



Inside Kingshurst

TGAK Careers Fair: Thursday 28th November 3.05-5.30pm

As mentioned in last week's edition on Inside Kingshurst, we are delighted for our third annual Careers Fair to take place as of **this coming Thursday afternoon (28th Nov)**.

It takes place from **3.05pm until 5.30pm** in both the **Main Hall and Student Foyer areas**, where both venues will be at full capacity, hosting at present, 57 different types of provider, that include Independent Training Providers, Universities, Further Education/ Sixth Form Colleges and Employers, including prestige companies such as BBC, Rolls Royce, Balfour Beatty, McAlpine and National Highways.

Despite the event being of particular benefit to our student, parents and carers in Year 10 to Year 13, **there is an open invitation to ALL parents and carers to attend** and speak to the stakeholders from these varied areas.

If you do have any questions in advance of this event, please contact our Careers Lead, **Mrs Robinson** on her jrobinson@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk email address. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday!

Tudor Grange Academy Kingshurst
Cooks Lane, Birmingham B37 6NU

CAREERS FAIR
2.00 – 5.30pm

Parents and Carers welcome from 3.05 onwards
Thursday 28th November 2024

In the Foyer and the Hall

Exhibitors to include: Local and National Employers, Apprenticeship Providers, Universities, Colleges, Independent Training Providers

Event organiser:
Jacqui Robinson, Careers Leader jrobinson@kingshurst.tgacademy.org.uk

For:
• Year 10
• Year 11
• Year 12
• Year 13
• Parents, carers and all year groups welcome after 3.05

Sixth Form Applications Go Live!



Aligned to this week's Careers Fair, please remember that for students in Year 11, the application system is live in order to get your name down to join our successful Sixth Form in September 2025! A wide range of A Level and Vocational course are available and all information can be accessed via the Prospectus App that can be accessed via clicking on the links below:

[Prospectus App link](#)

[Link to online application form](#)

Fact of the Week: Every leaf has its own story to tell

With the leaves well and truly falling to signify the seasons have shifted, every one of them tells a story. From the big, glossy leaf of a rubber tree to the small, waxy leaf of a kapok tree, each leaf is adapted to suit its environment (our GCSE Geography students will tell you about this!). The giant water lily has huge leaves that grow up to 3m wide. The undersides are coated with spikes which help stop fish from eating them.



MOCK EXAMS WEEK 3: Spanish Oral Exams [CLICK HERE for a link to the Year 11 schedule](#)

National College: What Parents & Educators Need to Know about Fortnite



Over the years, Fortnite has become a household name in the gaming community. It was one of the first titles in the 'battle royale' subgenre, where players are thrown into a chaotic free-for-all on a sprawling map and fight until only one remains. Its cartoonish presentation and satisfying gameplay loop make it a potentially attractive choice for young players. However, it's important to remember that online safety risks are always present – especially in multiplayer games – and Fortnite is no exception. The guide on page 2, tells us all that we need to know about the safety concerns of this popular title and offers advice on how to protect children and young people as they enjoy the game.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music tracks and LEGO items – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the 'party chat' feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

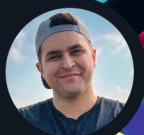
The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



The National College