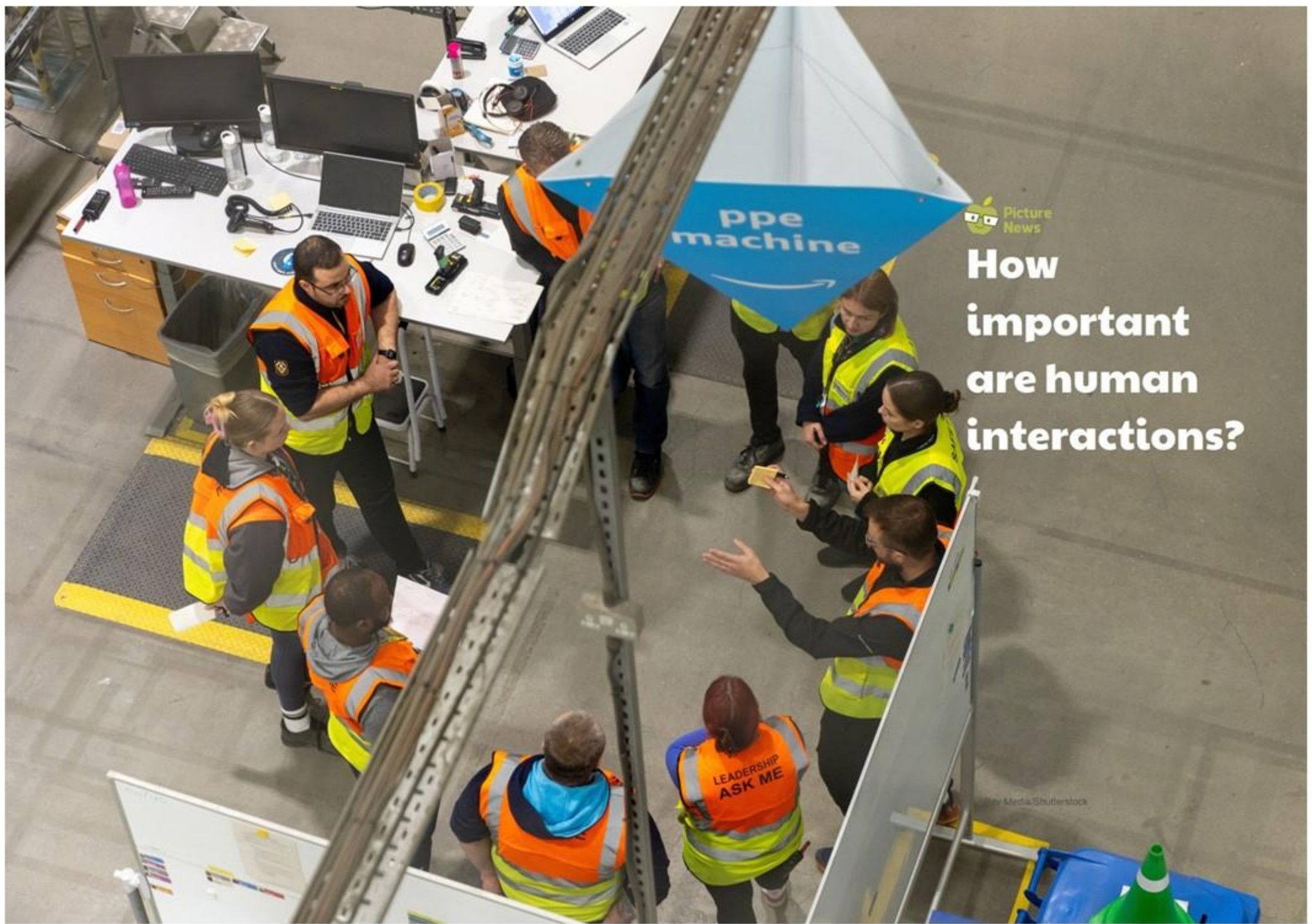


What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

7th - 13th October 2024



**How
important
are human
interactions?**

Media-Shutterstock



Let's look at this week's story

E-commerce company, Amazon, has told all staff they need to return to the office five days a week, ending the option to work from home. In a message to all workers, Chief Executive Andy Jassy said the company expected everyone to be in the office full time (apart from some exceptions) from 2nd January 2025. Amazon's new policy is very different from the UK government's approach, which is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law proposal due to be announced later this year.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



