

# John Ray Times

**Our Core Values: Hope, Perseverance, Trust, Courage, Respect, Responsibility**

24<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Phone:** 01376 324107 **Email:** [jrcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:jrcontact@compassps.uk) **Website:** [www.johnray.compassps.uk](http://www.johnray.compassps.uk)



@johnrayjuniors



@ facebook.com/johnraycompassps

## Online learning links



[Accelerated Reader](#)



[CENTURY  
Century Tech](#)



[TTRockstars](#)



[Nessy](#)

For uniform orders visit: [www.gooddies.co.uk](http://www.gooddies.co.uk)

For information on Food Bank vouchers email: [mkeegan@compassps.uk](mailto:mkeegan@compassps.uk)

For second hand uniform requests email: [rcottee@compassps.uk](mailto:rcottee@compassps.uk)

Breakfast club queries email: [hwiltshire@compassps.uk](mailto:hwiltshire@compassps.uk)

School dinner menus are on our website:

31.03.2025 [Week 1](#), 24.03.25 [Week 3](#)

On Wednesday 2nd April, we have a special Easter Menu. Please click [here](#) to view the menu options

### [Zones of Regulation](#)

The ZONES of Regulation

Blue Zone	Green Zone	Yellow Zone	Red Zone
Soil	Happy	Worried	Overjoyed/Elated
Bored	Focused	Frustrated	Excited
Tired	Calm	Silly	Angry
Sick	Proud	Excited	Terrified

### [School Attendance Difficulties](#)



### [Supporting Anxiety](#)



### [My Happy Mind Parent App](#)

To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email and authentication code emailed to you in the letter sent on 23.09.24.

Comic Relief Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March



Thank you for all your donations. We raised £255.58

### **Y4 Easter Experience visit to St Michael's Church**

Children in Y4 will walk to St Michael's Church this week to take part in an Easter Experience workshop. In the workshop, they will learn about the Easter story. Classes will be at school for lunch and visits will be taking part at the following times:

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 4T (morning) and 4CB (afternoon)  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 4J (morning) and 4B (afternoon)

All children in Y4 should still come to school in PE kit on Wednesday and 4B will still need PE clothes for Thursday. We suggest that all children wear comfortable shoes for walking to and from the church (trainers can be worn on the visit day). Please ensure all children have a coat

Permission is not required as this is covered under the local visits consents. However, if you do not want your child to take part, you must email class teachers by 5pm on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

### **St Michael's Church SMASH holiday club 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April**

St Michael's Church are holding their popular SMASH Holiday club between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April. Details including the QR To book are included at the bottom of the newsletter.

### **After School Clubs**

This week is the last week for after school clubs.

A letter regarding the after school clubs for the summer term was sent out via MCAS on Friday and spaces are available to book. Bookings close on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March at noon.

### **Easter Treat menu- 2<sup>nd</sup> April**



### **Parking and driving around the school**

We regularly receive complaints from residents regarding parking at drop off and pick up times. Please ensure that you park responsibly and that you drive with due care and attention to ensure that everyone is safe. Last week, a near miss was reported whereby a secondary school child was almost knocked over by a car looking for a parking space near Lister Road.

### **Save the date- Y6 Leavers' disco**

The PTA will be hosting a Y6 leavers' disco on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm. Detail to follow nearer the time.

### **British Science Week**

To celebrate British Science Week, we would like to invite children to take part in a competition to design a poster. Details are shown on a poster towards the end of the newsletter and entries must be given to Mrs Casey in 3D by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Tuck Shop**

Just a reminder that our tuck shop will only be open on Fridays. Items cost 30p.

## SEN Local Offer

Our SEN Local Offer is amended and published at the end of each academic year. It has the information on provision and processes across the school and the SENCo contact details: [John Ray Junior School - SEND Local Offer \(compassps.uk\)](mailto:John.Ray@compassps.uk).

