

# Family Bulletin

Week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021



Each one of you has a special gift from God. Use it to serve others well. 1 Peter 4:10

## Thought for the Week

*"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:6.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that your week has been a positive one and that your children have found their remote learning experience both interesting and engaging.

Over the course of the week, there have been more hopeful signs regarding a return to education in schools. The Prime Minister has announced that it will not be possible to resume face-to-face learning immediately after the February half-term, although he hopes it will be safe to commence the re-opening of schools from Monday 8 March. We will of course let you know if we hear anything further in terms of concrete plans and whether or not there will be a phased return by year group. It is encouraging that a date has now been set, even if it is somewhat tentative at this stage.

We have also been heartened by the DfE consultation regarding the awarding of GCSE grades this summer. We feel that the solutions being considered by the DfE are the right ones and we are hopeful that a strategy will emerge before the end of February which will enable us all to begin to thoroughly plan for a fair, accessible and reliable set of assessments. It is highly likely that a significant weighting of evidence will be attributed to a series of formal written assessments in May and June. Therefore, as we have mentioned regularly this term, it is vitally important that all Year 10 and 11 students continue to fully engage with remote learning tasks. The results of your child's GCSEs are still very much in their hands.

In this week's bulletin, we are continuing with a strong wellbeing focus with links to a number of strategies and support networks. Linked to this, we are very excited to announce the official launch of the WSE Houses! There are details in the bulletin about how your child can get involved in the first virtual inter-house competition where there is an opportunity to earn up to 35 (yes 35!) points for their respective House. Do please have a look at the introductory videos on the WSE Facebook page (links are also in this bulletin), which feature our very enthusiastic Heads of House. Let the challenges begin!

The articles this week include:

- Updates to remote learning, with a focus on live lessons
- An update on the WSE Hub
- Resources and ideas to support mental health during Children's Mental Health Week
- The WSE House launch!
- A reminder of support available to families
- Some suggestions and updates about how to keep your children safe online

I hope you find the information useful and interesting. Please stay safe and enjoy your weekend.

Mr Burley  
Head of School.

## Remote Learning Update: Live Lessons

We will continue to add more subjects to our live lesson timetable in the coming weeks; you can find the live lesson timetables for Week 5 [here](#) and we will also share these directly with students on Satchel One every Friday ready for the week ahead.

Links to live lessons will no longer be shared on Satchel One; students will need to log into Microsoft Teams to join their live lessons. This is primarily a safeguarding measure to ensure that only invited students from the class are able to access the meeting. However, it also ensures that all students are able to fully engage in live lessons because they will have access to all the tools in Microsoft Teams e.g. Class Notes. To join live lessons, students should log into Microsoft Teams, click on their calendar and click 'join' to open up the lesson meeting. This [video](#) demonstrates how students can access live lessons.

It is therefore essential that all students know their school email login details and password which they will use to access Microsoft Teams. If your child does not know their email login or password, please contact [ITservice@wyvernstedds.org](mailto:ITservice@wyvernstedds.org)

We have shared a number of 'How to...' videos for parents and students to support with remote learning. These have been recorded by Mr Dando and Miss Snook and can be found [here](#). If you have any requests for videos to support you with any aspect of remote learning, please email Mrs Lee (Assistant Headteacher): [ree@wyvernstedds.org](mailto:ree@wyvernstedds.org)

Please can we take this opportunity to remind you that:

- Individual queries about lessons, submission of work or feedback should be directed to the class teacher (staff email addresses can be found [here](#)).
- General queries should be directed to your child's tutor.
- If there are any IT issues such as logging on or forgotten passwords, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.
- If your child is unable to access the work due to lack of IT equipment or access to the internet, please contact our Deputy Head, Mrs Smith: [csmith@wyvernstedds.org](mailto:csmith@wyvernstedds.org)

## Remote Learning Student Debate - VotesforSchools

A timely topic for student discussion this week. They will be considering the question:

**"Will learning ever be the same again?"**

For this week's topic, students will be considering the changes they have seen in their learning experience since the beginning of the pandemic. They will focus on the skills they have acquired, the challenges they've faced and what they think the future might hold.

It has been great to see so many students engaging with the discussions and posting their views on Satchel One. Please encourage them to keep doing this.

