

31.01.2025



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly Update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## This Month's Focus Value: Positivity

### A note from Mrs Harrison:

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

What a wonderful month it has been here at Knaphill Junior School! I am constantly amazed by the enthusiasm and dedication of our pupils, staff, and wider community.

Firstly, a huge congratulations to the children who proudly represented our school at the 02 Young Voices concert. It's such an incredible experience for them to perform on such a grand stage, and they made us all so proud with their hard work and talent.

Our school has also been buzzing with excitement about the Rethink Waste project. It's fantastic to see both our children and the community working together to secure funding for our sustainability initiatives. Don't forget that today (Friday) is the last day to donate your points. This is the final push. Please help if you can. The Eco Council has some brilliant plans in the pipeline, and this project is a brilliant step forward in creating a greener, more sustainable future for our school.

I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to our new newsletter editing team, made up of some of our talented Year 5 pupils. They've done a brilliant job putting together this month's entries, showcasing all the exciting learning and activities taking place across the school. It's been lovely hearing all the fantastic news and seeing the creativity and enthusiasm they've poured into this task. Well done!

Thank you all for your continued support and for being part of our wonderful school community. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

### Value of the month: Positivity

#### Our new value for February:

**Positivity:** means being hopeful in your attitude and focusing on what is good in a situation.

#### What it looks like:

To be strong and hopeful and use a growth mindset.

### House Points

Everybody across the school has been busy earning house points this term.

Our weekly winners:

10.01.25 - Rowling

17.01.25- Rowling

24.01.25- Farah

31.01.25- Windsor

31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## TTRS - The Results Are In!

Our first tournament of 2025 finished this week.

We are delighted that more children than ever have engaged in this tournament.

Congratulations to our winning classes.

Year 3 - Oak

Year 4 - Sycamore

Year 5 - Cherry

Year 6 - Hazel



## Attendance Matters!

Congratulations to our attendance cup winners this month:

Week ending 10/01

- Maple

Week ending 17/01

- Birch

Week ending 24/01

- Maple

Week ending 31/01

- Maple

**A hat trick for Maple!**

31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## Our Stars of The Week

We are so proud of our wonderful stars who have been living our values.

10/01/25

Year 3 - Elayla, Kobi and Jakey  
Year 4 - Harry, Alex and Freddie  
Year 5 - Naiel and Oliver K  
Year 6 - Marcey and Tate

24/01/25

Year 3 - Kush, Jasmine and Ismail  
Year 4 - Mohammed, Max D and Alfie  
Year 5 - Charlie and Taliyah  
Year 6 - Ella and Olivia

17/01/25

Year 3 - Oscar, Harlan and Elanor  
Year 4 - Lillie, Zahra R and Cody  
Year 5 - Leo and Gabe  
Year 6 - Ellie-May and Jessica E

31/01/25

Year 3 - Amelia, Jaxson and Erin  
Year 4 - Valentina, Gabriella and  
Tommy  
Year 5 - Jack G and Osayi  
Year 6 - Harrison and Yusuf



A number of pupils are bringing this style of water cup to school. We are finding that they easily fall over and don't always seal fully.

We have had a small number of incidents where they have toppled from tables and been damaged. This is upsetting for the children, especially as they are such an expensive item.

Therefore we politely ask that you send your child to school with a water bottle with a lid that can be completely sealed, so won't easily leak and refrain from sending in the 'Stanley' style cup.



Reminder -

Thank you for your understanding.

31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## Keeping Children Safe

Smart watches are becoming increasingly popular with young people. Companies have now started producing affordable, simplified versions aimed at primary age children. These have features such as step counters, which are great for encouraging children to remain active. You can even set the display so it shows an analogue clock face - brilliant for teaching children to tell the time. However they leave your child vulnerable to unwanted phone calls, cyber-stalking and distraction while crossing the road.

