

# Robert Browning, Snowfields and Tower Bridge Primary Schools

We learn and succeed together



@robertbrowning.bsky.social @towerbridgeschool.bsky.social @snsprimary.bsky.social

Find us at: [www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk)

## Newsletter 4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all the parents who have read the Ofsted report at Tower Bridge and taken time to email or say a few words to us on the gate. We appreciate all of your support.



Thank you for your continued generosity donating Easter Eggs, the children thoroughly enjoyed the chocolate fun!

There are many activities taking place locally over the Easter Break, please see the family fun page (pg 11) of the newsletter for more information.

Your children's homework projects as always have been fantastic this half term, thank you for all the support you give to your children at home.

Have a fun and relaxing Easter break. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school refreshed and ready to learn on Thursday 24th April.



Eid Mubarak to all our families who celebrated Eid. We hope you had a wonderful time.

**NSPCC**

[Support for Parents](#)

The NSPCC has a wide range of information to support parents as their child grows and develops. Please find more information [here](#).



Dates For Your Diary



### Tower Bridge

Friday 4th April - Break Up 1pm

Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd April - INSET Days - School Closed

Thursday 24th April - Back to School from 8.45am

Monday 5th May - BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED

W/B 12th May - Year 6 Test Week

### Robert Browning

Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd April- INSET DAYS- School Closed

Thursday 24th April- Back to School- gates open 8.45am

Wednesday 30th April- Y6 Fundraiser -after school

Monday 5th May- BANK HOLIDAY- School Closed

Monday 12th May YEAR 6 TEST WEEK

### Snowfields

Friday 4th April - Break Up 1pm

Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd April - INSET Days - School Closed

Thursday 24th April - Back to School from 8.45am

Monday 5th May- Bank Holiday - School Closed  
Week Beginning Monday 12th May - Year 6 Test Week

Term Dates 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 are on the Federation website

[Term Dates – The Bridges Federation](#)

Term time holidays will not be authorised.

Other important dates for this year can also be found on the school website here:

[Diary – The Bridges Federation](#)



Have a wonderful break - see you on the 24<sup>th</sup> April!

reward shop



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TUESDAY 22ND AND WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL

INSET Days - School Closed

THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

Children return to school 8:45am

MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> - THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Year 6 Test Week

## teamwork

[ value of the week ]

TOWERBRIDGE

## INTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL

This week, some of the Y5/6 pupils went to Snowsfields for a football match. We had a great time - thank you to all the Snowsfields parents and children who cheered us on. Thank you Adam at Snowsfields for organising.



Last week Orange Class visited the National Maritime Museum and enjoyed exploring and enhancing their learning.



## GARDENING club

Some of the children in Yellow and Green classes have been working with gardeners from School Food Matters to learn about growing food to eat. Over the next term they will be looking after their plants and ensuring that they are ready to harvest at the end of the summer. Thank you Tammy for supporting.





## Benchball

On Friday Yellow Class and Green Class took part in some benchball with PESSN.



## Homework Projects

As always, we have seen some amazing homework projects this term! Thank you to all the parents and carers who have helped the children with their learning!

## Cricket!

Green Class have been enjoying their cricket lessons this term. Congratulations to one of our Year 4 girls, who was player of the term across all of the schools that Matt coaches! Well done!



## Early Years Action!

Have a look at some of the fabulous home learning that the children have completed. In class they have been exploring all around the world!



# Snowsfields Primary School



## HOMEWORK

Well done to all the children for the effort they've put into their homework projects this half term. It's been great to see such a range of creative work. Thank you parents and carers for your support at home!

## BEEGU

Year 2 had a fantastic trip to the Unicorn Theatre to see Beegu. Having read the book in class, the children loved seeing the story come to life on stage.

Rainbow Class had a lovely time welcoming spring by making chocolate nests and designing some fantastic Easter eggs. A fun and festive way to end the term!



A big thank you to all the parents for your generous chocolate egg donations! We're thrilled to announce that we raised an amazing £377, which will go towards purchasing resources for our enrichment sessions.

