

THE ABI UPDATE

ISSUE 13 FRIDAY 11TH APRIL 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER - MR CLINTON

Happy Easter to all our parents, pupils, carers, students, staff and friends of Archbishop Ilsey. Whether you are Catholic or not, this is a joyous time of the year: winter has gone, the sun is shining, the flowers are coming out, and we can all look forward to a well-deserved break.

Although many think Christmas is the big celebration, it is actually Easter that is the most important time in the liturgical calendar. This Sunday, if you attend any Catholic Church, you will be able to wave your palms to reenact Jesus' glorious entry to Jerusalem. Then, next Thursday is Maundy Thursday, the evening where Jesus washed his disciples' feet and the notion of servant leadership was born. This is the same evening that he predicted the betrayal of Judas. Most importantly, it was on Maundy Thursday, when Jesus broke the bread and said those holy words which are repeated by the priest at every mass, "TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU." Then Jesus did the same with the chalice of wine. Good Friday is when Jesus was crucified and put to death. Jesus rose again on Easter Sunday and absolved our sins. This was explained to all our pupils by Deacon Martin yesterday when every year group in turn heard seven gospels. We listened to singing by our talented choir and were encouraged to reflect on a fascinating sermon from our talented Physicist, Deacon Martin. As I said to Year 11 yesterday, whether you are Catholic or not, I would really urge you to spend just one hour of the bank holiday weekend visiting your local church. I will be joining the Polish community bless their Easter hampers on Holy Saturday at Holy Souls Church and I will also be part of the congregation at St Dunstan's in Kings Heath, when Easter Sunday is celebrated.

I hope you have a blessed and relaxing Easter holiday. Thank you to all our wonderful pupils, students and staff for their hard work; thank you parents and carers for your continuous support. I feel very lucky to be part of this special community that is Archbishop Ilsey. God bless you all.

KEY DATES

- Easter Holiday Monday 14th
April - Friday 25th April
- Monday 28th April - School
reopens for pupils, students
and staff
- Wednesday 30th April - Year
11 photos
- Tuesday 6th and
Wednesday 7th May - Year
11 'An Inspector Calls'
- Monday 12th May - GCSE
and A Level examinations
begin
- Tuesday 20th May - Year 9
Oxford University trip



CATHOLIC LIFE - GOSPEL REFLECTION

JOHN 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?'

They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again.

When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

How is this relevant today?

Are we sometimes quick to judge those whom we perceived to be sinners? In the gospel, the Pharisees and scribes were very quick to draw judgement from the woman caught committing adultery. They brought this woman to Jesus with the expectation that Jesus Himself would pronounce judgment upon her. Yet Jesus never judged her for what she did, Jesus chooses to highlight God's mercy and compassion upon her. At the end of the gospel Jesus told her, "I do not condemn you, go and do not sin anymore. Jesus was telling her, go and start a new life, forget the past, for I have already forgiven you. This gospel episode is perhaps one of the clearest examples of Jesus' mercy and compassion.



Through this gospel, Jesus is also inviting us to look at ourselves and reflect on how we relate with sinners. Do we also judge them quickly just like the Pharisees and scribes did? When we judge, we also invite judgment on ourselves. When we judge, we further push this person to commit more sins. When we judge, we only highlight the arrogance instead of the mercy and compassion of Jesus.

But who are we to condemn or judge when we are to be judged also? Who are we to judge, when we are sinners also? Instead of judging, let us always show the mercy and compassion of Jesus. In doing so, we show the sinner that there's a God who cares, a God who listens and surely a God who is always merciful and forgiving.



LENTEN CHARITIES - THANK YOU!

Since the launch of this year's Lenten charities initiative our families have been incredibly generous in donating toiletries, food and clothing for St Chad's. These are currently proudly on display in the school hall on the stage and pupils see their collective efforts every time they attend their weekly Act of Prayer on Liturgy.

PASTORAL UPDATE - MRS BURNHAM

End of Term Behaviour and Standards Round-Up

As we reach the end of another busy term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents, carers, and staff for their ongoing support in maintaining high standards of behaviour and conduct across the school.

We have seen some excellent examples of pupils embodying the Ilsley spirit—making positive choices, showing respect for the school community, and engaging well with their learning.

