



FHS NEWS

JANUARY 2025

SOUTHALL COMMUNITY AWARDS

The annual Southall Community Alliance awards saw three of our students scoop community trophies.

We are all incredibly proud of Jess, Mohammed and Rayjolina who were nominated by their teachers for going above and beyond in their school life. They were able to meet the Mayor of Ealing, our local MP and many other pillars of the local community to share their ideas. We would also like to thank our 6th Form volunteers who helped set up and run the evening.



Winners pictured here with the Mayor of Ealing, other award winners, our local MP and former MP

FOOD BANK: STUDENT LEADS THE WAY

Year 10 student, Mohammed Asraf helped bring joy to struggling families this Christmas.

Together with his fellow students, staff and his family, he worked to provide a pop-up food bank at the Featherstone Sports Centre next to the school just before Christmas.

Mohammed worked with his year group, his head of year Ms Nixon, Ms Thompson, and the sports centre's manager Juma. Between them, they managed to get together a huge spread of food, household goods and toys. Items were then sorted by the Year 7 Community Ambassadors

Mohammed said: "To everyone who has supported me and contributed towards my food bank collection, I would like to say a huge 'thank you.' I was overwhelmed by all the support and guidance I have had from you all, and I could not have done this without you."

Mr Walters said: "To be so kind and thoughtful at this young age, Mohammed is a credit to his family and his school. He really is proof that Christmas can still be a time for giving."



WINTER CONCERT

Last term ended on a high with our annual Winter Concert.

The event was really well attended and the standard of performance very high.

Well done to all of our talent students who performed and assisted with our concert.



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RESPECT

CHALLENGE

RESILIENCE

PARTNERSHIP

INCLUSION

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A NEW YEAR: A TIME FOR GROWTH

S As we begin this new year, I am struck by the idea that the start of a new year is not simply a turn of the calendar; it's a fresh chapter filled with possibilities. Each new year offers us a chance to grow, reflect, and strive for excellence, both individually and as a community. Together, we are embarking on a journey that holds boundless potential for our students who themselves have boundless potential.

The world around us is constantly changing, and our students are navigating this dynamic landscape every day. As parents, you are their steadfast support, guiding them through the ups and downs that the high school years bring. This year, let us remember that growth comes not only from the successes but from the challenges we face along the way. It is through our perseverance, resilience, and our willingness to rise after every setback that we truly discover our potential. As parents, you have witnessed your child's growth in many forms, and as a school, we

are here to support that process every step of the way.

At Featherstone, we believe in the power of purpose. Every student who walks through our doors has a unique gift, a special light to share with the world. Our role, both as parents and educators, is to help them uncover their passions, discover their strengths, and, most importantly, help them see their value in this world. This is not just about grades or test scores although we know how crucial these are—it is about creating individuals who are compassionate, curious, and ready to make meaningful contributions to society.

This year, let's inspire our children to ask the big questions: What do I want to become? How can I make a difference? What legacy do I want to leave behind? These questions are not just for the future—they are for now. They guide us every day as we face new challenges and new opportunities.

Our school is more than just a place for academic learning; it is a community. A community

that thrives on support, understanding, and collaboration. It is



in the collective efforts of parents, teachers, and students that we create an environment where each individual can flourish. As we know: Together we Achieve.

Your involvement in this journey is invaluable. You are your child's first and most important teacher. Your encouragement, your belief in them, and your steady presence make all the difference. But your partnership with us is equally essential. Together, we form a united front, committed to the success and well-being of your child. It is through this partnership that we can build a strong foundation for the future.

Let's make this year one of growth, hope, and limitless possibilities.

With gratitude and optimism for the year ahead.

Mr Walters, Headteacher

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We were honoured to attend the Remembrance Service in Southall.

Our Featherstone choir beautifully led the singing at this important community event, bringing us all together to honour those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom.



EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

In exciting news, we have achieved the Top 10 % of all FFT Secondary Schools in England and the Top 10% of similar FFT Secondary Schools in England for 2023/24.



