

**Droylsden Academy is a good school**

## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL ACTION

As you will be aware from the media, and the information posted in last week's Newsflash, the National Education Union is taking further industrial action in schools in England and Wales on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March**.

Following on from the information you have already received, I would now like to confirm the arrangements for both days:

- **Students in Year 11 will be in school as normal on both days.** With only a few weeks remaining before the summer examination window, it is important that Year 11 are in school. Year 11 will attend school in full-school uniform. Students will be taught by their class teacher (if they are in school) and they will access work to prepare them for their final examinations on Google Classroom if their class teacher is not in school.
- **Lesson 7 will be suspended for Year 11 students on both days except for those students studying Triple Science who will be sitting their Biology exam.** This means that those Year 11 not taking Triple Science will leave the building at 2.35pm.
- **Students in Year 10 will be in school as normal on both days as they have scheduled E1 assessments.** Year 10 will attend school in full-school uniform. Students will sit their Maths assessment on Wednesday morning and their English Language assessment on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday they will sit their Science assessment in the morning and their History assessment in the afternoon. Students will be taught by their class teacher (if they are in school) at times when they are not sitting assessments and they will access work on Google Classroom if their class teacher is not in school.
- **Online learning will be set for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who will work from home.**
- **Some students from Year 7, 8 and 9 whom we consider 'vulnerable' will be invited to attend as normal.** We may have capacity to accommodate some children of 'critical' workers on this day, but places will be very limited.

Meals will be provided at lunchtime as normal for those students attending school. If your child will be at home on the day, and is eligible for a free school meal, then a packed lunch can be collected

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

from reception. Mr Wakefield (Student Services Manager) will be emailing eligible families nearer the time to ask them if they wish to order a packed lunch for their child. A packed lunch will only be prepared and available for collection if parents/carers have replied to the email and ordered one for their child.

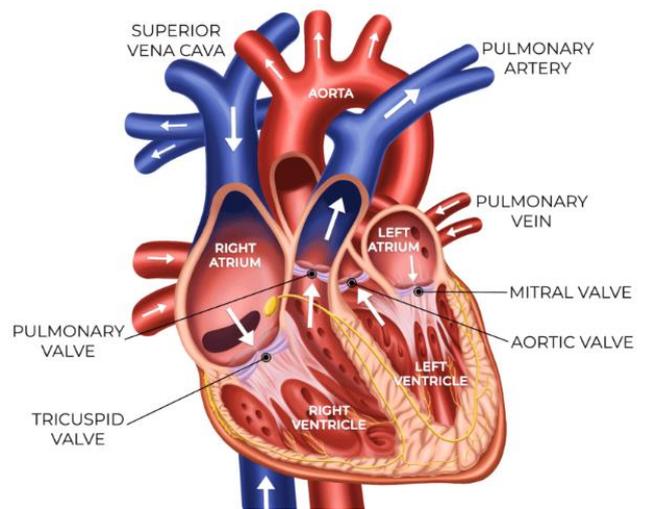
Thank you for your understanding. Please do not hesitate to contact school should you have any questions or concerns.

Mr P. Wilson  
Headteacher

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

### Science

Year 9 students dissected sheep hearts this week to look at how this vital organ pumps blood around our circulatory system. The students looked at the structure and function of the atria and ventricles and learnt how blood flows through the right side of the heart before passing to the lungs, where it is oxygenated, and then back to the left side of the heart which pumps the oxygen-rich blood around the body. They soon realised that a real heart bears little resemblance to the pictures you see on Valentines Cards!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

