Communication

Thank you all for your kind words and support while we work through the current situation, we’ve had contact from a number of parents who would like more regular updates and some concise updates too. We acknowledge that feedback and plan to do the following:

- Parent Bulletin re-established so any updates can be communicated.
- Social Media to be updated daily, please follow on the below channels.
- Weekly letters to continue, with further letters with big updates.

Our Social Media and Parent Bulletin will allow us to make quicker communications.

RAAC Update

The Headteacher has been in daily, multiple, meetings with the DfE, Local Authority and the Trust to arrange for alternative provision should we need it.

We’ve had surveyors on site to look at how demountables could be set up, due to the incline of our site it is unfortunately not as easy as dropping them in place and some groundwork will be required. We are hoping this will occur quickly and our colleagues at ECC and local councillors are helping with planning permission.

We still do not have any update on the long-term disruption. We are hoping for some tangible updates next week. We are unable to give timelines at this point as we are awaiting for some information to be confirmed, as soon as we are able to do so we will.

FAQs

Will this situation impact the students exams?

We very much hope not, we are trying to prioritise the exam years as much as possible. However, we have already raised this as a concern with the DfE.

What about the other year groups?

We are very much hoping that as the provision on site increases then more year groups will be in school, our aim is very much to get all students back in school as soon as possible for face-to-face teaching.

Can other schools help?

Local schools have been helpful with equipment and offers of help, these conversations are ongoing to look at all possibilities.
FAQ continued

What arrangements are being made for sports fixtures?
All sporting fixtures will continue, the PE department are currently looking at this and adaptations to online learning will be made to support students getting in school on time for the matches.

What about extended days?
Again, we have looked into this idea too. We have multiple possible pathways that we are investigating to get more students in school for face-to-face teaching. We also have been investigating the possibility of transporting students to other sites.

Can core subjects be prioritised for face-to-face learning?
Currently, we are analysing the days students are in school to maximise the number of core lessons they can physically attend. It is impossible to do a hybrid approach for all year groups on all days as some of our students come into school via public transport and we are limited to 21 classrooms. We are also trying to limit the number of staff on site to limit the noisiness of the online lessons.

What will the report we are waiting for tell us?
The report will confirm the presence, and the extent, of RAAC, as the survey in the summer was a visual inspection. It would also suggest action that would need to be taken and that would allow us to determine timescales.

What has been happening in the DfE meetings?
The DfE have been in regular contact with the school to support us, we have been discussing funding for laptops which we have secured and been providing for the students that need them, arranging for surveyors to attend the school site to investigate the groundworks for the demountables (from the DfE and through the Trust/School). MP Rebecca Harris has been very helpful in championing the school and helping to chase up reports and decision making. The Trust and the DfE have secured demountables and the site has been assessed for any preparations that need to be made and discussions are being had on when this can start. Funding has also been secured to help provide better interactive services for those students currently learning at home.

Will school trips still be going ahead?
Yes, we are very much trying to offer as much of a full curriculum as possible. School trips will still proceed and are being planned as we speak!

Are you maximising the number of students on site?
Yes, even if we have a period where classrooms are available e.g. a year group (that is in school already) has PE, then we will invite other year groups into school, to support their mental wellbeing and give them as many opportunities for face-to-face teaching as possible.
Achievement

In a backdrop of a national drop in top grades across the country, Appleton saw a record number of grade 9s awarded to our students and as we support remarks we are getting even more! Currently our students from last year achieved 78 grade 9s and we’re still hoping for more!

Talented Appleton School Sixth Form student Ewan Guarnieri has achieved national recognition for his short fiction entry ‘A Grand Reveal’ into Orwell Youth Prize as the Senior Runner Up.

Inspired by its own ‘Big Brother’, Britain’s most prestigious national Prize for political writing, the Orwell Youth Prize aims to support and inspire a new generation of politically engaged young writers. This year’s entrants were asked to think and write creatively about the theme ‘Who’s in Control?’.

The judges of The Orwell Youth Prize 2023 were Orwell Prize-winning author, Delia Jarrett-Macauley; Financial Times Global Education Editor, Andrew Jack; the BBC’s Disinformation and Social Media Correspondent, Marianna Spring; and Forward Prize-winning poet, Will Harris. Over 500 young writers responded in the form of essays, poetry, short fiction, journalism, and video game designs. The standard was once again incredibly high, so much so that the competition selectors shortlisted forty-three outstanding pieces to go forward to the judges.