Some of these watches can be connected to internet, take photos and receive messages. We understand that some of these watches allow the camera to be disabled, however staff can not easily tell if this is the case.

For the same reasons we don't allow children to keep mobile phones with them during the day, we would like to remind parents that smart watches are not permitted in school.

Please take a few moments to read the poster below, which highlights pros and cons of children's smart watches.





# 10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

## AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

## CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

## BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

## ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

## MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

## BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

## TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. You can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

## THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

## STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

## USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

## Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



**NOS**  
National  
Online  
Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO NURTURE AND STRETCH PUPILS' TALENTS AND INTERESTS:**

- After school clubs
- School sports teams
- Inter-school sports events
- Swimming (Pop-up pool)
- Primary Mathematics Challenge
- Themed weeks, days and competitions
- Artist of the Term
- Trips and visitors to school
- School productions and performances
- Weekly celebration assembly
- Year 6 - Apprentice
- Residentials



## Artist of the Term

By Tim and Ethan - Year 5

Anni Albers is this term's artist of the term. She was a weaver and she chose to weave because back then in Germany - where she came from - if you were a girl there were only a few subjects you could choose from.

She was born on 12 June 1899, Berlin, Germany and she sadly passed away at the age of 94 on the date of 9 May 1994.

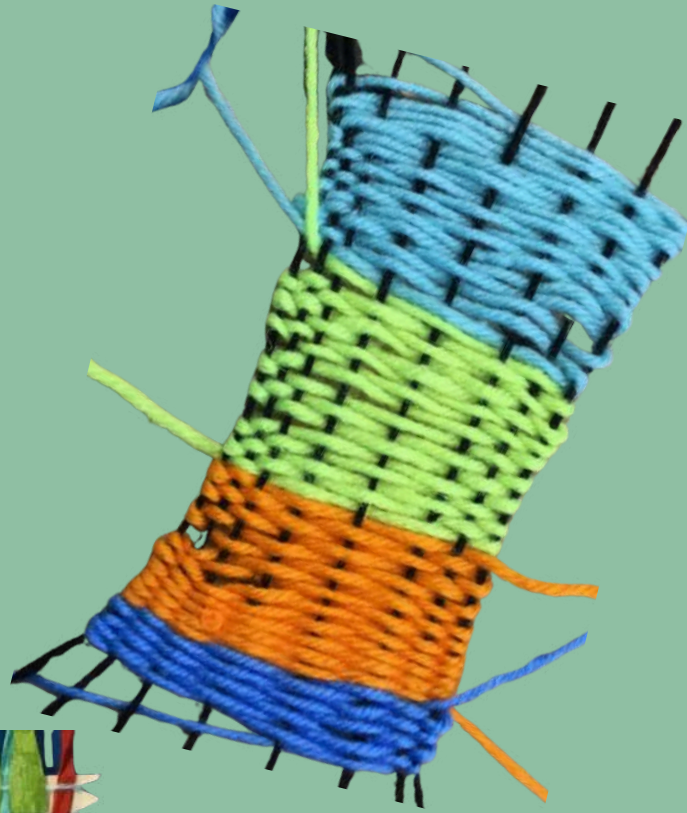
So our school has been replicating her work. Year 6 even made their own looms out of cardboard and string, to make some fantastic artwork with wool. Year 5 used a variety of materials including ribbon and strips of plastic bin bags.

The bin bags put a few people off but the end result was phenomenal.

Year 4 also used wool but with ready made paper looms.

And year 3 created brilliant art with raffia.





Anni Albers lived a good 94 years of her life, being born in June 1899 and passing away in May 1994, with only just a month to go before her birthday, which would have made her 95. Her art is still very famous around the world, especially in Germany because she was born there. That is where her art journey started. Then she moved to America and began to create more art, which was photographed and likely shared with artists around the world, leading to her becoming famous!

