

Issue No 10
26th January



January 30th

Waterside Arts
Theatre
Yr 11 History Trip

February 9th

School closes for
half term

February 19th

School reopens

February 23rd

DTP/Meningitis
vaccinations -
Year 9



E-mail admin@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

Website: www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk

X page @millfieldhighsc

#BeExceptional



Millfield MESSENGER

Belvedere Road, Thornton Cleveleys, FY5 5DG

Telephone 01253 865929

Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe we have only been back at school for a matter of weeks; there has been so much going on across school I cannot even begin to write about it all!

You will recall that I recently emailed you a list of three vacancies that we have in school. This resulted in a flurry of additional applications, particularly for the non-teaching roles. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and we will continue to email any further vacancies to you all when they arise.

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended the final Year 11 Progress Evening; it was, as usual, very well attended. This was an opportunity to discuss with your child's teachers their mock examination results and next steps for revision in the lead up to the final examinations. This year, we have improved our after-school intervention programme by providing an additional 'lesson 6' for all Year 11s in English, maths and science. A reminder that all intervention is compulsory, and classes are added to your child's Synergy timetable. We have advised Year 10s, if they want to get ahead of the game, they should also now be revising every evening – it will make it so much easier for them this time next year! If you need any support and guidance on how to help your child to revise, do not hesitate in contacting us.

Thank you to the parents who came along and volunteered their support of the school in the first PTFA meeting. Mrs Crook said it was a really positive meeting and is looking forward to working as a team to introduce lots of exciting fund-raising events for the school. There's still time to get involved! Please email Mrs Crook for details: s.crook@millfield.lancs.sch.uk

We are proud to announce that we have been awarded the **Music Mark Award**, for our outstanding, high-quality music education. This award recognises Millfield's commitment and dedication to delivering a rich, broad and balanced curriculum. Our next award will be the prestigious Arts Mark, which Mr Mitchell will be working to secure to further improve, and recognise, our performing arts provision.

A final thank you goes to the many local employers who supported our Year 10s with their mock interview day and to Mrs Draper for her outstanding organisation of the event. The students were exceptional; this is just one of the many positive comments we received from one of the interviewers: **"You should be proud of the way your Year 10 students conducted themselves during the interviews. The maturity they displayed was well beyond their years!"**

The theme of this year's international Holocaust memorial is *The Fragility of Freedom*. Miss Weir led poignant assemblies with all students, remembering the horrors of the Holocaust and what we can learn.

The only whole-school social media the school uses is Twitter: @millfieldhighsc, please follow us to see daily updates of what our students are learning across the school.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'N. Regan'.

Mrs N Regan

Headteacher



Be Exceptional!



TEACHING & LEARNING

Oracy

Oracy, the skill of speaking and listening well, has been very much on the agenda for staff and students here at Millfield. A few weeks ago, you may remember that we stated our aim to ensure that all of our students are able to express themselves articulately and fluently.

To support this goal, each fortnight teachers have been focusing on a literacy and oracy 'fix it' which aims to improve some aspect of students' written language, or spoken language, use.

What kind of things have we focussed on?

- * Students have been reminded how to use them/ those correctly and not to confuse the two words.
- * Students have also been taught when to use was/ were correctly in their speech. Teachers and students have been correcting non-standard examples such as 'I weren't sure what I was doing' or 'we was early to lesson this morning.'
- * The sound of our speech also sometimes means that we make grammatical errors. Teachers have discussed with students how in speech it sounds like we're saying 'could of' or 'should of' but grammatically this should be written as 'could have or could've and should have or should've.

We're currently consolidating our understanding of all the oracy 'fix its' we've covered so far this year. If you have any suggestions of areas we should try to 'fix' or would like us to discuss in school, please do get in touch with the teaching and learning team.