Ewan, who is currently in Year 13 at The Appleton School Sixth Form studying A-Levels in Maths, Physics and English Language, also submitted the short fiction piece as his Extended Project Qualification artefact, gaining full marks and an outstanding A* grade this summer. Judges were extremely impressed with Ewan’s writing with Will Harris Forward Prize-winning poet and Orwell Youth Prize judge 2023 commenting that Ewan’s writing was, “Remarkable technically, in its control of pace and paragraph, and in the author’s manipulation of readerly expectation.”

Also a big shout out to our wonderful students who have engaged exceptionally well with their online and in school learning, with now over 12000 achievements points awarded in recognition for the work that they have completed. This demonstrated the resilience that they have built up and the dedicated staff continuing with the planned curriculum in these challenging times.
Staff Achievement

We are very pleased to hear that Ms Sangha, one of our Maths and Psychology teachers and Appleton Alumni, has had a research paper published from her final year at University of Cambridge titled ‘A qualitative study investigating the experiences of young adults caring for a sibling with disability within immigrant families in the UK: “Challenges are just the constant”’. The research paper has been published in the Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability.

We are incredibly proud to count Ms Sangha amongst our Alumni and our staff body! Congratulations Ms Sangha.
Shoutouts!

Year 13 - Eric Tse and Dexter Whelan - actively contributing to online lessons, asking questions and providing answers, fully engaging with the lesson.—Mrs Bowen

Incredible work from a student above in his English lesson, Mr Archer was very impressed! Also Incredible work (pictured to the right) from Lilly Adams, again in Mr Archer’s class

Billy O’Rourke for showing incredible resilience in his English lessons—Mr Gill

Grace Evason in Year 9. Always engaged in online learning and offering really great contributions. Really impressed. - Mr McGorry

Mrs Birch wants to congratulate the following students to their excellent effort with online learning:
Molly Baumber and Isabella Bortone - 8Y PE
Mia Birch and Leila Faley - 10Y PE
Maisy Moyet and Vlada Dedin - 10B GCSE PE
Elise Bryant and William Old - 11C GCSE PE

Mrs Beard was particularly impressed with the following students:
9Y2 – Otto Fullick & Brayden Randell, 10X1 – Chantel Sorae, Maisy Moyet, Caydon Lee Kemitz & Demi Ayres, 8X1 – Myka Holland & Reece Howard, 11Y5 – Shauna Fiamani

Mr Polley is full of praise for the following "I feel these students have demonstrated that they have been working hard and been regularly contributing well during online learning so far. I teach multiple subjects so I have added the subject or in some cases subjects I teach them in". 

Xenia Florea (year 9 History, Geography and RS), Buhlebethu Hlongwa (year 8 Geography), Jaiden Robinson (year 8 geography and RS), Dennis Radescu (year 9 RS), Ivy Parsons (year 8 History), Jamie Sinfield (year 8 RS), Evie Blanks (year 8 Geography), Joshua Silk (year 8 History).

MFL want to celebrate these super stars:
Scarlett Hockton - 9Y5 - Scarlett has started the year extremely positively and has been very engaged in her online lessons. Harry Curtis - 9X1 Harry has been engaged in his learning once again this year and has not let online learning get in the way of that. When Mrs Sandu introduced Class Notebook on Teams, she was helping the others of how to access their notebook from their own devices. Benjamin Cochrane - 8Y5 - Benjamin has been engaged online using the chat to share his answers with me and the class. Buhlebethu Hlongwa - 8x3 - Buhlebethu has started the year brilliantly in both French and German and has been actively participating in all her online and face to face lessons. She also finished 1st in the online competition on “Blooket”. Francesca Vickers - 9Y2 - excellent participation, always gives answers and moves onto extension tasks.

Mr Hannan wants to celebrate the attendance and the incredible effort of his Year 11 Physics students—keep it up!

Ronnie White Year 12: positive attitude to learning in psychology and regularly shares excellent example answers to exam questions. Chantel Sorae, Year 10: positive attitude to learning in maths and contributes answers regularly in online lessons—Miss Sangha.
Shoutouts Continued…

From Miss N Cox and Mrs E Fox in Curriculum Support:

Jamie Sinfield for online learning

The following students for excellent work in school
Reuben Fox
Harley Spall
Jay Carswell
Robson Brand
Connolly Gill
Finnegan Gill
Buhlebethu Hlongwa
Hayden Kitchen

But also a big shout out to all our students for attending and for coming into school when the majority of their year group are at home, just cracking on with their lessons with zero fuss and for generally just being amazing!

Performing Arts Extra Curricular during remote teaching

Drama Club, Wednesday Afterschool. Offered to any students on site. 3pm-4pm in the gym.