That said, we have also had to address an increase in incidents of damage to school property, graffiti and a general lack of care for the school environment from a small number of pupils. Tutors have been asked to speak to their forms about the importance of respecting the site and we would ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home.

Maintaining structure and boundaries, even in the final days of term, remains a key focus. Pupils thrive on routine, and we appreciate all staff and parents who are encouraging consistent expectations right up to the last day.

Uniform Drive – Starting Monday 28th April

After the Easter break, we will be launching a whole-school uniform drive to ensure all pupils return looking smart and ready to learn. Pupils have already been informed of this initiative in assemblies.

From Monday 28th April, pupils will be checked at the school gate before entering the building. Any uniform issues will be addressed immediately:

- Parents / carers will be contacted, and pupils will be expected to return home to change into the correct uniform.
- If this is not possible, pupils will be taken to the Refocus Centre, where they will be provided with appropriate uniform from our stock.
- If a pupil refuses to engage with the process or change into correct uniform, they will remain in internal exclusion for the remainder of the school day.

Please use the Easter holidays to check your child's uniform. Take time to repair, recycle, or replace any items that no longer meet the school's expectations. Our full uniform policy is available on the school website for your reference.

Mr Clinton will be holding informal meeting with a parents after Easter. One topic which will be discussed will be uniform. If you wish to share your views with him and be part of the parent group, please email enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk

We are grateful for your support in helping us uphold the high standards our pupils deserve and ensuring every child starts the summer term prepared, presentable, and ready to succeed.

Wishing you all a restful Easter break.



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Uniform

Parents and carers must ensure that all pupils follow the uniform standards outlined below. This is a key part of being ready to learn and we appreciate your full support in this matter.

If for whatever reason, there is a uniform issue please contact the school and correct the matter as soon as possible. Pupils who arrive to school in the incorrect uniform will be expected to rectify this before attending period 1. Pupils can collect spare black footwear/ties and other uniform items from the Pupil Services Shop. Ties can be loaned for the day or replacements purchased at a cost of £5.



Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School Uniform

– Uniform (Boys)

- Navy blue blazer with a school badge
- White shirt and house tie
- Medium grey, plain school trousers
- Plain navy blue V-necked pullover (optional)
- Plain black shoes – no logos, boots, trainers, fashion shoes, canvas – business/office footwear only.
- Plain grey, black or navy blue socks.
- Summer uniform can be worn after the Easter holidays until October half term.
- If choosing to have a shaven hair cut you must have a grade 2 – no shorter, no lines, no patterns, no extreme partings.
- No artificial nails or nail varnish.
- Hair must be of a natural colour and pupils are not permitted to wear brightly coloured or large hair accessories.

YEAR 7 - MRS WAFI

As the term comes to a close, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the hard work and dedication our pupils have shown in their studies. Throughout the past weeks, they have made tremendous progress, not only in their academic achievements but also in developing essential skills such as responsibility, independence, and self-motivation. It has been inspiring to see pupils take ownership of their learning, demonstrating resilience and a commitment to personal growth.



As we transition into the warmer months, we would like to remind pupils of the importance of maintaining the school's high standards. We expect all pupils to continue arriving at school dressed appropriately in their blazers and properly equipped with everything they need for a productive day of learning. Consistency in effort, attitude, and presentation remains crucial, and we appreciate the ongoing support of both pupils and parents in upholding these expectations. We are incredibly proud of the progress made so far and look forward to seeing pupils continue to thrive as we approach the final stretch of the academic year. Keep up the fantastic work!

YEAR 8 - MRS LYNCH

As we approach the Easter season, I would like to take a moment to thank all of our pupils who have worked so hard in supporting our Lenten charities. It is truly heart warming to see so many of our pupils thinking of others at this special time of year. Your generosity and compassion make a real difference, and we are proud of each and every one of you.



I'm excited to share that our interform competition has been launched, and it's been so lovely to see the different forms coming together, showing commitment and enthusiasm to progress to the next round. The teamwork and spirit on display are a testament to the strength of our school community. We have played all the first rounds and the semi finals and the finals this week were very exciting. Ask your child if they were in the winning team!

Following our successful Parents' Evening yesterday, we want to thank all parents and guardians for joining us in celebrating the hard work and achievements of our pupils. Evenings such as this are an excellent opportunity to witness first hand the progress, dedication and accomplishments our pupils have made throughout the year.

