

Edition 36 : 05/09/25



## Calendar and Events



- Wed 10th Sept : Year 10 Work Experience Parent Teams Evening
- Thur 18th Sep : Bletchley Park Trip
- Fri 19th Sept : Wear it Orange Day - All4One Foundation
- Mon 22nd Sept : Electrical and Mechanical Army Practical Session
- Tue 23rd Sept : Cross Country Event
- Thur 25th Sep : Year 6 Open Evening
- Fri 26th Sep : Collaboration Day (School Closed to Students)

- Tue 30 Sept : IN-COMM Stem Sessions Yr 9 & 10
- 10th Nov - 22nd Nov : Year 11 Autumn Mocks
- Wed 8th Oct : Yr 9 & 11 Individual Photos
- Tue 14th Oct : Year 10 Apprenticeship Taster Day
- Fri 17th Oct : Year 12 Trip Uni and Apprenticeship Search Fair
- Mon 20th & Tue 21st : PD Days
- Wed 22nd to Fri 31st Oct : HALF TERM
- Mon 3rd Nov : PD Day

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**Michelle King - Headteacher**



## **Welcome Back – A Fantastic Start to the New School Year**

As we come to the end of our first week back, it has been truly wonderful to see our school full of energy and enthusiasm once again. A special welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 12 students, who have been busy finding their way around, meeting new friends, and getting to know our staff. Impressively, very few have got lost – so we're off to a flying start!

Following a summer of excellent exam results, we're already looking ahead with excitement to what this year holds. Our aim is to enrich learning through more visitors, trips, and wider opportunities that spark curiosity and ambition. In fact, our first trip has already returned, full of buzz and brilliant stories.

One of my most memorable moments this week was speaking with students about their summer experiences and their hopes for the year ahead. Their ambition and energy are truly inspiring – it's clear we're in for a fantastic year.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing many more highlights with you as the term unfolds.

## **YEAR 7 NEWS**

### **Welcome To Our New Cohort!**

Year 7 had a fabulous day to themselves around the school on Tuesday giving them a chance to find their way around and negotiate the canteen etc. It was delightful to see them. We have caught up with a few of them over the last couple of days asking them how they are getting on and their thoughts on Idsall ...



Scarlett said : *"I've liked going to different classes and doing different things"*

Finn said : *"There are lots of people and I like walking around the place, it's very welcoming"*

Kobi said : *"I have found all my friends, and I've found my favourite teacher already!"*



Phoebe said : *"I've enjoyed playing ping pong with my friends at break and lunch time"*

Ryan said : *"I've enjoyed making new friends"*



Jacob J said : *"It's good because all my lessons today have been fun and interesting"*

Jacob S said : *"I have found today really fun, much better than primary"*

Alex said : *"I got a music pass which I am really happy about. It has been very welcoming and the teachers are really nice"*



Krittika said : *"I was scared at first but then it was good after. I've made some new friends"*

Erin said : *"I have loved all my lessons on my first day and I have enjoyed meeting new people"*

## **YEAR 10 NEWS**

### **Construction**

It has been a really solid start to life in the Skills Centre for the year 10 Construction students. On their first day they managed to successfully build solid walls!











## WORK EXPERIENCE PARENTAL TEAMS EVENING FOR YEAR 10 & 12



We are excited to inform parents that we will be holding a work experience parental teams meeting evening on Wednesday 10th September at 6.00 pm.

Work experience week is 29th June to 3rd July 2026 for our Year 10 and Year 12 students.

This is an informative meeting to explain the process of securing work experience and where to source placements. An email invitation will be sent out to you all early next week in time for you to join.

For those that are unable to join us on this evening, we will be recording the meeting and this will be sent out after.

## DISNEYLAND PARIS TRIP



Once again we are looking into the year 7 & 8 Residential Trip to Disneyland Paris. The trip is expected to run between Friday 27th and Sunday 29th March 2026.

Watch this space for more details!

## MARY POPPINS

During the summer holidays Mr Austin took a group of students to Birmingham Hippodrome to watch Mary Poppins. The Theatre had put on a special schools event where the students got to watch the show and then had a behind the scenes information talk where they learnt about the many other roles that it takes to put on a show. They learnt about roles that they didn't even know existed and how there are over 100 people full time employed in the Mary Poppins show, this including the teachers for the children that are in the show!

Everyone agreed that it was a fabulous day and a real incite into a career in the theatre.









## IN-COMM VISIT

On Thursday a group of 15 year 9 and 10 students who were interested in a future in engineering visited IN-COMM, a training services company that specialise in apprenticeships in engineering.

After a tour around the facilities the groups were given the tasks to design, build and race a F1 model car. This gave them the chance to work as a team on the design and had to ensure their markings were accurate for the wheels etc.



The climax of the day came from the final racing of the cars! Well done to the overall winners team "Run Forest Run", however the fastest car on the track was definitely the team named "Team Name"!