**Remember you can still register your vote from home at this link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/vfs-secondary-learning>



# REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

This useful guide from National Online Safety can be found [here](#).

© National Online Safety. We believe in empowering parents, carers and teachers about how to best protect their children from online risks. We are committed to ensuring that our content is always up to date and relevant. We will update this content where necessary. We will not be held liable for any damage or loss of data. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults. If you feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

**NOS** National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

## REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

- 1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING**  
As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.  

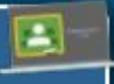
- 2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY**  
It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.  

- 3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE**  
Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.  

- 4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES**  
Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks; however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.  

- 5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME**  
It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.  

- 6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE**  
Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.  

- 7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS**  
It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.  

- 8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES**  
Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.  

- 9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS**  
Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.  

- 10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH**  
Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.  




[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Sources: Remote education good practice, DfE guidance, Safeguarding and remote education during coronavirus (COVID-19), DfE guidance. Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.11.2020

## Satchel One (ShowMyHomework) Guidance

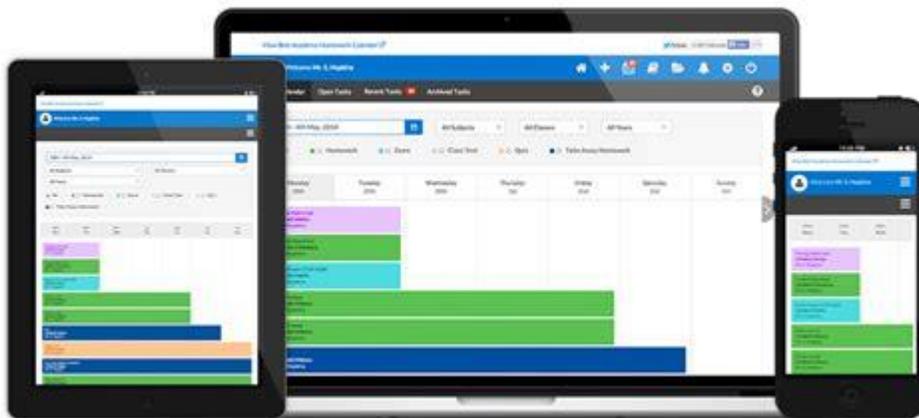
How to check your child is working.. without antagonising them!

We know that some children have taken to remote learning like ducks to water. Others are, shall we say... less excited about it! It can be really hard sometimes to check that they are correctly submitting the work without causing a row, so here are some Top Teacher Tips to make your life easier:

1. Open up the Satchel app on 'Calendar' rather than the 'To Do' list. This will show them their plan of action for that day in the sequence that they are used to. We find students are checking things off on their 'To do' list, mistakenly thinking it is submitted.
2. Make sure that each lesson is really done. Many have two boxes on the app – one with a loom and one with a quiz.
3. Check they have really read the instructions on the main lesson carefully.
4. Ask them to show you their work. Comments like 'I would love to see what you did in Geography' or 'Can you explain what you did in Maths?' 'What piece of work are you most proud of?'
5. If there is a quiz in a yellow box, set them a percentage target to hit. Some quizzes have the option of retaking it until their score is improved.

Please don't hesitate to talk to your child's tutor for further support.

Mrs Kantolinna  
Head of Year 7



## WSE Hub Update

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all staff and students attending our Hub for vulnerable and key worker children at WSE. Despite the change to daily routine and balancing live and remote lessons independently, conduct has been excellent throughout.