Paired Work

Students have also been developing their ability to work in pairs in some of their lessons across school. Teachers have asked students to think about their ideas initially for a set amount of time and then to contribute to talk in a structured way. Students are given specific guidance on what they need to talk about and how much they need to contribute. Students have also been taught specific sentence structures to instigate talk such as 'I'd like to start by saying...' and to extend talk such as 'Building on what X has said, I'd like to say...'

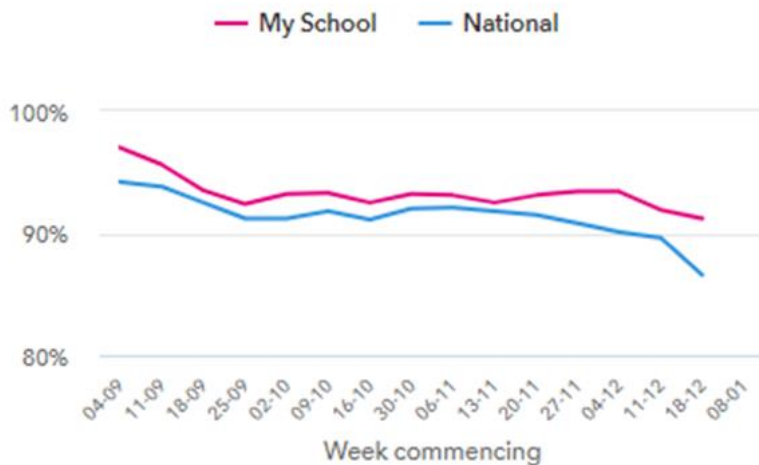
What Next?

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be developing the range of specific sentence structures students are taught, and working towards making these subject specific. Our end goal is for students to 'talk like a scientist' or 'talk like a mathematician'. As a school, we're excited to continue to build on the verbal strengths of our students.

As always, if you would like to find out more, please contact the teaching and learning team at school.

T&L Team: Mrs. Cook, Mr. Tyson and Mr. Hodgkinson

AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE · 2023-24



We were 2.0% above national for whole of the Autumn term – well done Team Millfield!

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HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

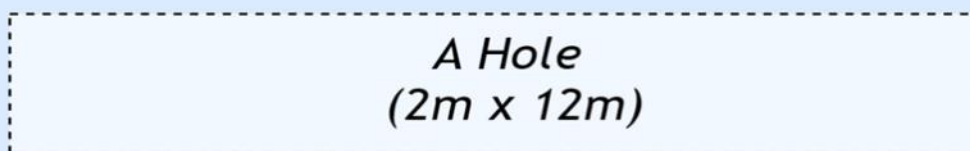
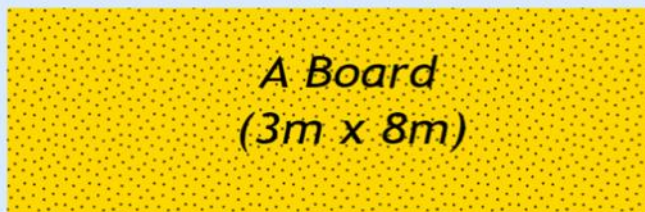
Brooke Russell 7 S2 HRD/CMR
 Phoebe James 7 B2 ECO
 Sophie Cudlip 7 H2 TYE
 Ava Adams 7 B2 ECO
 Logan Wright 7 H1 LJO
 Isaac Veitch 7 R1 GHI

The students have been nominated by Mr. Doxey for their excellent work in P.E.



Deputy Headteacher's Maths Challenge - Board Challenge

How can I cut the board into only two pieces so that they will fill inside the hole exactly?



HOME LEARNING PAGE

Benefits of Home Learning

With all the pressure of schoolwork, social life and other commitments playing their part, it's understandable that your child might sometimes feel a little overwhelmed by their home learning.

Key Points

Give children a chance to talk about their schoolwork - when you ask them about their day, check in to see what they've been learning.

It might become frustrating if you are trying to teach your child something and they do not seem to be grasping the concept but remember losing your patience will knock their self-esteem.