Anni Albers got into weaving when she was only young as there weren't a lot of options for girls to do back then. The options she had were cooking, art, or weaving, and she continued weaving until she was quite old. Anni Albers created many pieces of famous artwork that went on to be displayed in different museums.



31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly Update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## Every Little Helps

Gentle reminder, if you haven't already done so to please make your £20 voluntary donation to our Arbor Parent Portal School Shop area, which will support us in providing extra experiences and opportunities for our children. Instead of asking for small amounts of money throughout the year, we have condensed this into one payment each term, which will fund:

- Book Week activities - more exciting details to follow
- Our DT projects, such as our half termly cooking, bridge building and weaving
  - Science/STEM week
- Celebration events and other community events throughout the year

As you will know, school budgets are tighter than ever, and any donations will be spent wisely to ensure that our children continue to receive the very best opportunities available to them.

Thank you for your continued support.



31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## Young Voices 2025

By Archie, Felix and Oliver K - Year 5

On the 24th of January 2025, the Young Voices concert took place at the O2 Arena in London. Many year groups went to this concert and had an amazing time. The total of children that took part from all across the UK was 8,316. The children performed 12 songs including Marley Magic, Birdhouse in Your Soul and Try Everything.

All of the year groups got a chance to go and the children that signed up got to take part in the amazing event.

The children absolutely loved it.

“It was crazy. I loved it so much!”

“It was my best day ever!”



## Sportshall Athletics

By Archie, Logan B and Jack S - Year 5

The team was picked and many year 5 and 6 students were thrilled to be in the competition and delighted that their athletic talents have been noticed. 8 boys and 8 girls showed their amazing sporting talents. Some of the activities they participated in were: chest push (you push a weighted ball from your chest) javelin throw, relay, speed bounce and vertical jump (you need to jump to reach a target).

31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly Update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## Attendance Policy

We are taking this further opportunity to share our Attendance Policy with you that came in to effect on Monday 19th August 2024. As you will be aware, our Attendance Policy was amended to include the new procedures, as directed by the Department for Education (DfE) and can be found on our school website.

Please note that the main changes are listed below:

If you take your child/ren out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Any leave of absence for absences from Monday 19th August 2024, will follow the new procedures.

In line with the new DfE guidance, we are now obligated to request medical evidence and flight/ holiday confirmation when an illness occurs just prior or after a holiday request.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



## Recommended Reads

By Archie and Oliver - Year 5

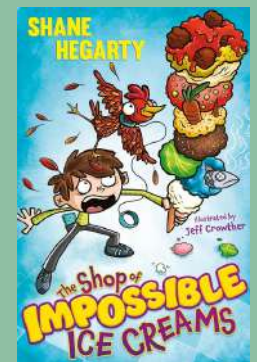
Each week, the teachers choose one book to read out to the students in the Tuesday Reading Assembly...

This term we have enjoyed listening to...

### Mr Alderton - Space and Beyond



Space and Beyond by R. A. Montgomery takes you on an intergalactic adventure past black holes and meteorites to visit your new home planet! 9-12 year old readers will hurtle through space, faster than the speed of light, exploring new stars, planets, and galaxies, engaging with other life forms, and even traveling through time



### Mrs Bowry - The Shop of Impossible Ice Creams

Limpet's mum is opening an ice-cream shop, full of her favourite new flavours: mushroom and tuna ice cream, anyone? Roast parsnip and gravy?

Limpet's not sure about this. He likes a nice, safe life. His favourite ice-cream flavour is vanilla. But when wicked Mr Fluffy arrives with his Mega Emporium of Amazing and Spectacular Ice Creams, Limpet knows he's got to fight back. And there are magic ingredients on his doorstep which can solve all his worries, if only he can get the recipe just right ...

### Mrs Saunders - The Twits Next Door

Mr and Mrs Twit are just about as nasty and revolting as two people can get. The only thing that brings the two of them pleasure is playing pranks on one another.

