






## SPRING TERM 2025/2026

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

### Attendance

We continue to make attendance this week with **93.08%**. Remember to visit [Should I keep my child off school](#) for advice when your child is ill.

			
	Attendance	Lateness	Class Dojo
Nursery	93.33%	0	
Reception	100%	3	5.6
Year 1	100%	1	6.0
Year 2	90.77%	0	3.5
Year 3	99.2%	0	2.4
Year 4	97.86%	3	6.5
Year 5	97.22%	1	1.9
Year 6	92.94%	2	2.0

Year 4 win the bonus break again for most average dojos this week.

### St Martin's Stars

Well done to all our certificate winners this week!

			
	Shining Star	Purple Tie	Our Values
Nursery	Bonnie C		Oliver
Reception	Georgie D	Reuben L	Anaya HC
Year 1	Harry S	Cody S	Thomas F
Year 2	Ava-Grace C	Kohnan B	Kohnan B
Year 3	Blake B	Teddy S	Adara C
Year 4	Savannah R	David B	Taylor P
Year 5	Kai A	Isaac T	Chimmy I
Year 6	Noah MC	Noah MC	Blossom J

### Walk to school Week

The Junior Safety Officers were very pleased with the number of children Walking to school last week. Well done to Y1&Y5 who walked the most and earned themselves an extra play.

## Message from Mrs Ming

The children have all been extra busy over the last two weeks learning to ride their bikes safely and the instructors were very impressed with the engagement from our children.

We now have 16 days until our first Lottery draw. Thanks to those who have already bought tickets. Just a reminder that you can win CASH!!! ... the more tickets bought the bigger the prize.

You can buy [tickets here](#) and the first draw is on **Sat 7<sup>th</sup> Feb**. There is also the chance to win £1000 Aldi voucher and a grand prize of £25,000.

### SAVE THE DATE

This year we will be running special Mother's Day Stay and Pray with art workshops.

These will take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March in the afternoon. More details will be sent out nearer the time but all Mothers, Grandmothers, Aunties and Mother figures are invited. Have a lovely weekend.

### Parent Notice Board

#### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

Mass for Y3&6

#### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

Mass for Y5&R

Holocaust Visit for Y6

#### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Y4 Assembly

NSPCC number day

### Clubs

Clubs next week

Please note Homework club is now on a MONDAY

Monday - Miss Rowe's Drama club Y5&Y6

Tuesday - Miss Harrison's Just dance for YR, Y1 and Y2

Tuesday - Mrs Monks' Recorder club Y3&Y4

Thursday - Mr Cullen's Sports Club Y3&Y4

Friday - Mr Scott's Choir Y3-Y6

### Widnes Vikings

Widnes Vikings have once again given school some tickets that can be used at home games to help support us with our attendance drive. So in each month every child with 97% or more will be placed into a draw and will be given a family pass (2 adults, 2 children) for the games, which are a great day out. These are all in the DCBL stadium in widnes.

January draw – February 1<sup>st</sup> against North Wales Crusaders

February draw – March 8<sup>th</sup> against Hunslet RLFC

March draw – March 29<sup>th</sup> against Featherstone Rovers

April draw 2 winners – April 26<sup>th</sup> against Halifax Panthers and May 3<sup>rd</sup> against Sheffield Eagles

May draw – June 14<sup>th</sup> against Doncaster RLFC

June draw – June 26<sup>th</sup> against Oldham RLFC

### Catholic Life and Reflection

The Wednesday Word is a resource for parents to use when discussing the [weekly Gospel](#) with their families.

Y3 and Y6 will be celebrating Mass on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 10am**. All families are welcome to join us ☺



A guide examining [Roblox's](#) user-created games, highlighting risks around chat, spending and excessive play for children.

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. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

### A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of user-created experiences rather than a fixed set of developer-produced content. Each experience is self-rated by its creator rather than independently age-rated in advance, as is the case with PEGI-rated games. With millions of user-created experiences, moderation is largely automated which means that inappropriate content may reach younger players and have a harmful effect.

### MATURE CONTENT

With much of Roblox's moderation automated through AI and creators self-certifying suitability, inappropriate content frequently appears on the platform. Some experiences may include content intended for older players. While Roblox has tools to restrict access based on age settings, these systems are not always perfect. Younger players are likely to encounter content you may deem unsuitable.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences and cosmetics include optional purchases using Robux, the platform's virtual currency, to get advantages in games. This business model is common across online games, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short tasks, rewards, and progression systems that can prompt users to keep playing for longer periods of time. Some games also use reminders, daily rewards, or timed events to encourage frequent logins. These designs can make it difficult to stop playing. Spending long periods online may affect sleep, schoolwork, or other activities if boundaries are not in place.

### COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS

Roblox includes text and voice features that allow players to chat in shared game spaces. While the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools, media investigations have found that inappropriate and potentially harmful messages can still get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by groomers. In response, Roblox has announced changes to how chat works. The platform plans to use facial age-estimation technology to restrict chat access between adults and children they do not know.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult account allows parents to apply spending controls, limit communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

### CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox is introducing tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely for younger children. Children can still play games while communicating with friends they know through other supervised platforms.

### PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how monetisation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something feels wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its self-rating nature.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age appropriate, and for many children, the platform is an important way to socialise with friends. Rather than banning it outright, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, spending, and how to respond to inappropriate behaviour.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



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