The amount of home learning gradually increases as your child goes through school.

Educators argue that home learning is beneficial to students, as it enhances learning, develops the skills taught in class, and lets educators verify that students comprehend their lessons. Proponents also argue that home learning makes it more likely that students will develop and maintain proper study habits that they can use throughout their educational career.

Whatever the reason – it's beneficial

Here at Millfield we celebrate excellence and home-learning is no exception



Congratulations go to students in Geography, who have produced outstanding examples of creative home learning, in which they have focused on recreating one of the UK's highest peaks.

One student produced an excellent example incorporating a new dimension on scaled modelling



Remember!

In order to support your child with their home learning, please regularly log into Synergy to monitor the tasks that have been set and remind your child to complete them. The home learning policy can be viewed on our school website; this explains how much home learning your child should be set each week and the types of tasks they could be set.

SCHOOL SYNERGY
Doing the right thing...Making a difference!

THE MILLFIELD TIMES

Would you like to be a member of our school newspaper club?

Whether you're considering a future career in journalism or simply want to play your part in this exciting new publication, please join The Millfield Times in time for our Christmas issue!



Speak to Miss Cross for more details.

Tuesday

J8

3PM-4PM

Meeting weekly
Publishing once a term.

EVERY STUDENT CAN
learn
JUST NOT IN THE SAME

day

OR IN THE SAME

every.
george evans

eco club

Planning Ahead!



In the last two weeks, our **Eco Club** has been hard at work improving our eco-friendly garden. Our dedicated students got their hands dirty, clearing out the remnants of previous seasons and preparing the soil for new seedlings as spring approaches. We're also excited about teaming up with the **technology department** to add some innovative features to our garden, ensuring the safety of both our plants and ourselves.



In addition to our garden project, our school Eco Team has been consistently collecting paper waste from around the school. This includes used paper, cardboard, and even used whiteboard pens. By doing so, we're taking another step toward reducing our environmental impact and promoting sustainability.



This week, our students collaborated with the **woodworking department** to create a new border for our herb garden.

Using nail guns and working together, they've built the frame, ready to be installed in the next few weeks if the weather allows.



COMING SOON!



World Wetlands Day - 2nd February 2024

World Wetlands Day occurs on the 2nd February every year. The date marks the anniversary of the signing of The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands which happened on the 2nd February 1971. It's a day to raise awareness about these rapidly decreasing and essential ecosystems.

Wetlands help to clean our water and support a variety of wildlife. They also help to protect against flooding as well as protecting us against climate change due to storing carbon.

WWT Martin Mere is a wetland nature reserve and wildfowl collection managed by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust at Tarlscough, Burscough, Lancashire.

While other parts of the natural world hibernate, Martin Mere comes to life in winter. Visit the website to see what's on [Martin Mere Wetland Centre | WWT](#)



RECOMMENDED READS

'Swarm Rising' by Tim Peake and

'Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun' by Tola Okogwu

'Swarm Rising'

Week A's Library Book of the Week is 'Swarm Rising' by super space scientist and real life astronaut, Tim Peake! Packed with space age science and up to the minute tech, this is an exciting action adventure that you just can't put down!

When Danny is kidnapped by Adi - who can run through brick walls and make cars drive on water - he realises that all humans are in danger. Adi is part of a super-advanced hive mind, the Swarm, which intends to protect the Earth from the environmental catastrophe caused by the human race.

Adi - Alien Digital Intelligence in the form of a girl - can bend the laws of physics and control digital data, but as a digital being she wants to know what it's like to be human. Which is where Danny comes in.



