HWA Newsletter

Hanham Woods Academy



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Cabot Learning Federation

Dear Parents, Carers, and the Hanham Woods Academy Community,

As we come to the close of Term 2, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible work and achievements across our school. This term has been filled with lots of our children and staff dreaming big, working hard and being kind which has led to our students shining both in and out of the classroom.

Our staff have worked tirelessly to provide engaging lessons and enriching experiences, and I am proud of the resilience and enthusiasm our students have shown. From academic successes to sporting events and creative projects, it has been inspiring to see our school values in action every day.

Looking ahead, Term 3 promises even more exciting opportunities, including the launch of our biannual ski trip to Italy which will take place in February 2027 and a variety of extracurricular opportunities and guest speakers.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and commitment to making Hanham Woods Academy a place where every child can thrive. Wishing you all a restful break and a joyful holiday season.

Kind Regards,

Mr. Ballard | Principal

Christmas Present and Food Bank Drop off



In the photo: Joel, Fraser, Dylan, Cadi, Isabelle, Emily

"When a group of us got the opportunity to represent and help the school we were delighted to accept. After tutor we spent the morning packing and then delivering supplies for both the Salvation Army and a Food Bank. Together we distributed food and presents to those in need and would like to say a special thank you to all the teachers and staff who supervised and set up this event."

Christmas Present and Food Bank Drop off



"On Tuesday morning, we took the mini buss to and went down to the salvation army and helped others who are less fortunate than us. We gave toys to all off the people and unboxed all off the presents. On the Thursday, we sorted all the presents out from food and gifts. After we gave all the toys and gifts out, we headed back to school."

By Isabelle N





Christmas Present and Food Bank Drop off



In the photo: Fraser, Cadi, Dylan, Emily, Isabelle

"Once the mini buss was packed, we all jumped on, and it was packed to the top with lovely gifts and yummy foods! When we got there, we all grabbed a bag of presents and took it off towards the Christmas tree for a nice photo. On our way to the drop off area that was filled with toys, board games, roller skates and even a tablet you could see some people wrapping presents! After, we got back in the mini buss and drove back to School."



Success for year 11 students in UK Maths Competition for Girls.

Congratulations to 7 of our year 11 students for taking part in the first ever UK Maths Competition for Girls. The competition is designed to inspire and challenge young female mathematicians across the UK.

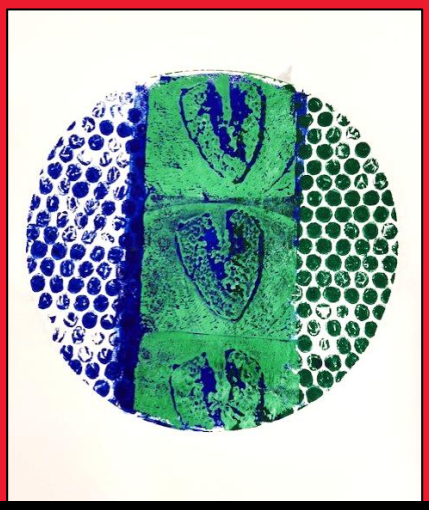
This was a very challenging competition, and all our students did fantastically, including 3 students achieving a merit. Well done!



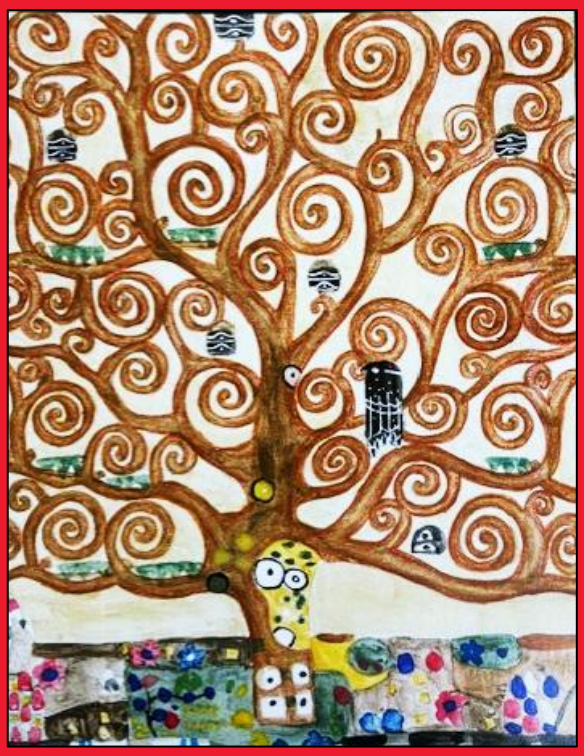
Paige C, Grace C, Favour A, Emma C (**merit**), Megan H, Arabella B (**merit**) Missing from photo Freya M (**merit**).