In the autumn term, the children in Purple Class worked with the artist Abigail North to create clay pieces using locally excavated clay. We were delighted to receive their finished artwork—beautiful pieces that will be proudly displayed in our reception area.

We would be grateful for any toy donations!

If your child has outgrown their toys and they are still in good condition, please consider bringing them to school for our children to enjoy during playtime. Thank you for your kind support!



Snowsfields hosted a football tournament and was pleased to welcome the Tower Bridge School Football team. The children had a fantastic time, honing their skills and enjoying the friendly competition.





Our school value this week is:  
T - Teamwork



Reading Raffle Winners



Reading  
Raffle  
Winners

Our core value this week  
is: Resilience



Times Tables  
Rock Stars

Our school value this week is:  
**O - Outstanding Learning**



Reading  
Raffle  
Winners





	% present	Lates	Total
Year 1	97.1%	2	675
Year 2	95.5%	4	875
Year 3	96.3%	13	550
Year 4	95.2%	9	325
Year 5	96.7%	7	425
Year 6	96.6%	7	875

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 24/3/2025: 96.2%**

**1st Place Attendance: Year 1**

**1st Place Punctuality: Year 1**



**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 24/3/2025: 94.07%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y2**

**1st Place Punctuality: Y5**

	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	29	5	88.40%
Year 2	4	5	98.33%
Year 3	15	3	95.00%
Year 4	27	4	88.21%
Year 5	8	2	97.24%
Year 6	12	3	96.00%



	Absence	Lates	Total
Year 1	6	11	450
Year 2	13	10	325
Year 3	7	3	1525
Year 4	31	10	75
Year 5	11	6	775
Year 6	8	13	425

**Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 24/03/2025:**

**95.33%**

**1st Place Attendance: Y1**

**1st Place Punctuality: Y3**

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[@robertbrowning.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/robertbrowning.bsky.social) [@towerbridgeschool.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/towerbridgeschool.bsky.social) [@snsprimary.bsky.social](https://twitter.com/snsprimary.bsky.social)

Find us at: [www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk](http://www.thebridgesfederation.org.uk)

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

**Being in school and having the best attendance possible underpins all the many benefits of school for your child, such as their learning, wellbeing and wider development. We want to work with you to ensure that attendance for pupils at the Bridges Federation is the best it can be.**

As a parent, you are legally responsible for making sure your child gets a suitable full time education. This means making sure your child is in school every day except when

- Your child is too ill to go to school.
- You have permission for a leave of absence from your child's school for them not to attend. You should only ask for this in exceptional circumstances. Generally, a holiday will not be classed as an exceptional circumstance.
- Your religious body has a day especially for religious observance.

### **If my child needs to be absent from school, what do I need to do?**

You should contact us as early as possible (no later than 10am) on the first day of absence to explain why. If you do not, we will contact you to find out where they are.

### **My child is ill. What should I do?**

If your child is ill, read the NHS's 'Is my child too ill for school?' advice to help you decide whether they can go to school. Contact us as soon as possible to let us know that they will be absent.

### **Do I need to provide medical evidence to support my child's illness related absence?**

We may ask for medical evidence when your child is absent due to illness. This may be in cases where:

- Your child is regularly absent due to illness, to assess how we can help by putting support in place.
- We have reason to believe your child was not too ill to attend and a conversation has not resolved the issue.

If you are asked to provide evidence this does not need to be a letter from your doctor or consultant, and doctors will not usually provide such letters. It can, instead, be appointment cards, prescriptions, or notes of previous consultations (including from the NHS App.)

To avoid disruption to your child's attendance, medical and dental appointments should not be booked during the school day whenever reasonably possible.

### **My child is struggling to attend school. What can I do?**

The first step is to talk to us about why your child is missing school, and what help we can give. You should still do everything you can to help your child attend as much as possible whilst waiting for help and support to be put into place. Information on who you can contact for help, including the school's senior leader responsible for attendance, can be found in our attendance policy on the website. We follow the expectations laid out in the DfE guidance 'Working together to improve school attendance.'