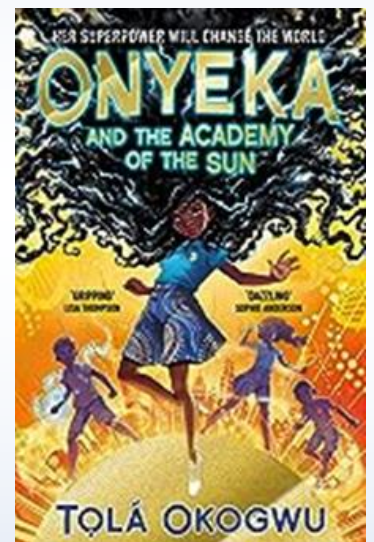
But what exactly is the 'help' the secretive Swarm is offering?

Can Danny and his friend Jamila help Adi stop the Swarm Agents and give humanity a second chance?

'Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun'

Week B's Library Book of the Week is 'Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun' by Tola Okogwu. All about a British-Nigerian girl who has psychokinetic power, this superhero adventure is perfect for Marvel and DC fans!

Onyeka has a lot of hair - the kind that makes strangers stop in the street and her peers whisper behind her back. At least she has Cheyenne, her best friend, who couldn't care less what other people think. Still, Onyeka has always felt insecure about her vibrant curls...until the day Cheyenne almost drowns and Onyeka's hair takes on a life of its own, inexplicably pulling Cheyenne from the water.



At home, Onyeka's mother tells her the shocking Onyeka's psychokinetic powers make her a Solari, one of a secret group of people with superpowers unique to Nigeria. Her mother quickly whisks her off to the Academy of the Sun, a school in Nigeria where Solari are trained. But Onyeka and her new friends at the academy soon have to put their powers to the test as they find themselves embroiled in a momentous battle between truth and lies.... .



Well done to the Year 10 students who tackled our thrilling "Ready Steady Cook" careers challenge with the Royal Navy last week!

We saw ingenuity flourish, teamwork sizzle, and laughter bubble over as they strategized, cooked, and presented their meals to the eager naval officers. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to explore the diverse landscape of maritime careers, gain valuable life skills, and discover their potential within the navy's ranks.



A huge *Thank you!* to **Miss Norman** for orchestrating this memorable event – her dedication and enthusiasm truly steered it to success. We can't wait to see where these budding chefs and future naval heroes sail next!



Follow Millfield on X for more photos, updates and information about upcoming events at the school.

@millfieldhighsc

Fantastic news on the personal development front! Handball enthusiasts, rejoice! Your club continues thriving at lunch, and our school proudly takes on the Fylde and Wyre handball competition.

Best of luck to our Year 7, 8, and 9 stars in the Wyre cross country race on Tuesday 23rd Jan!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Our commitment to personal development continues with a **PSHE day** on 5th Feb and a **Teen Tech STEM** event on 6th Feb. Get ready to learn, grow, and have some serious fun!

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Mckenzie Taylor	9 R6 ARD
Phoebe Corrigan-Eaton	9H5 CAL
Jacob Cairns	9 R5 SCN
Bethany Casey	9 S6 DJS
Ollie Daniells	9 H5 CAL
Sophie Stenton	9 R5 SCN

The students have been nominated by Mr. Mitchell
for their excellent work in Music



YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEW DAY



On Wednesday 17th January we held our **Mock Interview Day** for our Year 10 students. Staff from HSBC, Virgin Money, Victrex, NHS Pensions, DWP, Blackpool & Fylde College and Blackpool Sixth spent the day interviewing our students.