Parents' Evening provides a unique chance to meet with teachers, discuss individual pupil progress, and engage in meaningful conversations about the learning journey. It's not only a time to address academic goals but also to recognise the personal growth, effort, and resilience that each pupil has demonstrated.

We thank everyone for taking full advantage of this time to connect with the school community and share in the pride we feel for our pupils. It was a wonderful occasion to come together, celebrate success and look ahead to future achievements.

As part of our Lenten charities initiative, we also held an activity for our Year 8 pupils—a scavenger hunt! This event was designed not only to encourage teamwork and problem-solving but also to foster a spirit of giving during this meaningful season. This was more than just a fun activity—it was a way to inspire our young people to think about how they can contribute to those in need and reflect on the deeper purpose of Lent. We hope that our pupils found this an enjoyable and memorable experience; we are confident that it helped our Year 8 pupils connect with the spirit of the season while supporting a worthy cause.

As we break for Easter, let us carry with us the spirit of renewal and hope, just as the season reminds us of the possibility of new beginnings. May this time bring peace to our hearts, joy to our lives and a deepened sense of compassion for those around us. Thank you for your continued support.



Easter is a time of reflection, and one of its most profound lessons comes from the story of the Prodigal Son. In Luke 15:21, the son humbly says: “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” This parable beautifully illustrates the power of forgiveness, the possibility of redemption and the boundless love that welcomes us back, no matter our past mistakes. We always have the opportunity to change, seek forgiveness, and grow. As we celebrate Easter, let us embrace the themes of renewal and hope in our own lives.

What does it mean to be an Ilsley pupil?

Being part of the Ilsley community is more than just attending school—it’s about representing our values in everything we do. An Ilsley pupil is:

- **Friendly** – We treat others with kindness and respect.
- **Polite** – We show good manners, especially in shared spaces like the canteen.
- **Likeable** – We build positive relationships with teachers and peers.
- **Smart in Appearance** – We take pride in our presentation and follow the school dress code.
- **Proud** – We celebrate our school and our achievements.
- **Diverse** – We embrace and respect the different cultures, backgrounds, and beliefs in our school.

How Can We Be Even Better?

There’s always room for improvement and small changes can make a big difference:

- **Punctuality** – Arriving on time to lessons shows commitment and responsibility.
- **Corridor Conduct** – Respecting younger pupils and maintaining a calm environment.
- **Being Prepared** – Bringing the right equipment (pens, pencils, bag) every day.
- **Aspiration** – With GCSEs on the horizon, staying focused on our studies and setting goals for success is essential. This includes completing homework that has been set.

As we move forward, let’s take these values to heart and continue striving to be the best versions of ourselves. Let your light shine! Thank you to all Year 9 pupils who have supported our Lenten charities, Father Hudson’s and St Chad’s.

Wishing you all a joyful and meaningful Easter celebration!

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to thank you for attending our Year 10 Parents' Evening. It was a pleasure to meet with so many of you and discuss your child's progress as they continue through this important stage of their education. Your support and engagement play a crucial role in helping our pupils achieve their best, and we truly appreciate the time you took to attend. These conversations are invaluable in ensuring that every pupil remains on track, feels supported and is motivated to reach their full potential.



As we approach the Easter holidays, we are encouraging all pupils to maintain their focus and effort. Year 10 is a vital year in preparing for the challenges of Year 11 and the work they do now will set them up for success. We continue to emphasise good study habits, consistent effort and engagement in lessons. If there are any areas where your child needs extra support, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Beyond academic progress, it has been truly heart warming to see our whole school community come together in support of our Lenten charities. The generosity and compassion shown by students, pupils, staff and families alike have been inspiring. Whether through fundraising events, donations, or acts of service, it has been wonderful to see our school's values in action. This period of reflection and giving has reminded us all of the importance of kindness, empathy and looking out for those in need.

