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Prostart Newsletter - December 2020

Our Mission *Training you Today for Tomorrow*
Our Vision *'Inspire excellence through commitment
to our customers & partners
to prepare the best future for our community'*



Prostart Update

Holiday Closure

Prostart Offices will be closed from Tuesday 22nd of December until Monday the 4th of January.

Please be aware that some members of our staff will be breaking up before then and others working from home on 23rd of December, but you will be provided with contact



details of another member of staff if you need support. You can contact the main office on 0115 9468182 up to 21st December.

Matrix Re-accreditation



Prostart are pleased to announce that we have been re-accredited for the Matrix Quality Kite Mark.

Matrix recognises the Information, Advice and Guidance that we deliver to our Prostart community.

We here at Prostart are all committed to making sure that we are here for our learners and managers for support and guidance.

We would like to thank everyone that agreed to be interviewed by the assessor for taking time to support us.

Safeguarding & Prevent

Action Counters Terrorism have set up a new website for information advice and guidance on Prevent

<https://actearly.uk/>

Remember, on the 3rd of November the Government raise the terrorist threat from Substantial to Severe - a terrorist attack is highly likely.

There is no reason for alarm, however please be vigilant when travelling about and stay alert.

Please refresh your knowledge on the Run Hide Tell Guidar which can be found here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/stay-safe-fi>



The Counter Terrorism Unit have published their December bulletin about staying vigilant this winter, this has been uploaded to the Learner Padlet here:-

[Apprentice/Learner \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com/Apprentice/Learner)

Online Safety

As people are spending more & more time online please remember these safety tips:-

Realize cybersecurity is a moving target.

Cybercriminals are constantly coming up with new threats, so you need to be conscientious about downloading the latest security updates and patches and watching the news for any breaking threats.



Get wise to phishing.

You may be sophisticated enough to know not to click on a URL that's supposedly from your bank or a friend, but does everyone in your household? Tell your kids about phishing and warn them not to click on URLs from an email or social network message. Get a security program that recognizes and blocks dodgy URLs.

Watch out for scams.

There are other ways to trick you into entering information. Even some so-called

legitimate businesses can trick you into signing up for recurring annual payments and the like. Watch your credit card statements closely.

Use Strong Passwords

Passwords are the primary defense against hackers for most people and it's no secret that it's often a flimsy one. Make sure you have good passwords and never give out your passwords to anyone.

Keep social networks secure.

There's a good chance that at least one person in your house is on a social network. Unfortunately, social networks have become a draw for cybercriminals. Keep a close eye on your friends' social network accounts. If someone messages you who hasn't done so in a while, then be suspicious. Your friend's account may have been hacked.

Identify the threat in your household.

Your home Wi-Fi network is another entry point for hackers. Make sure you have a hard-to-crack password and consider security software that identifies "intruders" on the network. Also stress the importance of avoiding public Wi-Fi networks to your kids.

Don't forget mobile devices.

Your phone and tablet need as much security protection as your PC. Make sure you've got a full security solution that covers your mobile devices as well. Put a passcode on your tablets and phones, too.

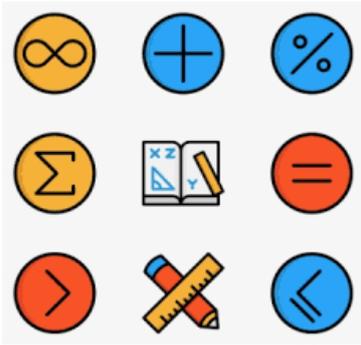


Use a credit card.

Credit cards are insured, so use that rather than your debit card.

Get security software

The best security software programs offer 24x7 support, actively providing protection at all times, detecting online threats before they hit.



Maths Tip of the month

Checks are always worth 1 mark in the maths exams and can be shown by either by doing a reverse calculation or an alternative method that finds the same answer.

Check by reverse calculation:

$$30 \times 3 = 90$$

$$90 \div 3 = 30$$

Alternative method:

$$30 + 30 + 30 = 90$$

ICT Tip of the month

Format Painter

Do you create documents that require repeated formatting multiple Sub-titles? Have you considered using Format Painter?



Step 1

Format the first section of text, in this case I have formatted this,

to this.

Step 2

Highlight the formatted text.

Step 3

Click on Format Painter

Step 4

Highlight the text you want to repeat the formatting on. I will automatically change its' formatting to the text you highlighted in Step 2. If you need to use Format Painter multiple times, Double Click Format Painter at Step 3.



Information Advice and Guidance

Traineeships have launched a new website aimed at young people, parents, teachers and careers advisors, which is housed on the [Amazing Apprenticeships IAG website](#).

The site contains a number of new resources such as engaging case studies, information factsheets, video content and webinar recordings. Further resources will be added in the coming weeks.

Employer Guidance



Employers can find videos on how to use different functions of the apprenticeship service in the "[Using the apprenticeship service](#)" playlist available on our [YouTube Channel](#).

The ESFA have recently made improvements to the following support videos:

- reserving apprenticeship funds
- adding an apprentice to an account

They have also added a new video demonstrating how to apply for an incentive payment for [hiring a new apprentice](#)

The [apprenticeship hiring incentive](#) that launched in August has been extended to 31 March 2021 and pays employers £2,000 for apprentices hired aged under 25 and £1,500 for those aged 25 and over.

Here are some Quizzes to test your spelling and nutrition knowledge over the holidays

Spelling quiz in - <https://quick-quiz.co.uk/spelling-quiz.php>

Nutrition quiz - <https://quick-quiz.co.uk/food-nutrition-quiz.php>



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