## SEND Local Offer Newsletter

There are lots of activities and events for children with SEND on the Essex Local Offer and from the Local Offer website – sign up here to read more: [Stay up to date with the Essex Local Offer newsletter | Essex Local Offer](#).

This includes our New POP Essex website and location: [POP Essex • SEN Stay & Play And Respite In Braintree, Essex \(pop-essex.org\)](http://pop-essex.org).

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Don't forget we would love to hear about any children who have been awarded badges or certificates for activities they do outside of school. Please email class teachers with your child's achievements.

Well done to;

Karate: William (3C) has achieved his green belt, Reuben (4T) orange stripe, Blake (6G) yellow stripe

Kung Fu: Quinn (5B) orange sash, Isaac (5B) orange / green sash, Harry (5B) yellow sash

Dancers: Rosie-Mai (4CB) Dancer of the week, Vinnie (5K) gold award

Hockey: Xavier (5K) 1<sup>st</sup> placed team in under 13s

Football: Players of the match: Seth (3W), Lucas (3P), Dominic (5W), Summer (4T), Tyler (6G), Jenson (6G)

Swimming: Seth (3W), Willow (3P), Phoebe (4CB) have all passed stage 3 and are now up to stage 4, Noah (4J) 200m



## Stars of the Week

Each week, class teachers will choose a member of their class to be star of the week. Children who are chosen will have their name added in this section of the newsletter.

<b>3C: Cody</b>	<b>4B: Alice</b>	<b>5B: Quinn</b>	<b>6G: Taylor</b>
<b>3D: Jorgie</b>	<b>4CB: Jaden</b>	<b>5E: Olly</b>	<b>6L: Layla</b>
<b>3P: -</b>	<b>4J: Riley</b>	<b>5K: Rita</b>	<b>6O: Leo</b>
<b>3W: Sidley-Rai</b>	<b>4T: Reuben</b>	<b>5W: Izma</b>	<b>6R: Kayden</b>

## PE Days

Children need to come into school on PE days in their PE kit. Children will need an outdoor PE kit i.e., black tracksuit bottoms (or shorts in warmer weather), white T-shirt and a black fleece / tracksuit top.

**We are noticing more children coming to school on PE days in wear that is not PE uniform. Please ensure that children have a plain white T-shirt and black shorts or tracksuit bottoms. We may ask**

children to change into any spare PE that we have in school if they do not come to school dressed appropriately.

Monday: Y3, Y6  
Tuesday: Y5, 6L, 6G, 6R  
Wednesday: Y4, 5B  
Thursday: Y3, 4B, 5E, 5K, 6O  
Friday: 4J, 4CB, 4T, 5W

Please remember that children must remove earrings to participate in PE lessons. Taping over earrings is not permitted.

**PE kit is black joggers / shorts and a black hoodie or sweatshirt with a white T shirt along with trainers.**

We expect that children will either wear one of the black John Ray logo hoodies from our supplier or a plain black hoodie/sweatshirt and plain black joggers on the two days a week that your child has PE.

### **CASHBACK WHEN SHOPPING ONLINE**

The Friends of JRI and JRJ have created a cash back account through **Easy Fundraising**. This is a fantastic way to raise much needed extra funds to support both schools.

The link below can be used for you to register:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/47ha4n/>

Once registered, for ease, you can download the app. Every time you shop from the app, across over 4000 online retailers, our schools earn cash back. It's free to join and includes top names like eBay, Argos, Iceland and John Lewis. You can share this link with friends and family members too. A letter with more information can be found on our [website](#).

### **Safeguarding**

#### **Are you worried about a child?**

As a school, we consider safeguarding to be a priority. We welcome parents and carers talking openly to us about their concerns for the safeguarding of children and families. **Remember, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.** If you have any concerns about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the school office. Please ask to speak to Karen Harrison, Rachel Cottee or Meriel Keegan and specify that you have a safeguarding concern. If you are worried about a child or young person, you can call the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free on [0808 800 5000](tel:08088005000). If a child is in immediate danger, you should call 999.