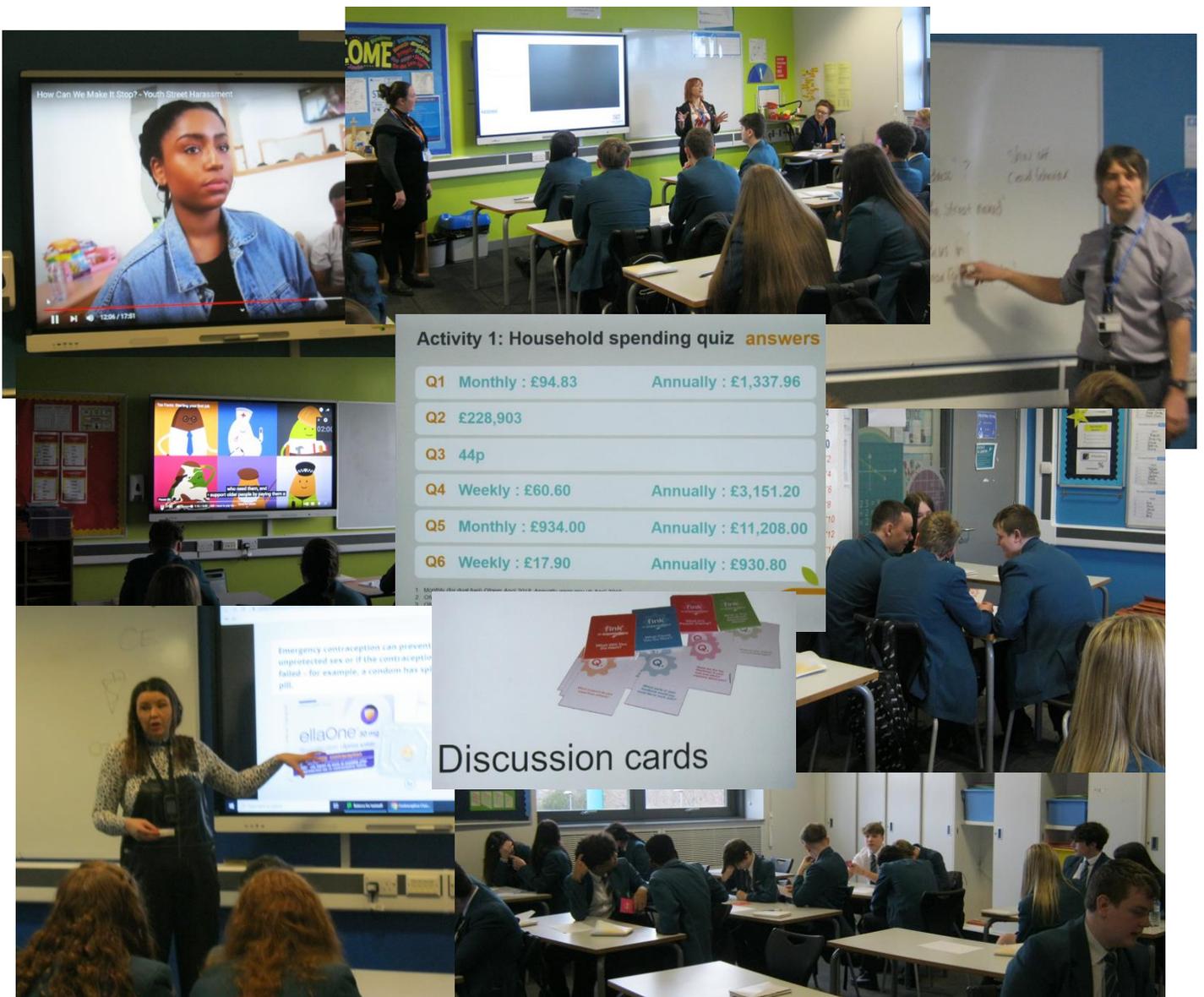
# LIFESKILLS

## Lifeskills

Year 10 students attended a 'Lifeskills' day on Monday where they took part in a number of workshops linked to the theme of 'Becoming an Adult'. The workshops looked specifically at Financial Literacy, Health Education and Sex and Relationships Education and were delivered by Droylsden staff as well as specialist outside agencies including 'Tough Cookies' and Homestart.

The workshops on Financial Literacy covered a range of topics from long term personal goals to everyday expenditure, your payslip and tax and national insurance contributions, whilst the workshops on Health, Sex and Relationships Education looked specifically at healthy relationships, the link between alcohol and risk taking, harassment, contraception, pregnancy and parenthood.

Thank you to everyone who delivered the workshops; feedback from the students would suggest that they found it a useful and informative day.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

## Romeo and Juliet

Last week, Year 8 students were treated to a spectacular production of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* by the Manactco Theatre Company! The students have been studying the play in English and thoroughly enjoyed watching the performance.