"Miss Cumiskey 9our maths teacher) invited us to join the girls maths challenge. We did it in school in the maths room in exam conditions for 1h40. We found it really challenging, it was more challenging than the other maths challenges we did before."

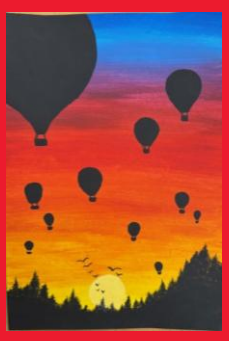
Art


Celebrating Y7 & Y11 Artwork this term!







Olivia M(Hencliffe) - Michael T (Cleeve) - Rudy G (Conham) - Alex B (Bickley)









We received lots of lovely designs from students across years 7-9 and these 4 students shone out with their creative, innovative designs which represented their houses. Yesterday, we spent the afternoon turning their designs into reality in a bake-off style competition. It was a tough competition, but Rudy G came first place for his beautifully presented chocolate orange cake with cinnamon buttercream with handmade bauble and Christmas tree decorations with dried blood oranges. In very close second was Alex B, with his chocolate cake Christmas wreath with homemade decorated shortbreads.

Yr7 Cleeve as the winners of the inter-house competition.



"We were overjoyed to find Cleeve had won the bench ball tournament.

I was over the moon to hold the trophy with Harrison H. But a big thanks to our team and all the people that contributed.

Everyone tried very hard and I hope everyone had much fun .

I want to give a shoutout to Jacob for being a great defender." By Logan G

"We were ecstatic when we found out our house had one the bench ball tournament and we were thrilled to hold the trophy.

But we couldn't have done it without our team. I was more than grateful to hold the trophy with the one and only Logan G contributed.

I also want to give a shoutout to Amar for doing an amazing job catching the balls on the bench." By Harrison H

Christmas Netball Tournament





Our Christmas Netball Tournament – Teams brought festive fun and spirit to a friendly competition, making it full of energy with lots of laughter and team work.





Festive Tree Decorating



Welcome Tree



Safe Spaces Tree



Library Book Tree

Winter Showcase







✨ **What an Amazing Winter Showcase!** ❄️

Last night, our talented students lit up the stage with incredible performances that truly captured the spirit of the season. From music and dance to drama and creativity, every act was a celebration of hard work and passion.

A huge thank you to all the performers, staff, and families who made this event so special. 🌟

Winter Showcase







Bench ball Competitions









Student Success

🎉 **Amazing Achievement Alert!** 🎉

Gracie competed in the **British Schools Gymnastics Association Trampolining Southwest Qualifier** and placed **8th out of 53 girls** in the Year 7–9 category!

Her incredible performance means she's now **qualified for the Southern Round in January**. 🏅✨