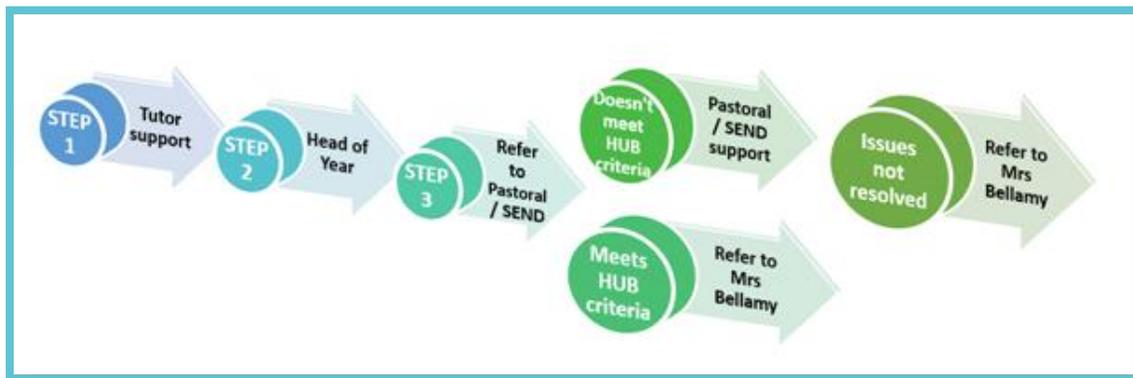
We continue to receive further requests for Hub places and are looking at each case carefully. Whilst we are desperate to have all students back in school, sadly this isn't possible at this point in time. In order to ensure safety and internet access for all Hub students, we do need to ensure that numbers are limited. Therefore, we ask you to consider carefully whether your child needs to be in school. To help you decide this we have highlighted government guidance for both vulnerable and key worker children below.

### Key worker children: 'should stay at home if they can'

As you will be aware, children of key workers are entitled to a Hub place if it is not possible for them to stay at home. Following government guidance, we do ask that if a parent/carer is working from home during the day, your child/children stay home. This will allow us to prioritise places in the Hub for those without adult supervision during the day. Children accessing the Hub should still only make use of this provision on the days they would otherwise be left unsupervised; this may mean one or two days a week. We are able to accommodate this. If requesting a key worker place please provide a letter from your employer stating that you are a key worker, critical to the Covid-19 response, specifying which days you must physically be in work. Please contact Mrs Bellamy to request a key worker place, attaching relevant paperwork: [jbellamy@wyvernsteds.org](mailto:jbellamy@wyvernsteds.org)

### Vulnerable children: 'should be encouraged to attend school'

Vulnerable children, as identified by the school, will include children with EHCPs, social workers and protection plans. The full criteria, as published by the government, makes reference to a variety of other factors to consider. In order to make sure that every child is supported, whether in school or at home, we have produced our own referral process for admission to the Hub:



All staff are aware of this process, and have been working hard to support young people through this system since the start of term. If you are concerned about your child/children, whether it be: IT access, work completion, mental health or a range of other issues, **please contact your child's tutor in the first instance**. They can support your child and/or refer to the relevant staff as necessary.

By making use of these support systems, both in the Hub and at home, we aim to ensure that every child is able to continue their learning in a safe and secure environment.

### Covid-19 Lateral Flow Tests - weekly testing for Hub students.

Weekly Covid-19 LFT testing at school for those students that routinely attend the Hub provision has been continuing. If you would like your child to be included in the weekly testing programme please ensure that you have completed the required weekly consent form. This differs from the initial consent form that was sent out on the first day of term as it applies specifically to weekly testing of Hub students.

If you have previously submitted a registration form then there is no need to do this again, but if it is your first time submitting your consent please also complete the registration form. The relevant links are:

[Weekly Consent Form](#)  
[Registration Form](#)

## WSE House Launch

This week we launched our WSE houses. Each Head of House has released a video which tells you a little bit about each House team as well as some details about our new virtual House competitions.

[Bourne House Launch with Mrs Bellamy](#)

[Nadder House Launch with Mr Martin](#)

[Wylde House Launch with Mrs Lee](#)

[Ebble House Launch with Mrs Evans](#)

[Avon House Launch with Mr Adams](#)

### Virtual House Competition 1: Lockdown Landscapes



**Our first virtual House competition begins today** with a challenge to find the beauty in lockdown by taking a landscape photograph e.g. on a daily walk. Students will need to submit their photographs using this [form](#).

The deadline for students to submit their lockdown landscape photograph is 3pm on Wednesday 3rd of February and we'll announce the winners, along with the week one leader board, in next week's family bulletin.

Here's Mrs Bellamy introducing this week's virtual House competition: [Lockdown landscapes competition](#)

Every student that submits a lockdown landscape photograph will earn their House one point.

The winning entry in every group earns their House 15 points, second place 10 points and third place 5 points. Mr Burley, Head of School, will then choose an overall winner who will earn their House an additional 20 points!