Children can call [Childline](tel:08001111) at any time on [0800 1111](tel:08001111)



### **National Online Safety: What parents and carers need to know about Streamers**

Livestreaming is now a major part of children's entertainment, evolving from gamers sharing screens into a booming industry with diverse personalities. While watching streamers can be entertaining, it comes with no small number of risks for children, such as misinformation, negative influences, and inappropriate content. With over 2.5 million viewers on Twitch – the current most popular streaming platform – at any one time, this guide highlights the potential dangers associated with watching livestreams and the importance of staying informed.

The free guide – also available in podcast format – provides parents and educators with everything they need to know about streamers and how to keep children protected.

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

### CLASS TEACHERS' EMAIL ADDRESSES

We understand that for many people email is a quick and efficient way of communicating and we are therefore happy to provide class teachers' email addresses. Although email is a quick and easy way for parents to communicate with staff, matters that require urgent attention should be communicated via the school office. Staff are not expected to respond to emails after 5pm, during weekends/holidays or when off work due to sickness. A parental agreement relating to email communication with teachers is available from the school office or on our website under the communication tab. **Please note: Miss O'Sullivan now has a new email address.**

Year 3	Year 4
3C: cwaspe1@compassps.uk 3D: dcasey@compassps.uk 3P: sphillips@compassps.uk 3W: zwatson@compassps.uk	4B: wnicolls@compassps.uk 4CB: hcollier-brown@compassps.uk 4J: jbrennan@compassps.uk 4T: tbeeson@compassps.uk, <a href="mailto:kbreen@compassps.uk">kbreen@compassps.uk</a>
Year 5	Year 6
5B: hbreeze@compassps.uk 5E: cellis@compassps.uk 5K: kbrighton@compassps.uk 5W: awilson1@compassps.uk, rcottee@compassps.uk	6G: ngibson@compassps.uk 6L: jlarbalestier@compassps.uk 6O: cosullivan1@compassps.uk 6R: rroberts@compassps.uk

Please contact class teachers in the first instance to resolve any issues. Should you feel you need to escalate the issue, please contact:

**Miss Coffee (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y5 or Y6** – [rcottee@compassps.uk](mailto:rcottee@compassps.uk)

**Mrs Breen (Assistant Head) if your child is in Y3 or Y4** – [kbreen@compassps.uk](mailto:kbreen@compassps.uk)

### **RECENT LETTERS INCLUDING NEWSLETTERS – MANY OF OUR LETTERS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE**

All communication will be sent through Bromcom. Please ensure that you have given us a current email address. Issues with Bromcom communication should be emailed [to jrcontact@compassps.uk](mailto:tojrcontact@compassps.uk)

12.11.24 Letter from UKHSA and ECC: Circulation of measles

19.11.24 Adverse weather plan

27.11.24 Alec Hunter Taster Sessions for Year 5 Pupils (Y5 only)

06.01.25 HappyDays School Photography Subscriptions (All) - deadline to sign up 20.01.25

06.01.25 National Child Measurement Programme (Y6 only)

08.01.25 Hemisphere pupil survey (Y5 and Y6 only)

09.01.25 Support Sessions for Families (All)

14.01.25 Teaching arrangements for 4B (4B only)

22.01.25 KEGS Open Day Events (Y5 boys only)

27.01.25 Y5 day trip- letter to express interest

29.01.25 Leavers Hoodies (Y6 only)

### **Dates for the academic year 2024-2025 (new dates in red)**

[Please see the website for the term dates](#)