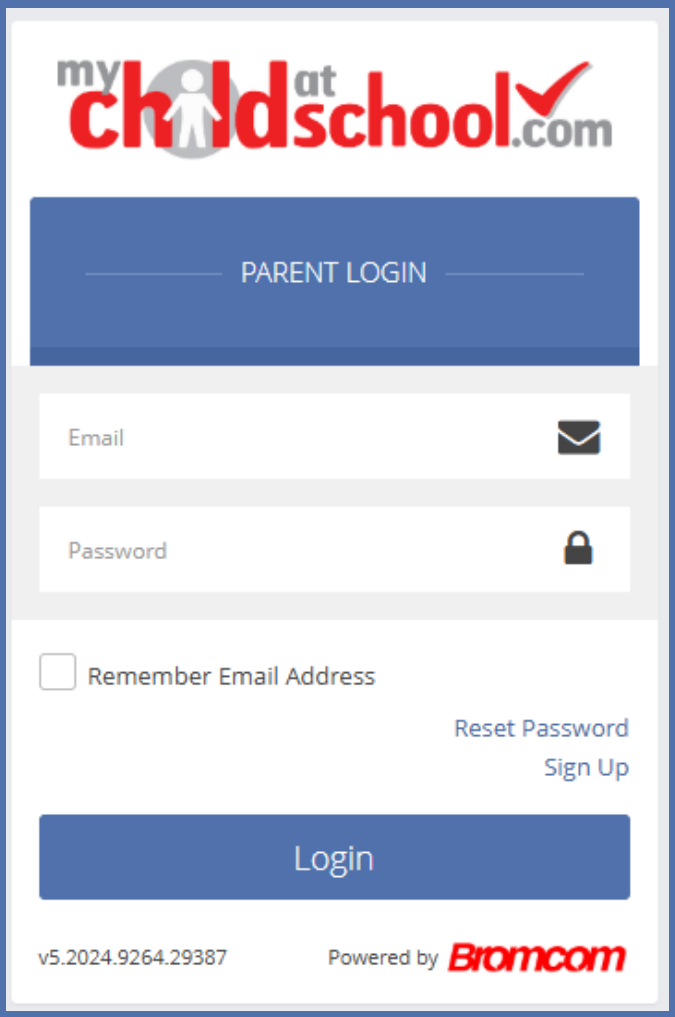
We're so proud of her hard work and dedication—well done, Gracie! 👏💪







MCAS – My Child At School app



We have launched the MCAS app for parents and carers.

MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) is a portal that enables parents/carers to view **their child's attendance, behaviour, and academic performance** in real-time via a web browser or mobile app. This facility allows exclusive access to key academic dates, attendance information and the personal details the school holds for you and your child.

It is important that you **sign up** to this app; as this is now the only way that you will receive communication from the Academy.

If you have not signed up to this then please email HWAMCAS@clf.uk where they will then activate your account for you.

Please use one of the QR codes to download the app:

Apple

Google Play

Sparx Reader Leaderboard

Top 3 students per class on the Sparx Leaderboard for 2025

Sparx Reader has been very successful in its second term as a homework for Y7 – Y9. It is also proving highly beneficial for our students for whom English is a second language. Overall, we have seen students increase in literacy levels since Sparx Reader has been implemented. We are delighted to see some of our most reluctant readers positively engaging with this as an additional reading resource.

YEAR 7

Lily H, Ewan B, Hettie S

Gracie S, Luca H, Elsie S

Gracie K, Riley P, Mackenzie D

Jacob C, Fraser K, Molly B

Olivia M, Nevaeh E, Zacari D

Ruby B, William H, Claret N

YEAR 8

Kirk K, Dylan H, Madison G

Zi P, Jack A, Emily A

Roman H, Max H, Ava F

Anya W, Matilda G, Emmeline L

Isabelle D, Evie M, Olivia F

Noah H, Naomi D, Ruby M

YEAR 9

Blessing, A, Dylan W, Steve M

Ryan S, Amelie T, Mia T

Niamh W, Emma M, Henry W

Jash Z, Nancy G, Alexander B

Jordan P, Lucas I, Emily C

Marta K, Beth H, George B

Sparx Reader



All listed students have received

Character Points

Why does Sparx Reader exist?

Sparx Reader is an online reading platform that helps students to practise reading regularly, to set them up for success at secondary school and in life beyond.

Building confident readers through regular reading practice

https://sparxreader.com/parents/

We are excited to bring Sparx Reader to HWA

- Enhances literacy across the curriculum
- Helps to improve reading outcomes
- Builds confidence answering questions about unseen texts – essential skills at GCSE
- Develops students' comprehension skills

Years 7, 8 and 9 have been set Sparx Reader as homework. Students are required to read around 45 minutes a week. This is achievable with careful reading. If students read too fast or click random answers, they will not get the points they need. They can read for 10 minutes a day or complete the reading in one sitting.

Sparx Reader can be found on their student navigation page next to Sparx Maths. Student's login using the same Microsoft email login they use for Sparx Maths.