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2024/07/aaa-guide-for-parents-on-school-attendance-19th-Aug-version.pdf>


<https://thebridgesfederation.org.uk/home/attendance/>



On **January 6th 2025** all 3 schools are moving to Arbor.

We will no longer be using Scholarpack.

Parents please see below guidance explaining what you need to do. From **January 6th** you will no longer be able to send or receive messages with the school via Scholarpack.

If you need any help please contact your child's school.

 Arbor

## We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

**We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.**

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

### How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic  
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log In

Forgotten password?


### Need help using Arbor?

**Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal.** Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

**Some tips to try:**

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



# Family support

## FATHER'S GROUP



Join a 12-week course to improve your parenting skills.

Whether you are a father, grandfather or stepdad, receive advice and tips on topics such as positive parenting, improving relationships and role modeling. Crèche provided.

When:

Where:

1st Place Family Hub  
12 Charnleigh Street, Burgess Park, SE15 0RH

BOOK A PLACE

Email: [ben.campbell@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:ben.campbell@southwark.gov.uk)  
Phone: 07738 860 768



## The Nest - Wellbeing Hub

The Nest operates a drop-in service every **Saturday between 10:30 and 14:30.**

Therapeutic practitioners and support workers can offer 1:1 emotional support, information & advice and signpost you to the appropriate services.

## Drop-In Service | The Nest

Voces for Autism Charity presents

## AUTISM AWARENESS COMMUNITY DAY

Tuesday 8th April 2025 | 11am-3pm  
Nunhead Green Community Centre, London SE15 3QQ

Come and join us to celebrate Autism Awareness month. There will be lots on offer, for the whole family including:

- Arts & Crafts
- Information Stalls
- Guest speakers

FREE Entry - Tickets available via website [www.vocesforautism.co.uk](http://www.vocesforautism.co.uk)

Southwark Young Carers

To get involved, you can refer via our website [www.imago.community](http://www.imago.community) or scan the QR Code

For further information, please contact our Hub [youngcarers@imago.community](mailto:youngcarers@imago.community) or call 0300 111 1110

Southwark Young Carers is a service of Imago Community. Registered charity number 2038 008

We support young people living in Southwark aged 6-24, who provide unpaid care or support to a family member with a long-term illness, disability, mental health condition or a substance misuse issue.

Drug and Alcohol Service | Young People

## Free Workshops for Parents and Carers

Do you want more guidance on how to talk to your children, teens and young people about vaping, alcohol or drugs? Do you want to be informed on the current themes and trends we come across working with young people in the borough?

Substances are more accessible today than ever before. For parents, carers or anyone responsible for children and young people, it can feel overwhelming and difficult to know how to respond.

We're offering FREE online workshops for parents and carers in Southwark, to give advice and guidance to help you navigate this quickly changing landscape.

**Workshops:**

- Current trends amongst young people
- Strategies for talking to young people about substances in an open and supportive way
- Practical advice on how to keep your children safe from the dangers of substance misuse

For further information contact:

- Email: [Southwark.YoungPeople@sg.org.uk](mailto:Southwark.YoungPeople@sg.org.uk) or scan the QR code for a direct link to the event booking page.
- You can call us on: 020 3404 7699

Parent Skills

## PARENT SPACE

A QUARTERLY ONLINE & IN PERSON PROGRAM

A FREE 10 WEEK COURSE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS. JOIN THE BEST TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS. AS WELL AS GAINING NEW SKILLS THAT SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN.

**DATES:**  
WEDNESDAY 16th JANUARY 2025 10:30-11AM  
WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2025 10:30-11AM  
WEDNESDAY 16th JULY 2025 10:30-11AM

**FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER:**  
• Admin: [parentspace@imago.com](mailto:parentspace@imago.com)  
• [parentspaceimago.org](http://parentspaceimago.org)

020 3404 7699  
020 3404 7699  
020 3404 7699

PLANNED WITH 1:1 SUPPORT SESSIONS  
NEW MONTHLY TALKS ON REQUEST

Southwark Children & Family Hub

## STRENGTHENING FAMILIES STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

For parents of children aged 8 - 24 years

This 10-week course helps parents and carers to:

- Build positive family relationships
- Manage anger and stress
- Implement effective discipline strategies
- Understand your child's development
- Recognise and value your family and cultural traditions
- Develop effective communication
- Meet others and share ideas

**JOIN NOW**

Web or support sessions online. We'll provide you with a personal plan, a workbook and a certificate.