How does it make me feel?



sad

despondent
disconsolate
dismal
doleful
downhearted
forlorn
gloomy
melancholic
miserable
woeful
wretched

angry

aggrieved
annoyed
discontented
disgruntled
distressed
exasperated
frustrated
indignant
offended
outraged
resentful
vexed

happy

beaming
buoyant
cheery
contented
delighted
enraptured
gleeful
glowing
joyful

confused

addled
baffled
bemused
bewildered
disorientated
indistinct
muddled
mystified
perplexed
puzzled

excited

animated
elevated
enlivened
enthusiastic
exhilarated
exuberant
thrilled

worried

agitated
anxious
apprehensive
concerned
disquieted
distraught
distressed
disturbed
fretful
perturbed
troubled
uneasy

overwhelmed

engulfed
inundated
overburdened
overloaded
saturated
submerged
swamped

afraid

alarmed
apprehensive
daunted
fearful
frantic
horrified
petrified
terrified

guilty

ashamed
compunctious
contrite
culpable
penitent
responsible
rueful

jealous

bitter
covetous
desirous
envious
envying
resentful
wary

thankful

appreciative
grateful
gratified
indebted
obliged
relieved

shocked

astonished
astounded
disconcerted
distressed
dumbfounded
horrified
staggered
startled
stunned
surprised

disgusted

affronted
appalled
horrified
repelled
repulsed
revolted
sickened

inspired

activated
encouraged
exhilarated
galvanised
influenced
motivated

embarrassed

ashamed
awkward
chagrined
demeaned
discomposd
humiliated
self-conscious
uncomfortable
uneasy
unsettled

interested

absorbed
captivated
curious
engaged
enthralled
fascinated
gripped
intrigued
riveted

This week's story looks at events related to ...





Read through the information below about Amazon's decision to end working from home.

What are Amazon's new rules?

Workers at Amazon will be expected to be in the office, or their normal place of work, during all working hours, five days a week. In certain circumstances, such as caring for a sick child or a household emergency, they may work elsewhere.

Before this, workers were expected to be at their place of work a minimum of two days per week.

What is flexible working?

Flexible working is an arrangement allowing people to choose when and where they complete their work. They may wish to work in the office or somewhere remotely, such as at home.

Is working together in person always better?



Pictured: Andy Jassy.
Source: Amazon.com.

The advantages of being together in the office are significant... in summary, we've observed that it's easier for our teammates to learn, model, practice, and strengthen our culture... teaching and learning from one another are more seamless; and, teams tend to be better connected to one another.

Amazon Chief Executive, Andy Jassy.



I think you do your best work when you're happy at home. I do think making sure work reflects the realities of many of our lives today is really important.

UK Business Secretary, Jonathan Reynolds.



Pictured: Jonathan Reynolds.
Source: Stefan Rousseau.

Who do you think benefits from this decision and who do you think may find the change difficult? Overall, do you think Amazon's decision is a good one?



Look at the resource below.
Discuss what you think might be happening in each picture.



**How are the people interacting with one another?
What might they be saying, thinking or feeling?**



Examples of different types of flexible working

Job sharing

Two people share one job and split the hours.

Part time

Working fewer hours/days than full time.

Compressed hours

Working full-time hours but over fewer days.

Flexitime

Working 'core' hours each day e.g., 10am – 4pm, but choosing when to start and end work.

Remote working and working from home

Not working in the usual workplace. This can be anywhere, including home.

Hybrid working

Combining remote working with working in the usual workplace.

Annualised hours

Working a set number of hours per year but having some flexibility about when.

Read the comments people have made about flexible working. Which do you think are points for flexible working and which are points against it?



It can be really hard to find a time for everyone to meet, as people are in at different times and on different days.

Remy

Working remotely can get lonely at times and I have no team around me to 'spark' ideas from.

Isabella

I moved home but didn't move jobs!

Amara



A joiner working flexitime.