SPARX HOMEWORK HAND-IN:
Y7 – Wednesday
Y8 – Friday
Y9 - Thursday

Sparx Reader

Friends of Hanham Woods Academy

Friends of Hanham Woods Academy

Welcome back to school, from all of us at the Friends of Hanham Woods Academy (FHWA). We hope you had a great summer. And welcome to all the new students and their families. We look forward to meeting you at tuck shop or when we're selling refreshments, and (sometimes) uniform at open evenings/performance events. For those of you that don't know us, and a reminder for those that do, we're a PTA of around 12 people (currently all mums, but dads and other carers are most welcome to join us!)
We raise money and donate 100% of our profits to help improve our school, enabling the staff to buy more new and improved resources, and helping them to provide student rewards.

Over the last year, we have supported many different projects to benefit as many students as possible. **Our biggest donation was £2000 for the refurbishment and restocking of the music department**, which is still in progress. We've also supplied **two new ovens for Food Technology**, given **£500 to the English Department to help fund a production visit**, funded treats, each term, for student rewards, and much, much more.

Did you know that:

We raise money by running a tuck shop on the last day of each term, and on special days and open events.

We run a school uniform shop – pre-loved branded uniform items cost just £5/£2 for ties. You can donate good quality, outgrown/unused, unform, to help us raise more money (and to declutter wardrobes!)

Please email us at friendshwa2022@gmail.com

You can help us increase our fundraising, with minimal effort, by downloading the easy fundraising app. Enter Friends of Hanham Woods Academy – Bristol as your chosen charity. Each time you use it to shop online (at no extra cost to yourself), companies pass on a small donation to us. Many big brands are involved, including Boots, M&S, eBay, Tui, H&M, Shein, Money Supermarket, Argos, and loads more. In August alone, we raised £42.32 through easyfundraising. This could be greatly increased if more people join – a great excuse for some retail therapy!



We're on Facebook, listed as Friends of Hanham Woods Academy. You don't have to be on the Friends committee to join the online FB group. However…

We're always looking for more people to join us. We're a very friendly bunch, and we always have a lot of fun planning and running our fundraising activities. If you're interested in joining, or just finding out more, please get in touch 😊

Safeguarding



Miss Thorpe
Strategic Safeguarding Lead



Miss Dickson
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs. Gardner
Assistant Principal
Antibullying Lead



Miss Thorpe
Vice Principal
Strategic Safeguarding Lead
Online Safety Lead



Mr. Ballard
Principal



Miss. Dickson
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Prevent Lead



Mr. Littlejohns
Associate Assistant Principal
EDI Lead



Mrs. Hurrell
Associate Assistant Principal
Attendance Lead
Mental Health Lead



Mrs. Booy
Attendance Link Worker
Attendance
DDSL



Miss. Marler
KS4 Pastoral Lead
DDSL



Mrs. Reeves
KS4 Pastoral Lead
DDSL



Ms. West
Academy Councillor



Miss. Snook
Attendance Officer
Attendance



Mrs. Smith
KS3 Pastoral Lead
DDSL



safeguarding@hwa.clf.uk

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Hanham Woods Academy

Safeguarding

NEW STREET SAFE TOOL
giving people the power to report areas where they feel unsafe

www.police.uk/streetsafe

For our **latest HWA Safeguarding Newsletter** go to:

https://hanhamwoodsacademy.clf.uk/key-information/safeguarding-information-2/

Kooth—Your online mental wellbeing community. Free, safe and anonymous support.
https://www.kooth.com

ChildLine 0800 1111

Childline—a free, private and confidential service where you can talk about anything.
https://www.childline.org.uk

Off The Record— mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11—25.
https://www.otrbristol.org.uk

YOUNGMiNDS
fighting for young people's mental health

national charity offers confidential online and telephone information and support for anyone worried about the emotional, behaviour, or mental health of a child/young person up to 25 years of age, including ADHD, Autism and Aspergers.
Parents Helpline:802 5544
Website:.youngminds.org.uk
Young Minds Crisis Messenger Service for free 24/7 support across the UK of you are experiencing a mental health crisis.

