

LGS Headlines

12 February 2021



Dear Parents

So here we are....half way through the Spring term, and indeed halfway through the school year.

This has probably been the longest six week period any of us can remember in school - or at least, that is how it has felt! Thank you for all the support you have provided as your sons and daughters have engaged with the remote learning, and I am sure you deserve a break as much as they do! More seriously, we know that many of you have had to deal with difficult circumstances within your families over the last few weeks, and we hope that things may become more positive for you.

Over the half term week, please encourage your sons and daughters to switch off from school work. Get them away from the screens, make sure they get some fresh air, exercise, and decent sleep. After the half term break we expect to find out the Government's plans about when and how students will return to face to face teaching in school, and also how GCSE and A Level grades will be awarded this summer. I know the uncertainty around both of these things causes a lot of anxiety for the students and for you - as they do for us - but I hope everyone can put those worries aside for a few days. At the moment, all we know for certain that we will be continuing remote education until at least 8th March for all students. We will of course update you as soon as the direction of travel is clearer.

This newsletter contains the usual mixture of snippets from teachers and various updates. We are also delighted to include the news that Langley Grammar School has been designated as one of the government's new Teaching School Hubs, serving the whole county of Berkshire from September this year with a range of programmes for teacher professional development. This designation is a testament to the hard work of a number of our staff who work within the school and beyond to ensure that teaching quality is as high as possible. A welcome piece of good news in the current circumstances!

The public health situation in the area is improving but coronavirus infection rates remain higher in Slough than many other areas. Please encourage your sons and daughters to act responsibly and stay safe during the holiday period.

With best wishes to you and your families.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

The best way to contact us during the school closure period is to email school@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

Your query will be passed on to the most appropriate member of staff.

Langley Grammar School
Reddington Drive
Langley
Berkshire SL3 7QS
01753 598300
school@lgs.slough.sch.uk

Please visit our website at

www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter @lgs_news



LGS designated as Teaching School Hub

Langley Grammar School has been a Teaching School since 2013, responsible for a range of teacher professional development programmes in Slough, partnering with Upton Court Grammar School as part of the Slough Teaching School Alliance.

The current teaching school programme ends on 31 August 2021 and 750 or so Teaching Schools across the country are to be replaced with a network of around 80 Teaching School Hubs.

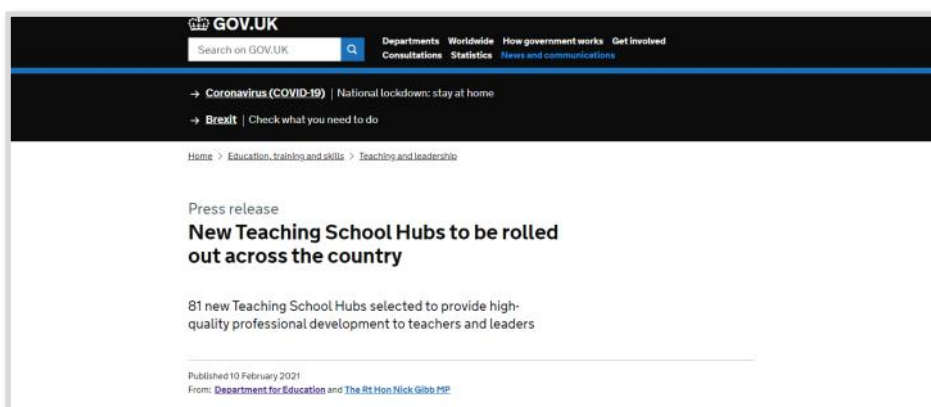
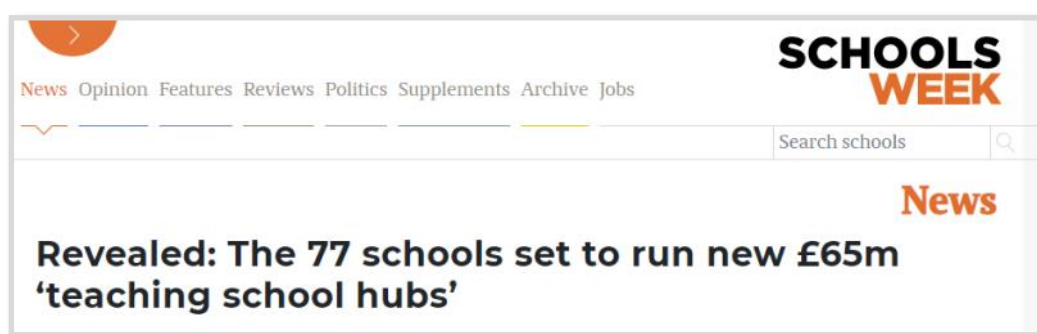
We are thrilled to announce that following a rigorous selection process Langley Grammar School has been designated by the Department for Education as the new Teaching School Hub for the six local authority areas that make up Berkshire - Slough, RBWM, Bracknell Forest, Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire. The designation takes effect from September 2021.

