading on a Home Office funded Serious & Organised Crime pilot scheme in Birmingham, said: *"The accounts are first hand from children who've been exploited and know the grim reality of being groomed into county lines drugs gangs."*

"The campaign urges people to look out for the signs that young people are being exploited, including a new phone or clothing, change in attitude or habits, and hanging around with new people. And to report concerns to us, children's services or a children's charity."

Since last April, alongside the West Midlands Regional Crime Unit, West Midlands Police have closed down a total of 184 county lines, arrested more than 600 people, and safeguarded 120 children who they suspected were at risk of exploitation. They ran an intensive operation last month targeting county lines drugs dealers.

The two-week offensive resulted in 99 arrests – and shockingly more than a third of those were children suspected of peddling drugs.

Chief Insp Griffiths added: *"Sadly the impact of lockdown is that it has taken away many of the diversionary activities young people have such as education, youth clubs and sport. Many have spent a lot of unsupervised time online where they may have made new friends and been approached to get involved in county lines drug dealing. Also many families continue to face financial pressures as a result of the pandemic which might make drug dealing all the more attractive."*

"As we come out of lockdown, when there is less focus on only essential travel, we may see young people involved in county lines drug dealing become more active on trains, trams and buses. Our officers are switched on to the signs of exploitation and we run regular operations targeting offenders and safeguarding children. But we want everyone to recognise suspicious signs and to report any concerns."

The social campaign is targeted at primarily children aged 13-18 in Birmingham and will run across TikTok, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

[The West Midlands Police website has help and advice for anyone concerned about County Lines drug dealing.](#)

**NEW PHONE
NEW BIKE
NEW MATES
NEW CLOTHES
NEW HABITS
NEW ATTITUDE**

**THE SIGNS OF EXPLOITATION
CAN BE HARD TO READ.
Drug gangs are exploiting kids
in Birmingham.**



**Know what to look for.
Know who to help.
west-midlands.police.uk/gangs**

**I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS.
I HAD TO SEARCH IT ON
GOOGLE MAPS TO SEE HOW
FAR I WAS FROM HOME.**

Zack, 15

Drug gangs are exploiting kids in our area.

Birmingham Parent Carer Forum



BUILDING A BRIDGE

BETWEEN PARENT CARERS & THEIR SERVICE PROVIDERS

We are a voluntary group of Birmingham Parent Carers whose purpose is to be the bridge between services and families and a collective voice representing all members and all disabilities.

We aim to build strong and sustainable links between our Local authority, Joint Clinical Commissioning Group and The Children's Trust.

birminghampcf.org info@birminghampcf.org [@birminghampcf](https://www.facebook.com/birminghampcf) [@birminghampcf](https://www.instagram.com/birminghampcf)



GET INVOLVED!

Would you like to help influence the development of services which matter the most to your children? We want to hear your ideas and views as your voice and experience is of value. It is the bringing together of these views which can offer the opportunity to effect change where it is needed.

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN VARIOUS WAYS:

- Receiving email updates by becoming a forum member
- Taking part in surveys, consultations and workshops
- Attending Local Authority meetings to represent the forum

If you are a parent or carer of a child or young person (aged 0-25) with additional needs who lives in Birmingham and/or whose child uses Birmingham Education, Health or Social Care Services you can become a member of the forum. Get involved by completing a 'Join Us' form on our website or Facebook page, or by dropping us an email.

birminghampct.org info@birminghampct.org [@birminghampct](https://www.facebook.com/birminghampct) [@birminghampct](https://twitter.com/birminghampct)



WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT

WE ARE

... a small group of volunteer parents of children who have additional needs and disabilities



... passionate about ensuring the voices of SEN parents and carers are heard and fed back to decision makers at the Local Authority



... grant funded by the Department of Education through the charity Contact, which helps us achieve our aims



WE DO

... work with but completely independently from the Local Authority and health services



... aim to influence how local education, social care and health services are developed and delivered



... listen to and feedback parents' and carers' experiences with local services



WE ARE NOT

... paid! The time we spend liaising with the Local Authority via emails and in meetings, as well as on work streams, is done voluntarily.