## Thought for the Week

**“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,  
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”**

**Hebrews 13:6.**

### **Make time for talking; time for stillness and time for nature.**

As part of [Children's Mental Health Week 2021](#) we will be spending time in tutor time and Worship this week reflecting on our mental health, considering how to reduce anxiety and looking at how to boost our mood.

This is a topic that we have spoken about many times in school; it's something that we need to keep talking about and it's something that is vitally important to all of us. As mental health education and science has developed over the last few years, we have come to realise just how important it is for us as individuals to develop a clear understanding of mental health. We need to understand what it means to be mentally healthy and we also need to know the signs when our mental health is in decline, so that we can ask for support. Furthermore, we need to develop (over time) a toolkit of strategies that work for us as individuals so that we can maintain good mental health.

As a faith school we recognise the importance of helping others and showing empathy, as Christ Himself demonstrated, by using our God-given talents and compassionate nature to offer support to our friends, relatives and other members of our community who are having a difficult time. Our focus is not just about looking after our own mental health, but also about taking time to help others manage things that they are struggling with.

Although the pandemic has presented us with new challenges, it doesn't mean that we can't put strategies in place to maintain good mental health. We can't change the situation we are in, but we can change how we approach it and the strategies we put in place for ourselves. Making time for talking, time for stillness and time for nature are all pragmatic and highly effective strategies that we can use every day to maintain our health.

### **Making time for talk:**

Although we will cover other aspects of strategies to support good mental health this week, it's worth highlighting the most important strategy of all: making time to talk. They say that a problem shared is a problem halved! This is very true when we look at mental wellbeing and resilience. Negative thoughts and problems can become bigger and more unmanageable as we over-think them. They can in fact start to cause changes in the way we feel, which can in turn cause physical symptoms in our bodies like sweating or an increase in our heart rate. The best way to deal with this is to share the negative thought or problem with someone you really trust. Usually when you talk things through, the problem you thought was very big in your head, is in fact much smaller than you imagined and very often your trusted friend or relative will come up with an excellent idea to help.

Not only is it good to talk when you are worried, it's good to regularly talk to someone to check that they're OK. Behavioural scientists have found that when we talk to someone and help them, not only does the person you've helped feel better, but your own happiness levels are boosted as well! In other words, there is a double-effect of doing something to help others through talking.

Over the next week, let's try to make time to talk to others. Even if we make one more connection than we did last week, we will be helping a member of our community through our innate compassion and God-given talents. In doing so we will also boost our own mental health.

## Childrens' Mental Health Week 2021



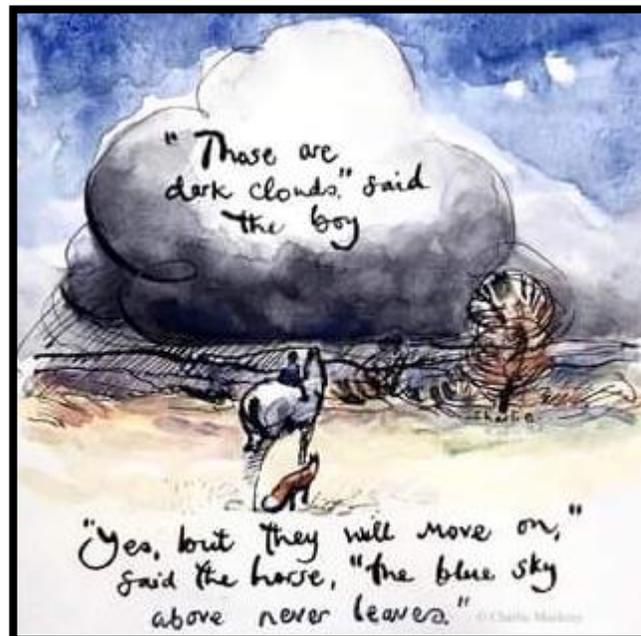
The theme for this year is **Express Yourself**. We know that many young people find it a challenge to express themselves and this can lead to frustration and poor mental health. Our thought for the week is encouraging us to find ways to talk. [Children's Mental Health Week 2021](#) has resources, support and activities to help children find a way through creativity to share their thoughts and feelings.

We are currently holding student council meetings with each year group to hear from our students about how they are coping and what we can do to support them.

We repeat our message to all students and parents that you are not alone and to get in touch if you need support or someone to talk to. In our last two bulletins we have included items on well-being that you can refer back to [here](#) and [here](#); we have included some information below about staying safe online.

