

RESOURCES COMMITTEE

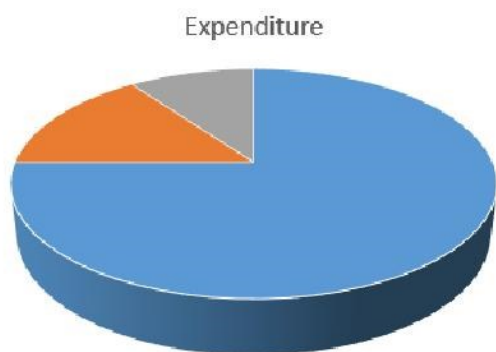
Contact Us on: ropleygovernorchair@gmail.com

Welcome to a new regular feature where will give you an insight into some of the work of the school Governors.

The Governors of Ropley School attended a Full Governing Body meeting on the evening of Wednesday 22nd November. We meet 5 times per year as a Full Governing Body and Resources and Curriculum Committees also meet prior to the FGB.

At the start of this meeting, Richard Wharton, Schools' Adviser for the Diocese, came to talk to the Governors about what it means to be "a church school".

Governors also approved the revised budget, to reflect our expected income and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year. As with all schools, money is extremely tight. The Governors work hard to ensure that we spend in the right places to best support our pupils. **Did you know:**



Nearly 75% of our expenditure goes on staffing costs

15% on fixed costs (electricity, heating, cleaning and services provided by Hampshire County Council)

Only around 10% of the total budget is available to spend on educational supplies, classroom equipment, computer software and the similar – the tangible things that provide a real benefit to our pupils.

Did you know:

All children in Years R, 1 and 2 are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)? They enjoy a freshly cooked meal every day, which is great for their mental health, resilience and encouraging group interaction.

HOWEVER - The Government funds these meals at £2.54 per meal. We are charged £3.00 per meal from HC3S. **This means every UIFSM costs the school budget 46p.** Not much for one meal, but the average uptake is 65 meals a day x 190 days in a school year = **£5,681 every year** from our school budget! **What would that pay for?**



474 LSA Hours

or

5,600 glue sticks

or

1 interactive Whiteboard

or

18 months of Laptop rental



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We also have **£570 outstanding for school trips** already taken (and **£792.50** for trips coming up this month) This means that children have been on trips but parents have not paid. We are not allowed to overcharge parents to cover estimated underpayments. We have to accept this loss. This is cost to our budget every year of around 10% of school trip cost vs income.



We do, of course, have some good income streams - from Extended Day, which covers it's running costs, to hiring the school out for clubs in the holidays – and FROGS also do a fantastic job, thanks to your generosity, of supporting the school for all of those nice to have's - the upcoming Panto is just one example of what FROGS support helps to pay for, along with the bank of laptops which are used every week by the children.

However, we are reliant on central funding which is calculated on the number of pupils we have on the school roll. The Government National Funding Formula assumes all schools have 30 children per class. As a small village school, with only 25 pupils per year we are at a disadvantage from the outset.

So, how can you help?

The Governors are always looking for ways of increasing the income the school receives. We are of course, extremely grateful for all donations and funding opportunities that come the school's way.

- * **You may own or work for a company that wants to donate to the school**
- * **You may choose to contribute the 47p daily deficit for infant meals**
- * **Keeping your scopay account up to date**
- * **Checking and claiming free school meals generates extra income for school and, more importantly, for your child's education**
- * **All donations, however big or small, make a real difference to our pupils.**

If you would like to discuss any of these suggestions further, please let us know. We are also investigating a way of having a voluntary donations page within Scopay. We will keep you updated.

Finally, at the end of the meeting the Governors reflected on how the school has started to build upon its success of being rated as a Good school by Ofsted, and how we can continue to develop for the benefit of our pupils. Our school is a special place for all our children and one where every child thrives and achieves to the best of their ability.

If you have any questions or comments about the work of the Governing body, or would like to find out more, please email the Chair of Governors, Sarah Densham, at ropleygovernorchair@gmail.com

APPRECIATION ♥ BELONGING ♥ COMPASSION

As we light one candle, the candle of hope, we give thanks that Jesus is our true hope



BEE RECOGNISED

In our Bee Book and in Celebration Worship this week the following children were recognised:

Bumblebees: *Archie C and Alex M* for excellent problem solving skills and teamwork when constructing space ships and dens using the building blocks.

Oran C for designing an amazing game yesterday outside with the chalk. He created lots of circles children had to travel across to get to the other side of the playground.

Bessie B for showing great independence during class routines this week. Well done Bessie!