But, when a new family called the Lovelies move in next door, with their lively 10-year-old twins, they teach The Twits to stop being so mean and horrible and they all live happily ever after . . .

Ha! Not really. The Twits HATE the Lovelies.

But how far will The Twits go to rid themselves of their horribly nice new neighbours? And what happens when these new neighbours, who are armed with utter loveliness, start to fight back?



### Mr Spranger - Piano at the Station

Lacey's smart tongue and quick temper are constantly getting her confined to isolation at school. But there's a lot more to her than most people ever see, and when Lacey gets sent to lunch-time music lessons to keep her out of trouble, she discovers a love and talent for the piano that opens up a whole new world for her.

Just as she's really beginning to make progress, her music teacher has to leave, which throws Lacey back into turmoil. Will she go back to her self-destructive ways or will music offer her a way to save her from herself?



31.01.25



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



## Christmas Book Bingo

By Leo and Oliver G- Year 5

During the christmas holidays children at knaphill school took part in a reading bingo challenge. Children who completed all of the bingo won a £5 book voucher.

There are 3 different certificates.

Thank you to Miss Vega for organising this fun activity to help encourage us to keep reading!

### Bronze

Enzo

Subhan

### Silver

George

Elsie

### Gold

Alfie

Ella

Alejandero

Paige

Aiden

Elise

Isabella

I LOVE  
READING





31.01.2025



# Knaphill Junior School

## Monthly update



### Recommended Reads

This month's books have been selected from the Love Reading 4 kids website.

<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/new-releases>

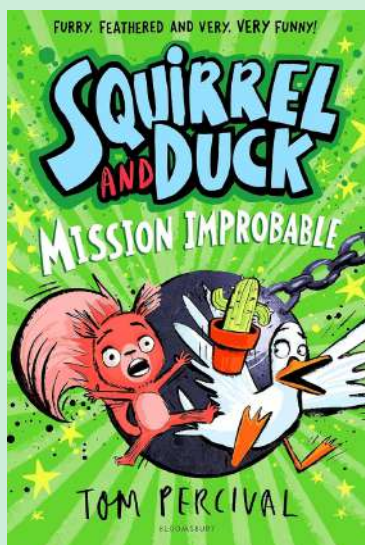
This website features extracts of all recommended texts, so you can try before you buy!

#### Year 3

Squirrel and Duck: Mission Improbable

By Tom Percival

Out in paperback on 30th January



Squirrel and Duck might seem strange housemates but they are drawn together by their secret - they are the only two talking animals in the world!

Hilarious illustrated fiction about unlikely friends Squirrel and Duck. Laugh as they outwit bungling burglars, with only the help of their pet cactus! Perfect for fans of the Dog Man and Grimwood series.

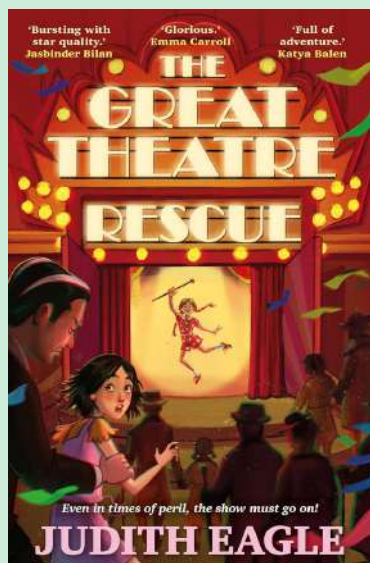
From the bestselling author of the Big Bright Feelings picture book series

#### Year 4

The Great Theatre Rescue By Judith Eagle

Out in paperback on 13th February

1930, London Theatre Land.



Charley has grown up behind the curtain in London's West End; she has even begun taking a turn on stage.

But her dreams of being a performer are shattered when she is sent off to boarding school, a place where the girls are forced to do unpaid work in order to fill the pockets of the owners.