Online technology has both benefits and risks which we know can have either a positive or negative impact on our wellbeing depending on how it used.

### Every Mind Matters: A Short Film



## Staying Safe Online (1)

Once again, a regular reminder to keep a close eye on what your children are viewing and sharing online. We all know that young people are spending far more time online than ever and therefore it is vital that you keep up to date with emerging national online concerns so that you can keep your children protected.

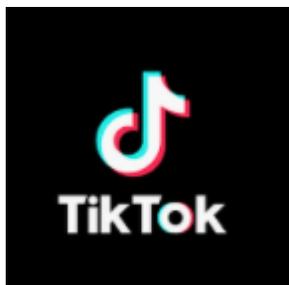
There have been concerns this week around the use of TikTok and we recommend that all young people have “Family Safety Mode” enabled (see detail below). There is also an excellent Panorama programme about the more sinister side of TikTok that we would suggest you take a look at via BBC iPlayer.

In the meantime there is some excellent advice available from the [NSPCC](#).



If you have any safeguarding concerns around social media use you can also contact our Senior Pastoral Manager, Lisa Milner at [lmilner@wyvernsteds.org](mailto:lmilner@wyvernsteds.org)

### TikTok: How to enable Family Safety Mode



1. To enable Family Safety Mode you first of all need to have the TikTok app on your (parent/carer) device and be logged in to your account.
2. At the top right you will see 3 dots. Tap on these which will take you into the Privacy and Settings menu.
3. Scroll down to Digital Wellbeing and tap, you will be presented with the 3 options.
4. Firstly, tap on Family Safety Mode in order to activate the feature. Tap on parent and your child will then need to scan the QR code in order to link the two accounts.
5. You can now activate the screen time management feature, where you can manage the amount of screen time you allow (40, 60, 90 and 120 minutes). You will then set a password which prevents your child going over their allocated time.
6. Once this is done it's recommended you activate 'Restricted Mode' which is a feature to prevent your child seeing inappropriate content. However we've yet to come across a restricted mode on any app or service (e.g. YouTube) which is 100% effective. It's recommended that you activate Restricted Mode, but please don't be lulled into a false sense of security and safety.
7. We also recommend you limit who can send messages to the connected account or turn off Direct Messaging completely and also ensure your child's account is set to 'Private'.

## Staying Safe Online (2)

We know that children are spending increasing time online during lockdown and with many new apps and games coming online each week, it can be very hard to keep up. Of course, there are benefits to using many of these apps and games for wellbeing, education, entertainment and importantly staying connected. However, we strongly encourage you to talk to your children about what they are accessing, checking it is age appropriate and that they have the correct settings to ensure they are not at any risk (see the TikTok guidance above).

We highly recommend **National Online Safety** who produce a whole range of guides specifically for parents and carers to help you stay informed and keep your child safe online. These include what parents need to know about WeChat, Cunch-Line Chronicles, Cyberpunk, Playstation 5, Xbox Series X/S, Catfishing, Instagram and many more. An example about Remote Education is mentioned earlier in this bulletin. The whole range of guides can be found [here](#).

National Online Safety have just launched an app which can be found [here](#).

**BRAND NEW**

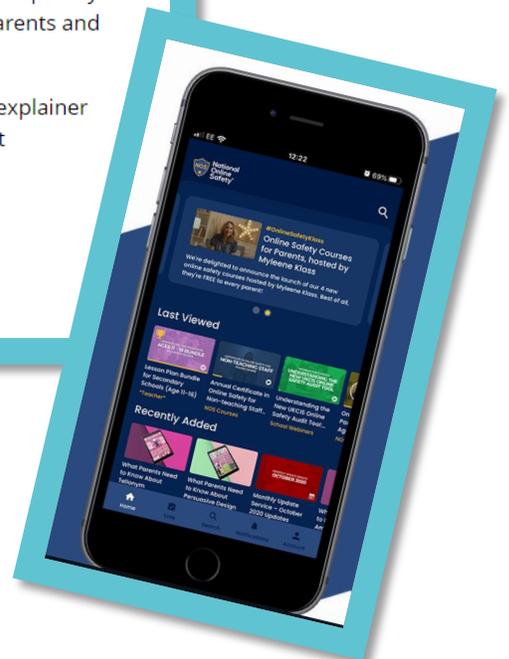
## National Online Safety Mobile App

It's time to get **#OnlineSafetySavvy**.

Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. But with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know?

Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application. Created by experts, developed by us. With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks – any time, anywhere.

The world's most comprehensive online safety app, it's packed with insightful courses, explainer videos, webinars and guides on topics that will help you protect the kids you care about when they're online.



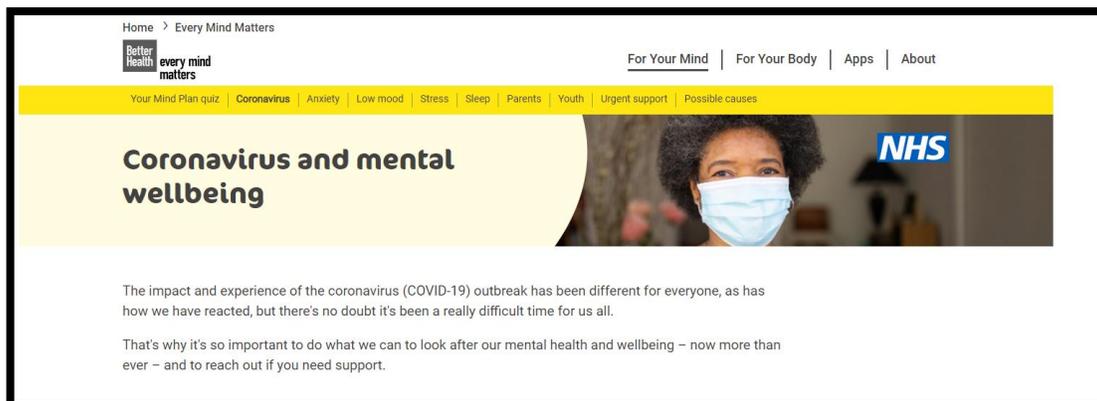
## COVID-19 Support and Guidance

We highly recommend these resources that have guidance, tips and links to support a range of issues that families may be facing at this time.

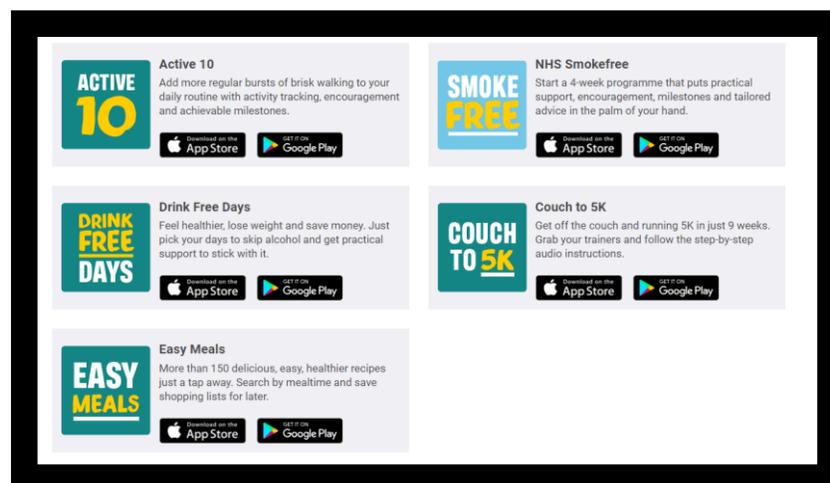
This leaflet from Wiltshire Council is full of advice about talking to your child about COVID-19 as well as links to support learning at home: [Covid19:Looking after yourself](#)



The Every Mind Matters website has specific Coronavirus support as well help with dealing with mental health issues. <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus/>



You can also find information about the NHS One You apps and other recommended apps that are free to download: <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/apps/>





With national lockdown measures in place, Wiltshire Council's Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub is still available to anyone who is struggling during this difficult time.

The Hub can help and provide support to those who perhaps don't have a network around them, and also signpost them to where additional help is available in their local area.

People can get in touch with the Hub via email at [wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk) or by calling 0300 003 4576. It's available from 9am-5pm Monday-Friday and 10am-4pm on Saturdays. The opening hours will be regularly reviewed throughout the coming weeks and months, and the council will notify people of any changes to these.