



Headteacher's Comment

The wait is over — GCSE exam season has begun, and our Year 11s are demonstrating just how resilient they are, with revision sessions, Saturday workshops, and exam warm-ups all being well attended. The sporting achievements of our pupils in county and national competitions prove once again how committed they are to succeeding in their chosen sports.

#ProudtobeChase



Brave Art Spray Painting Workshop

The Work for the Walls Art Club got some excellent hands on experience designing and spray painting a large collaborative mural with local Street Artist Scott Irving. With special thanks to Blake in Year 7 who kindly donated his Jack Petchey prize money to this project.



Mayor's Cadet

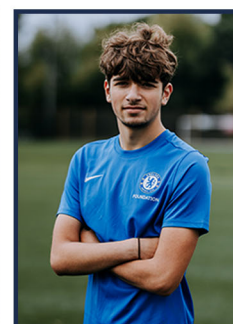
Congratulations to Harry in Year 13 who has been elected as the first Mayor's Cadet for the City of Southend on Sea. He was nominated by his Air Cadet Squadron and was then selected by a panel after sending an application to become the Mayor's Cadet. Harry's role involves him attending important local events with the Mayor and being a role model for younger Air Cadets. The Chase community are extremely proud of his fantastic achievement, well done Harry!



Football Academy Trial

Our Sixth Form are holding Chelsea Football Club Post 16 Academy trials during half term on Thursday 29 May from 10.00 - 12.00 for both male and female players. If you are in Year 11 and would like to study A levels or vocational courses next year, whilst also training every day with a Chelsea football coach, please use the QR code to sign up!

If you require further information, please email sixthform@chasehigh.org or speak to Mr Sturge.



SPORT ROUND UP!

We would like to highlight some of the fantastic individual athletics performances over the last few weeks. Our pupils have been working very hard at training and a number of fixtures in preparation for our national school's cup first round next week. Over the weekend, we had 11 pupils compete in Chelmsford at the currency athletics championships. We are very proud to say we had six medals and several personal bests. The standard of athletics in the county is exceptionally high so to win a medal is a great achievement.

Arsenii in Year 11 - High Jump Gold / School Record

Sabella in Year 9- Shot Bronze

Jack in Year 8 - 300m Bronze / School Record

Fejiro in Year 9 - High Jump Bronze

Noah in Year 7- High Jump Bronze

Noah in Year 10 - Discus Bronze

Tiggy in Year 8 - 4th in the Pole Vault

Stan in Year 10 - 8th in the Triple Jump

Fejiro in Year 9 - 8th in the Hurdles

Dexter in Year 8 - Personal Best in the 800m



We have also had the below school records in other fixtures this summer;

Malachi in Year 7 - Hurdles - long Jump

James in Year 8 - Pole Vault

Sabella in Year 9- Shot 200

Harmony in Year 9 - Discus

Rachel Ojo in Year 8 - Long Jump

Stan in Year 10 - 8th in the Triple Jump



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Year 7 STEAM Rocket Car Challenge 2025

Our Year 7 pupils have once again showcased their enthusiasm and creativity in the annual 'Race to the Line' challenge. Collaborating across Science and Design and Technology, pupils designed and raced rocket-powered cars, applying principles of physics, maths and engineering. This year, we introduced new categories to celebrate not only speed but also aesthetics, teamwork and organisation. All teams impressed with their innovative designs and collaborative efforts, setting a high standard for future challenges. A huge well done to all pupils for their outstanding achievements!



Local History Month Competition

As part of Local History month, our History Department are running a competition for pupils to be in with the chance of winning an Amazon gift voucher, and to have their work displayed in the London Building for all to see! All pupils need to do is submit a photograph of themselves at a local historical site with a short explanation of why this is an important location that others should visit! Pupils can enter as many times as they like, and every entry is a chance to win a £25 Amazon voucher!



Grease is the word!

Rehearsals are well under way for the school's production of 'Grease' and the cast are getting excited to show off their hard work! Performances will be taking place the week beginning 9 June, so keep any eye out for tickets when they become available in the next few weeks. We look forward to seeing you there!

Book of the Week!

Throne of Glass by Sarah J Maas

Age recommendation: 14+ Young Adult

Short synopsis: Short synopsis: This is a world divided by blood—red or silver. The Reds are commoners, ruled by a Silver elite in possession of god-like superpowers. And to Mare Barrow, a seventeen-year-old Red girl from the poverty-stricken Stilts, it seems like nothing will ever change. That is until she finds herself working in the Silver Palace. Here, surrounded by the people she hates the most, Mare discovers that, despite her red blood, she possesses a deadly power of her own. One that threatens to destroy the balance of power.