As the Teaching School Hub serving the 350 or so schools across Berkshire, the school will work with local; and national partner organisations to oversee and coordinate a range of teacher professional development programmes including:

- ⇒ Initial Teacher Training
- ⇒ The new Early Career Framework - a 2-year programme of support and training for teachers in their first two years after qualification
- ⇒ A range of professional qualifications for teachers in middle and senior leadership posts
- ⇒ Links to other national curriculum development programmes eg Maths Hubs, Computing Hubs
- ⇒ Other professional development and training

A number of our staff are already involved in similar programmes within Slough but this represents a fantastic opportunity for us to work on a larger scale and provide opportunities for teacher development which will

<https://schoolsweek.co.uk/revealed-the-77-schools-set-to-run-new-teaching-school-hubs/>



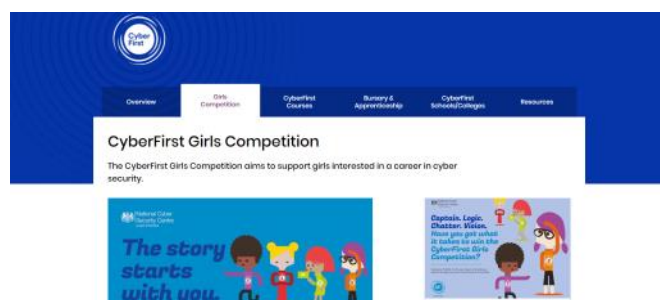
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-teaching-school-hubs-to-be-rolled-out-across-the-country>



Updates

As you may have seen in last weeks newsletters, 25 Langley Grammar School Year 8 girls recently took part in the **GCHQ CyberFirst** Girls competition qualifiers. I'm excited and pleased to announce one of our teams **"Did it for the cookies"** made up of Pavleen, Amrita, Kierat and Fida has made it through to the regional Semi Final to be held on March 18th.

Mr Oakley
Computing Department



Safer Internet Day 2021 | Tuesday 9 February
Together for a better internet
www.saferinternetday.org



Last Tuesday was 'Safer Internet Day'.

The Computing Department picked up on this theme through the week with various activities in Computing lessons.

Some examples are shown below....

Time to vote

Results of our 'Would you rather...' poll with year 9.

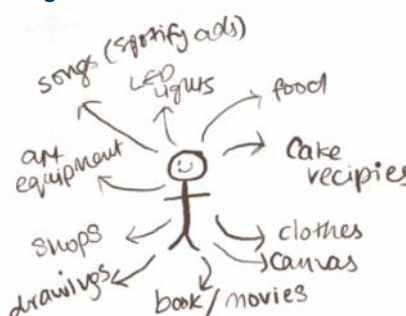


Have an opinion

Quotes from a Padlet wall debate on 'Internet good or bad?'

C ideas:

Around the stick figure, write some of the adverts / products you have seen on your social media feeds that you think you have been targeted with



Haider

The internet is something in which the benefits outweigh the disadvantages. People can be attacked and get addicted to it, yet if someone knows how to properly use the internet and how to stay safe on it there are only benefits. It's like driving, if you know how to drive properly you can enjoy many benefits. But if you don't know how to drive properly but still do, your putting yourself and others at risk. This is like the internet.

4 1

2 comments

Anonymous 3d
Lots of information about internet

Anonymous 3d
I agree because we now have the education that teaches us how to stay safe on the internet

Time for a quiz

A quiz which focused on how young people manage their online identity, and how the internet shapes how they think of themselves and others.

Question 2

You are playing an online game and receive a friend request from a username you recognise. You think it's someone you know from outside school. What do you do?

Choose one

- ☐ Ask them the next time you see them if they sent the request.
- ☐ Accept the request – you're pretty sure you know who it is, and can always delete them if you need to.
- ☐ Ask them a few questions to double check who it is before accepting.

Hanna M

The internet is only good when it is used correctly . It can destroy many people's lives by the harmful thing on it . It can also save people's lives because it has useful information on it where everyone can contribute and help out others

7 0

1 comment

Anonymous 3d
Good points.



What's happening with the new building?

Work on the new building has been proceeding throughout the last few months. The construction industry has been allowed to continue working during the lockdown and our construction company Wates have been able to maintain their programme more or less on schedule.