Honey Bees: *Ruby D and Phoebe H* for bee-ing brilliant partners in their shared writing this week. They talked about what they wanted to write and shared their ideas before agreeing and making brilliant lego sentences.

Carpenter Bees: *Oliver H* for bee-ing a super, independent learner. He has been using his guru spelling book to edit his own work without the support of an adult. It has been fantastic to see and we are very proud of you taking ownership of your learning! Keep it up Oliver?

Year 3: *Freya C* for working so hard in maths this week. She has shown amazing resilience to solve different problems using resources when she has needed them and bee-ing able to apply her skills to bigger numbers successfully. Fab work!
Ottillie H and Millie P for having a positive attitude to their learning. They are not afraid of a challenge and have worked hard on their resilience to tackle increasingly harder challenges.

Year 4: *Alfred DH, Samuel P and Alexis R* for writing such effective limericks about volcanoes. It wasn't an easy task but they worked very hard and even added in humour too!

Year 5: *Oliver M, Samuel H, Ettie D and Finley N* for their amazing newspaper reports with a reporter voice. They caught the right tone and sounded just like journalists!

Year 6: *Claude W* for excellent role play this week in English. He thought carefully about everything he had learnt to accurately portray how the character was feeling and might have acted. He took it very seriously and his acting skills were great.

Evan G for bee-ing extremely resilient in our maths assessments this week. He maintained a positive attitude throughout and as a result showed what great progress he's made this term.

Sofia M for bee-ing an excellent start of day monitor. She comes in with a smile on her face in the morning and really helps the younger children settle into their day smoothly.



FESTIVE EVENTS COMING UP!

A very big thank you to everyone who supported FROGS Christmas Fair last week. It was a great success, and raised an incredible **£2,146!**

Thank you to Charles Chute and his house. Partnership for a further donation of £200 to FROGS! Do get in touch with Charlie for more information on house sales and how this can help our school:

cchute@housepartnership.co.uk www.housepartnership.co.uk

Cookstars are also holding a Gingerbread Workshop (details on page 6) with a donation to FROGS of £10 for every family place booked!

Don't forget FROGS Christmas Wreath workshop is also coming up. (Details on page 6) Please note the change of venue to St Peter's Church.

WHEN CAN I COME BACK TO SCHOOL?

There have been a number of children who have been sick or have upset tummies this week. Please can we remind you that if your child has either or both of these symptoms, they MUST:



STAY HOME FOR 48 HOURS AFTER THE LAST INCIDENT

This is vital to break the spread of this highly infectious, viral infection. Please encourage your child to wash their hands with soap regularly. Every class has hand soap (Carex or similar to avoid dry skin) and every class is disinfected at the end of the day. Please help us to stop the spread!

For more information on childhood illnesses and when it is safe to come to school please see our website:

[Childhood Illnesses and Coming To School](#)

CHRISTMAS POSTBOX

The postbox will be available in the school entrance lobby from **Monday 4th December through to Thursday 14th December.**

Please make sure names of recipients are in full, including year group or class, so that the cards get to the right person!



GARDENING CLUB UPDATE

This week our gardening club members from Beekeepers did a wonderful job decorating the dome in the centre of the garden, with natural Christmas decorations, including conkers, pinecones, shells, and ivy. Check it out on your way in to school! We have also been clearing up before winter, planting plenty of bulbs that will crop up in Spring, and making mini beast hotels for bugs to hibernate in around the garden over the chilly season. They took some geranium flower seeds home which they can grow themselves indoors.

We will be having our usual winter break from gardening club over the next couple of months as there isn't much to do in the cold months, and will return in Spring for another season of growing beautiful plants, flowers, vegetables, and fruit with the school children. We will also be doing some much needed maintenance in the garden fixing some of the raised beds with funds raised and a donation from FROGS - thank you. See you next year and thanks very much for your interest and support with our wonderful school garden! It really maintains the



children's interest and enjoyment in nature, which we think is very important. Have a wonderful winter break!

CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Thursday 14th December

This year's Christmas Dinner Day will also be combined with Christmas Jumper Day. Children may come to school in their best festive wear, be that a jumper, reindeer antlers, some tinsel or something else. The choice is theirs. Normal school uniform should also be worn, please.

The menu will be:

Vegetable Wellington

Roast Turkey breast & cocktail sausage

Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Garden Peas, Carrots, Brussel Sprouts & Gravy

Chocolate Cracknell Christmas Pudding

Orders for Christmas Lunch need to be taken by **FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER** so that the kitchen has time to order in supplies. Please let the school office know your child's choice by this day.