I would like to wish you all a happy and peaceful Easter. This two-week holiday is an opportunity for pupils to rest, recharge and spend valuable time with family and friends. While we encourage pupils to use some of the break for revision and preparation, we also recognise the importance of taking a step back and looking after their well-being. A well-rested pupil will return after the break ready to take on the challenges of the summer term with renewed energy and motivation.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. It is through strong partnerships between school and home that we can help our pupils thrive. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

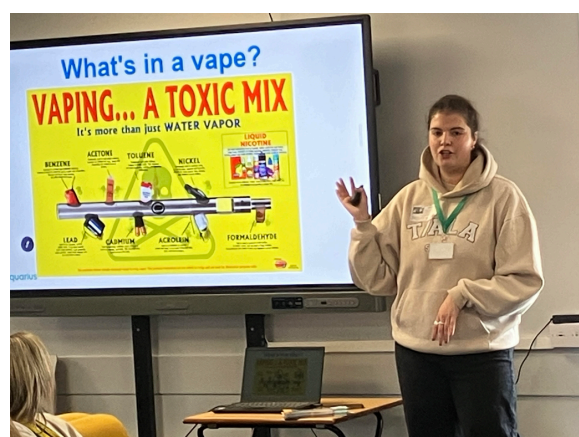
Wishing you all a joyful Easter and a restful holiday.

YEAR GROUP ASSEMBLIES THIS WEEK



This week all pupils and students in Years 7-13 have benefitted from an extremely informative assembly focusing on the topic of vaping. The series of age appropriate assemblies we led by representatives from the charity Aquarius. Aquarius are a charity with services across the Midlands, supporting people affected by alcohol, drugs and gambling. They have over 40 years' experience providing evidence-based, high quality services to help change behaviour and change lives.

Each year group received a presentation covering essential aspects surrounding vaping, its impact and important guidelines for our school community. The assemblies were extremely informative and our pupils and students represented themselves exceptionally well; they were attentive and engaged. The assemblies have provided valuable information and raised pupils' and students' awareness about vaping, helping to foster a well-informed environment for all. Many thanks to Ms Kilroy, Pastoral Lead for Year 10 for organising this.





Year 11 have a matter of days left in school before exams start. I have been so proud of how pupils have really improved over the past few weeks. We can see that revision is happening at home, as this becomes evident within the classroom. So many pupils are taking advantage of Maths period 6 which is so wonderful to see.

Last week, I sent you the assembly your child received from me regarding strategies and tips they can use to revise effectively. On Monday, Mr Clinton applied these strategies to revising Macbeth, this assembly has also been sent to you. Please continue to get involved in helping your child to revise- you can be the pupil and they must teach you a certain topic or you can quiz them using their flashcards. Your child has been provided with physical copies of revision timetables or alternatively digital copies on their google classroom. I encourage you to sit with your child to devise or discuss their timetable; time is of the essence. However, their time needs to be used realistically, whilst also allowing for a balance and time for themselves.

Year 11 decided to conduct a penalty shootout against teachers for their Lenten charity activity. This was a huge success and Year 11 thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all teachers involved, especially Mr Clinton and Mr 'flashcat' McMahon.

All summer examinations taking place at Archbishop Ilsey have been posted on our website and on your child's google classroom platform, please do take a look. Your child will also receive a personalised timetable before exams start.

A reminder that Prom tickets are now on sale via ParentPay.

Photos will take place on Wednesday 30th April.

Thank you so much for your continued support, we are on the final stretch now, not long to go!



PERFORMANCE AT THE ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE

ENRICHMENT

On Monday 7th April 11 pupils performed at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and parents, carers and staff alike enjoyed watching the performance. Well done to the Arts Faculty for preparing the pupils so well.

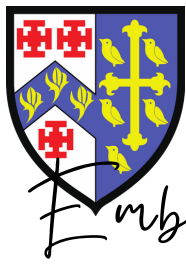


WORLD ART DAY

World Art Day is on Tuesday, 15th April. As this falls during our Easter break, we celebrated World Art day on Thursday 10th April. There was lots going on including an Art Scavenger Hunt, Art Exhibition featuring lots of pupil work and curriculum lessons incorporating art activities with pupils producing artwork based on the theme 'PEACE'. On Friday, there was also an Open Mic session which proved to be very popular.

At the end of this term, Mrs Mackuin and Year 8 completed a beautiful project. Pupils were asked to design Easter egg decorations on the theme of Easter. This project was based on a tradition which is maintained by many Eastern European families especially in Poland, where baskets of decorated eggs are placed in wicker baskets and taken to church on Easter Saturday. The project illustrated our pupils' God given talents. Thank you to the Arts Faculty and our talented artists and musicians for all of your hard work this term!