... a campaign group. We promote parent voice through participation but can support campaign activity that aligns with our objectives.



... a support group, or able to deal with individual cases, however we are happy to signpost to local groups where appropriate.





BIRMINGHAM PARENT CARER FORUM

GET INVOLVED BY:



Taking part in surveys, consultations and workshops



Receiving email updates by becoming a forum member



Helping to widen our reach by becoming a parent rep

WHO CAN JOIN?







If you're a parent or carer of a child or young person (aged 0-25) with additional needs who lives in Birmingham and/or whose child uses Birmingham Education, Health or Social Care Services you can become a member of the forum.

SO DON'T DELAY!

Complete a 'Join Us' form on our website or Facebook Page, or by dropping us an email!



 birminghampcf.org
 info@birminghampcf.org
 [@birminghampcf](https://www.facebook.com/birminghampcf)
 [@birminghampcf](https://twitter.com/birminghampcf)

Parents In Partnership

E Safety: Snapchat - Mrs Oshodi

Snapchat is a photo sharing app for mobile phones and tablets. The app allows users to share images for a limited number of seconds, chat with users before messages disappear, and share images with their friends list through a 'story'.

How old do you have to be to use Snapchat?

According to the [terms of service](#), users must be 13. You have to enter your birth date to set up an account, but there's no age verification, so it's easy for kids under 13 to sign up.

Do messages really disappear on Snapchat?

It depends. If you set a time limit on a snap, it will disappear after it's viewed. However, recipients can take a screenshot of an image using their phones or a third-party screen-capture app. A phone screen-capture will notify the sender that the image was captured. But third-party apps don't trigger a notification. For these reasons, it's best that teens understand that nothing done online is really temporary.

What's Snap Map?

Snap Map displays your location on a map in real time. Only your Snapchat friends can see where you are. If your friends have opted into Snap Map, you can see their locations, too. (You can turn this off or use it in Ghost Mode, which allows you to see the map but not be seen by others.) Unless there's a specific event and it makes it easier for friends to know each other's location, it's best to leave Snap Maps off.

What's a Snapcode?

When you sign up, Snapchat gives you your own unique QR code. When you meet a fellow Snapchat user and want to friend each other, you can just take a snap of the other person's code, and they're automatically added to your friends list. Because it's so easy to [find friends on Snapchat](#) (depending on your settings) or exchange codes, teens may end up with virtual strangers on their friends list. For a variety of reasons, that can be risky, so it's best to talk to your teen about when it's safe to add people.

What's Discover?

Discover offers content created by celebrities, news and entertainment outlets, and other users. You can subscribe to specific Discover sources to receive their feeds. While Discover offers some legitimate news from publishers including the *New York Times* and Vice Media, the offerings can be promotional and are frequently mature. But if your kid has signed up with their correct birth date, they'll miss the alcohol ads and other adult content that Snapchat filters out for underage users. Discover stories often feature promos prompting kids to "swipe up" to learn more (which usually leads to ads) or take a quiz (which is usually a marketing tool). This section runs the gamut from harmless to shocking, so it's good to look around and get a sense of what your kids are seeing.

Is Snapchat safe for tweens and teens?

Most kids use Snapchat to goof around and stay in contact with their friends -- end of story. Yes, there's some mature content, but it's appropriate for most teens 16 and up. That said, there are **three key risky areas**:

1) The myth of disappearing messages. When Snapchat first started, it was labelled "[the sexting app](#)" because people sent intimate photos, assuming they'd self-destruct. Any app can be misused, but a lot of kids mistakenly believe that Snapchat has a built-in Get Out of Jail Free card. Teens really need to understand that the content they share can be saved and shared and may never go away. It's best to have this conversation before they download Snapchat, but it's never too late. Talk about whether any of their friends have ever pressured them to send a sexy image and discuss why someone who would do that does not have your best interests at heart. Kids should also ask permission before sharing a picture of someone else.

2) The time suck. Snapchat is a ton of fun to use, and there's lots to discover on it. Snapstreaks and stories add a time-pressure element that makes kids feel like they have to check in. If it ever seems like your kid is stressing and not using the app for fun, it's time to step in.