Text YM to 85258.

shout 85258
here for you 24/7

Shout—Shout 85258 is a free, confidential, anonymous text support service. You can text us from wherever you are in the UK.
If you are struggling to cope and need to talk, our trained Shout Volunteers are here for you, day or night.

Text SHOUT to 85258

Mind—If you're struggling to cope, you're not alone.
https://www.mind.org.uk/

IMPROVING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH
Place 2Be

Place2Be— We provide mental health support in schools through one-to-one and group counselling using tried and tested methods backed by research. In addition, we also offer expert training and professional qualifications.
https://www.place2be.org.uk/

Reminder of the 5 ways to wellbeing

Especially in winter it is important for us to take care of our health and wellbeing. This isn't just our physical health but also our mental, emotional and social health too!
The NHS recommend 5 strands that we can focus on to support our wellbeing, take some time to reflect on which ones you do well and where you could give yourself some more self-care.

Take notice – be aware of how you interact, your language and your actions

Learn – not only in school but also for yourself in your own areas of interest

Connect – speak with friends and family, share your day and ask about theirs

Be active – move your body regularly and even better if you can do this outside!



Give – your time, your effort and your attention to the people and things important to you

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

REPORTING ABSENCES

Contact the Academy **before 8:30am** on each day of your child's absence with a clear explanation of symptoms or reason.

Failure to do this will result in an absent call or message.

0117 4408900 (option 2)
HWAAttendance@clf.uk

PUNCTUALITY

All students are expected to arrive at school in good time for the start of the school day **before 8:35am**.

If a student arrives after 8:35am, they will be marked in the register as late and will be issued with a 15-minute lunch time detention. Students with multiple late marks will receive a more serious sanction.



Being **5 minutes** late each day can result in over **3 days** of missed school per year.

Bring **15 minutes** late each day can lead to over **10 days** of missed school per year.

Bring **30 minutes** late each day can accumulate to over **20 days** of missed school per year.

Medical Appointments

We understand that arranging appointments can be challenging. However, we kindly request that where possible, appointments are scheduled outside of Academy hours. If this is not possible, **please inform the Academy in advance and provide evidence of the medical appointment so that it can be authorised.**



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Feeling Unwell at School?

If your child becomes unwell during the school day, we kindly ask that a parent/carer comes to collect them. This ensures they are safe and comfortable and prevents them having to walk home while feeling poorly.



Term Time Leave Request

Absent request should be made in **4 weeks in advance**, and only if necessary. Any request should be put in writing via the appropriate form. Term Time Leave request can be found on the Academy website or provided from the Academy reception team. Request will be considered by the Principal and Attendance Lead.

Parents and carers are reminded that taking leave during term time without authorisation may result in a penalty notice of £80 per child, per adult. Additionally, repeated or extended absence could result in prosecution.

Home Visits

Home visits help establish and strengthen the relationship between staff, students, and their families, fostering trust and respect, and making students feel more comfortable and supported. By visiting students' homes, staff can gain a better understanding of the child's living conditions and family dynamics, which helps tailor educational approaches to better meet the student's needs. Additionally, home visits can lead to improved behaviour and conduct in school, as students often exhibit better behaviour and a more positive attitude when they know their teachers care enough to visit their homes. These visits also encourage parents to be more involved in their child's education, leading to better communication between parents and staff and ensuring that parents are consistently informed about their child's progress. Finally, staff can discuss any concerns or issues directly with parents in a comfortable and familiar setting, leading to more effective problem-solving and support for the student.

General Information

*"Please can we ask parents/carers to regularly check that their child's Cafeteria balance is not overdrawn and upload funds via **SCOPAY** as necessary to clear any debt. Thank you."*

Free School Meals

Do you think your child might be eligible for free school meals?

If you wish to apply for free school meals for your child attending Hanham Woods Academy you can apply either online, in writing to South Gloucestershire Council or by phone, **01454 868008**.

Free School Meals Online





Data Protection

Following the UK Data Protection legislation (including UK GDPR), we asked for permission to process and use some personal and sensitive data belonging to students, for example photographs and recordings. This consent can be changed at any point. To change the level of consent given, please email us: **dataqueries@hwa.clf.uk**.