Harmonics, Thursday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Harmonics can attend even if working from home on this day. Harmonics will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in i2.

Dynamix, Thursday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Dynamix can attend even if working from home on this day. Dynamix will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in the gym.

Session Band, Friday Afterschool. Students who have been invited to Session Band can attend even if working from home on this day. Session Band will start at a later time of 3.30pm-4.30pm to allow for travel and take place in i3. This will not take place on Friday 22nd due to INSET.

Any questions please contact Mrs Edwards-Ricketts
Wellbeing and Mental Health

Welcome to MindCare@Appleton

We are delighted to invite you to a special space dedicated entirely to your wellbeing and happiness – the Appleton MindCare Hub. This page has been thoughtfully crafted with your needs in mind, offering practical strategies and valuable resources to support your physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.

Here, you’ll discover strategies, tips, and insights to cultivate a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Whether it’s dealing with stress, managing emotions, or finding ways to stay active and positive, we’ve got you covered.

It’s also a place to access essential resources and information shared for significant wellbeing events that matter to our Appleton community. Whether it’s exam preparation, or wellness campaigns, you’ll find timely updates and helpful resources right here.

Remember, your well-being is of utmost importance, and we are committed to providing you with the tools and knowledge you need to flourish. Together, let’s make Appleton a place where every student shines brightly.

We are excited to launch the new MindCare@Appleton website, spearheaded by Ms Sangha our Head of Wellbeing and support. This webpage is for our students to help their wellbeing and mental health, and it is informed by the results from the Student Surveys conducted last term.

Please click here to access it. Students will need to log in using their school Google accounts to access it.

At the Appleton School, your child’s emotional wellbeing is important to us.

With the current situation in school, we understand that your child may be experiencing some anxiety, or have some worries adapting to some of the temporary changes we have had to make in school.

If, you feel your child may need some support with their wellbeing, or would benefit from further intervention, then please feel free to contact me at the following email address: info@theappletonschool.org where it can then be forwarded onto Mrs Benson.

Where appropriate, Mrs Benson will work with your child, either remotely or in person in order to support them. If necessary, Mrs Benson is able to signpost parents/carers to other members of staff or external organisations.

May we remind you that if you have any Safeguarding concerns, then these should be directed to the school Safeguarding Team, in accordance with the school’s Safeguarding Policy. This information can be found on the school website.
Teaching during RAAC

To offer as much face-to-face teaching as possible we’ve been teaching in creative ways and teaching in unusual locations!

Mr Dobinson teaching his history class in the Sports Hall, students have been incredible through this process and have adapted incredibly well!

Water rockets with Mr Hannan’s Year 11 class—looking at the application of Newton’s laws and pressure—their application of understanding was superb….and yes Mr Hannan did get soaked!
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Excellent work

A collection of some excellent work from our students

Year 10
Excellent work

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Year 8

Day of the Dead

Monarch butterflies are believed to be the returning spirits of the deceased relatives.

Each altar requires offerings that include the 5 elements: wind, water, earth and fire.

A jug, candles, paper, food or water help to set the spirits on the right path. Many decorations are made from coloured crepe paper. Paper flowers are one of the most common decorations made from this material.

There is a belief that hairless dogs guide the dead back to the underworld.

There is a myth that if you do not celebrate the festival, you will face harsh consequences.
Excellent work

A collection of some excellent work from our students

**Year 7**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday, 13th September 2023</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross-hatching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slanted broken lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagonal lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brick work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circular strokes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Safeguarding—Setting Boundaries Around Gaming

Top Tips for Setting Boundaries Around Gaming

1. **Promote Safer Game Choices**
   - Decide which online games your child should play and why. Make sure they're safe and age-appropriate.
   - Teach them to report any issues they encounter online, such as bullying or inappropriate content.

2. **Encourage Regular Breaks**
   - Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks while gaming to rest and relax.
   - Monitor their screen time to ensure they're not spending too much time gaming.

3. **Agree Spending Limits**
   - Discuss and agree on how much your child can spend on in-game purchases or subscriptions.
   - Use parental controls to manage in-app purchases and ensure your child is not spending too much money.

4. **Discuss Age Ratings**
   - Help your child understand the age ratings system and why it's important to choose games that are appropriate for their age group.
   - Teach them to avoid games that are not age-appropriate or that may contain inappropriate content.

5. **Meet Our Expert**
   - Learn more about the experts who provide advice on online safety and gaming.
   - Access resources and guides to help you and your child navigate the online world safely.

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Visit our website for more information and resources on online safety and gaming.