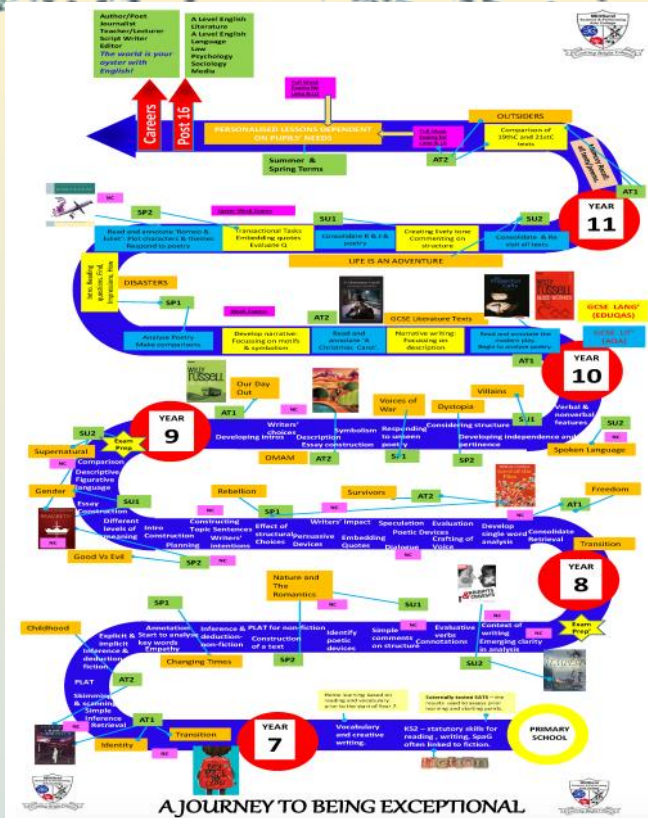
The positive feedback from the interviewers was incredible! They said *'We all had a fantastic day, and the school should be proud of the way their Year 10 pupils conducted themselves during the interviews. The maturity they displayed was well beyond their ears!'*

All students who took part should be extremely proud of themselves. Interviewers said that all students were well mannered, and they were impressed with the effort a lot of students went to look the part.



Well done to our star students who were selected by our interviewers:

Ellie Dicks, Zara Draper, Austin Trickett, Holly Linacre, Layla Tonner-Lomas, Millie Powell, Joseph Pook, Harry Turner, Alfie Winfield, Archie Lamb, Kalel Thompson and Amelie Whitworth



Not sure what your son or daughter is studying in school this term?

Have a look on our school website where you will find the 'Learning Journeys' for every subject.

The Learning Journeys give details about what is being studied each half term from the start of Year 7 right up to when students leave in Year 11.

Select a department from the menu on our school website, click on the icon and you will find the 'Learning Journeys' for that subject.



Here's this week's super star students.

Nominated by their teachers for their outstanding work.

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Phoebe Clark	11 D NDA
Stephanie Shaw	11 B RHO/HRD
Sophie Eden	11 B RHO/HRD
Naomi Butler	11 B RHO/HRD
Elisha Stead	11 C KHA
Abby Lucas	11 D NDA

The students have been nominated by Miss Cambridge for their excellent work in Drama



Careers 20 CONVENTION 24



BAE SYSTEMS



Career Atlas

Mapping your future



North West
Ambulance Service
NHS Trust



6TH
MARCH
IN SPORTS HALL

THROUGHOUT THE DAY STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND THE CAREERS CONVENTION AND SPEAK TO EMPLOYERS, UNIVERSITIES, AND COLLEGES ABOUT THE COURSES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE ON LEAVING SCHOOL.

Be Exceptional



Millfield Extra-Curricular Programme Spring 2024



MILLFIELD HAS AN EXTENSIVE EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME, COVERING MANY INTERESTS AND HOBBIES, AND THERE ARE SOME EXCITING NEW CLUBS STARTING AFTER HALF TERM.

PLEASE SPEAK TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF THE CLUB IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE DETAILS OR TO JOIN!