3) Privacy and safety. Since it's so easy to add friends in Snapchat, you can end up with lots of people you don't know well on your friends list. And depending on your settings, the app can collect a ton of data about your habits in -- and outside of -- the app. Snapchat also works with a lot of third parties that they [share your data with](#).

How do I monitor Snapchat and use the settings?

The biggest challenge for parents is that there's no way to see your kid's activity in the app in the same way as on other social media platforms. Since there's no feed to scroll, there's not much to monitor. Instead, focus on the privacy settings. If you decide to say yes to Snapchat, sit down with your kid and together go into the app's settings (the little gear icon next to your profile image). Scroll down to "Who Can..." This is where you can control important safety features such as who can see your location and who can view your story. This is a perfect time to talk to your kid about using their Snapchat account safely and responsibly. Discuss when and how often you'll check in on how they're using it and how they're feeling about it. Explain that you understand that social media is important to them, and, at the same time, your role is to protect them. Don't forget to ask your teen to show you some of their snaps and some of the cool features they like in the app. That'll make it a little less scary for you -- and send the message that you're on the same team.



E Safety: Call of Duty

Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War (CoD) is an online first-person shooter. It's available on PC, PlayStation and Xbox. CoD allows players to select from different game modes including campaign, multiplayers and 'zombies'. Players can customise their character and weapons in the game. There are many potential risks with this game such as graphic violence & language, in-game payments and talking to strangers.

Alternatives for Younger Children

You can consider the following alternatives for younger players. These are no less exciting or exuberant but they dial down the violence with content appropriate to youngsters.

Plants Vs Zombies Garden Warfare 2 (PEGI 7+)

Splatoon 2 (PEGI 7+)

Roblox - Phantom Forces (PEGI 7+)

Overwatch (PEGI 12+)

Fortnite (PEGI 12+)

Starwars Battlefront II (PEGI 16+)

What parents & carers need to know about...

CALL OF DUTY BLACK OPS COLD WAR

PEGI 18

Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War (CoD) is a dynamic first-person shooter. It's available on PS4, PlayStation and Xbox. CoD allows players to select from different game modes including campaign, multiplayer and zombies. Players can customise their characters and weapons in the game.

Graphic Violence & Language
A range of violent scenarios and actions are depicted, including blood splatters, severed limbs and other gore. Some scenes depict intense interpersonal violence, including sexual violence. There is content that is abusive or harassing in nature. The game also contains language that is abusive or harassing in nature.

Online Multiplayer
Multiplayer in Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War requires an internet connection and is available on all platforms. The game has a large online community. However, the game has a multiplayer mode that is available on all platforms. Because of the game's popularity, it is often used to teach children about online safety.

In-game Features
Players can gain an advantage over other players by using cheats, hacks and exploits. These are available in the game and can be used to gain an unfair advantage. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Challenging to Strangers
In this multiplayer game, it is possible to be matched with players who are strangers to you. It is possible that these players may be using cheats, hacks and exploits to gain an unfair advantage. This is a concern for parents and carers. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Safety Tips for Parents & Carers

Know the limits
It's not possible to predict a child's behaviour. The best way to protect your child is to know the limits of what they can do. This includes knowing the age rating of the game and the content that is available. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Know the risks
At the beginning of the game, players are given a choice of whether to play online or offline. It's important to know the risks of playing online. This includes knowing the age rating of the game and the content that is available. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Know the features
It's important to know the features of the game. This includes knowing the age rating of the game and the content that is available. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Know the controls
It's important to know the controls of the game. This includes knowing the age rating of the game and the content that is available. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Know the community
It's important to know the community of the game. This includes knowing the age rating of the game and the content that is available. The game is rated for ages 18+ because of the online play, language and violence.

Meet our expert
Dr. Sarah-Jane Blane, a child psychologist, explains the risks of playing Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War. She discusses the game's content and the potential for online harassment. She also provides tips for parents and carers on how to protect their children from these risks.

www.nationalonlinesafety.gov.uk | **Twitter** @nationalonlinesafety | **Facebook** /NationalOnlineSafety | **Instagram** @nationalonlinesafety

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What our pupils have been up to this week



PIC•COLLAGE



1 - Great work from Cody, well done!





