



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN 10 MARCH – 14 MARCH 2025

KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Events	Dates
Options Evening	11/3/2025
DTP/Men ACWY immunisations (session 2)	12/3/2025
Year 9 Parents' Evening	13/3/2025
Year 11 Spring Mocks Begin	
Parent Event	18/3/2024
Ealing Teen Read	
Year 11 Mocks end	21/3/2025
Year 13 Mocks begin	24/3/2025
Globe theatre trip	
UCAS Discovery London trip	25/3/2025
University of Warwick visit	26/3/2025
Year 10 Parents Evening	27/3/2025
GCSE Options Deadline	28/3/2025
Year 13 Mocks end	1/3/2025
END OF TERM	7 – 21/ 04/2025

1. YEAR 9 CAREERS DAY

On Wednesday 5 March, our Year 9 students participated in an engaging Careers Day, where they had the opportunity to interact with professionals from a range of industries, including Drayton Manor Parents and Alumni. It was a valuable experience for students to gain insights into different career paths. Stay tuned for more details in our upcoming newsletter!

2. YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING

We are excited to announce our upcoming Year 9 Options Evening, scheduled to take place on Tuesday March 11. This event will provide valuable information to assist you and your child in making informed decisions about their academic future. Our dedicated staff will be on hand to provide insights into each subject, answer any questions you may have, and offer guidance to support your child's decision-making process. [Please click this link](#) to confirm your attendance for the event.

3. YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING

The Parents' Evening will be on Thursday 13 March from 4.30pm - 7.00pm. The online appointment booking system School Cloud is now live, [please click on this link](#) to book your appointment. During these appointments you will receive key information about your child's progress in each of their subject areas. The evening will focus on how your child progresses in their subjects and we will therefore not be able to facilitate appointments with tutors at this time. You can also [click this link](#) for a short tutorial on how to book your appointments. Please note that all online bookings will close on Wednesday 12 March.

4. CYCLING SAFETY REMINDER

As the weather gets warmer, we encourage all students who cycle to school to wear their helmets. This is essential for their safety and in keeping with the school's expectations on 'Cycling to School'. Please remind your child to wear a properly fitted helmet every time they ride to and from school. Ensuring they follow this guidance will help keep them safe on the roads.

5. REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCE

To report your child's absence or lateness, please use the approved channels, which are the MyEd App or by emailing studentabsence@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk. Unfortunately, phone calls or voicemails cannot be accepted for reporting absences. Kindly refrain from reporting absences to adminoffice@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk If you are unfamiliar with the MyEd App, [click here](#) for a guide to help you navigate it. The app includes a messaging feature for easy reporting, and the school will respond if any additional information is required.

6. THE DRAYTON CONNECTION: ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

We are delighted to announce the launch of the first issue of the Alumni Newsletter! This newsletter will serve to reconnect with our alumni, share exciting updates, and celebrate the ongoing success of our school community. [Click here](#) to view our stories and stay tuned for inspiring stories, alumni achievements, and more.

7. BUILDING OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

As we prepare to celebrate Drayton Manor's 95 Year Anniversary next year, we are excited to expand our alumni network in anticipation of this milestone. We encourage Parents and Carers who are former Draytonians to connect with the school and join in the celebrations. If you or someone you know is interested, please email us at draytonians@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk. Your support in fostering our alumni community will help make this Anniversary truly memorable. Stay tuned for updates on events and initiatives!

LIBRARY AND CAREERS:

8. EALING TEEN READ AWARDS CEREMONY

On Tuesday 18 March, our students will have the exciting opportunity to attend this year's Ealing Teen Read Awards Ceremony. This annual event, organised by the Hounslow School Library Service, celebrates a love for reading and literary excellence. Students will depart at approximately 9.15am and return to school by 1.00pm. We look forward to sharing their experience in our upcoming updates!