Please note: Student photos in our Newsletters appear in both print and online platforms, including the Academy website.

Change of Details

Please can you ensure that if you change address, Phone number or email address that you inform the school as soon as possible to ensure that we have the most up to date contact details for you and your child. Please email any changes to reception@hwa.clf.uk

Lost Property

Please ensure that all of your child's school uniform is **clearly labelled** with their name – named items are returned to students as soon as they are handed into the office.
This also includes **coats, water bottles and pencil cases.**

Students are able to come to the school office during beak time, lunchtime or after school to claim any lost property. Parents are also invited to ring the school office or to come into Reception if their child has lost any items.

At the end of each half term any unclaimed items are sorted and either donated to 'Friends of Hanham Woods' for resale or sent to local charity shops.

Student Absence

Absence line:
0117 440 8900
(Option 2)

Absence email:
HWAAttendance@clf.uk

Supporting an Autistic Sibling

We know many of our young carers help support their siblings with autism. This can be a positive experience, as they can share their unique qualities and outlook on life with you. It may help you to become a more accepting person. However, it may also be quite stressful at times.

You might be concerned about the future care needs of your autistic sibling (if they have high support needs), particularly when your parents are no longer able to be their carers. It may be useful to meet as a family to talk about ideal care options for your autistic sibling in the future. Your sibling should be included in this if possible, using whatever means of communication that will give them the opportunity to express their views.

Teenage and child siblings of an autistic person

You may feel that your autistic sibling doesn't get told off as often as you do and that your parents give them more attention. As a sibling this may make you feel angry, sad, jealous, frustrated and/or confused. Watching What is autism? may help you understand why your siblings act in the way that they do.
Bridget shares her experience of having an autistic sister:
"Even now I still find it hard. I'm a lot more patient with my sister than I used to be, and I'm trying to be a better sibling to her. I sometimes slip and get into a bad mood - but hey, I can't be perfect. I'm still getting used to the whole concept of autism, and I don't really understand all about it."

It's important to remember that your parents don't love you any less than your autistic sibling. It could be that you don't require the same level of support that your sibling does, and so your parents feel they are able to trust you to do certain things alone.

Although it may be difficult, try to speak to your parents to tell them how you feel, you may feel more comfortable doing this by text or email. They may be able to arrange some time when it can just be you and them.

If you can't talk to your parents, then try to talk to an adult in school, a friend, a helpline or your support worker at young carers.

In school

You could ask a teacher or pastoral support worker if they can teach autism awareness in school.

Talking to others who have autistic siblings may also help. There are some groups that your family can ask for support and who may be able to give you the chance to meet others in a similar situation.

Find out more about our National Autistic Society branches and groups. Support & information in Bristol or Gloucestershire South
Discuss with our online community (over 16s only) https://www.autism.org.uk/what-we-do/community
Visit Sibs, which offers support for siblings of autistic people https://www.sibs.org.uk/
Find out about Contact, a charity supporting families of autistic people. https://contact.org.uk/about-us/
Resources for parents of younger children with autistic siblingshttp://autism.sesamestreet.org/storybook/we-are-amazing/ or https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/pablo-talking-to-your-child-about-autism

Family/Parenting Support

NHS website: Advice for parents on a range of parenting issues, including talking to teenagers, fussy eating and teenage aggression.
Website: www.nhs.uk/family

Parent Buddies is a confidential, universal, one-to-one listening service offering short-term support depending on family need. Volunteers are trained to provide parents/carers with listening, and signposting to specialist services. https://www.parentbuddies.co.uk/

CCP – Caring for Communities and People – Offer outreach support for families at an early help level. Families can self-refer. www.ccp.org.uk

Support for families who have children with additional needs

SEND and You - SAY:

Local SEN and disability information service (SENDIAS) - Information and support around Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, for children, young people and families. (previously Supportive Parents)

Tel: 0117 9897725 Mon-Fri 9.30 - 4.30 (answerphone at other times),
Email: support@sendandyou.org.uk
Website: https://www.sendandyou.org.uk

South Glos Parents and Carers:

Information and groups for parents who have children with a disability and/or additional needs. Offers a weekly drop in for parents and carers, support groups, workshops, counselling and events. They also run the Parent Carer forum in South Gloucestershire to collect feedback and views from families with disabled children.