**WHEN IS IT ON?**  
Tuesday 10am-12pm  
12th April - 10th May  
10am-12pm  
Please email to book your seat: [parentspace@imago.com](mailto:parentspace@imago.com)  
What time?  
10am-12pm

START YOUR LIFE

## EPEC BEING A PARENT 1-3

For parents of children aged 1 - 3 years

This 9 week course helps parents learn practical skills for everyday life.

- Looking after yourself as a parent
- Recognise and manage your children's emotions
- Learn positive parenting strategies
- Support your children's resilience

**JOIN NOW**

Contact: Claire Gager  
Email: [claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:claire.gager@southwark.gov.uk)  
Call: 07947 858 666

**WHEN IS IT ON?**  
STARTING 17th JANUARY 2025  
TUESDAY MORNINGS  
1ST PLACE CHILDREN & FAMILY HUB  
12 CHARNLEIGH STREET  
LONDON SE15 0RH

**What time?**  
10am-12pm

Free and stand alone information sessions for parents and carers on a range of topics - 'TAP-IN' to the support you need or complete the course.

Sessions include:

- Digital Safety - how to support children to be safe
- Ages and Stages - how to support different developmental stages
- Parental Wellbeing - how to communicate our needs
- Parenting and Autism
- Parenting and ADHD
- More to come...

**JOIN NOW**

Beth Gilbey  
07394 865 980  
[bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:bethany.gilbey@southwark.gov.uk)  
[EARLYHELP@SOUTHWARK](mailto:EARLYHELP@SOUTHWARK)

We hold in person sessions throughout the year. Contact the team next available.

# family info

## SOUTHWARK SCHOOLS' INDOOR AIR QUALITY

**Authentic - Air Quality Monitoring & Engagement Project for students in Year 6 and above**

This project will use air quality sensors placed in classrooms and the homes of Southwark children, offering a live insight into the air quality they experience.

Teachers and students will participate in a specially designed curriculum to deepen their understanding of air quality's effects on health and discover strategies to mitigate harmful emissions. This initiative builds on existing air quality efforts and provides tools with a dedicated webpage and monitoring device to assist schools in fostering a cleaner, healthier educational atmosphere.

School staff and parents can register interest by filling out the form on this link or by emailing: [education@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:education@southwark.gov.uk)

<https://forms.office.com/6123f6d8a236>

[education@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:education@southwark.gov.uk)

[www.southwark.gov.uk](http://www.southwark.gov.uk)

**Climate School Action Plan**  
Check out the Climate School Action Plan Guide which includes a link to improve air quality

**Price & Buckland**  
School Uniforms

## NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM WEBSITE LAUNCH

On the **11th** of February we will launch our **NEW** website. The URL remains: [www.price-buckland.co.uk](http://www.price-buckland.co.uk)

**Website QR code.** This will take you to the homepage to search for your school

**Accounts.** If you have ordered from our website before, go to the **Account Section** and **re-set** your password. You can use the same password that you have currently.

**Contents.** You can then see previous orders and manage your account.

Any Questions? Call us on 01899 640827

**Southwark Council** **LU Learning Unlimited**

## Free\* 15 week Learning Unlimited course for adults interested in becoming Teaching Assistants Award in Support Work in Schools

Wednesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm  
From 26<sup>th</sup> February to 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

We will contact you after you register to arrange an assessment time. This course will be delivered online using Zoom.

**What will I get from attending the course?**

- The knowledge and skills required to become an effective teaching assistant
- The City & Guilds Award in Support Work in Schools (Level 1)
- The opportunity to progress to the Certificate in Supporting Teaching and Learning in Schools or to apply for work as a Teaching Assistant
- Free course FALDs form - <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/learning-unlimited>

**How much does it cost?**

\*The course is free but there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50.