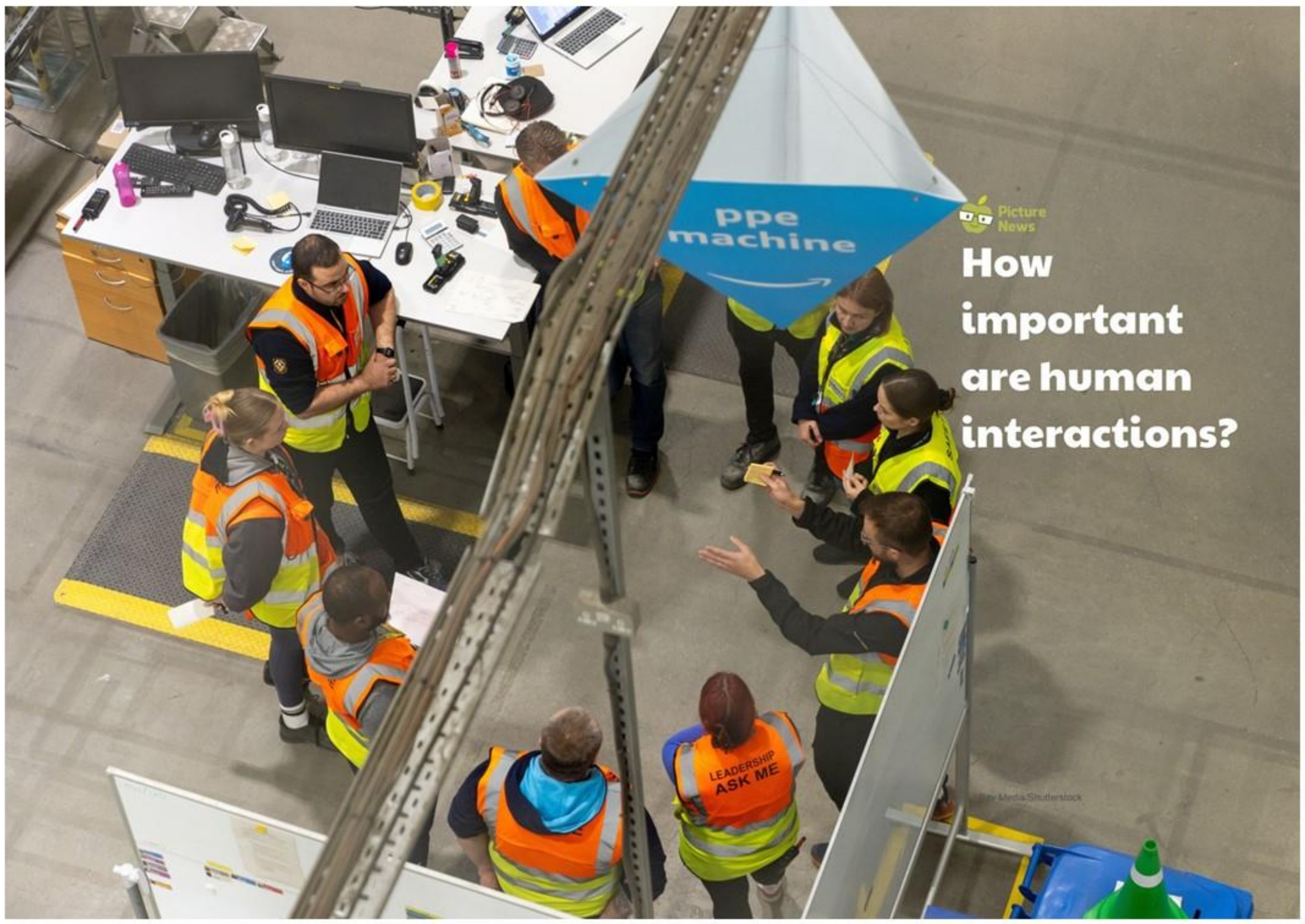
I have a job share. We work really well together and because we have different strengths and skills, we both bring a great deal to our role. It also means I can spend time with my young children on the days I am not working.

David



A graphic designer working from home.

**Were you aware there are so many different types of flexible working?
Do you think you would choose to work flexibly? Why?**



**How
important
are human
interactions?**

Media-Shutterstock

Reflection



Spending time and interacting with others is an important part of life, both when we are working and in our leisure time. Depending on the activity, there will be times we achieve more with others, and times we do better independently.





Individual Liberty

At the moment, all employees have the right to request flexible working. Being aware of our rights and freedoms in the workplace can provide us with balance, fulfilment and enjoyment.

Protected Characteristics



Companies, like Amazon, have many employees.
The law protects all employees from being treated unfairly at work.