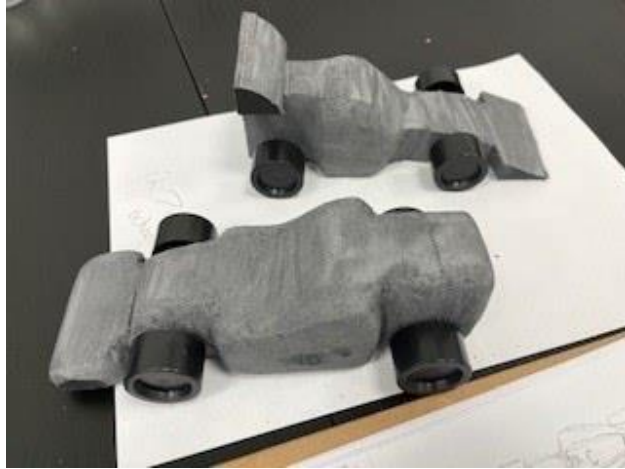
















*1 - THE FASTEST CAR ON THE TRACK!*

## PE SESSION 6

*Just bring your kit and your enthusiasm!*

So if it is football, netball or another sport, now is your chance to get involved. The PE department are putting together their lists of session 6. If there is a sport you are interested in, speak to a member of the department!

Below is the list of the PE department session 6 Football and Netball trials.

If you are interested but need more information, just pop along to the PE office and speak to a member of the department.

**IDS ALL SCHOOL PE SESSION 6**

Autumn 2025  
starting 16<sup>th</sup> Sept

**NETBALL**

We want to see as many of you as possible at our S6 sports sessions! Just bring your kit and come see us down in PE straight after school on a Tuesday and get involved!

**GCSE INTERVENTION**  
monday & wednesday in P2

**(A+)**

**BADMINTON**

GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO TRY A NEW SPORT, JOIN A SCHOOL TEAM AND MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS!

**FOOTBALL**

**TUESDAYS | 3:10PM - 4:10PM | PE DEPT**

A poster for 'IDS ALL PE Autumn 2025' with a green and white background. It lists various sports trials and sessions for different year groups, including football and netball. A tree logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

**IDS ALL PE** Autumn 2025  
FULL KIT AND TRAINERS /  
BOOTS & SHIN PADS NEEDED

**INTERESTED IN REPRESENTING THE SCHOOL IN NETBALL  
OR FOOTBALL?  
COME ALONG AFTER SCHOOL AND REGISTER WITH THE  
MEMBER OF STAFF RUNNING THE TRIAL**

**YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL TRIALS**  
WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | GPA

**YEAR 8 BOYS FOOTBALL TRIALS**  
MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> & TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | SBE  
(BOTH DAYS)

**YEAR 9 BOYS FOOTBALL TRIAL GAME**  
MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | PGO

**YEAR 10 BOYS FOOTBALL TRIALS**  
TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | GPA

**YEAR 7 GIRLS FOOTBALL TRIALS**  
TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | MLO

**YEAR 7 NETBALL TRIALS**  
WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | MLO

**YEAR 8, 9, 10, 11 NETBALL  
INTRO SESSION**  
TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPT | SDU

## UNIFORM DONATIONS

### ***DO YOU HAVE OLD UNIFORM THAT YOU NO LONGER USE?***

Whether it is a blazer, trousers, shirts, ties, PE Kit etc if you have any uniform items that you no longer use. we would love to take it off your hands! Please drop off at reception.

## NOTICE TO PARENTS: REMOVAL OF LATE BUS SERVICE



Effective September 2025, the late bus service will no longer be part of our school transport programme.

This decision has not been made lightly. After careful review, we have found that:

- Very few students have been using the late bus service regularly.
- Usage has averaged fewer than 4 students per day, and the bus is often completely empty.
- Operational costs for running the service have significantly increased, making it unsustainable.

We have been assured that local bus and train services are available, although we recognise that these may not be suitable for all student destinations.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

## WORK EXPERIENCE 2026

Work Experience is 29 June - 3 July 2026 for students in years 10 and 12.

The date for details to be uploaded to Unifrog is Friday 27th March 2026.



# SAFEGUARDING



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. Formally published by National Cyber Security, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI-ENABLED SCAMS

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**  
Artificial intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a widely used tool, with lots of positive applications being discussed and developed. Sadly, however, as with most technology tools, there are those who will seek to use it for malicious and dishonest practices, with children and other vulnerable groups particularly at risk.

**PHISHING EMAILS: BETTER & QUICKER**  
Phishing scams – usually designed to trick people into handing over login details or money – are not new, and don't stop at AI. However, AI has made them far more dangerous. Criminals can now generate highly convincing emails of speed, mimicking an organisation's tone, branding and language with ease. This makes phishing attempts harder to spot, especially for young people who may not yet have learnt to look out for:

**ONLINE MARKETPLACE FRAUD**  
Online marketplaces are now a common way to buy and sell everything from second-hand clothes to cars. Criminals are exploiting this by using AI to generate or copy-paste many product photos and videos, and pressure buyers into paying deposits or full amounts upfront. These tactics are becoming more advanced, making it vital to pause, check, and verify the user before going with any money.