To apply for a place on the course use the link below to complete the online form: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/learning-unlimited>

All applicants should have level 2 English.

Please note you will need to complete a portfolio which will require photos and a list of references.

Offers are subject to completion of application form and assessment.

**Southwark Council** **LU Learning Unlimited**

## Online English (ESOL) Course

A FREE 15-week Entry level online accredited course for Southwark residents

**Classes will be on**  
**Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10am-12.30pm**  
**25th February - 26th June 2025**  
(seven times only)

**plus online Conversation Clubs**

This course will take place on Zoom. Applicants should live in Southwark

To apply for a place on the course **in advance** please use this link: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/learning-unlimited>

Spaces are limited so book soon.

We will contact you to confirm your place on the course.

## Let's talk PANTS with Pantosaurus! | NSPCC

NSPCC



- Privates are private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

**Parent Skills 2024**

## SEWING SKILLS

10 WEEKS DRESSMAKING COURSE FOR BEGINNERS & INTERMEDIATE LEARNERS

**FREE SEWING MENDING STATION**  
(limited to one per household)

**BASIC / BEGINNERS SEWING CLASS STARTS**  
WEDNESDAY 6TH JANUARY 2025

**INTERMEDIATE LEARNERS SEWING CLASS STARTS**  
FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY 2025

**VENUE:**  
THE LEWISTON CENTRE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE  
8 EUGENIA ROAD  
BOTHERWICK SE16 2BU

**COST PER PERSON:**  
£20 (beginners)  
£30 (intermediate)

**FOR DETAILS & TO REGISTER**  
0203 248608, 0734 603232  
[admin@parentskills24.co.uk](mailto:admin@parentskills24.co.uk)  
[parentskills24.co.uk](http://parentskills24.co.uk)

## Parent/carer support at Robert Browning

With Anna and Toni



We offer non-judgemental and confidential support for parent/carers of children with anxiety and challenging behaviour

## Tea/ coffee Morning



Time: 9:00- 9:45

## Upcoming dates:

- 21st January - Welcome back! Meet and greet/catch-up
- 4th February- Managing strong emotions
- 25th February - Calming/relaxation techniques
- 11th March- Understanding anxiety
- 25th March- Reflection week



For more information please contact:  
[anna.geissmann@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:anna.geissmann@groundwork.org.uk)



# Family fun



## EASTER RUGBY CAMP

### SOUTHWARK TIGERS RFC

Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th April  
Burgess Park Astroturf - SE5 0JD - 10.00 - 13.30

**£30 FOR ONE DAY £50 FOR 2**



Book using the QR code or contact  
chris@southwarktigers.com

Hop on over for

## Guy Street Park spring activities & park consultation

Friends of Guy Street Park & Bankside Open Spaces Trust would like to hear from you about the designs for a new look Guy Street Park. These designs were shaped by local people's views, so we'd love to know what you think.

Join us at one of our events in Guy St Park or add your thoughts online via the QR code below.

**Wednesday 9th April 11am - 2pm** Egg hunt & spring crafts in the park

**Thursday 24th April 12 - 6pm** Consultation day! Share your views about Guy Street Park and make up a pot of herbs too!



Guy Street Park design online consultation. Scan to see and comment on the ideas for the park so far.

**BANKSIDE OPEN SPACES TRUST**

## London Wildlife Trust Centre for Wildlife Gardening Easter Family Workshops



**Birds, Nests & Eggs -**  
Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th April 10am-3pm

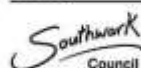
**Teeny Tiny Animals -**  
Monday 14th & Tuesday 15th April

Free fun one- or two-day workshops for families living in Southwark suitable for all ages. Get to know garden birds, have fun making nests and eggs, bird watching, stories and games. Or encounter our mini friends living in the garden under logs, in the trees and in the pond. Mini beast sorting, racing, bush boating, pond dipping, log hunt, games.