9. HANWELL LIBRARY'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY – SHORT STORY COMPETITION

This year marks 120 years since Hanwell Library first opened. As part of the festivities, Hanwell Library has launched a Short Story Competition, open to all ages. There is no set theme or format, entries can be prose, poetry, or even a comic! The only rule is that submissions must be 120 words (+/-10). We encourage students to take part in this exciting opportunity to showcase their creativity. Winners will have their stories published in a special 120th-Anniversary magazine, launching in September. All entries will also be featured on the library's website. Submissions can be sent via email to hcl@hanwellcommunitylibrary.org.uk or delivered in person at the library's front desk.

10. UNLOCK YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE AND EXPLORE OUR CAREER RESOURCES

Planning for your child's future is easier with the right tools and guidance. We have curated a list of useful career resources to help students explore pathways, research industries, and make informed decisions about their education and career goals. Empower your child to take the next step by [clicking this link](#).

PASTORAL:

11. QPR CHANGEMAKERS PROGRAMME

Following a fantastic ten-week programme for Year 8 to 10 girls, the Drayton Manor team won the QPR's Dragons' Den! As a result of this, our students have been invited to a special celebration event at Wembley Stadium! Additionally, the next round of the programme has now begun, with students from Years 7 and 8 selected to take part in the QPR's Changemakers initiative. We look forward to seeing their progress in this exciting opportunity.

12. QPR ADDITIONAL FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS

We are pleased to announce that QPR is currently running additional football sessions for students, all led by fully qualified QPR Coaches. Students from all Year groups can sign up via Show My Homework. The sessions are scheduled as follows
Every Monday

First Lunch - Boys Football

Second Lunch - Girls Football

We encourage all students to participate in these sessions and take advantage of this excellent opportunity to develop their football skills.

13. AFTER SCHOOL – QPR GIRLS FOOTBALL CLUB

We are excited to announce that our students will soon be leading the QPR After School Girls Football Club! Try outs for the club will take place on 31 March, with 12 slots available. Sign-up sheets will be accessible at Student Reception. We encourage all students to participate in these sessions and take advantage of this excellent opportunity to develop their football skills.

14. YOUTH PROGRAMMES

We are pleased to share that recreational youth sessions will be running every week from Monday to Friday for students aged 11 to 19 years. These sessions offer a fantastic opportunity for young people to engage in fun and enriching activities, including football sessions, table tennis, music production, and art. For more details, [please click here](#) to view the Northolt and Greenford Youth Sessions, [click here](#) to view the Southhall Young Adult Centre sessions, and on [this link](#) to view the Westside Young People Centre. Encourage your child to take part and make the most of these exciting sessions!

15. SPRING 2025 HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD (HAF) PROGRAMME

The HAF programme provides funded holiday provision, including healthy food and enriching activities, for children and young people in school years from reception to Year 11 who reside in or attend school in the London Borough of Ealing and are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals (FSM), or who are vulnerable and would benefit from a HAF place. The Applications are now open. There is a limited number of HAF places to children and young people who would benefit from attending HAF. Applications will close on Wednesday 16 April at 12 noon. [Please click on this link](#) to know more.

ENRICHMENT, CLUBS AND TEAMS:

16. ENRICHMENT

Students are encouraged to take part in a variety of activities designed to enhance their learning experience. [Our Extra-Curricular Clubs](#) run Monday to Friday, during break times, lunch periods, and after school. From PE clubs to jazz groups, these activities aim to support personal growth, skill development, and provide a well-rounded academic experience for your child. The full schedule of enrichment opportunities for the 2024-25 Academic Year can be found [here](#).

17. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: CONFISCATED PHONES COLLECTION

How can I collect a confiscated phone?

Confiscated phones can only be collected by appointment. A teacher will contact you to arrange a time for collection.

What should I do if I haven't been contacted to arrange a collection time?

If you have not been contacted, please reach out to the school office to inquire about the status of your phone collection by contacting us at adminoffice@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk

13. TOP TIPS

Today's top tips from the National College focuses on managing what your children watch on television. It takes a look at how to tackle a range of potential risks such as unrated content, screen time and inappropriate material.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Thanks to the internet, there are now many ways for your children to watch TV, both the old fashioned way on a big screen and via the internet with on-demand programming. Restricting and controlling what your kids can watch is harder than ever, but with our help you can make TV safer for your kids and limit the amount that they can watch.