Monday

Activity	Time	Teacher	Venue	Year
ICT	Lunchtime	Mr Tyson	A28	All years
Choir	Lunchtime	Mr. Mitchell	A19	All years
Chess	Lunchtime	Mr Yeoman	F7	KS3
Handball	Lunchtime	Mr Smith	Sports Hall	Year 7 Boys
Rugby	3-4pm	Mrs Laycock	Astro	KS3
Homework Club	3-4pm	Mr Wood	A26	All years

Tuesday

Activity	Time	Teacher	Venue	Year
ICT	Lunchtime	Mr Tyson	A28	All years
KS4 Art	Lunchtime	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Handball	Lunchtime	Mr Doxey	Sports Hall	Year 7 girls
Mandarin	3-4pm	Mr Hardy	B1	All years
Homework Club	3-4pm	Mr Wood	A26	All years
KS4 Art	3-4pm	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Newspaper Club	3-4pm	English Staff	J1	All students
Handball Fixtures	3-5pm	PE Staff	Various	Various
Handball OCR	3-4pm	Mr Doxey	Sports Hall	Year 10 Boys

Wednesday

Activity	Time	Teacher	Venue	Year
ICT	Lunchtime	Mr Tyson	A28	All years
KS4 Art	Lunchtime	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Latin	Lunchtime	Mrs Higgins	F8	Year 7 and 8
Work Experience Hub	Lunchtime	Mrs Draper	A50	Year 10
Euro Club	Lunchtime	Mr Hardy	B1	All years
KS4 Art	3-4pm	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Homework Club	3-4pm	Mr Wood	A26	All years
Performing Arts Club	3-4pm	Miss Cambridge	Theatre	KS3
Science Club	3-4pm	Science Staff	C5	All years
ECO Club	3-4pm	Science Staff	C4	All years
STEM Club	3-4pm	Science Staff	C2	All years
Minecraft Club	3-4pm	Dr Gorst	D2	All years
Supervised Study	3-5pm	Mrs Gower	A14	Year 11
Lego Therapy	3-4pm	Miss Carbon	A23	KS3
Hockey	3-4pm	Mrs Laycock	Astro	KS3
Supervised Study	3-4pm	Mrs Gower	A14	KS4

Thursday

Activity	Time	Teacher	Venue	Year
Millfield A Cappella Group (High Ability)	Lunchtime	Mr Mitchell	A19	Years 9, 10 and 11
ICT	Lunchtime	Mr Tyson	A28	All years
KS4 Art	Lunchtime	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Welsh	Lunchtime	Mr Hardy	B1	All years
BSL Club	Lunchtime	Mr Hardy	B1	All years
Lunch with Bruff	Lunchtime	English Staff	J4	KS4
Reading Club	Lunchtime	Mrs Hall	H1	All years
Handball	Lunchtime	Mr Smith	Sports Hall	Year 8 & 9 Girls
Homework Club	3-4pm	Mr Wood	A26	All years
Handball OCR	3-4pm	Mr Doxey	Sports Hall	Year 10 Girls
History Club	3-4pm	Miss Weir	Library	KS3
Girls Football	3-4pm	Mrs Laycock	Astro	KS3
Handball Fixtures	3-5pm	PE staff	Various	Various

Friday

Activity	Time	Teacher	Venue	Year
Band (Must already play an instrument)	Lunchtime	Mr Mitchell	A19	All years
ICT	Lunchtime	Mr Tyson	A28	All years
KS4 Art	Lunchtime	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Spanish	Lunchtime	Mr Hardy	B1	All years
Dance rehearsals	Lunchtime	Miss Cambridge	Dance studio	All years
KS4 Art	3-4pm	Mrs Perret	A23	KS4
Homework Club	3-4pm	Mr Wood	A26	All years
Running Club	3-4pm	Mr Grayston	Sports Hall	All years

Year 10 and 11 Intervention:

You will be informed if you are required to attend an Intervention class. Alternatively, please see your subject teacher if you need any help or support

Year 10: Duke of Edinburgh Scheme:

Please see Mrs Higgins for details of forthcoming expeditions/meetings

Sports activities:

All fixtures and teams will be placed on the noticeboards outside PE. Please check for all news. Netball fixtures will be various nights during the week.

Extra Curricular Clubs starting after half term:

Design Technology
English
Badminton
Textiles - Thursdays after half term

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION
13-19

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users 'vote' on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catfished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

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.



EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.