

# Parent Bulletin



9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Welcome to the first Parent Bulletin of 2026.

We hope you enjoyed a restful and happy Christmas break with your families. It has been wonderful to welcome students back to school and see them settling back into their routines. The beginning of a new term is always a fresh opportunity, and we're looking forward to a positive and productive year ahead.

In this week's bulletin, we've shared some guidance to help you support your child in staying safe online. Year 11 parents will also find information about upcoming Elevate Education webinars, which are designed to support students as they prepare for their final exams, including details on how to register.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. By working together, we can make 2026 a successful year for all of our students.

Stay safe and take care,

**Team Trafalgar**



**January 5<sup>th</sup>** – INSET Day  
**January 6<sup>th</sup>** – Students start back  
**January 14<sup>th</sup>** – Trust Governors Annual General Meeting  
**January 19<sup>th</sup>** – Trust Annual Conference (school closed)  
**January 22<sup>nd</sup>** – SEN Review & Live Well Event  
**February 4<sup>th</sup>** – PD Day 2  
**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Year 8 Parents' Evening (virtual)  
**February 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>** – Half Term  
**March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>** – Year 11 Mock Exams  
**March 5<sup>th</sup>** – Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual)  
**March 12<sup>th</sup>** – Year 9 Options Evening  
**March 13<sup>th</sup>** – Final Activities Week payments due  
**March 18<sup>th</sup>** – INSET Day  
**March 24<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Progress Review Day (school closed to students)  
**March 25<sup>th</sup>** – Performing Arts Easter Concert  
**March 27<sup>th</sup>** – Year 9 Options Deadline  
**March 27<sup>th</sup>** – Celebration Assembly - normal finish time

**Spring 2026**



## Key Dates

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January** - Trust Governors AGM  
**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January** - Trust Annual Conference (school closed to students)  
**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** - SEN Review & Live Well Event

## Spring 2026

## Uniform & Equipment

Please ensure your children have the correct uniform & equipment with them each day. If you require any support, contact your child's form tutor. Please ensure students have a bag. You can find full details of what they need [here](#).



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# THE SALTERNS TRUST INVITES YOU TO AN EVENING OF FOOD, CULTURE AND FRIENDSHIP

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Join us to celebrate our rich cultural heritages and share food, language, music and traditions, fostering community connections among families from across the Salterns Trust Schools in Portsmouth.

Come along and make new friends, while sharing cultural experiences and enjoying a variety of delicious dishes provided by our community.

This is a free event, open to families from our Trust schools.

\*\*We would ask that guests bring pre-prepared food (there is no cooking or heating on site), so that everyone can enjoy the evening's offerings in safety.



**DATE: 17 MARCH 2026**  
**6.30PM - 8.00PM**

**LOCATION: TRAFALGAR  
SCHOOL IN THE MAIN HALL**

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**PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST [HERE](#)**  
**TICKETS ARE LIMITED SO PLEASE ENSURE YOU REGISTER BY**  
****FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY****

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**ANY QUESTIONS?**

**PLEASE CONTACT ELLE SMITH ON [ESMITH@SALTERNS.ORG](mailto:ESMITH@SALTERNS.ORG)**

We anticipate this will be a very popular and uplifting event, and we would love to involve as many of you as possible.



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[trafalgarschool.org.uk](http://trafalgarschool.org.uk)



Elevate Education's Spring Term

## Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

### ***How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking***

13th January 6:00pm (GMT)

### ***How You Can Make Technology an Ally (& Not the Enemy!)***

27th January 6:00pm (GMT)

### ***How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory***

10th February 6:00pm (GMT)

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams***

3rd March 6:00pm (GMT)

### ***How You Can Support Your Child During Exams***

17th March 6:00pm (GMT)

Register today at: <https://go.elevateducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## ESSENTIAL ONLINE SAFETY

Children and young people use the internet every day to learn, play, and connect, but the online world is not always safe. For adults, it can be hard to keep up with the risks, including harmful content, cyberbullying and scams. These 10 tips provide clear and practical advice to support safer and healthier digital habits, helping young people to make informed, secure choices when using technology.

### 1 START EARLY CONVERSATIONS

Begin talking about online behaviour from the moment children start using devices. Use age-appropriate language and revisit topics regularly, making it clear they can speak to you about anything that upsets or confuses them. Keeping these chats open helps build trust, so children are more likely to come to you when needed.

### 2 PROMOTE SAFER SHARING

Children can overshare without understanding the risks. Remind them that photos, locations, or messages can be copied or shared beyond their intended audience. Explain how even private messages or group chats can be saved and/or misused. Talk about what is appropriate to post, message, and who it's safe to share with.

### 3 ENCOURAGE DIGITAL BALANCE

Many apps and games are designed to keep users engaged through rewards, likes, or constant updates. These features can make it hard for children to switch off. Talk openly about how these systems work and help children recognise when it's time to take a break. Building in tech-free routines supports a healthier balance and awareness of their screen time.

### 4 CREATE A SAFE SPACE FOR CONCERN

When children come to you with a concern, respond with interest and care, rather than with alarm. Keeping your reaction measured helps them feel safe and supported. This doesn't mean ignoring serious issues; it means showing that you're there to help. When children trust that they can speak openly, they're more likely to feel supported through unpleasant online experiences, and to ask for help in future.

### 5 STAY INFORMED AND CURRENT

With emerging technologies like AI moving and changing so quickly, it's important to stay updated on how children are using new platforms, apps and games. Ask them to show you what they use and let them take the lead as you explore together. This opens up valuable conversations and helps you stay ahead of emerging risks and trends.

### 6 TEACH CRITICAL THINKING

Talk to children about how to recognise unreliable information or scams online. With AI-generated videos, photos, and stories becoming harder to spot, help children question what they see and encourage them to look for evidence, check sources, and ask questions. These skills will help them avoid risks, make smart choices, and develop healthy habits for the future.

### 7 SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Involve children in conversations about device usage so they feel included. Agree on digital rules such as screen-time limits, age-appropriate apps, and no devices in bedrooms overnight. Use parental controls to block or filter harmful content and explain that rules are there to protect and support them, not to spoil their fun.

### 8 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Children often copy the behaviour of adults around them. Show them what balanced, respectful, and mindful use of technology looks like, such as avoiding scrolling during family time and speaking kindly in messages. If you expect certain behaviour from them online, make sure your own habits reflect the same standards.

### 9 EXPLORE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Show children how to use privacy tools on apps, games, and websites. Teach them to use strong passwords, block or report others in response to problems, and avoid sharing personal details. Explore settings together so they feel confident and in control, and explain that these features are there to help them stay safe online.

### 10 KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Familiarise yourself with tools and organisations that support online safety. The National College offers online safety guides and webinars which provide tips on staying safe. Websites like Report Harmful Content and CEOP can be used to report when something goes wrong. Show children how to report or block users, and where to go if they feel unsafe. Make sure they know that asking for help is always the right thing to do, and be prepared to support them.

### Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

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