You can choose Monday or Tuesday or both days. Workshops for all the family funded by Southwark Council. Booking essential. Free, booking fee £3 but let us know if that is too much for you (email [chris@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:chris@wildlondon.org.uk))

To book visit our website: [www.wildlondon.org.uk/events](http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/events)

Funded by



To book please scan the QR code or visit [wildlondon.org.uk/families](http://wildlondon.org.uk/families)



## It all starts with... ALL STARS CRICKET

We all play at:

**Session dates:**  
Tuesday 10th April - Tuesday 15th April 2023

**Session timings:**  
10am - 12pm

**Agers:**  
10-12 years old

**Contact:**  
Alli Hughes  
[allihughes@banksideopen.org.uk](mailto:allihughes@banksideopen.org.uk) or 020 7403 5893

Including a FREE personalised t-shirt, bat, ball and backpack



## AFTERSCHOOL SPORTS AT MARLBOROUGH SPORTS GARDEN

**SCHOOL'S OUT, TIME TO PLAY!**  
Children aged 5-11 - join us for FREE afterschool sports at Marlborough Sports Garden! Fun, beginner-friendly sessions run Tuesday-Thursday, with free play on Monday and Friday. Choose from football, touch rugby, rollerskating, cricket, volleyball and more.

**FREE**

**SPRING 2023**  
Week 1: Tue 11th April - 12th April 2023  
Week 2: Tue 18th April - 19th April 2023  
Week 3: Tue 25th April - 26th April 2023  
Week 4: Tue 2nd May - 3rd May 2023  
Week 5: Tue 9th May - 10th May 2023  
Week 6: Tue 16th May - 17th May 2023  
Week 7: Tue 23rd May - 24th May 2023  
Week 8: Tue 30th May - 31st May 2023

**SUMMER 2023**  
Week 1: Tue 1st June - 2nd June 2023  
Week 2: Tue 8th June - 9th June 2023  
Week 3: Tue 15th June - 16th June 2023  
Week 4: Tue 22nd June - 23rd June 2023  
Week 5: Tue 29th June - 30th June 2023  
Week 6: Tue 6th July - 7th July 2023  
Week 7: Tue 13th July - 14th July 2023  
Week 8: Tue 20th July - 21st July 2023

**TIME**  
All sessions start from 5.45 - 7.15pm

**LOCATION**  
Marlborough Sports Garden  
Lewisham, SE13 7SD




Get in touch! by email [after@banksideopen.org.uk](mailto:after@banksideopen.org.uk) or 020 7403 5893 or visit online at [www.banksideopen.org.uk/after-school-sports](http://www.banksideopen.org.uk/after-school-sports)

**BANKSIDE OPEN SPACES TRUST**

## **Free Home Fire Safety Visits**

A fire can start in any room and the effects can be devastating, even a small fire in your home can lead to substantial damage and expensive repairs. The LFB want to stop fires from happening and that is why we offer free home fire safety visits to help keep you and your loved ones safe.

### **What happens during a home fire safety visit ?**

Our firefighters or trained staff will visit you at home, at a time that suits you and carry out a risk assessment. They will give you advice based on your home and individual needs, this includes; information on how to **prevent** fires, the importance of smoke alarms to **detect** a fire and your **escape** plan in the event of a fire.

A visit can take up to 90 minutes or longer if needed and we will fit free smoke alarms if required.

Specialist alarms can be fitted for people who may have a delayed response to escape for example; strobe light and vibrating pad alarms for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

### **How to book a Home Fire Safety Visit:**

**Freephone: 0800 028 4428**

**Email: [smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:smokealarms@london-fire.gov.uk)**

**Text /SMS: 07860 021 319**

**<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/the-home/home-fire-safety/>**

**Worried about a relative, friend or neighbour ?** Although everyone is eligible for a free home fire safety visit, some people with health problems or lifestyle behaviours can have an increased chance of a fire happening. To help you we have listed some of these examples below:

- **Increased risk factors can include:**

Anyone that smokes; overloaded electrical sockets or poor wiring; unsafe use of candles or naked flames; previous fires or near misses; cooking left unattended; hoarding of any kind or someone who lives alone.