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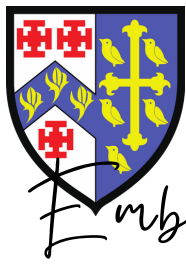
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<https://www.illesley.bham.sch.uk/sixth-form/>

This week we have held our Recognition Assemblies in order to celebrate the achievements of our Year 12 and 13 students. Please see their achievements in pictures; we have had a busy three weeks!

For our annual Culture Day, the Common Room was awash with colour as students wore their cultural clothing, brought in flags and shared food. It was a fantastic celebration of our diverse community!





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LENTEN REFLECTION AND CONFESSIONS WITH FATHER MARCO



As we approach the end of Lent and the coming of Easter, students have been encouraged to consider their Lenten journey and offer prayers of thanksgiving for their time of reflection. In Tuesday's Act of Worship, students reflected on the 10 commandments and how they could be lived out in their lives. Students then had the opportunity to make their confession. Thank you to Father Marco for supporting our students so well.



GLOBAL LINKS PERU

On Thursday 3rd April our fantastic Year 12 Global Links Peru Team organised a staff and student Quiz Night to raise money for our partner charity The FutureSense Foundation. It was a great evening; staff and students really enjoyed themselves and raised a whopping £150!

Thank you so much to our Year 12 team for planning and compering the evening!

Our Global Links India students have also met this week to decide on their programme of fundraising events. Watch this space for more information!

ARCHANGEL GABRIEL INITIATIVE YEAR 12

On Wednesday 2nd April we launched our Archangel Gabriel Initiative with our Year 12 students. Our students will volunteer their services for one hour a week to support our Year 7 pupils in their lessons.



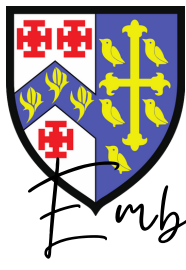
Each one of our Year 12 students has been blessed with God-given talents, unique gifts that He has entrusted to them. These talents are not just for their own benefit but for the good of others. One of the most profound ways that our students can develop their gifts is by supporting those younger than them, particularly our Year 7 pupils, guiding them, encouraging them and helping them to let their own light shine in our school community.

As older students, Year 12 have the opportunity to be great role models for the youngest members of our school. Year 7 pupils enter with excitement, but also with uncertainty. They look up to our Year 12s, seeking guidance, reassurance and inspiration. By supporting them, by being kind, patient and encouraging, Year 12 students will help them build confidence and discover their own gifts. This is not just an act of kindness on their part however; it is a way of fulfilling their own potential, of stepping into leadership and service with purpose.



We do not have to look far to find an example of how God calls us all to serve others. The Archangel Gabriel, a messenger of God, played a pivotal role in announcing the Good News. He was chosen by God to bring His word to Mary, proclaiming the hope and joy of Christ's coming. Like Gabriel, our Year 12 students are called to be messengers of hope, to use their gifts in ways that uplift and inspire those around them. Like Gabriel, they too are called to be messengers of hope, to use their gifts in ways that uplift and inspire those around them. This is not just about teaching younger pupils facts and skills; it is about encouraging them to believe in themselves, to see the goodness in others and to trust in God's plan for their lives.

Year 12 have really embraced this initiative and teachers are so grateful to have them working with our younger pupils. Please ask your child about their experiences so far.



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YEAR 13 AND EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

It really does feel like the exam season comes round very quickly but here we are now, with weeks before the external examinations for our Year 13 students. You will have received communication detailing the arrangements Leavers' Assemblies and celebrations please read these carefully.

In our assemblies over the last two weeks, we have focused on revision techniques and the importance of being organised and prepared in order to support wellbeing and success.

The Easter holidays present a pivotal opportunity for our students to intensify their revision efforts. With exams commencing on Monday 12th May, utilising this period effectively can significantly influence academic outcomes. Students can access a copy of their examination timetable in the Year 13 Google Classroom and it is also available on our website. Students will be given personalised timetables nearer to the examination period.

1. Strategic Timing for Revision

Initiating comprehensive revision during the Easter break will allow students to revisit and consolidate their understanding in each of their subjects. This proactive approach will not only reinforce knowledge but also alleviate the stress associated with last-minute cramming. As highlighted by educational experts, early and structured revision can lead to better preparedness and reduced anxiety as exams approach.