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LES ÉTUDIANTS DE FHS EN FRANCE!

Thirty-seven students from Year 10 and Year 11 took part in an exciting trip to Paris accompanied by their French teachers Ms Liu and Mr Haji as well as Mrs Sond, Mrs Walker and Mr Webb.

They discovered the calmness of the Sacré Coeur Cathedral and the beautiful view of Paris from Montmartre on the first day.

On the second day, they enjoyed the magic of Christmas in Disneyland. The students got their hearts turned upside down in rollercoasters and other rides, admiring the enchanting fireworks at night!



After a restful night in a Chateau (castle), the group made a quick visit to the Eiffel Tower and enjoyed some Christmas shopping!

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Thank you to the Southall Community Alliance for inviting us to the Schools' Forum, alongside other High Schools.

This was a really interesting discussion looking at what our young people would like to see changed and improved in our local area. It was also a great opportunity to meet other students and hear about opportunities our young people can tap into.



CASTLE CONSTRUCTION

Year 7 historians have time travelled back to the Norman Conquest of 1066 this term to re-enact the Battle of Hastings.

Having learnt about William of Normandy's invasion they created their own swords and shields to act out the battle in the playground and put themselves in the shoes of the Normans and Saxons that fought.

They then became Norman castle builders as they created their own motte



and bailey and stone castles, showing off what they learnt both in lessons and on the Tower of London curriculum days.

EX-STUDENT AWARDED OBE

Congratulations to Jasmine Dotiwala, Featherstone High School alumni, for being awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours List 2025 for services to Broadcasting and Music and to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Pictured here, Jasmine was our guest of honour at Awards Evening and gave an inspiring speech to students .



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ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

We celebrated anti-bullying week to raise awareness about bullying and to promote kindness within our school.

Many exciting events took place, in which everyone was given a chance to participate. We had:

- kindness stalls where students wrote a positive message to give to a friend or hang up on a special tree of positivity
- games in the library to boost partnership within us
- odd socks day to embrace our differences

Our team of anti-bullying ambassadors



spread awareness in assemblies and helped host activities. Thank you to the ambassadors for their hard work!

Jasleen Kaur, Anti-Bullying Ambassador



PANTOMIME TRIP FOR YEAR 7S

The Performing Arts Department took a group of lovely Year 7 students to watch the Christmas pantomime version of 'Aladdin' written by Sonia Jalaly and directed by Nicholai La Barrie.

These students were recognised to be well behaved, making great contributions in lessons and demonstrating a natural



flare in the subjects. They absolutely loved their time on the trip, which involved lots of laughing, singing,



standing up dancing and clapping and many said it was one of the most fun, memorable experiences of their lives!

NEWS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

We ran a competition for our school Christmas card and we are proud

to show you this year's winner, designed by Year 7 student Aisa Alam.



Our Year 11s GCSE students are busy creating these amazing ceramic clay pots. It takes hard work to produce these designs and we are very pleased with their progress so far.



OVERDUE BOOKS NEW YEAR AMNESTY

Have **YOU** got any **Overdue or Missing Library Books** at home? Please return them to the Library or into a Book Box. This is a one off chance to clear your account, no questions asked. Speak to the Library staff for more information.

READING ROOM

The Library Reading Room is a calm and quiet space where students can relax and enjoy reading for pleasure.

In Year 7 some lunchtimes are designated as Quiet Reading Days, and this creates a wonderful environment for students to enjoy reading without any distractions.



READING BUDDIES

Students in Years 7 and 8 have been partnered up with volunteers from Years 10 and 12 and meet twice a week to read with their buddies.

This project challenges students to develop resilience, confidence and fluency in their reading with the support and encouragement of their older reading buddies.