Sex



Sexual
Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender
Reassignment



Marriage and
Civil Partnership



Pregnancy
and Maternity



Race



Religion
or Belief



UN Rights of the Child



Children have the right to be protected from doing work that is dangerous or bad for their education, health or development. If children work, they have the right to be safe and paid fairly.



Useful vocabulary



Attend

Go to or be present at a place or event.

Can you think of any jobs that need people to **attend** the place of work?

Flexible

Being able to adjust to new changes or situations.

Flexible working is an arrangement allowing people to choose when and where they complete their work.

Leisure

Free time to do the things you enjoy, like reading, playing or watching TV.

Spending time and interacting with others is an important part of life, both when we are working and in our **leisure** time.

Policy

A set of rules or guidelines that a company or person can use to help make decisions and take actions.

Amazon's new **policy** is very different from the UK government's approach.

Proposal

Ideas or plans that someone suggests to others for approval or agreement to move forward with a project, event, or action.

The UK government's approach [...] is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law **proposal** due to be announced later this year.

Remotely

Doing something from a distance or a different location, often using computers or phones to stay connected.

They may wish to work in the office or somewhere **remotely**, such as at home.

Can you use them in your writing this week?

Collective worship



Bible Link: Acts 7:22
Christian Value: Wisdom
Theme: Together or alone?



Pupil talk

- How do you prefer to communicate and interact with people?
- How do you interact with others when you are not together?
- Do you enjoy working with others, independently or a bit of both?
- Are there times you prefer to be alone?

Think

E-commerce company, Amazon, has told all staff they need to return to the office five days a week, ending the option to work from home. In a message to all workers, Chief Executive Andy Jassy said the company expected everyone to be in the office full time (apart from some exceptions) from 2nd January 2025. Amazon's new policy is very different from the UK government's approach, which is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law proposal due to be announced later this year.

In the Old Testament, we learn about Moses. He was a leader and a prophet. He led the Jewish people to escape slavery from Egypt and he received the Ten Commandments from God. As well as being an incredible and inspirational leader, the Bible tells us Moses sometimes liked to spend time alone.

Invitation prayer

Dear God,
Thank you that we are all unique,
Give me the wisdom to recognise how I work best,
Help me find places, where I can learn, grow and connect,
Help me value others and the contributions they make,
Amen

Key stage 1 class discussion

- Think about the work you do in your classroom. Which do you enjoy the most/least? Which work do you do with others and which do you do alone?
- Is there anything you do at school that you would prefer to do at home?
- Is there anything you do at school that you couldn't do at home?

Key stage 2 class discussion

- Make a list of the qualities that make someone a good worker. Do you think these qualities apply to any role or job? Are they qualities that would be required to be a good leader?
- Do you prefer to work alone or with others? What are the benefits of each?

Worship song

Give me oil in my lamp



God



Creation



Fall



People of God



Incarnation



Gospel



Salvation



Kingdom of God

Picture News



How important are human interactions?

E-commerce company, Amazon, has told all staff they need to return to the office five days a week, ending the option to work from home. In a message to all workers, Chief Executive Andy Jassy said the company expected everyone to be in the office full time (apart from some exceptions) from 2nd January 2025. Amazon's new policy is very different from the UK government's approach, which is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law proposal due to be announced later this year.



- Look at this week's poster and predict what you think this week's news story might be about.
- Read through the information, found on the assembly resource, about Amazon's decision to end working from home. Who do you think benefits from this decision and who do you think may find the change difficult?
- Considering flexible working, make a list of the pros and cons of people being able to work flexibly. Can you think of any jobs that need people to attend the place of work? E.g., a mechanic or a doctor.
- Watch this week's useful video, which talks about Amazon's new working rules. What are some of the benefits Amazon offers for working together in an office, as outlined in the video?
- Thinking about your day so far, have you had many interactions with other people? How important have they been in your day? How might your day have been different if you didn't have those interactions?

Reflection

Spending time and interacting with others is an important part of life, both when we are working and in our leisure time. Depending on the activity, there will be times we achieve more with others, and times we do better independently.

Picture News



KS1 focus

What are some examples of human interactions?