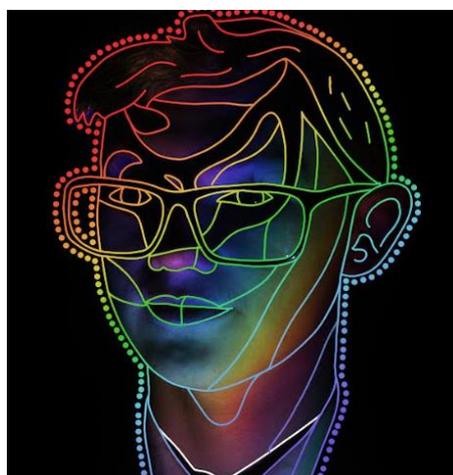
## World Book Day

This week, the Library was buzzing with activities to celebrate World Book Day! Students also made their own bunting and helped to decorate the Library, with a prize of an Amazon Gift Card going to **Martha Bell** from Year 7 for her wonderful depiction of Coraline from the novel of the same name by Neil Gaiman.



## Photography

Thank you to **Laura Lilley**, **Molly Nash** and **Katie Sidall**, all from Year 11, for submitting the following edits from their GCSE Portfolios for inclusion in this week's Newsflash.



**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**



### This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Abdullah Alabous**, **Lacie Nevins**, **Daniel Thompson**, **Georgia Morris** and **Ftsum Kiros** who were the brightest Sparx for last week having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

### This week's brightest sparx

Year 7	Abdullah Alabous	2,322 XP
Year 8	Lacie Nevins	4,095 XP
Year 9	Daniel Thompson	11,267 XP
Year 10	Georgia Morris	2,019 XP
Year 11	Ftsum Kiros	3,122 XP



As Parents and Carers will be aware, Sparx is an online Maths resource which students can log onto at any time to practice and reinforce or develop their understanding of a topic, revise and complete homework tasks. Students are awarded 'XP Points' every time they attempt a question and evidence clearly shows that regular use of Sparx boosts a child's GCSE Grade. Parents and Carers can receive Sparx updates for their child by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Emma Petrova** from Year 7, **Alfie Millington** from Year 8, **Samantha Cheung** from year 9 and **D'neisha Jones** from Year 10 who have all been nominated as Student of the Week.



Emma has been nominated by the Science Department as she always follows the 'Droylsden Way' and models our values of hard work, politeness and honesty at all times. In addition, she always gives 100% and demonstrates real resilience when approaching any task. This week, Emma demonstrated excellent practical skills and performed brilliantly in her assessment.

Alfie has been nominated by the Maths Department as he always puts maximum effort into everything that he does. Alfie always volunteers answers, he presents his work beautifully and has amazing manners. He also achieves a score of 100% on his homework every week, on the day that it is set, and has the highest Sparx score in Year 8. Well done Alfie!

Samantha has been nominated by the Science Department as she worked so hard in preparation for her T2 examination. Samantha is an enthusiastic, positive and well-motivated student who seems to have a real interest in the subject and always contributes to lessons. Well done Samantha and keep it up!

D'neisha has been nominated by the English Department as she has settled in really well and made a great start since joining the Academy earlier this year. D'neisha consistently works hard in every English lesson and is clearly determined to do well. Well done D'neisha!

## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week is a national event which the Science Department will celebrate over the fortnight of 10<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> March to allow for the planned two days of industrial action



Students should look out for information on the Academy noticeboards and there will also be special Assemblies to celebrate British Science!

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**



The theme for this year's competition is 'Connections' and there will be a selection of prizes for the winning entries. Information packs are available from Mrs Cairns, the Science Technician, or Mrs Ormrod, our Librarian.

As part of British Science Week, students have been also asked to read and then write a review of the book 'This Book Will Save the Planet' by author Dany Sigwalt. The photos here show some of the students involved receiving their complementary copies of the book and we look forward to reading their reviews and finding out about their views and opinions on the climate crisis.



The 'blurb' below is taken from the cover and will give you a little more information about the book; why not read it too and find out how, together, we can fight climate change, the most significant threat to our planet and to humanity.

*'A rousing and radical investigation into the climate crisis, its causes, and how to fight for the most vulnerable people affected by it, 'This Book Will Save the Planet' is a vibrantly illustrated study of one of humanity's most significant threats. With this third title in the NYT #1 best-selling 'Empower the Future' series, you'll gain a deeper understanding of climate change and climate justice. Our planet is in crisis. The ice caps are melting, sea levels are rising, wildfires are raging... and those most affected by global warming are marginalised communities across the globe. But all is not lost - there's still time for each and every one of us to make a difference. Through the lens of intersectionality, author Dany Sigwalt lays out the framework for how we can come together to fight climate change, and how we can work to put people over profit.'*

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

**Year 11, there are only 8 school weeks left, just 40 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.**

We hope that your Pre-Public Examinations have gone well and that you are now better prepared for the summer.