How to manage what your children WATCH ON TV

TRADITIONAL TV

Traditional TV covers programmes broadcast directly to your TV without having to use the internet. This is the standard way that most of us watch television programmes.

BROADCAST TV

Free-to-air broadcast television is delivered via an aerial or satellite to your TV directly or through a PVR that also handles recordings. Most modern TVs and PVRs sold in the last few years will have parental controls, which restrict the content available, requiring a PIN for unsuitable programmes. The exact settings vary by manufacturer, so check your TV or PVRs manual for full details. Parental locks work by checking the rating of a programme as it's broadcast. If a show is unrated or has an incorrect rating, some content may not be blocked.

SKY TV

The version of Sky that you have defines the options available to you. If you have a Sky+ HD box, you'll need to press the Services button and select Parental Control & PIN. From here, you can turn on the Family Setting, which gives you the option to remove Adult Channels and content, and requires a PIN to be entered to buy anything or for pre-watershed playback. More granular control allows you to block specific channels, either completely or only after 8pm, requiring a PIN to watch. You can also block programmes based on ratings, although this feature only works for programmes with correct ratings, so some shows may slip through. Sky Q owners have the more powerful Kids Safe Mode, which locks the system to show only kid-safe material. This includes locking the list of viewable channels and filtering recordings to only those suitable for children. Kids Safe Mode can be enabled either on the main box or on the Sky Q Mini boxes that you might have elsewhere in your home.

INTERNET TV

There are plenty of ways to watch TV online, whether that's via the likes of iPlayer or with streaming video services, such as Netflix and Amazon Prime Instant video. Here, we'll show you how to control each.

AMAZON PRIME VIDEO

Amazon Prime Video has Parental Controls available in the Settings section of the Prime Video website. The settings let you set the age range of content that can be watched without entering a PIN: U, PG, 12, 15 and 18. Settings apply to all devices (bar the Xbox 360, Wii U and Fire TV, which have their own settings), but you can opt-out devices of your choosing in the settings. For example, you may not want to have any restrictions on your iPad, which only you use. PINs can also be used to block purchases.

NETFLIX

Netflix lets you create profiles for everyone in your house. On the Netflix home screen, if you select Manage Profiles, you can change each one to show different content, defined by age group. Children should be encouraged to use their profiles only, particularly as there's no way to PIN protect adult profiles. However, you can PIN-protect content globally, so if a child does use your profile, they're blocked from watching inappropriate content. Go to Netflix, select Account from the drop-down menu by your name and select Parental Controls. You'll be prompted to enter a PIN, but then can select which content is PIN protected by age range: Toddlers, Older Children, Teens and Adults. You can also PIN protect specific programmes by typing their name in, which could be handy if you feel a programme is unsuitable or a child has been watching it too much.

ON-DEMAND PLAYERS

If your children are watching content from on-demand services, such as BBC iPlayer or All 4, you can turn on parental controls for each via the main websites. Controls work across all devices signed into your account. Controls vary by platform. With BBC iPlayer, the parental lock requires a PIN for anything marked as requiring Guidance by the BBC. ITV Hub parental controls let you PIN protect for content with a G-rating (a guidance rating). For All 4, you can choose to protect programmes rated 16+ or 18+. If you use My5, you can set up a PIN to protect against anyone watching G-rated content. For UKTV Play, you can add a PIN to restrict content selecting one of two levels: all content that's rated 15+ or all content that's rated 18+.

HOW CAN PARENTS MANAGE THEIR CHILDREN'S TV TIME?

Particularly with on-demand content, it can be hard to restrict how much viewing time a child has. However, you can restrict internet time with parental control software, restricting how much time a child can spend online, whether they're using the internet or watching TV shows. Parental control software will generally only work on laptops, computer, tablets and phones. However, if you have parental control software that runs on the router, you can manage other devices, such as a child's smart TV and games console, and restrict time usage on these, too.



Meet our expert

This guide has been written by David Ludlow. David has been a technology journalist for more than 20 years, covering everything from internet security to the latest computing trends and the smart home. A father of two (a nine-year-old and a six-year-old), he's had to control and manage how his children access online services and use apps.



You may also be interested in our smart home devices guide!

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