If your child usually has a packed lunch but would like to have a Christmas Lunch on this day, **please ensure your Scopay account is topped up with £3.00** to cover the cost of the meal. Children in Years R, 1 and 2 do not need to pay as they are entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals.

DIARY DATES

New dates or changes in bold

Tues 5th Dec	FROGS Christmas Wreath Workshops
Thur 7th Dec	Infant Nativity to Parents, 9.30am Village Hall
Fri 8th Dec	Drum Performance to Parents, 2.30pm Final Soccer Schools Session
Tue 12th Dec	Yr1 to visit Brendoncare, Alton
Wed 13th Dec	PANTO TIME! - Snow White at The Mayflower, 2pm
Thur 14th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Fri 15th Dec	Christmas Service for Parents, 11am Break for Christmas, 12.30pm
Tues 2nd Jan	Return to School Spring 1
Thur 4th Jan	Multisports Club starts, 3.15-4.15pm
Fri 5th Jan	KS1 Football Club starts, 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 8th Jan	Inclusion Hub with Mrs Hayes 9am at school
Mon 8th Jan	KS2 Football Club starts, 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 15th Jan	Yr R 2024 Applications Portal Closes
Wed 31st Jan	Runways End Activity Day, Yrs 3, 4 & 5 Year 6 Height & Weight
Fri 2nd Feb	FROGS Evening Social and Quiz
Fri 9th Feb	Break for Half Term
Mon 19th Feb	INSET Day
Tues 20th Feb	Return to School Spring 2
Thur 28th Mar	Break for Easter
Mon 15th Apr	Return to School Summer 1
Fri 24th May	INSET Day Break for Half Term
Mon 3rd June	Return to School Summer 2
Tue 23rd July	Break for Summer
Mon 2nd Sept	Return to School for 2024/45

JRSO'S SHINE!

Last Friday, you may have been 'helped' across the road by our team of Junior Road Safety Officers. Dressed to be noticed, they have been trained by HCC and really enjoyed showing and encouraging pedestrians to use the safe crossing points to school. Well done to **Ellie N, Ettie D and Francesca T**



who decorated their own T Shirts and made sure their message of **Be Bright, Be Seen** was noticed!

CRAFTY ADVENT!



The whole family is welcome to join us for
crafts and Christmas fun including snacks
and hot beverages for grown ups!

(£1 per child donation)

Saturday 2nd December

10am-12, St Peter's Ropley

ROPLEY PRIMARY
SCHOOL FROGS
PRESENT

@ropleyschoolfrogs



Wreath Making Workshops

ST PETERS CHURCH
ROPLEY, SO24 0DS

Tuesday the 5th of December

11.30am - 1.30pm

or

7pm - 9pm

Make a Wreath, or Table Centrepiece, £45

Tickets include all supplies needed,
full tutorial and guidance, and **most importantly,**
drinks and festive nibbles.

Book via Classlist,

or email

ropleyfrogs@gmail.com

Unable to make either session? Host a wreath making party at home, or get a takeaway sack, with everything you need to make a beautiful wreath, including instructions, for £35 per person.

www.cookstars.co.uk



[@cookstarsmidhants](https://www.instagram.com/cookstarsmidhants)



[jocookstarsmidhant](https://twitter.com/jocookstarsmidhant)

Family Gingerbread Wreath

workshop Mon 18th Dec 2- 4.30pm

raising funds for Ropley CofE School

Free
Drink
and
biscuits

Make a
decorative
Christmas
cracker

Make, bake and
decorate a
Gingerbread
Wreath

Tickets £25 per adult
and 2 children
£5 per additional child

Free drink & snack
for all children & helpers.



Call Jo 077358322282 Email: jo@cookstars.co.uk

Book online: <https://cook-stars-mid-hants.classforkids.io/camp/76>

Alresford Rotary

email: indri50@me.com Phone: 07743 698841 Website: <https://alresford-rotary.org>

To all at Ropley Church of England Primary School

Thank you all from Alresford Rotary for your gift of 45 Christmas shoeboxes of presents for disadvantaged and displaced children in eastern Europe. Many of your boxes will be going to Ukrainian children who are refugees, as well as to those who are in need in the countries of destination. It's been wonderful to have had your school "on board" this year and to see the publicity in the Alton Herald. Hopefully we can do it again next year!

Your 45 boxes joined 406 others collected by Alresford Rotary and were taken to a collection point in Boscombe on 11th November where they added to a further 18,218 boxes collected by Rotary Wessex and very shortly those 18,669 boxes will be on their way to bring happiness to children living in difficult circumstances, many of whom will never previously have been given a present!