FHS READS

[The latest editions of the FHS Reads and YA Reads are full of recommendations for some great wintry reads, and also feature authors and genres and new additions to the library's shelves - click here.](#)

BOOK FAIR

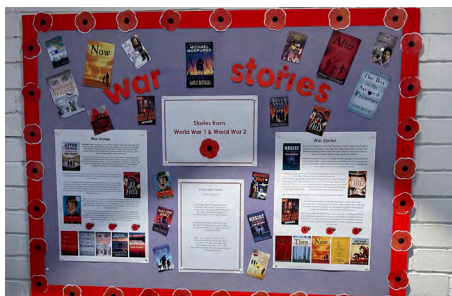


Another very successful book fair took place in November with students buying almost £1000 of books and stationery and earning lots of free books for the library.

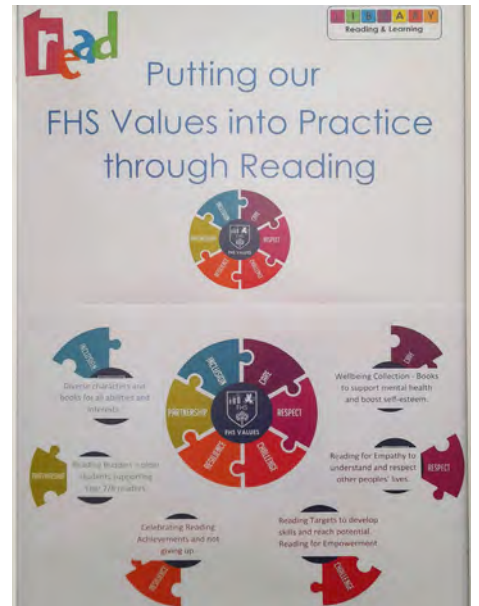
Thanks to the volunteers who helped to run the fair and to parents and carers for supporting this event.

BOOK DISPLAYS

Recent Book Displays in the Library have celebrated special events and highlighted books on a wide range of topics and genres, including Anti-Bullying Week, Remembrance Day and Christmas.



The positive reading culture at Featherstone is embedded in our core values.



During Non-Fiction November students were encouraged to Read for Information to find out more about their school subjects, or to learn new skills or facts.

YOUNG CARERS

A book list of books about or featuring fictional young carers has been produced, please ask in the Library.

A young carer is someone under the age of 18 who supports or cares for an adult or sibling who has a disability, illness, addiction, or mental health issue. They may carry out practical household tasks or undertake personal and physical care responsibilities. If you feel that you or a friend are a Young Carer and would like extra support or information, please contact Mrs Rughani based in the Orchard, email srughani@featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk, or speak to any Learning Mentor.

THE YEAR 7 BOOK GROUP CELEBRATED CHRISTMAS WITH SOME FESTIVE FICTION AND CRAFTS.



OXFORD UNIVERSITY: INSPIRE PROGRAMME

This term the Inspire Students from Year 10 and Year 11 had the opportunity to visit St John's Oxford University.



ask questions about further education and explore the Campus.

The students also got the chance to visit the Natural History Museum linked to the University, where they had the privilege to get involved in object handling which they enjoyed.



ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION DEBATE

This year's ESU schools mace debate was held at Nishkam School West London. This was an exciting journey filled with opportunities for our students to develop their oracy and debate skills.

Each team consisted of three speakers (first, second and summary), and they were given a proposition or opposition stance. Our year 11 team were given the proposition stance and the motion 'This house would ban the use of facial

recognition'. Mrs Amiri who runs the debate club and other oracy based activities in the school had prepared the year 11s for their first ever debate and due to their resilience and hard work, they did remarkably well getting through to the second round despite been up against fierce competition, the other schools participating were John Lyon School, Nishkam School West London, John Lyon School, St Paul's School and the Godolphin and Latymer School. Our team are now in anticipation preparing for their next debate which will be held next year in January.



MATHS CHALLENGE



We want to congratulate our amazing Year 12 and 13 students who took part in the senior UKMT Maths Challenge.

Three students achieved Gold standard, with a further four receiving Silver and Bronze Awards. Their dedication and passion for mathematics are truly inspiring.