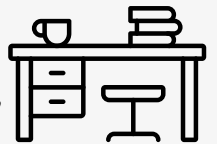
2. Balancing Study and Rest

While dedicating time to study is crucial, it's equally important to maintain a balance between work and relaxation. Overloading oneself with excessive study hours can lead to burnout, diminishing the effectiveness of revision. Students have been provided with revision timetables to help them be specific about their revision.



3. Effective Revision Techniques

Employing active revision methods, such as summarising notes, self-testing and completing past exam papers, can enhance retention and understanding. Organising study materials and setting specific goals for revision session can make revision more manageable and productive. Additionally, creating a conducive study environment, by designating a specific area for study, can help in maintaining focus and efficiency.



In essence, the Easter holidays offer a crucial window for students to deepen their comprehension and readiness for external examinations. By strategically planning revision activities, balancing study with adequate rest, and employing effective study techniques, students will be able to enhance their performance and approach their exams with greater confidence.



Easter Holiday - Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April

Back to school term 5 Monday 28th April

Friday 9th May - Year 13 Study Leave and Mass/Leavers' Assembly

Week beginning Monday 12th May - Year 13 A Levels exams begin!

Week beginning Monday 19th May - Year 12 Mock Exams

Friday 30th May - Sunday 15th June - Year 12 Peru trip

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

THE SECRET EMOJI
CODE HIGHLIGHTED
BY 'ADOLESCENCE'
NETFLIX SERIES


























































































The Netflix drama 'Adolescence' has cast a stark light on a troubling digital phenomenon - the covert use of emojis by teenagers to communicate about drugs, violence, sex, and extremist ideologies. The series has highlighted the increasing media coverage of issues relating to misogyny, the manosphere and other gender based toxic influences. Though emojis are typically a playful form of expression, their hidden use in this context has raised serious concerns about online safety, especially in the largely unregulated digital spaces where young people may spend much of their time. The following resource will support schools and parents by raising awareness about the covert use of emojis by young people to communicate hidden messages.

The intersection of emoji uses with the rise of the 'manosphere', a network of online groups that promote misogynistic views and traditional gender dominance gives cause for concern. Terms like 'incel' (involuntary celibate) are increasingly appearing in teenage conversations, often subtly signalled through emojis. These symbols, when used in certain contexts, can indicate alignment with harmful ideologies that have, in extreme cases, been linked to real-world violence. Influencers like Andrew Tate, frequently appearing on the social media feeds of young people, have contributed to the spread of such beliefs. While not every use of these emojis is cause for alarm, the trend underlines the importance of digital literacy and ongoing dialogue with young people. Parents are encouraged to stay informed, avoid making assumptions, and create a safe space for open, judgement-free conversations, because being aware is the first step toward meaningful protection.

When monitoring digital interactions for these emojis, it's important to remember that context matters. Their use does not automatically indicate a harmful conversation - the specific circumstances in which a symbol is used will reveal whether it's something that should spark concern. Understanding the hidden meanings behind emojis can be most helpful when they are considered alongside other markers of risk.

EMOJI'S EXPLAINED

FROM SECRET SLANG TO CODED MESSAGES, EMOJIS ARE OFTEN USED TO CONVEY MEANINGS THAT PARENTS MIGHT NOT RECOGNISE. UNDERSTANDING THESE HIDDEN MESSAGES CAN HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN GENERATIONS AND ENSURE OPEN, INFORMED CONVERSATIONS.

DRUGS RELATED							
							
							
VIOLENCE							
							
SEX							
							
							
SELF HARM EXTREMISM							
							
							
INCEL CULTURE							
							
							
HEARTS							

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
[HTTPS://WWW.EDUCATEAGAINSTHATE.COM/](https://www.educateagainsthate.com/)
[HTTPS://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/NEWS/ARTICLES/CN8RDY4ZD43O](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn8rdy4zd43o)
[HTTPS://WWW.CHILDRENSSOCIETY.ORG.UK/](https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/)
[HTTPS://PSHE-ASSOCIATION.ORG.UK/](https://pshe-association.org.uk/)
[HTTPS://WWW.NSPCC.ORG.UK/KEEPING-CHILDREN-SAFE/ONLINE-SAFETY/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/)