### **Spring Term 2025**

24.03.25 Last week for clubs

24.03.25 School council visit to the Houses of Parliament

26.03.25 Y4 Easter Experience at St Michael's Church

27.03.25 Y4 Easter Experience at St Michael's Church

3.04.25 Easter service at school

04.04.25 Last day of term

### Summer Term 2025

22.04.25 Start of term for children

28.04.25 After school clubs start

12.05.25 SATS week (*Y6 only*)

13.05.25 & 14.05.25 One Plan meetings for children on SEN register

20.05.25 Year 6 Mersea residential meeting 5pm

22.05.25 Sports day and parent picnic (*parents invited from 11:45*)

26.05.25 Half term

02.06.25 Multiplication check starts for 3 weeks (*Y4 only*)

02.06.25 Children return to school

05.06.25 Reserve Sports day in case of poor weather

11.06.25-13.06.25 Mersea residential (*Y6 only*)

25.06.25 Class photos (children who have PE on this day should come into school in school uniform and bring PE kits in a separate bag)

27.06.25 Summer fete (Please note change of date)

07.07.25 Last week for clubs

08.07.25 Children to spend time with their new teacher

10.07.25 Annual reports sent out

11.07.25 Y6 leavers' disco

15.07.24 Y6 production to parents 1:45 and 4:30pm 6L and 6G

16.07.25 Open afternoon drop in for current parents *from 3:30pm – 4.30pm*

17.07.25 Y6 production to parents 1:45 and 4:30pm 6O and 6R

18.07.25 Last day of term

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities - and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

### NEGATIVE INFLUENCES



While things have improved, streamers are often paid by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

### FINANCIAL HARM



Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

### UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS



Influencers often showcase how glamorous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokemon card worth \$5 million, but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

### MISINFORMATION



Streamers are, in many ways, just like us - and they can get things wrong or reel off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

### ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME



If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS



For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that - influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

### CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS



While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity, too. Then there are Kick and Rumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers - despite many being dogged by controversy.

### DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION



Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avoiding linking payment information. This is especially notable with Twitch, which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

### SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS



You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching content they shouldn't be.

### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/streamers>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.03.2025



15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am - 12.30pm

3 mornings of fun, games, songs,  
Bible stories and much more!

For children of primary school age

To book scan the QR code



# Competition: Create a British Science Week poster



 **BRITISH  
SCIENCE  
WEEK  
2025**

Children aged 3-11 can get creative and enter the British Science Week annual, UK-wide poster competition! To enter, they simply need to create a poster which fits in with the theme of 'Change and adapt'.

Schools then select the five best creations and submit them for a chance of winning an array of prizes. The activities found in this pack marked with a paintbrush symbol could all be used as a source of inspiration to get children started!

## Kit list

### Paper (A4 or A3)

**Creative materials such as:**  
pens, pencils, scissors, glue, watercolours, paint, crayons, pipe cleaners, felt, thread, wool, foil, clay, string, beads, stamps, foam, pompoms

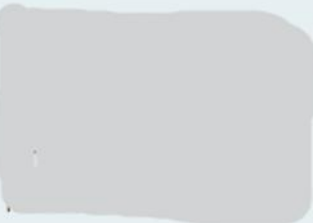
## Instructions

Encourage children to think about change and adaptation – what it means to them and how it relates to science they've learnt about – to come up with ideas to include in their poster. Here are some points and questions to get you going:

- Get children to think about ways that they might have changed or adapted to new experiences and places as they've grown.
- What about change and adaptation in the world, and beyond? How do plants and animals adapt to a changing environment? Do the stars and planets in space change?
- Technology changes all the time, how is it changing our lives? Is it always for the better?

## Make your poster

Once they've done their thinking, it's time for children to get creative! Posters must be A4 or A3 in size and you'll need to be able to take a photograph of each one so it can be sent to us online for judging. Children can use pop-up pictures, pull out tabs or use materials such as pencils, paints, crayons and paper to create their posters.



## Next steps

Celebrate! For more details, along with the full set of poster competition rules and tips, check out our website: [britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition%3F](https://britishscienceweek.org/plan-your-activities/poster-competition%3F).

Entries to be sent to Mrs. Casey by 1st April.