Pupil Review:

"I am currently reading this book and I think it is really good, I enjoyed the twist in the middle and I like what the book is based on. I like the secrets and plot twists." - Emily, Year 9.



Dates for your Diary:

19.05.25- 23.05.25 Celebration Assemblies

26.05.25- 30.05.25 Half Term

22.05.25/23.05.25 Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

02.06.25 Return to School on a Week 2 Timetable



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COLLEGE ACADEMY TRIAL

Chelsea FC in partnership with Chase High Sixth Form are recruiting players (16-18) for their male and female squads for the 25/26 season



Players of all abilities are welcome

To book please use the details below

Booking site www.chelseasoccerschools.co.uk

Course Code : PDPT-CHA-E-4

Venue	Activity Dates	Activity Day
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GOALS Centre Southend	29 th May 2025	Thursday
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Time	Invite Code	Cost
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10:00 – 12:00	ESSEXCA1	FREE
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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?


Still the best-selling game of all time, Minecraft is a bastion of creativity and community, with hundreds of millions of players building and crafting in its almost endless world. The popularity of Minecraft among gamers of all ages means it's important to remain informed about the game, including how to play it safely and whether it's suitable for the children in your care. That's why we've created this guide explaining the risks associated with Minecraft and how to ensure a purely enjoyable gaming experience.

SCARY ELEMENTS



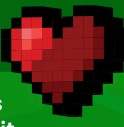
While Minecraft can be seen as a kind of 'digital LEGO', certain game modes include creatures accompanied by eerie sound effects. These can be a bit too frightening for some younger players, potentially leading to distressing in-game combat and other encounters – although the combat is quite basic and free from any real depiction of violence.

GRIEFING



Some players in Minecraft take pleasure in deliberately damaging or destroying another person's creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying – it intentionally ruins someone else's experience by erasing hours of their work and forcing them to start over. Many public servers regard griefing as a serious offence and often ban those who engage in it.

ADDICTIVENESS



Minecraft's focus on creativity means that, as with any creative endeavour, it can be easy to get carried away. If your child is finding it difficult to manage their time because they're drawn in by Minecraft's gameplay loop of resource gathering and building elaborate projects, it could have a knock-on effect on their social interactions and schoolwork.

PUBLIC SERVERS AND COMMUNICATIONS



With public servers being so easily accessible in Minecraft, it's highly likely that children will end up chatting with strangers through the in-game text chat. Some servers even place an emphasis on social interaction, actively encouraging communication between players. While there's nothing inherently wrong with this, it does carry certain risks. In addition to the concerns around speaking with strangers online, players who host their own servers may have their IP addresses exposed, posing a further security concern.


ADDITIONAL PURCHASES



Minecraft is available as a free trial on a variety of devices; however, the full game requires a one-off purchase, which is typically around £15. After that, players have the option to buy additional cosmetic upgrades or subscribe to Minecraft Realms. Realms is an entirely optional subscription service that allows users to run their own private server to play with friends. Without proper supervision, younger players may end up making unintended or excessive purchases.


Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MODE




Selecting Creative or Peaceful mode allows children to play Minecraft without having to contend with enemies. It's also a great way for you to get used to playing the game with them, since the difficulty level is far lower. This allows you to work together on a long-term project, creating something special without the threat of enemies and creatures attacking you or damaging your building.

HOST A PRIVATE SERVER



The easiest way to find a safe server for children to play on is to make one yourself. Hosting a server prevents strangers from finding it, unless they've been given its address and password. A private server also lets you control who's allowed to enter and – if necessary – ban anyone who shouldn't be there. This is the closest equivalent to parental controls in Minecraft. Hosting a private server, however, will cost a monthly fee.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS



At some point in their lives, almost everyone will make contact with a stranger online. Talking to children about online safety, therefore, is essential – as is having a plan for dealing with any hostile or difficult people. It's important that a child knows never to tell a stranger about themselves online and that they should come to you straight away if they do encounter a problem.

RESEARCH CONTENT CREATORS



Much of Minecraft's early stages can be an exercise in frustration for players who don't know where to start. Thankfully, there's a wealth of material online and in video format to help you learn the basics. Just be mindful that some of this content may not be appropriate for children, so you should consider watching it yourself first.

PLAY MINECRAFT WITH YOUR CHILD



As a creative building tool, Minecraft makes it great fun for children to team up and construct vast buildings accompanied by imaginative landscapes, much like working with LEGO or model kits. Playing in a game mode that includes enemies can encourage critical thinking and teamwork; however, you should consider which game mode is appropriate for the child in your care.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Gaming Editor at the Daily Star, and has worked in games media for more than 6 years. A long-time gaming enthusiast, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety for children of all ages.