Year 10, your Pre-Public Examinations start next Monday and it is important that you revise and prepare thoroughly for these important assessments. Your examination timetable can be found over the page. Good luck!

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

Date	Session	Exam
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> March	am	French (Reading & Writing) Spanish (Reading & Writing) Photography
	pm	Food & Nutrition (Option B)
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> March	am	P.E. (Written paper) Technology
	pm	Geography
Weds 15 <sup>th</sup> March	am	Triple Science: Biology Combined Science: Biology
	pm	English Language
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> March	am	Maths History
	pm	-
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> March	am	Religious Studies
	pm	Art (Option C)
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> March	am	Drama Statistics
	pm	Art (Option B)
Tues 21 <sup>st</sup> March	am	English Literature
	pm	-
Weds 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	am	Business Studies
	pm	Health & Social Care Assessment Task
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	am	P.E. (Practical)
	pm	Health & Social Care Assessment Task
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> March	am	Computer Science
	pm	Food & Nutrition (Option C)



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

**Eating (and drinking) healthily!**

Do you know how much sugar is in some of the cans and bottles of everyday drinks that we buy and do you know the effect that this can have on your body? The following information may come as a surprise!

Cola drinks typically contain 10 teaspoons of sugar per can or small bottle, that's around 175 calories, approximately 7% of your entire recommended daily intake. Normally, that much sugar in one go would make you sick, but cola contains phosphoric acid which prevents you from vomiting.



Around 20 minutes after finishing the drink, your blood sugar level peaks causing a rapid release of insulin which mops up the sugar turning it into glycogen which is stored in the liver or ultimately to fat. Around 40 minutes after finishing the drink, the caffeine kicks in causing your pupils to dilate and raising your blood pressure. Finally, your hypothalamus releases dopamine which stimulates the pleasure receptors in your brain so that you associate the drink with enjoyment and happiness!

And of course, other drinks have just as much sugar as cola drinks do!

**No-one is saying that you should never have a cola, what we are saying is that, like many things, moderation is the answer. Think about what you eat and drink, enjoy a can or bottle of cola but don't drink too many of them!**

**Next week's menu!**

The Hot Meals Menu runs on a 3 week cycle. Next week will be the Menu for Week 1.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Meat Option</b>	Salmon Fishcakes, Potatoes & Peas	Sausage, Mash, Peas or Beans	Roast Beef Dinner	Meatballs, Potatoes & Veg	Fish, Chips & Peas
<b>Vegetarian Option</b>	Mixed Pepper Pasta Bake	Chickpea Curry & Rice	Veggie Roast Dinner	Frittata, Potatoes & Veg	Veggie Mince Pie, Chips & Peas
<b>Lighter Bites</b>	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

We also have a 'Grab & Go' Menu. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Fish Fingers on a Bun	Giant Hotdog	A large slice of Pizza	Spicy Beef in a Wrap	Pepperoni & Cheese Quesadilla

Finally, we also have a Menu for the meals we serve from the Pod. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken, Rice & Curry Sauce	BBQ Pasta Bake	Chilli Beef Pin Wheel & Salad	Mac & Cheese	Fried Chicken, Chips & Corn

The Catering team look forward to feeding you next week!



## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

### Ensure your notifications for the School Gateway app are on!

As a school we are looking at ways to reduce costs and one area highlighted is the amount of money we are spending on text messages, money we needn't spend if parents/carers are logged in on School Gateway. To access our messages, parents/carers must be logged into the School Gateway app all the time and have push notifications manually turned on within the phone's settings. Every device will also have other settings that can affect push notifications (for example, battery optimisation, which prevents some devices from receiving push notifications when the battery is below a certain percentage).

Please also ensure that you are also running on the latest version of the app which can be confirmed in the Play Store or App Store. If you are still not receiving notifications and have followed the guidance below, you will need to refer to the help guide for your specific device and/or contact your device manufacturer. **If both parents\carers are registered on Gateway please ensure that each registered user is using the School Gateway app.**

#### Guidance for switching on notifications: Apple

1. On your phone, go to settings 2. In here, scroll down to the 'Notification Centre' 3. Select School Gateway 4. In here, ensure that under the heading 'Notification Centre' is switched on 5. Close the screen; you will now receive notifications when new app messages come through.