WINTER SERVICES



Click below for a round up of winter services, help and support available across the borough for residents.

www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201320/cost_of_living_support_and_advice/3427/winter_help

TERM DATES

Half term: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Curriculum Day coinciding with Eid al-Fitr: Monday 31st March 2025

End of term: Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holiday: Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

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[Featherstonehigh1](https://www.youtube.com/Featherstonehigh1)



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OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPETITION WINNERS!

MR WALTERS AND MS STRIBLING PLAYED SANTA JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS DELIVERING PRIZES TO THE WINNERS OF OUR ANNUAL OPEN EVENING QUIZ AND WORD PUZZLE.



JASMINE:
ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
(QUIZ)



PRABHKEERAT:
HAVELOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL
(QUIZ)



LEILA:
NORWOOD GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL
(WORD PUZZLE)



SAHIBDEEP:
FEATHERSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WORD PUZZLE)



ANAYA:
DAIRY MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL
(WORD PUZZLE)

THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK PART

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STREET ROBBERY

Robbery is when force is used or threatened to steal items. Thieves often target people who are distracted, so keeping your valuables including your mobile phone and other devices hidden ensures you're more alert.

HOW CAN I STAY SAFE?

- When out and about – be aware of your surroundings.
- Stay alert when walking along the road for criminals who might use bikes/mopeds or e-scooters to snatch phones/valuables.
- Try not to walk along with your phone or valuables on show.
- Earbuds/Headphones can be a distraction.
- Plan your route and use forms of transport that others are using and avoid shortcuts in isolated places.

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM

Crime prevention advice can help reduce your chances of being robbed, but it may still happen to you. It can be a frightening experience and leave you feeling worried afterwards, especially if you felt threatened or violence was used. Talking to a parent or adult you trust can help.

KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT STREET ROBBERY?

If you have any information about street robbery taking place in your area, you can tell us what you know 100% anonymously at [Fearless.org](https://www.fearless.org)

IF YOU SEE A ROBBERY TAKING PLACE...

Thieves may use force or threatening behaviour. It's better to hand items over than risk your own safety.

If you see a robbery or one has just taken place call police on [999](tel:999). You can still report later on [101](tel:101) or online.

Ealing Mental Health Support Team

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

SPRING TERM 2025



Over the Spring term, Ealing Mental Health Support Team will be running a variety of workshops for parents and carers of children who attend a school in Ealing.