- Write 'interactions' on the board. Does anyone know what this means? Have you ever interacted with someone or something?
- Explain that interaction is when two or more people or things communicate with or react to each other. We have many interactions with people throughout our day. Can you think of any examples?
- Look at resource 1. Discuss what you think might be happening in each picture. How are the people interacting with one another? What might they be saying, thinking or feeling? Would you describe any of the interactions as positive or negative?
- Explore interacting with each other using only one form e.g., speaking only, gestures only (smile, folded arms, thumbs up), writing only, pictures only. Do you have a preferred way of interacting? We often use a variety of different ways when interacting with people. Share any examples you have.
- Are your interactions with others different, depending on where you are and who you are with? Do you interact differently with your friends, at school, at home?
- Make a list of ways you could interact with each other today that would help make a positive, caring and happy classroom!

Reflection

We interact with people many times a day! By listening, showing respect and kindness, and being positive, we can make connections with each other that help us feel happy and safe.

Picture News



KS2 focus

What are some pros and cons of flexible working?



- Think about flexible working. What do you know about it? Do you know anyone who works flexibly? What do they do? Where and when do they work?
- There are many different types of flexible working. Look at resource 2, which shares some examples. Were you aware there were so many different types of flexible working? Do you think you would choose to work flexibly? Why?
- Read the comments people have made about flexible working on resource 2. Which do you think are points for flexible working and which are points against it?
- Make a list of other points for and against flexible working. Consider employee well-being, number of sick days, travel and its costs, teamwork, communication.
- All employees can make a request for flexible working. The employer may agree to the request or it may be refused. Discuss why an employer may refuse a request for flexible working. Do you think the type of job or role may impact their decision?
- In the UK, flexible working was not widely adopted until the early 2000s. How do you think advances in technology have impacted when and where people work? What do you predict flexible working might look like in the future?

Reflection

There are many different factors that can affect whether someone works flexibly or not. We spend a significant amount of time working, so considering a role where you feel happy can be very important.

Picture News



KS2 follow-up ideas

Option 1

Use this opportunity to read and research different jobs, what they entail and if they offer flexible working. You could reach out to your local community to invite people in to share what they do or send a letter/email to a local firm or business.

- Do you have an idea of what job you may like in the future?
- What are your strengths and interests?

Option 2

Take part in some challenges that require a team of about eight people working together and communicating well. You could use the following ideas:

- Time how long it takes to organise your team oldest to youngest, without talking.
- Make up a chant, rap or song to represent your team.
- Hold hands with each member of your team in a circle, ensuring a hoop is positioned between two people. Time how long it takes to get the hoop around the circle, without letting go!
- Use two gymnastics mats to get your whole team across the length of the hall/playground without touching the floor.

Once you have completed your challenges, discuss the following:

- How successful were your team?
- Was there a leader?
- What teamwork skills did you need?
- Would you have found any of these challenges easier if you did them alone? Would you have enjoyed them more/less?
- How did you interact with others in your team?

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KS1 follow-up ideas

Option 1

We interact with our teacher and each other to learn! Play some games with each other to speed up your maths facts recall. Use the following ideas or create your own:

- Work with a partner. They say a two-digit number, you say a number one more or one less.
- Sit in a circle with about five others. Practise counting up and back in 2s, 5s or 10s, taking it in turns.
- As a class, play a game of number bond bingo. Write six numbers on a whiteboard between 0 and 20. Your teacher says a number, if you have its pair to 20, cross it off. Shout 'bingo' if you cross off all six.
- Work with a partner. They say a number less than 100, you write it in digits and words.

Option 2

Move around the classroom. As you pass someone greet them! Discuss the interactions that took place when you greeted someone e.g., a wave, handshake, smile, say hello.

- Do you know how to greet someone in a different language? How do you say 'hello' in France or Spain?

Explore different greetings from around the world. You could locate some of them on a world map.

- Do you think a smile and a wave are universal greetings?

Picture News



This week's useful websites

This week's news story

www.bbc.com/news/articles/czj99ln72k9o

This week's useful video

Amazon's new 5-day office rule
<https://au.finance.yahoo.com/video/amazon-orders-workers-back-office-042222983.html>

This week's Virtual Picture News

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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A Purr-fect Helper!

