

The FCS Message Board

What is a Message Board? It is a website for online discussions, where members can post comments on a particular issue or subject, and can reply to other users' postings. Content can usually be viewed by anyone, but can only be posted by registered members who can contribute, in various categories and boards, to topics that interest them. Members can respond to something already posted or can elect to start a new topic of their own choosing. These threads, as a series of posts are sometimes known, often spark memories from other members and sometimes veer off in unexpected and interesting directions.

Think of the whole experience as a virtual coffee morning; a meeting of a group of friends, without having to brave the traffic or inclement weather; an opportunity to keep in touch at any time of the day or night, rather than have to keep a predetermined appointment; a friendly place where you can ask a question, post some thoughts (maybe even a photograph or two) and hopefully track down some friends from the past. The great thing about a Message Board is that everyone can have their say and chip in with their own particular take on a subject. On the subject of subjects, any subject that interests you is acceptable. Just imagine you're back in the playground during break...

There is a help button on every page of the forum that will take you to the User Guide where you will find information on a variety of topics. If you have any concerns or difficulties, if there is anything you need help with, or you just need some reassurance, please contact myself or anyone on the Message Board with 'Moderator' after their name.

My email address is philip@finchleycounty.co.uk. If you're not comfortable with emailing, my telephone numbers are 01234 269279 or mobile 07980 777111. The best time to ring is usually between 6pm and 9pm most evenings. I will be happy to help.

Over the page you will find a little step-by-step guide that may help if you are unfamiliar with the process of registering for a message board. It is entirely free, so do please come and join us.

Philip Sage (1965/71)

Message Board Registration Guide

1. Some web browsers (notably certain versions of Internet Explorer) have certain compatibility issues with the latter stages of the initial registration process. If you encounter such problems, please use a different browser.
2. Enter: ***finchleycounty.boards.net*** into the address line of your browser.
3. You will be welcomed by a familiar shade of burgundy, with the words 'Finchley County School' at the top.
4. Look towards the top right-hand corner of the page and click on 'Register'.
5. Enter your email address in the orange box. This must be a valid email address for you to access your activation code. Then click 'Continue'.
6. On the next screen, check that your email address appears correctly. If not, click on 'Change Email' before proceeding.
7. Create and confirm your password and ensure you can remember it.
8. Enter your name in the format of Firstname Surname, This is the name used on your ProBoards Profile and is nothing to do with the actual FCS Message Board. ProBoards is the name of the company that hosts the Message Board on our behalf. (*This is different from the 'User Name' on the next screen, which is unique to you and will only be seen in your profile*)
9. Enter your date of birth and your gender, then click 'Continue'.
10. On the next page, enter your unique username, which can be no more than 20 characters. It should be in the form of firstnamesurname99 (it cannot have spaces or special characters) where 99 indicates the year you joined FCS. A line of text will confirm that it is available. Once registered, you may use this name or your email address to log in.

11. In the rare case that your first and last names followed by a 2-digit year (all without spaces) add up to more than 20 characters, please enter as much as possible and we will contact you after registration.
12. Confirm that you have read the *Terms of Service Agreement* (you will read every word, won't you? Or not, as the case may be) and once again click 'Continue'.
13. A pop-up will appear asking you to confirm that you are human. If you are, check the box that is displayed and/or follow whatever instructions appear. *You may need to disable your pop-up blocker if you have one.*
14. Ignore any ad that may appear and if necessary scroll down the page to click 'Submit'. After a few seconds, you should be presented with a screen that says 'Pending Registration'. You may optionally fill in a message to be sent to the moderators. We suggest that you enter your name in this box, together with the years you attended FCS. This will enable us to correct any formatting errors that may occur during the registration process.
15. Either click 'Continue' or return to the board as a guest.
16. If clicking 'Continue', you will now be shown a screen giving you the option of entering your activation code. You will also receive an email, hopefully within minutes, containing a clickable link to enable you to activate your Forum Account. Either way is acceptable but, as the code is lengthy, [clicking the email link](#) may be easier.
17. You will see on screen the word 'Success' and you will also receive a further email confirming successful activation. You will still need to wait for Moderator Approval for full access and you will receive a final email when your account is authorized.
18. When you receive that final email, you'll be good to go!
19. Please remember – any problems, please contact Philip:

philip@finchleycounty.co.uk
01234 269279; 07980 777111