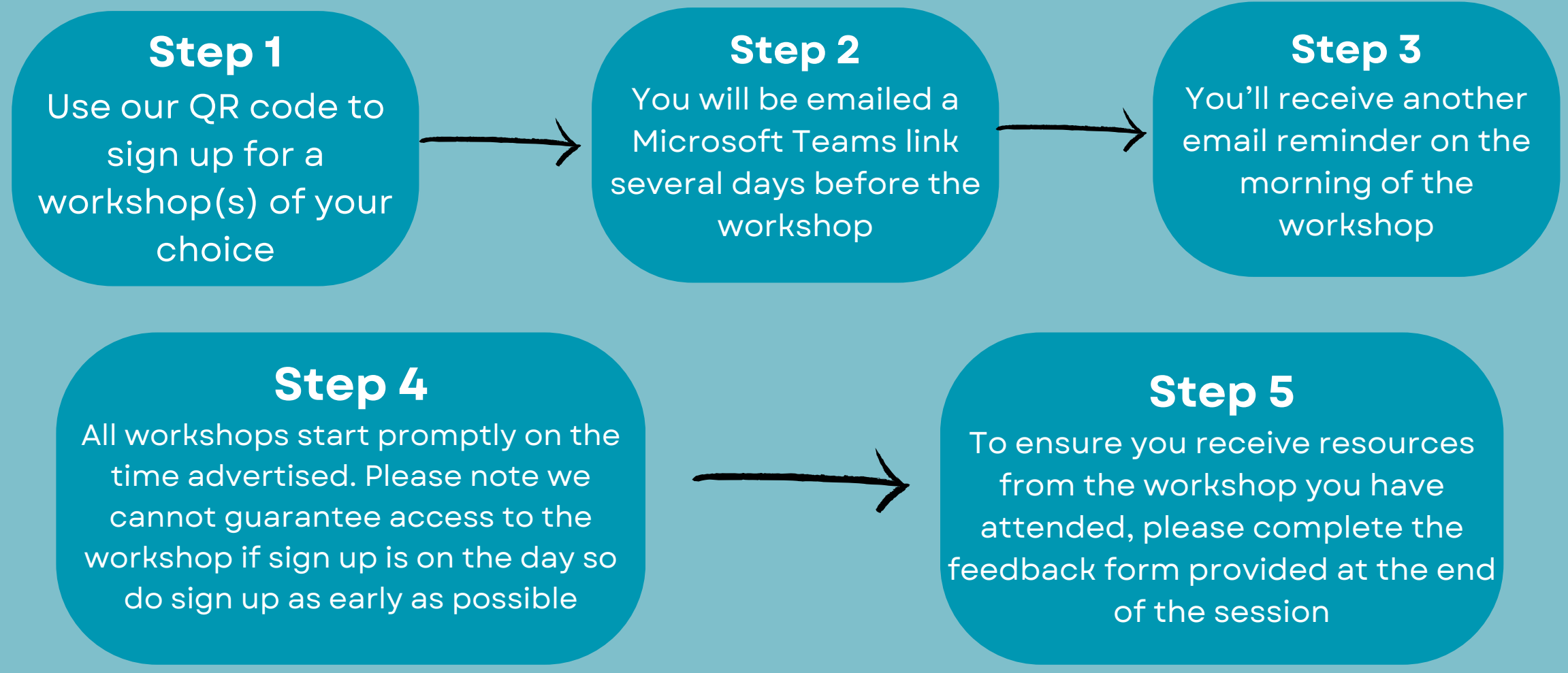
If you would like to sign up to one of our workshops, please do so on the below website or scan the QR code.



<https://forms.gle/Q6bY3bpc3FeB7kMh7>

If you have any questions, please do email us on: Ealing.mhst@nhs.net

PRE AND POST-ATTENDANCE GUIDE



TEEN LOW MOOD AND SLEEP

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children, who would like to know more about what may cause low mood and gain knowledge of strategies that can help to improve low mood and sleep.

Date: 16th January 2025
Time: 9am - 10am

SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary** who would like to learn more about how to manage anxiety in young people, as well as helping to build their confidence.

Date: 20th January 2025
Time: 12pm - 1:30pm

AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**, who would like to know more about Autism and how to support children where Autism may be suspected or diagnosed.

Date: 30th January 2025
Time: 12pm - 1:30pm

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**. The workshop introduces how and why behaviours may occur in children with a range of additional needs, and how to support positive behaviours in children.

Date: 7th February 2025
Time: 11am - 12:15pm

SUPPORTING FRIENDSHIP IN CHILDREN

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **primary**-aged children to provide information to help you support your young person with building and managing friendships, including supporting with social anxiety.

Date: 18th February 2025
Time: 1pm - 2:30pm

UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH IN ADOLESCENT BOYS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the causes of declining mental health in adolescent boys and equips parents with strategies to promote positive mental health.

Date: 25th February 2025
Time: 12pm - 1:30pm

ADOLESCENT EXAM STRESS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children to identify and manage exam stress in adolescents, and will provide strategies to promote wellbeing in students before, during and after exams.

Date: 11th March 2025
Time: 12pm - 1:30pm

AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM IN ADOLESCENTS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the changes and impact of adolescence within autism, equipping parents with strategies to promote positive mental health among autistic teenagers.

Date: 14th March 2025
Time: 12pm - 1:30pm

SUPPORTING APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY USE IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This workshop supports parents/carers of **primary**-aged and **secondary**-aged children. It introduces parents to strategies in managing and promoting healthy technology use in their child/young person.

Date: 17th March 2025
Time: 11:30am - 1pm