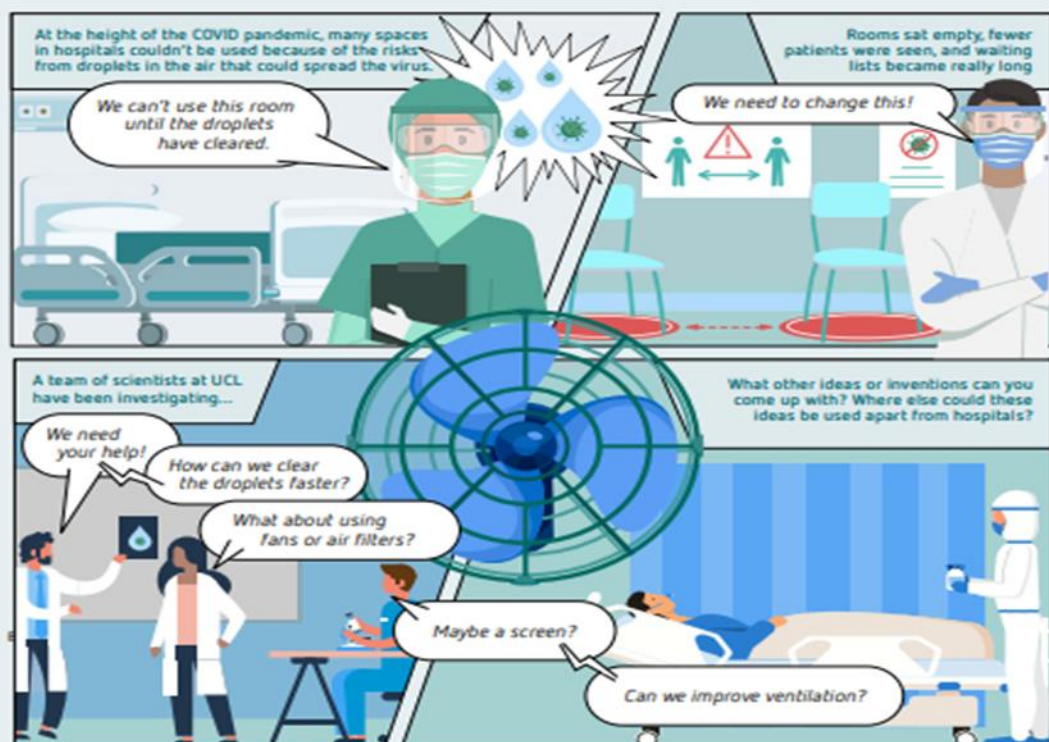


**Older primary children (aged 8-11) may like to enter our special competition category this year - see page 32 for more details.**

## Competition: The scientists from UCL need your help!

Older primary pupils (aged 8-11) might like to enter our special competition category this year and share their ideas with a team of top scientists at University College London (UCL)! Can they help by coming up with a new invention to improve the health of the air in our buildings?

Schools then select five of the best entries across the competition categories and submit them for a chance of winning an array of prizes! See the next page for instructions.





**BRITISH  
SCIENCE  
WEEK  
2025**

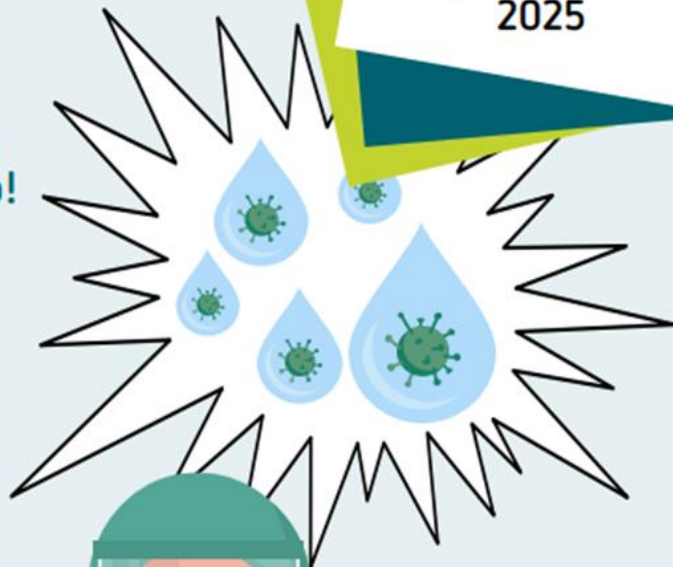
## Competition: The scientists from UCL need your help!