The new main building remains on course to be completed in mid-June, within the last parts of the site to be finished by mid-August. The roof of the new building is nearly complete, most of the windows are in, and the brickwork is starting to appear.

We are getting a real sense now of how the completed redevelopment will look when construction is finished. The photographs below show how things are looking at the moment.....although the main picture simply confirms how empty the school feels without our students!





Careers

Years 10-13

Speakers for Schools Virtual Work Experience



It has been fantastic to see so many Year 10, 11 and Sixth Form students applying for virtual work experience placements through the Speakers for Schools Experience organisation.

Since the beginning of January, 8 students have been selected for placements for February half-term programmes that are more competitive than ever before.

A large number of applications have been received this week for programmes during the Easter holidays and ad hoc day/evening courses throughout March and April.

If students or parents have any questions about the platform, applications or placements, please contact Ms Northcott.

www.speakersforschools.org/experience-2/



Springpod Work Experience

Students may also wish to explore the opportunities available at

www.springpod.co.uk/work-experience/

Year 9 - Introduction to the World of Careers

As mentioned at the recent parent information evening, each Year 9 class will be having a workshop lesson with Mr Devani in one of their PCS lessons over the next two weeks.

Mr Devani is our in-house careers adviser from our partner company David Ritchie and Associates.

Step into the NHS

Just a reminder that this event is still running, and students may wish to use some time over half term to work on their entry. Information was communicated via an assembly and email.

Entries can be made by individuals or groups. I am looking forward to seeing many creative and inventive entries!

It is an excellent opportunity to find out more about over 350 careers, whether these be medical/health careers or in other fields.

www.stepintothenshs.com





Like to try rowing?

Eton College are running 5 day non-residential summer rowing courses based at Dorney Lake this summer:

- ⇒ Course 1: Monday 19th – Friday 23rd July 2021 (09.00 – 17.00 daily)
- ⇒ Course 2: Monday 26th – Friday 30th July 2021 (09.00 – 17.00 daily)

The courses are open to rowers of all abilities aged 12 – 16, **especially beginners who have had no rowing experience**. They hope to provide local state school students with the opportunity to experience rowing at Dorney Lake and have **40 free places available for students who attend UK state schools**. They hope that these free places will be allocated to students who wouldn't otherwise be able to attend such a course.

ETON DORNEY ROWING COURSES 2021



Non-residential courses at Dorney Lake for 12 - 16 year olds.

COURSE 1
19 - 23 JULY

COURSE 2
26 - 30 JULY

£350
per course



Rowers of all abilities welcome on both courses.



LEARN AND IMPROVE
TECHNIQUE, WITH
EXCELLENT INSTRUCTION,
EQUIPMENT
AND
FACILITIES

Free places available for students who attend UK state schools.

For an application form and further details please visit our website or email us:

Telephone: 01753 370546
Email:
Etonrowingcourses@etoncollege.org.uk



www.etonrowingcourses.co.uk



The Two15 Challenge



This is a concept devised by Paula Radcliffe with the aim of offering an opportunity for the whole family to enjoy a safe, fun and competitive activity as a unit together.

In a nod to her former World Record Marathon time of 2 hours 15 minutes (and 25 secs...) Paula challenges children and their families to complete a **MINIMUM** of 2 hours 15 minutes of exercise **TOGETHER** across the week of half term.

Please use the Microsoft Forms link below to submit your family activity results. These will be imported into a spreadsheet (retained by the school) and used to work out the level of participation across the school. We will then submit the overall participation level to the organisers. The schools (special/primary and secondary) with the greatest percentage engagement will be the winners, so....

Come on LGS - let's make sure we are nice and active!

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yOit_AhV0U2KZOkgLu7Wz-pJGcUYqGNNs9gjl30tjMIUQjMwSjhSTUNYM0FZMVpDQTFVMks4UkZYNC4u

IMPLEMENTATION

- 1 Pick ANY type of PHYSICAL ACTIVITY and make sure that MORE THAN ONE family member joins in
- 2 Log your activity in whichever way you find the easiest, a simple watch or exercise apps (such as Strava/Apple Fitness/Fitbit), design a family activity chart or a simple pen and paper design will work – integrate it as fun project, with some basic maths thrown in to calculate the families' progress
- 3 The physical activity duration reflects the TIME THE FAMILY UNIT (min of 2 people) takes to complete it, NOT a combined total. e.g., If 4 members of the family walk the dog for 30 mins, this is 30 MINS towards the family total, not 2 hours