@national_onlinesafety | NationalOnlineSafety | @nationa_onlinesafety | @national_online_safety

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is assumed. Current use of the device of release: 15-03-2023.
Safeguarding—Live Streaming

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LIVE STREAMING

LIVE STREAMING involves broadcasting and watching videos online in near live action on social media platforms like YouTube, Twitch, and other live streaming services. Unlike traditional videos, which are pre-recorded, live streams are broadcast in real-time, allowing viewers to interact with the content as it unfolds. This can create unique opportunities for engagement and connection, but it also presents challenges and risks that parents and carers should be aware of.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Despite their age restrictions, many live streaming platforms do not verify the age of users at sign-up. This means that young children can create accounts and access live streams, which can be potentially dangerous. To protect your children, you can:

- Set up parental controls on your child’s devices.
- Monitor the content your child is watching.
- Teach children about the importance of sharing personal information online.
- Encourage them to report any suspicious activity.

DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFO

Unauthorised recordings

Each live streaming platform stores copies of all live streams, which can be accessed by anyone with a link. This means that your child’s personal information, such as their name or age, can be shared without consent. To protect your child, you can:

- Use privacy settings to limit who can view your child’s live streams.
- Teach children about the risks of sharing personal information online.
- Encourage them to report any unauthorised recordings.

Rogue content creators

Children can also watch other children’s live streams, which can be potentially dangerous. To protect your child, you can:

- Use parental controls to limit who your child can follow.
- Monitor your child’s live streams to ensure they are safe.
- Teach children about the importance of reporting any inappropriate content.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN

Danger of grooming

As the live streams are public, anyone can watch them. To protect your child, you can:

- Use privacy settings to limit who can view your child’s live streams.
- Teach children about the risks of sharing personal information online.
- Encourage them to report any suspicious activity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

PUT PRIVACY FIRST

MANAGE MULTISTREAMING

GET INVOLVED!

TALK ABOUT LIVE STREAMING

Consider their online reputation

As the live streams are public, anyone can watch them. To protect your child, you can:

- Use privacy settings to limit who can view your child’s live streams.
- Teach children about the risks of sharing personal information online.
- Encourage them to report any suspicious activity.
- Monitor your child’s live streams to ensure they are safe.

Meet Our Expert

National Online Safety is a non-profit organisation that provides free, evidence-based online safety education for children, families, and professionals. They offer resources, training, and support to help safeguard children online.

 recursos - 94.5.09.2023
24TH & 25TH OCTOBER

KIDS OCTOBER CAMPS

HADLEIGH PARK LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Looking for an activity for your kids over the school holidays?
Why not join us and sign them up for a tennis camp?

10 AM – 2PM MINI RED &
ORANGE (4–9 YEARS)
10AM – 2PM JUNIOR GREEN
& YELLOW (10+ YEARS)

Prices:
Member – £20 per day
Non Member – £22 per day

For more information or to book a place, please contact Graham on 07745 943403
Events Spotlight

The Parent Perspective

“The Parent Perspective” is an exciting podcast series for parents and carers, helping them to support their children with careers advice and guidance. Series 3 is bigger and better than ever, led by our brilliant new host, Rachel Burden!

Each episode Rachel speaks to a diverse mix of parents, bringing their burning questions to expert speakers from the careers world. Together they uncover practical solutions and informative answers, to help you and your child make informed decisions on those all important next steps.

https://amazingapprenticeships.com/the-parent-perspective-podcast/

Finding Employment for Autistic Job Seekers

Vanda Latchford from the Autism at Work team will present an engaging webinar series to help you learn more about your own autism and neurodiversity and how you can begin to think about your strengths, challenges, reasonable adjustments and strategies - and what benefits you can bring to your new team and workplace. These webinars are open to autistic people, their family, careers and professionals supporting them.

http://www.autism.org.uk/whatwe-do/employment/employment-webinar

Get Into Medicine UCAS Conference

This comprehensive conference covers all of the essential requirements for applying to medical school and provides invaluable tips on how to stand out from the crowd. With informative sessions led by experienced professionals, you’ll gain an understanding of what medical schools are looking for, learn how to perform phenomenally in interviews, and discover the importance of extracurricular activities in your application. This conference is the perfect opportunity to take that first essential step towards a career in medicine, and it’s all conveniently accessible from the comfort of your own home. Don’t miss out on this amazing opportunity to get ahead and become a competitive applicant for medical school – register for Medic Mentor’s virtual get into medicine conference today! https://medicmentor.org/get-into-medicine-ucas-conference/

LIVE VIRTUAL
Get Into Medicine. FREE
CONFERECE
Sunday 17th September
with a Chief Mentor
News Spotlight

Unifrog Launch 2023

Searching for career inspiration and ideas can be difficult. That’s why we use Unifrog! Here you’ll find useful information and tools to help you plan for your future and make steps towards meeting your aspirations.