Although we are Alresford Rotary we consider our "patch" to include all the local villages and we are keen to help such communities. Each year we are able to give several thousands of pounds to help local, as well as international, needs so please don't hesitate to let us know if there is anything we can help with. Unless you let us know, we can't help you and the worst that can happen is that we turn down your request! Similarly, from time to time, we are able to undertake simple projects such as the recent transformation of a neglected border at the entrance to Perins school.

Alresford Rotary wants to make a greater contribution to the wider mid Hampshire Community. Please let us know how we can and if you would, on a regular or occasional basis, like to help us to do so!

SOCCER SCHOOLS UK

THE COMPLETE PLAYER PATHWAY



VENUE | ROPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHURCH ST ROPLEY, ALRESFORD, HANTS, SO24 0DS

CONTACT US

admin@soccerschools-uk.com
TELEPHONE - 07463 237878

BOOK ONLINE

www.soccerschools-uk.com/booking

PLEASE NOTE - There are only 16 spaces available at the club, we operate a first come, first served policy. If demand is high, a second coach will be sourced.

KS2 FOOTBALL ASC

Soccer Schools UK will be running our KS2 after-school football club from January through to March at Ropley Primary School.

These clubs are for boys & girls who attend the school and want to participate in more sport in a fun and relaxed environment.

We run our popular Football clubs with the main focus of teaching children how to play, be physically active and have fun at the same time!



SESSIONS

EVERY MONDAY!

08/01/24 - 25/03/24

15:15 - 16:15pm

10 SESSIONS (£5 PER SESSION)

INSET DAYS - 19/02/24

TOTAL - £50 PER CHILD

SOCCER SCHOOLS UK

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CONTACT US

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TELEPHONE - 07463 237878

BOOK ONLINE

www.soccerschools-uk.com/booking

PLEASE NOTE - There are only 16 spaces available at the club (x16 for KS1, x16 for KS2), we operate a first come, first served policy. If demand is high, a second coach will be sourced.

KS1 & KS2 MULTI-SPORTS ASC

Soccer Schools UK will be running our KS1 & KS2 after-school Multi Sports Club from January through to March at Ropley Primary School.

These clubs are for boys & girls who attend the school and want to participate in more sport in a fun and relaxed environment.

We run our popular Multi-Sports clubs with the main focus of teaching children how to play, be physically active and have fun at the same time!



SESSIONS

EVERY THURSDAY!

04/01/24 - 28/03/24

15:15 - 16:15pm

12 SESSIONS (£5 PER SESSION)

TOTAL - £60 PER CHILD

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VENUE | ROPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHURCH ST ROPLEY, ALRESFORD, HANTS, SO24 0DS

CONTACT US

admin@soccerschools-uk.com
TELEPHONE - 07463 237878

BOOK ONLINE

www.soccerschools-uk.com/booking

PLEASE NOTE - There are only 16 spaces available at the club, we operate a first come, first served policy. If demand is high, a second coach will be sourced.

KS1 FOOTBALL ASC

Soccer Schools UK will be running our KS1 after-school football club from January through to March at Ropley Primary School.

These clubs are for boys & girls who attend the school and want to participate in more sport in a fun and relaxed environment.

We run our popular Football clubs with the main focus of teaching children how to play, be physically active and have fun at the same time!



SESSIONS

EVERY FRIDAY!

05/01/24 - 22/03/24

15:15 - 16:15pm

11 SESSIONS (£5 PER SESSION)

TOTAL - £55 PER CHILD

YEAR R CHILDREN MAY SIGN UP!