IDEAS FOR FAMILY ACTIVITIES

- All the family walk the dog
- Wheel, run, walk, or scoot to the park for a game of family rounders
- A simple jog or alternate run/walk between lampposts with another family member
- Put some of the family's favourite music on and have a kitchen disco for 20 minutes
- Relay shuttle runs around the garden
- A family fun circuit in the house or garden, include easy simple exercises that require no equipment – sit ups, press ups, star jumps, squats, running on the spot, plank. 30 seconds on 30 seconds off. Alternate exercises with a family member

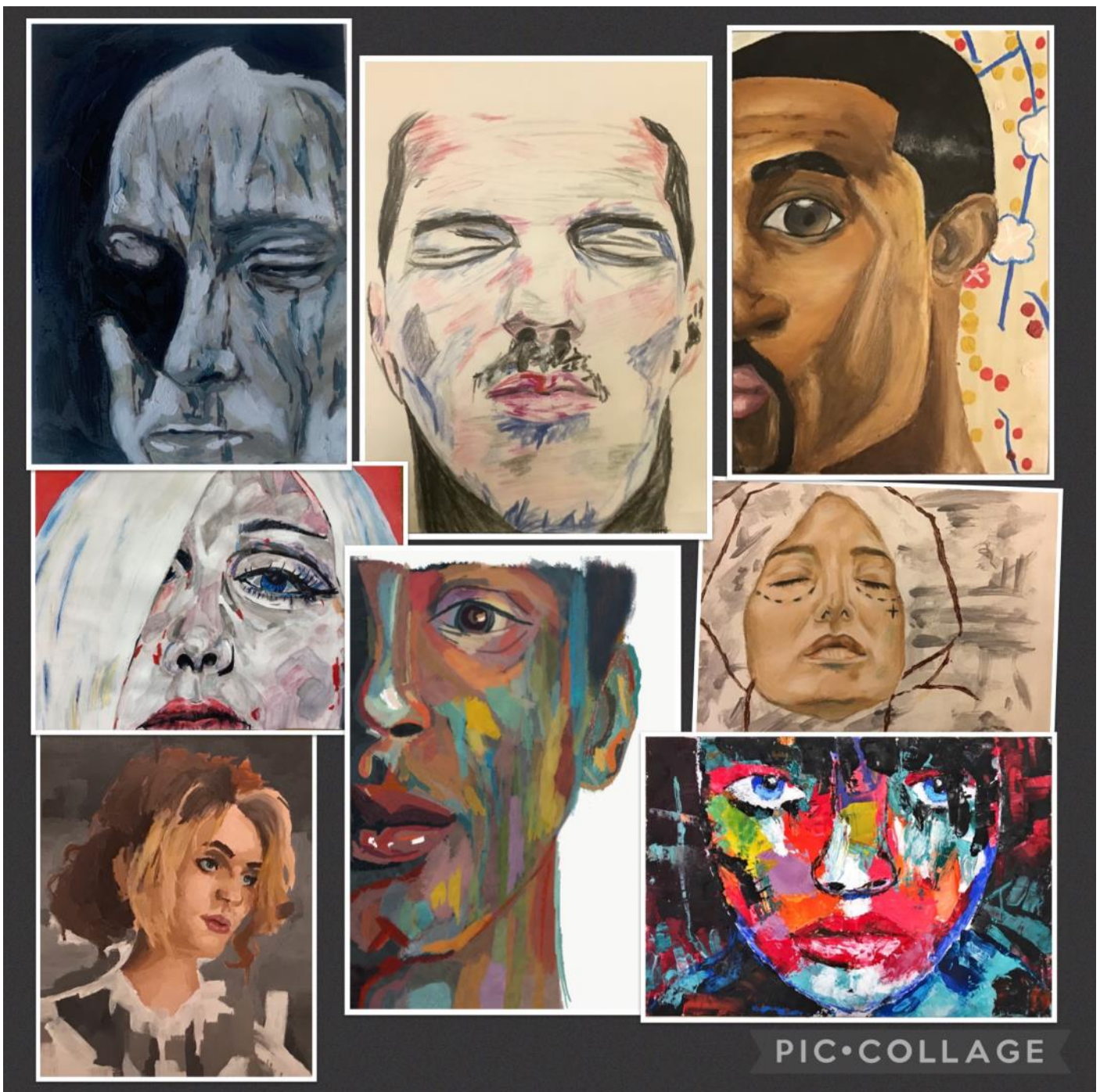


Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....

"As part of the GCSE Art course students learn more about the work of other artists. By producing small pastiches of artists' work students can learn new techniques and processes. These examples by Year 10 students are based on works by portrait artists such as Kehinde Wiley, Jonathan Yeo and Francoise Nielly"

Ms Stanton, Art





Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....