Unifrog is an integral part of the careers curriculum and is used in school throughout the academic year. All students have access to their Unifrog account and we would strongly encourage logging in for independent research regularly at home too.

Unifrog is a complete destinations platform that allows students to search for opportunities and make applications for their next steps. The data base is packed with information about career routes and the current labour market. There are lots videos and articles to discover and live webinars you can join that focus on specific industries. You’ll find really useful information about colleges and sixth forms spanning the country, with great advice regarding courses, the difference in qualifications, distance, travel and bursaries. You can even search for live apprenticeships and make a short list to help you stay in control of your own destination.

https://www.unifrog.org/

Unifrog Events 23/24: Students

- **September**
  - University applications masterclasses 25 - 27 September - expert application tips from some of the top universities on applying to competitive and specialist universities and applying for competitive courses.

- **October**
  - UK Black History Month webinar 9 October - opportunities for you to celebrate UK Black History, learn about micro and macro aggressions, and hear from creatives about what BHM means to them.

- **November**
  - Day in the life of series 13 - 15 November - opportunity to hear from some of the UK’s biggest employers on what it’s like to work in a range of industries.
  - Apprenticeship application masterclasses 27 - 29 November - expert tips from some of the biggest employers on applying to apprenticeships and how to ace the interview process.

- **December**
  - GCSE choices 11 December - top tips when it comes to choosing your GCSEs and how to decide which subject is best for you.
  - Post-16 choices 12 December - hear from the experts about the different pathways you can choose post-16, from A-levels, T-levels and BTECs.
# Subject Spotlight

## Engineering

**Chemical Engineering**
- **Energy Engineer**: Work on the research, design, and construction of power generation plants, and may be involved in drilling for gas and oil.
- **Materials Engineer**: Research the behaviour of materials used in industry to make them stronger, lighter or more durable.
- **Chemical Engineer**: Develop ways to turn raw materials into everyday products.

**Civil Engineering**
- **Hydrologist**: Research the distribution, circulation, and physical properties of underground and surface waters.
- **Civil Engineer**: Design and manage construction projects, from bridges and buildings to transport links and sports stadiums.
- **Environmental Engineer**: Minimise pollution in order to protect the environment.
- **Construction Manager**: Responsible for the success of building projects, making sure that the work is completed safely, within budget and on time.

**Mechanical Engineering**
- **Motorsport Engineer**: Design, develop, test and build cars and motorbikes.
- **Mechanical Engineer**: Develop and design the components and machinery used in manufacturing, construction, water, power, health, and transport.
- **Railway Engineer**: Install railways and service mechanical and electrical systems on trains.

**Electrical Engineering**
- **Electricity Distribution Worker**: Maintain and repair the power lines that connect homes and businesses to the national grid.
- **Aerospace Engineer**: Design, build and maintain planes, spacecraft and satellites.
- **Electronics Engineer**: Design and develop systems for industry, from mobile communications to manufacturing aerospace.

### Skills Required
- Team working
- Analytical skills
- Problem-solving
- Maths skills
- Management skills

### Salary

**Civil, chemical, mechanical, and electrical engineering**
- UK annual median: £41,505 - £50,846

**Engineering professionals**
- London annual median: £47,794
- Top 5 engines: Scotland (£46,915), London (£47,794), East Midlands (£41,490)

### Prospects

Science, research, engineering, and technology professionals:
- UK growth: +9.1% from 2017 to 2027, creating 159,466 jobs
- London growth: +11.2% from 2017 to 2027, creating 26,145 jobs

*Visit Unifrog’s Careers library for more information!*
Autumn Term Dates

Friday 22nd September non pupil day
Friday 20th October non pupil day
Monday 23rd October – 27th October Half Term
Wednesday 20th December last day of term

Spring Term Dates

Thursday 4th January 24 students return
Monday 19th February – 23rd February Half Term
Friday 8th March non pupil day
Thursday 28th March last day of term

Summer Term Dates

Thursday 4th January 24 students return
Monday 19th February – 23rd February Half Term
Friday 8th March non pupil day
Monday 27th May – 31st May Half Term
Friday 19th July last day of term

GCSE Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

http://www.theappletonschool.org/students/revision-resources

A-Level Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

http://www.theappletonschool.org/sixth-form/student-life/ks5-resources