Birmingham City Council Travel Assist

Home to School Transport Information for Parents and Carers - Covid-19 from Birmingham City Council, Travel Assist

Thank you to all parents and carers for their ongoing support and co-operation.

This information is provided to give you updates about travel arrangements from 8th March 2021. Transport operators have been written to separately.

Parents/Carers are asked to follow the Government guidance below to help keep their children and staff safe.

General advice to Parents/Carers

To help keep all passengers and staff safe, drivers and guides must not report to work and pupils must not travel if:

They are experiencing any [coronavirus symptoms](#)

They are self-isolating as a result of coronavirus symptoms or sharing a [household or support bubble with somebody with symptoms](#)

They are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) and have been advised to shield

They have been advised by the [NHS test and trace service](#) to self-isolate.

Additional Cleaning and Hygiene Measures

Transport operators have been provided with requirements for additional cleaning and hygiene measures to keep all on transport safe. Operators have been reminded that parents/carers and schools put their trust in us to safely transport the children in our care and appreciate the increased anxiety under the current circumstances.

Operators are required to ensure that their vehicles are cleaned more regularly than usual with disinfectant. This must include:

Cleaning of all touchpoints at the end of each route.

A more thorough clean at the end of each day.

In addition to this, transport staff must ensure they wash their hands more frequently than usual with soap and water or sanitiser. Sanitiser should be used after securing pupils seatbelts on SEN transport for example.

Parents/Carers are advised that pupils should wash their hands with soap and water or sanitiser before getting on transport. Operators have been asked to ensure that sanitiser is available on all vehicles although some parents may prefer to provide their own.

Face coverings are not mandated for pupils travelling on SEN transport.

Route Details and Passenger Lists

All pupils must be collected in accordance with the passenger list provided. Parents/Carers are advised that pupils need to remain on the same route wherever possible.

At each stop, the driver has been requested to:

Ensure hand sanitiser is available on all vehicles.

Ensure social distancing is maintained while queuing, boarding and alighting a vehicle where possible.

Advise pupils when they are able to **individually** board. Pupils must be instructed to board the rearmost appropriate seat. When the driver is satisfied that pupils have boarded and are sat in the rearmost appropriate seats, as instructed, the driver should commence to the next stop.

For Test and Trace purposes, the driver must be able to advise who has travelled on each date through marking off pupils on their passenger list and making sure they each go to their allocated seat (i.e. the rearmost seat).

Transport operators must ensure good ventilation of fresh air wherever possible by keeping windows or roof lights open.

Continuity of staff

In order to maintain continuity of drivers and guides where possible, each operator has been asked to take measures to reduce the risk of the overall workforce being impacted should any individual member of staff display symptoms.

Where staff may be unavailable e.g. due to displaying symptoms, parents/carers will appreciate that there will be a change of staff. Operators have been asked to keep parents/carers informed where this is the case.

We hope this information is helpful. Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Travel Assist

Curriculum

Miss Mansell's Factoids

1. The Madagascan hissing cockroach doesn't have vocal chords, it forces gas through tiny breathing pores called spiracles on its thorax and abdomen
2. The male platypus has a venomous spur on its hind foot capable of dispensing a poison that can kill a medium-sized dog.

3. Mantis shrimp can use their armoured claws to strike at speeds of 23 m/s... Marine biologists beware!
4. Carnivorous, bog-dwelling plants called bladderworts can snap their traps shut in less than a millisecond, 100 times faster than a Venus flytrap
5. The fastest man in the world (Usain Bolt) has scoliosis

Careers - *If you can dream it, you can do it!*

Work Experience App by Max Coghlan

"I applied and was accepted for a work experience afternoon with EduKit, who are producing a mental health app for pupils in schools.

I decided to work on the topics of design and user experience. We were asked to complete a quiz on the app to give feedback on the app so far, then we were asked to email in 3 videos that are inspiring to ourselves and entertaining videos. I decided to do entertainment and sent in a couple of my own videos that I had created. I had some really positive feedback from these and was asked later in the conversation if some of the content from my own videos could be used in the app which I agreed to.