"Some development work pieces made by Y11 students as they work towards making final outcomes for the 'By the Sea' project"

Ms Stanton, Art



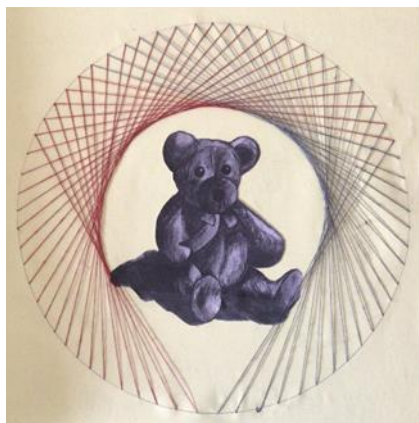
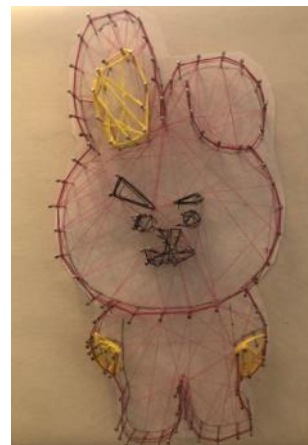
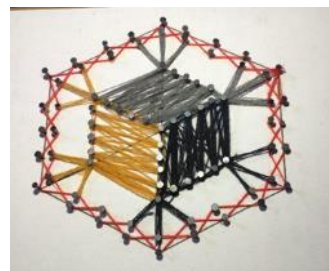


Remote learning during school closure

A further selection of this week's comments and examples from our staff

"Year 8 students have been working on a cross curricular project with Art and DT. They have been learning about the English engineering draughtsman Harry Beck, the genius behind the London Underground map. Using his principles they have produced a string art/pin art pattern. Thread, wire, or string is wound around a grid of nails or pins to form geometric patterns or representational designs."

Mrs Toor, Design Technology



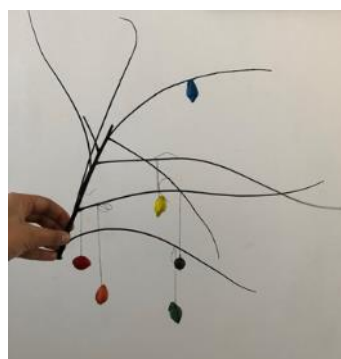
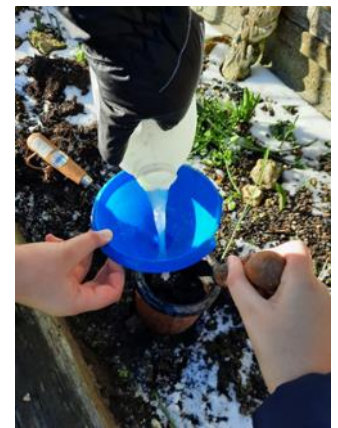


Remote learning during school closure

A further selection of this week's comments and examples from our staff

"Each week we have a 'floating period' when a lesson is cancelled to enable staff to meet together during school time for departmental meetings or further training. Students are given some tasks or challenges to do which are about doing something different - usually with a 'wellbeing' theme. This week they were asked to choose one of four activities - gardening, wind chime, bird feeder and a PE challenge. Here are some examples sent in by students....."

Mrs Toor, Design Technology





Remote learning during school closure

A further selection of this week's comments and examples from our staff

"More examples of gardening, wind chime, bird feeder activities....."

Mrs Toor, Design Technology





Safeguarding and online safety

Links to helpful sites for safeguarding and wellbeing

Anti-Bullying	www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/ www.kidscape.org.uk/
Bereavement	www.cruse.org.uk/ https://www.daisysdream.org.uk/ https://www.winstonswish.org/
Crime Prevention	https://crimestoppers-uk.org/
Domestic Violence	http://www.yoursanctuary.org.uk/
Drugs	www.talktofrank.com/
Eating Disorders	www.nhs.uk/conditions/Eating-disorders/pages/introduction.aspx
Relationships	www.relate.org.uk/
Sexual Health	http://familylives.org.uk/advice/teenagers/
Substance misuse	www.catch-22.org.uk/programmes-services/surrey-young-peoples-substance-misuse-service/
Other recommended sites	disrespectnobody.co.uk/need-help/ www.lifesigns.org.uk www.childline.org.uk www.samaritans.org http://xenzone.com/ http://kooth.com/ parentinfo.org/ http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/meetwo/ https://calmharm.co.uk/