When she discovers that her theatre home is in peril, Charley decides to escape, and make a dangerous journey along the coast in order to get back to - and save - all that she loves.

31.01.2025



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



To empower all children to have a bright future.

## YEAR 5 - The Hunt for the Golden Scarab

M.G. Leonard

Out in paperback on 30th January 2025



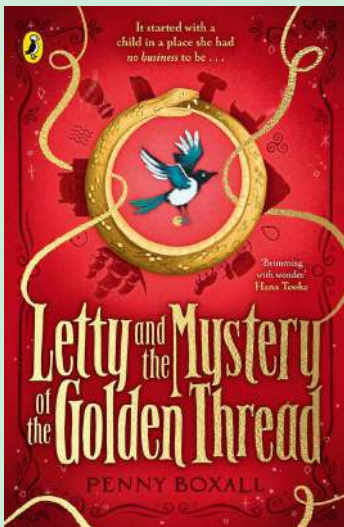
The action of Indiana Jones meets the time travel of Dr Who in Hunt for the Golden Scarab, the first title in the Time Keys series by bestselling award-winner M. G. Leonard. Perfect for children of 8 to 12 and fans of Adventures on Trains, Beetle Boy and Twitch. Illustrated in black and white throughout by Manuel Šumberac.

Sim and his mum never live anywhere long. When dangerous strangers appear one night, Sim discovers why. His mum has been keeping secrets: she has the power to open doors in time.

## YEAR 6 - Letty and the Mystery of the Golden Thread

By Penny Boxall

Out in paperback on 30th January 2025



Anybody who found themselves in the rigging of the good ship Lotus very early that morning would have seen an unusual sight: a shy, plump girl with a magpie fidgeting on her shoulder, holding in her hand a glinting coin... LETTY AND THE GOLDEN THREAD is an exciting, continent-traversing adventure from debut talent, Penny Boxall; perfect for fans of Netflix's plucky ENOLA HOLMES and the caper of Katherine Rundell's ROOFTOPPERS.



31.01.2025



# Knaphill Junior School Monthly update



All dates are kept up-to-date on the school website: [kfos.co.uk/news/calendar/](http://kfos.co.uk/news/calendar/)

## New Dates in RED

Date	Event	Year Group
Monday 3rd February - Friday 7th February	Children's Mental Health Week	All
Thursday 6th February	Railway Safety Workshops	Years 5 and 6
Friday 7th February	RGS Trip - Tudors	Year 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Group
Tuesday 11th February	Safer Internet Day	All
Friday 14th February	Theatre Trip	Year 6
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February	Half Term	All
Monday 24th February	INSET Day	All
Monday 3rd March - 7th March	Book Week	All
Tuesday 25th - 28th March	Residential	Year 6
Tuesday 1st April	Parents' Evening	All
Thursday 3rd April	Parents' Evening	All
Friday 4th April	Book Swap	All
Monday 7th April - Monday 21st April	Easter Hoilday	All
Tuesday 22nd April	First day of Summer Term	All

07.02.25  
PTA Silent Disco



Supporting Knaphill Federation of Schools

28.02.25  
PTA Quiz Night

February 2025

# Newsletter

## FREE SESSION

Thursday  
20th Feb  
19:00 - 20:00

FREE



### Supporting Healthy Screen Use

A range of steps that can help minimise the harms from screens

Monday  
3rd Feb  
10:00 - 11:30

£24



### Supporting a Child with ADHD

Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.

Tuesday  
11th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30

£24



### Facing Defiance

Specific strategy to help parents manage defiant and challenging behaviour, especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA conditions, 5 to 12 years old.

Tuesday  
18th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30

£24



### Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness

Get the facts and know the harms about these two drugs so you can hold an informed conversation with your teens.

Tuesday  
25th Feb  
19:00 - 20:30

£24



### Understanding the Teenage Brain

A 'must see' for all parents and teachers of teens and pre-teens. Explains why teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.