I really enjoyed the experience and enjoyed networking with others. If this came up again I would definitely apply to do it again. Great experience"

That's great news and feedback Max - thank you

Medical Tuition

A group of Year 10 pupils were selected to participate in a workshop about careers in medicine on Monday morning. The pupils found out about pathways into studying medicine, including accessing support with going to university. The pupils worked with a current medical pupil and looked at areas of the subject they would study, for example diagnosing the correct medical care, as well as engaging in a debate about medical ethics. Our pupils presented themselves really well and gave the following feedback:

- *It was very good and educational. It expanded my knowledge on medicine.*
- *Great lesson, learnt a lot about things I did not know.*
- *Everything that I needed for if I ever wanted to take that form of career. It's a long process but worth it to save lives.*
- *I found the following useful: Learning about the qualifications for a medical profession and the ethics side of respecting a patient's opinion and whether they want medication or a surgery or not.*

Pupils from Year 9, 10 and 11 attended the Birmingham and Solihull Virtual Careers Fair on Thursday. Pupils were able to 'visit' a wide range of virtual stands where they could read about their future careers pathways, watch videos and engage in live chats with the exhibitors. Here is some of the feedback provided from parents:

Just some feedback about today:

- *We both had a look and my son definitely wants to do electrical engineering and the jag land rover looked good for an apprentice. Thank you for all your support and well done to all the teachers today who made it easy and informative.*
- *My son enjoyed today's session and is already discussing potential avenues*

Birmingham Metropolitan College will deliver a presentation to Year 11 pupils on Wednesday 10th March, to help support them with the application process. This will be delivered during Form Time.

Year 7, 8 and 9 will continue the PwC Careers Form Time sessions. Next Wednesday, we will be focusing on Leadership

Access Creative College are holding a Virtual Open Day on **Saturday 6th March 2021** where you can find out more about what they offer and ask any questions you may have about studying at Access Creative College.

ACC run individual sessions for Music and Events, Games and Computing, Music Production and Media and Design. Head over to the [booking page](#) to find individual timings for each session.

If you are interested in finding out more, click below to register your place for our Virtual Open Day, which takes place on Zoom on **Saturday 6th March!**

<https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events/virtual-open-day-march-21/>

Important Dates:

Turner & Townsend. Degree Apprenticeship Quantity Surveying Closing 7th May 2021

BMW. Apprenticeships. <http://www.bmwgroup.jobs/uk> 14th March 2021

Severn Trent PLC. Advanced Apprenticeship Water Process Technician Closing 21st March

JD Dental. Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Advanced. Closing Date 6th June 2021

LEMA. Engineering Apprenticeships www.lemacademy.co.uk

Colleges will have spring term virtual events, check websites for details.

New Opportunities and Openings:

Johnson Control Building. Refrigeration and Air Con Apprenticeship Closing 31st March

WSP UK Ltd. Birmingham Planning Team Advanced Apprenticeship. Closing 30th April

JB Dental Surgery. Advanced Dental Nurse Apprenticeship Closing 6th June 2021

Blue Earth Foods Ltd. Advanced Apprenticeship Engineering. Closing Date 1st April 2021

MGTS. Engineering Apprenticeships Advanced Level. Closing Date 30th March 2021

Toyota. Advanced Apprenticeship Service and Maintenance Closing 30th May 2021

Johnson Control Building. Fire and Security Engineering Closing 31st March

MAKEUK. Several Engineering opportunities. www.makeuk.org/futuremakers

Services Machinery & Trucks. Construction Equipment Engineering Closing 7th July 2021

Collins Aerospace. Engineering apprenticeship. Apply through MakeUK Closing 8th May

For further information on these apprenticeships: www.getingorfar.gov.uk and www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk

You will have to register with these websites.

Useful Websites:

Exploring ideas, interests and skills

www.nationalcareersservicedirect.gov.uk

www.icould.com

www.bfi.org.uk - British Film Industry runs a national programme offering hands-on filmmaking.

Apprenticeships

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk

Higher Education

www.ucas.com

www.university.which.co.uk

www.whatuni.com

www.hecsu.ac.uk