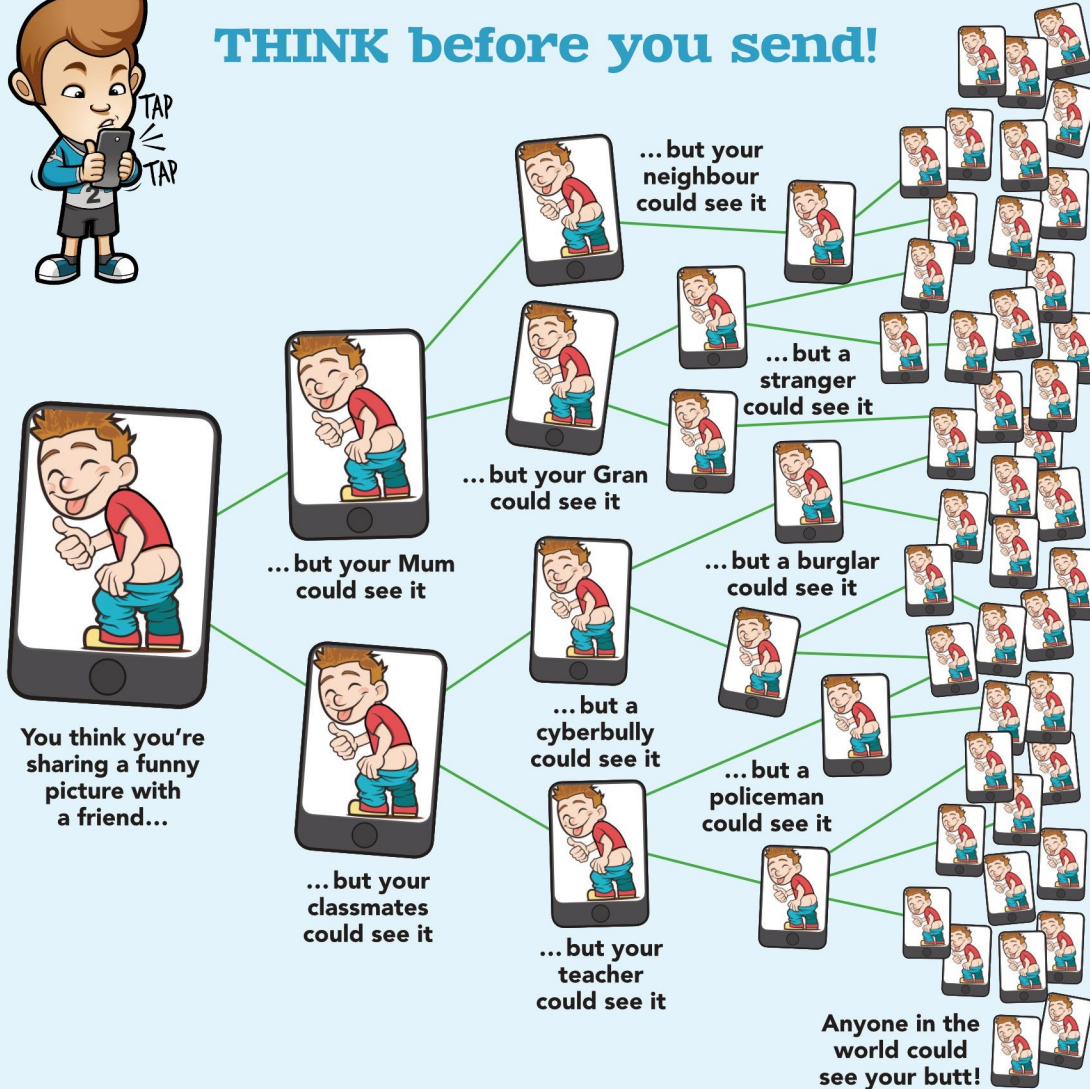
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Parent Guides to Online Safety



THINK before you send!



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with





Reindeer Run Alton



**Sunday 17 December, 9am
Jubilee Playing Field, Alton**

Join us for a festive family-friendly 3k run in Alton to raise funds for your local Hospice!



SIGN UP!

stmichaelshospice.org.uk/reindeer-run



Registered Charity Number: 1002856

Kindly supported by



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself: from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.

INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.

REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.

UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.

A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.

SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.

CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.

CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.





PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Every year, the Government allocates funding to schools to help address the national trend that disadvantaged students do not attain as highly as non-disadvantaged students. This valuable extra money is allocated to schools to provide additional or enhanced provision, so that no child is left behind in their education as a result of financial circumstances. This can include subsidising after school clubs and trips as well as providing additional learning support or resources in class, for example.

Eligibility criteria

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Parents and carers can check eligibility simply and easily by visiting:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

and clicking on 'New Application'. Once you have input your details it will return an instant result and notify the school office electronically of your eligibility. If you would prefer us to check on your behalf, please email Mrs Burr with YOUR name, YOUR date of birth and YOUR national insurance number. We would like to reassure you that all applications made are confidential and no child is identified as a Pupil Premium child in any way in their day to day school life. Equally being entitled to free school meals does not mean your child has to eat a meal every day!

Even if your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 and already entitled to Universal Free School Meals, if you think you might be entitled to this benefit please complete the form. This valuable extra funding ensures that we can offer many different types of support throughout the years your child is at our school and will ensure they continue to receive free school meals as they move into KS2.

**Just one day of qualifying entitlement = 6 years of funding!
Current funding = £1455 per child per academic year**