- **They are less able to react because of:**

Mental health conditions such as dementia or learning difficulties; no smoke alarms are fitted or they don't work; alcohol dependency or drug misuse (prescribed or recreational); physical health issues including sensory impairments eg; hearing or sight.

- **They have a reduced ability to escape:**

Mobility issues due to a physical disability; age-related problems or as a result of a long-term illness; escape routes are not kept clear or are blocked due to actions such as hoarding or conditions that affect decision making.

If you know anyone who has **any combination of these risk factors**, give them our details to arrange a free home fire safety visit or simply ask them if they would like you to book a visit for them.

Remember -This is not an exhaustive list, if you are unsure please contact us for extra advice.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about JUSTALK KIDS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

JustTalk Kids is a child's version of the JustTalk app – a highly popular social networking platform – designed for users up to 13 years of age, allowing them to video call, message and participate in group chats. While adults can link their own JustTalk account to their child's and make use of parental controls, it's important to understand the risks associated with the app.

### SUBSCRIPTION FOR PREMIUM ACCESS

While JustTalk Kids is free, there's the option to subscribe to a kids' premium account or a premium family account. At a cost, this feature allows children to have access to more fun features such as games they can play with others in a chat, exclusive stickers, a badge denoting them as a premium subscriber, and exclusive ringines and themes.

### RESISTANCE TO CONTROLS

JustTalk Kids endeavours to allow children the sense of having a chat-based app while allowing parents to set controls (within the app or from their own adult JustTalk account). The basis behind this is positive; however, some children are challenging their parents by refusing to use JustTalk Kids, preferring to use the adult version without any restrictions in place.

### KNOWING THE PARENT PASSCODE

After downloading JustTalk Kids, parents can set a passcode which users must enter to add contacts. The parental controls help to manage which content can be viewed and who children can add as a contact; this then allows children to chat with friends in a controlled environment. However, prospective contacts don't have to know a specific username. In theory, someone could type in a random name and then add them as a friend.

### POTENTIAL DATA LEAKS

JustTalk and JustTalk Kids claim to be secure and encrypted, going so far as to state that even the developers themselves won't access your data. However, a security lapse in 2022 highlighted that messages were not in fact encrypted – leading to concerns around the security of the app and the transparency of the development team.

### CYBERBULLYING

Online chats can provide a sense of anonymity, leading some users to post things which they wouldn't normally say in person. Combined with the option of group chats, there's a risk that young people might join in with this kind of behaviour, escalating it further and potentially turning what should be a fun experience into something deeply negative.

### TOO MUCH SCREENTIME

A report by the UK Parliament Education Committee highlighted a 52% increase in children's screen time between 2020 and 2022 – as well as finding that 20% of children used their smartphones in a manner consistent with screen addiction, introducing children to social networking apps when they're too young can lead to bad digital habits and a reliance on technology from an early age.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### JUSTIFY THE CONTROLS

If parents allow their child to use JustTalk Kids, they should explain that they're putting parental controls in place to make the app safer. Make sure the child knows not to put their full name on the account and doesn't use a photo of themselves as their profile picture. This type of open discussion will help to ensure that a child is aware of the app's potential risks and knows how to reduce them.

### TALK ABOUT ONLINE FRIENDSHIPS

Young children could be excited to use this app. However, highlight that they must do so in a positive, respectful and responsible manner. While it can be easy to get caught up in a group chat, it's important to talk to others politely and call out any unpleasant behaviour. Discuss the importance of limiting their contacts to people they know in real life and use parental controls to enforce this.

### DOS AND DON'TS OF SHARING

Some children might not understand the potential dangers of oversharing online. Set clear guidelines around what is and isn't safe to share on the internet, and discuss the concept of a digital footprint. Children need to understand that the things they say and share online can never be completely erased. Even if they delete it themselves, it can be saved and distributed by others.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

Apps like JustTalk can sometimes lend themselves to bullying behaviours. Parents should monitor what their child is sending and receiving, check in with them regularly and encourage them to share their feelings (both positive and negative) at home, remind them that they can block a contact if someone is treating them disrespectfully.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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