Meet Cilla, a very special cat, who lives at a primary school in Warwickshire! Cilla first showed up as a stray seven years ago, visiting the school every day. The students and staff loved her so much that they made her part of the school family! Cilla spends her time comforting students, especially those feeling nervous before big tests. She loves wandering into classrooms and sitting with children who need a cuddle. 'She just seems to know when a child needs her,' said headteacher Ms Taylor. Cilla's kindness hasn't gone unnoticed—she recently won the *Connected Cat* award at the Cat of the Year Awards! She's



Pictured: Cilla relaxing in the library.
Source: @OutwoodsCat on X.

also famous online, with 26,000 followers on X (formerly Twitter). Plus, she helped raise £5,000 for the school's library! With six cozy beds around the school, including two in the library, Cilla lives a life of luxury while doing her important job of comforting students.

Pumpkin Power

Aleksandr Chusov has grown a record-breaking pumpkin in Russia, weighing an enormous 817kg! The giant pumpkin was crowned the largest in Russian history after a special weigh-in at the Moscow State University Botanical Garden. Aleksandr, who is 28 years old, won the top prize at the Autumn Festival of Vegetables. He explained how he grew the pumpkin saying, 'You select the biggest pumpkins and cross them with other giant pumpkins. Then, with the right care, like proper watering, fertilising, and planting at the

right time, they just get bigger and bigger!' The massive pumpkin is now famous, and Aleksandr is proud of his amazing gardening skills. What a pumpkin!

Have you spotted any pumpkins? Were they giant?



Pictured: Giant pumpkins.
Source: Canva.

Will classrooms of the future be teacherless?



New technology is being invented all the time, I don't think we can rule out teacherless classrooms. Betsy, 10

Let us know what you think about this week's news



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help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

Disney Decoration!

A uniquely decorated home has gone viral after it was put up for sale by its Disney superfan owner! The estate agents in charge of selling the home posted that their advertisement had gone global: 'Our property listing has captured the world's attention, and we couldn't be more thrilled! 🇬🇧' The Disney-themed home features huge murals of famous characters, such as Aladdin, Mary Poppins and Peter Pan. The property is in the Welsh seaside



Pictured: The interior of the Disney themed house.

Source: Elwy Estate Agents on Facebook.

town of Rhyl, in Denbighshire. Marti Anderson-Bryan from Elwy Estates explained, 'The current homeowner, she's a real massive Disney fan. She's been to Disney over twenty times, and she's actually lived in that house her whole life. Lots of people are just obviously really curious just to see the artwork because obviously, people have just never seen anything like it before!'

Do you think you would like to live in this house?

Can you think of a theme you would like in your home?



Hunt for Happiness

Michael Zervos has announced that he has reached the halfway mark on his mission to travel to every country in the world. He is aiming to do this in the shortest number of days possible. There are 195 countries to go to and he has visited almost 100 so far! He is calling his world-record-breaking attempt, Project Kosmos! He describes his adventure as 'a record-breaking journey of happiness.' As he travels, he is asking the residents of each country the same question: What is the happiest moment of your life? The Greek-American filmmaker is collecting and then publishing the answers and stories that go with them online. He hopes by doing this he will spread happiness and the belief that everyone can be happy, wherever they live in the world, and whoever they are!



Pictured: Teacher and students with a globe.
Source: Canva.

'I'm amazed I'm on schedule,' Michael admitted, 'Occasionally it means maybe spending a day less in a certain place, but I've tried to make the most out of those situations.' Describing the experience so far, he added, 'It's changed me in ways that I can't really articulate!'

Are there any countries that you would like to travel to?

What is the happiest moment of your life?

Will classrooms of the future be teacherless?



I think that we will always need human teachers as they will always be better at understanding their class.

Hamsa

Let us know what you think about this week's news



picture-news.co.uk/discuss



help@picture-news.co.uk



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)

TAKEHOME

7th - 13th
October



How important are human interactions?



In the news this week

E-commerce company, Amazon, has told all staff they need to return to the office five days a week next year, ending the option to work from home. In a message to all workers, Chief Executive Andy Jassy said the company expected everyone to be in the office full time (apart from some exceptions) from 2nd January, 2025. Amazon's new policy is very different from the UK government's approach, which is to make flexible working a right for employees, as promised in a new law proposal, due to be announced later this year.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you believe Amazon's decision is fair? Talk to someone at home, do they agree?
- > Do you think you might prefer working from home, or from a workplace with others? Why?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