### **i** Instructions

Choose an indoor public space where you often spend time – this could be an area where you learn, or a place you visit regularly like a library, café or cinema. Do you think the air in this space is healthy and clean? Why? Come up with an idea or invention to change the air in your chosen space, making it healthier to breathe. How will it work? Could it be used in other public places too?

You might come up with a brand-new idea, or you might like to think about a new way of using something that already exists. The researchers at UCL have considered lots of different ideas for improving air quality and preventing the spread of viruses in hospitals. For example, you could think about face masks, curtains and screens, ventilation, fans or air filters.

You may like to do some research into how viruses spread to give you some ideas. Have a think about the science behind your idea. How will it work? How will it be made and used?



### Make your poster

Think about how you present your idea to make sure it is clear and easy to understand. You could create a diagram or set of instructions, or you might like to develop an eye-catching poster! Will you include pictures, graphs or other illustrations?

Entries must be A4 or A3 in size and you'll need to be able to take a photograph of your work so it can be sent to us online for judging.

Entries sent to Mrs Casey by 1st April to be submitted to the competition.

# Code Club

**Braintree Library**  
**Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm**

- Do you have a favourite computer game?
- Would you like to learn how to make your own computer games?
- Learn how to make cool games, animations and websites!



**Suitable for ages 9-13**

For further information contact  
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628  
or visit [libraries.essex.gov.uk/events](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/events)



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SESSIONS FOR PARENT  
& CARERS**

**ONLINE**



An opportunity for parents/carers, to come along and connect with a community dedicated to positive growth and development.  
All sessions are online

**Sibling Rivalry**

11/03/2025 1900 - 2100 Search 'Sibling' via our website

**Sleep For Wellbeing**

13/03/2025 0930 - 1130 Search 'Bitesize Sleep' via our website

**Managing Big Emotions**

25/03/2025 1900 - 2100 or 28/03/2025 1230 - 1430  
Search 'Big Emotions' via our website

**Family Wellbeing**

27/03/2025 0930 - 1130 Search 'Family Wellbeing' via our website

Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type the key words above in to the 'Find a course...' box

**COMMUNITY & FAMILY  
LEARNING**



Essex County Council



### Empower Yourself with Essential First Aid Skills

Join our **FREE** Family First Aid sessions to gain the knowledge and confidence to handle common emergencies. Ensure your loved ones are safe with practical skills.


#### Course Highlights

Everyday first aid techniques, Confidence to act swiftly

#### Why Attend?

Empower yourself, Connect with local parents and carers, Ensure your family's safety

 When: Book now for sessions taking place March to July 2025

 Where: Chelmsford, Colchester, or Witham

Don't miss out—sign up today!

Visit our website [aclessex.com](https://www.aclessex.com) and type 'Family First Aid' in to the 'Find a course...' box

COMMUNITY &  
FAMILY LEARNING



Essex County Council



# EASTER HOCKEY CAMP

Thursday 10th April & Friday 11th April

The Four Releet, Braintree CM7 5LJ

<b>£25 half day</b>	<b>Morning Session:</b>
<b>£40 full day</b>	<b>10:00-12:30</b>
<b>£75 both days</b>	<b>Afternoon Session:</b>
	<b>13:00-15:30</b>

boys & girls aged 8 - 12  
members & non members welcome

club members can book through pitchero, otherwise  
email : [junior.admin@braintreehc.co.uk](mailto:junior.admin@braintreehc.co.uk)