**VOICE IMPERSONATION**  
AI can now realistically impersonate a person's voice when given a small sample of someone's speech patterns. This is especially concerning when voice has been employed in dramatic, password-based logins. One such example was the use of AI-generated voices as part of a scam impersonating the criminals used an AI voice clone of a 19-year-old to convince her parents she had been kidnapped and asked for ransom.

**EMPLOYMENT SCAMS**  
Using AI, criminals can create low online profiles that seem completely real. These synthetic identities can chat with young people about fake job offers, asking for money to secure a visa or placement. In 2023, the Criminal Reports in a scam targeting young people with promises of quick cash, posing as the real deal.

**INFLUENCER & INVESTMENT SCAMS**  
AI tools now make it easy to manipulate video and audio, with technology available that can generate entirely fake content using the likeness of celebrities or influencers. Criminals are using this to create convincing voices of well-known figures promoting fake products or services, which young people are particularly susceptible to. Criminally copying someone's content to look like them is also a common tactic, using people's information to persuade them to do the same. Once payment is made, the criminal simply disappears with the money.

**ROMANCE SCAMS & SEXTORTION**  
AI chat bots can now mimic real conversations, often convincing and realistic. Criminals can start their scamming people – among other things, this can lead to fraud or sextortion. In 2024, the UK's CIPD Safety Centre received 320 reports of sextortion. As a result, in the first five months alone, police received an average of 17 monthly reports involving under-18s, showing how serious and targeted this threat has become.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

**THINK CRITICALLY**  
The key to addressing the increasing growth of AI-enabled scams is to think critically over these claims. Inform children that if something is too good to be true, then it probably is. Encourage them to stop and carefully consider what they are seeing and acting before taking any action. For example, if a scam message post expresses urgency, proceed with caution. If content seems unusual, even have a closer person. It may be that that account has been hacked.

**USE TRUSTWORTHY SITES AND SERVICES**  
Online marketplaces are useful when buying and selling items, however, where possible, encourage children to use reputable companies and their online shopping sites. These companies are likely to have more sophisticated cyber security safeguards in place, underpinned by consumer legislation, enabling them to control how products and services are displayed and traded on their sites.

**SEEK TO VERIFY**  
Criminals may break an influencer's account or spread misinformation and fake content. However, their approach will generally be limited to a single account, site or service. Where possible, show children how to verify information by checking a link through a safe browser, or checking content via an official app or company website or social media sites to confirm the information presented is true or false.

**REPORT IT**  
As the sophistication of scams increases, the likelihood of being tricked by them also increases, especially when not paying attention to using quality. It is important that you, as a parent or educator, know how to report incidents as they happen. Show children how to report their concerns to the local media site. Action Fraud, banks, and other individuals or organisations linked or involved. If you are unsure of the most effective reporting channel, contact Action Fraud.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at Millfield, a large independent boarding school in Somerset, as well as a member of the Digital Leaders Group, Vice Chair of the ISC Digital Advisory Group and an Association of Network Managers in Education (ANME) Ambassador.

**WakeUpWednesday** The National College

@wake\_up\_weds www.thenationalcollege.com @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

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## WHAT'S ON IN THE LOCAL AREA

Try Something New! Taekwon-Do ..... FREE CLASSES!



Mr Morris runs a beginners programme in authentic and original Taekwon-do every Wednesday evening at Idsall School in the old gym.

So if you are looking at trying something new why not go along - you get **two free trial classes!**

- ***Discounts available to Idsall Students!***
- ***Classes every Wednesday 6-7pm in the old gym at Idsall.***
- ***Offering two free trial classes.***

**So what are the benefits of Taekwon-do for young people :**

- *Physical Fitness: Taekwondo promotes overall fitness by engaging various muscle groups, enhancing strength, agility, and flexibility*
- *Self-Confidence: The goal-setting and positive reinforcement in taekwondo help build self-esteem in young people*
- *Discipline and Focus: Taekwondo teaches young people discipline and the ability to focus, which are essential life skills*
- *Mental Growth: It blends physical training with mental development, encouraging personal progress and resilience*



- *Character Development: Taekwondo fosters respect, perseverance, and teamwork, contributing to a young persons character development*

***INTERESTED ... contact Mr. Morris on 07969 996055 to book and for more information.***

## CONTACT US



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### Our values :



**Excellence**

**Excellence:** striving always for mastery and personal success



**Integrity**

**Integrity:** consistently acting with honesty, compassion and respect



**Empathy**

**Empathy:** embracing and supporting the uniqueness of every individual



**Creativity**

**Creativity:** inspiring and challenging through invention, experimentation and exploration



**Equality**

**Equality:** ensuring fair opportunity for all