**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**



### Guidance for switching on notifications: Huawei

1. Tap the Apps icon on your home screen 2. Tap settings 3. Tap Apps or App Manager 4. Scroll down and tap School Gateway 5. Tap Notifications 6. Confirm 'Block all' is toggled OFF (Samsung / other devices - toggle 'Allow Notifications' ON) 7. Restart your device.

### Guidance for switching on notifications: Android

1. On your phone go to settings > Applications Manager 2. Scroll down the list of apps until you find School Gateway and select it 3. In here there will be a tick box that says 'Show Notifications', ensure this is selected 4. Close the screen; you will now receive notifications when new app messages come through.



### Guidance for switching on notifications: Samsung

**SAMSUNG**

On your phone go to Settings > Notifications and Status Bar > Notifications Centre 2. Scroll Down your list of apps until you find Schools Gateway and select it 3. Activate 'allow notifications' and also 'priority display' 4. Restart your device 5. You will now receive notifications when new app messages come through.

### Disabled parking

The disabled parking bays at the front of the academy are for blue badge holders only. Unfortunately, families who need these spaces are not always able to use them as other cars have already parked there. Please respect those families that need to use these parking bays and do not park there. There is ample parking a very short distance away in the visitor car park and we politely request that you use these parking spaces.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be a theatre visit to the Oldham Coliseum on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March to watch an evening performance of 'Noughts and Crosses'.

There will be a Geography Residential Field Trip to the East Coast of Yorkshire for Year 11 students over the weekend of Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March

The rescheduled performances of 'Footloose' will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March.

The Academy will break up for the Easter Holiday on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 12.00 noon. The Academy will re-open for the Summer Term on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad; the iPad Air; the iPad Pro; and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device ... and how long they spend on it.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids editions) come with rugged shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough and tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's iPad suffers could be costly to repair. Buying a child-friendly case and screen protector for the device could be a wise move, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

### SCREEN ADDICTION

Like most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. You might find your child spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, be sure to visit the built-in screen time settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

18  
CENSORED

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or information, there's always a possibility that something unexpected – perhaps a video that auto-plays or content incorrectly suggested by an algorithm – could appear on their tablet and upset them. You can help prevent this by adjusting the content settings (see our 'top tips' section below).

### SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The parental controls built into iOS (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enable you to block access to most age-inappropriate content – but your child could potentially still bypass these restrictions (either accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri, Apple's voice-activated digital assistant. To avoid this, toggle the 'Ask Siri' functions to 'off' in the iPad's settings menu.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before letting little ones loose on an iPad, it's a good idea to set up Family Sharing, as this lets you utilise the parental controls to manage exactly how your child is able to use the device. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings; once there, you'll be able to add an existing Apple account (if your child already has one) or set one up from scratch.

### APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Downtime' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (at mealtimes or before bed, for instance), while 'App Limits' removes access to certain apps once they've been used for a specified length of time each day. The iPad can display a reminder when these limits have nearly been reached, letting your child mentally prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

### STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To empower your child with an increased sense of freedom on their device (without giving yourself something else to worry about in the process) you could enable the iPad's 'Ask to Buy' feature. Whenever your child tries to download or buy an app, game or product, the iPad sends you a request to approve (or deny) it. This option only becomes available if you've set up Family Sharing.

### SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content (in apps like iTunes and Safari, for instance) when your child is signed into their account. You'll also be able to restrict the capacity to download and install apps, and you can specify permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

### TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including phones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been mislaid, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.



**TAME RIVER**  
EDUCATIONAL TRUST  
TEACHING & CURRICULUM  
INSTITUTE



If so, why not **'Train to Teach'** with us here at **The Tame River Teaching & Curriculum Institute** through School Direct in partnership with the everyonelearning@ Hawthorns Kingfisher , Tame River Teaching and Curriculum Institute.

We are currently recruiting for **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, Geography, History, Maths, PE with Ebacc, Art, RE, Computer Science and MFL.**

School Direct allows Trusts and schools to request training places directly, select the ITE (Initial Teacher Education) provider of teacher training they want to work with and agree the content and focus of the training, in line with national standards for teachers.

Our new Trust, Tame River Educational Trust, plays host to training and placements in very strong schools (Mossley Hollins High School, Ofsted Outstanding, and Droylsden Academy, Ofsted Good) and we are working in partnership with other schools in Tameside. Bursaries are available!

For further information please contact [e.duggan@tret.org.uk](mailto:e.duggan@tret.org.uk)

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options>

Apply here <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training> Course Provider Code 2A1