Website: www.sglospc.org.uk
Email: team@sglospc.org.uk

JIGSAW Thornbury

Support families who have children who are 0-25 years and have any additional needs or disability. This can be anything from learning needs such as dyslexia to complex disabilities or medical problems. Many children who come have no diagnosis. Weekly support group for parents, carers and children + training courses on a range of topics. Telephone: 01454 416381

Website: https://www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/

Adult Mental Health

South Gloucestershire Talking Therapies - Vitaminds: Therapeutic interventions including counselling and group courses, in line with people's differing needs, age 16+. Self-referral via the website: https://www.wellaware.org.uk/projects/talking-therapies-south-gloucestershire/
Tel - 0333 200 1893
https://www.vitahealthgroup.co.uk/nhs-services/nhs-mental-health/bristol-north-somerset-south-gloucestershire/

Samaritans: Free, confidential emotional support for those experiencing despair, distress, self-harm or suicidal feelings.
Tel: 116 123 (free, from any phone, 24/7).

Website: www.samaritans.org.
Email: jo@samaritans.org

Need Some Help Navigating Parenthood?

Is your parenting journey different to that of your friends? Maybe your child received an early diagnosis. Or maybe you are seeing areas where your child is experiencing difficulties, or you are finding their behaviour a challenge to handle. This could be:

- In school
- With friendships and peers
- At home
- During or after activities that should be fun
- Or all of the above.

Sometimes it comes as a shock to learn that you're providing much more support to your child than your friends need to; and we don't always realise we are Parent Carers to our child, until it's pointed out.

However you found out, we're here to guide you and welcome you into our supportive community.

About Us | News
Parent Carers | Events & Workshops
Support Services | Parent Voice

Sometimes a little information and guidance goes a long way!

No formal diagnosis is necessary to access our support and services. We welcome the opportunity to support you, and feedback your experiences and the support you need.

About SGPC

SGPC was started in 2009 by two mums who had trouble gaining the support they knew their children deserved and wanted to help make the journey easier for other Parent Carers.

Our team are Parent Carers themselves. We have felt the overwhelm, frustrations, heartbreak, determination, isolation, exhaustion, and unwavering love that many Parent Carers experience, and turned it into a passion to help make a difference for South Glos children with SEND, and their Parent Carers.

Volunteering Opportunities

We welcome Parent Carer volunteers to join us – you can help in as little as a few hours a month – and we promise you'll feel valued and supported in your role.



Join Us

SGPC TEAM

team@sglospc.org.uk FB: @sgpc.community

SGPC South Glos Parent Carers

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Members of NNPCF

COMMUNITY FUND

www.sgpc.org.uk

SGPC South Glos Parent Carers

WORKING TO SUPPORT ALL PARENT CARERS

NO DIAGNOSIS NECESSARY

We listen to your experiences and gather your views

We work with professionals to shape the services available to your family

We connect you with our community of parent carers and other support

Each Child Is Individual, And So Is Their Journey

Identifying additional needs and disability can occur at any point from pregnancy to secondary school (and beyond!). That's why we offer services that support Parent Carers of children from 0-25.

We work with Parent Carers at all stages and information can be found on our website to guide you through

- Early Years
- School Years
- Preparing for Adulthood

Our support takes many forms to ensure we can reach as many of you as possible.

SGPC Services

- SGPC Community Base
- Online Support
- Community-based Support
- Workshops & Information Sessions
- Parent Voice
- Little Treasures
  Stay-and-play group

Together We Can Make A Difference

Hearing about your experiences is crucial for professionals who are working with us to design, shape, and improve local services for our community. We create lots of opportunities for you to share your stories and views:

- Surveys & Focus Groups
- Speaking directly with a member of our team
- Facebook Community Group posts
- Feedback via our support groups, training, and information sessions

We Help Each Other

As the old saying goes, a problem shared is a problem halved, and sharing your views can also help you to process what you're living through, feel less isolated, and empower you. Sometimes, feeling heard can be beneficial to your overall wellbeing, and we can signpost you to additional sources of support or information we feel may be of benefit to you.



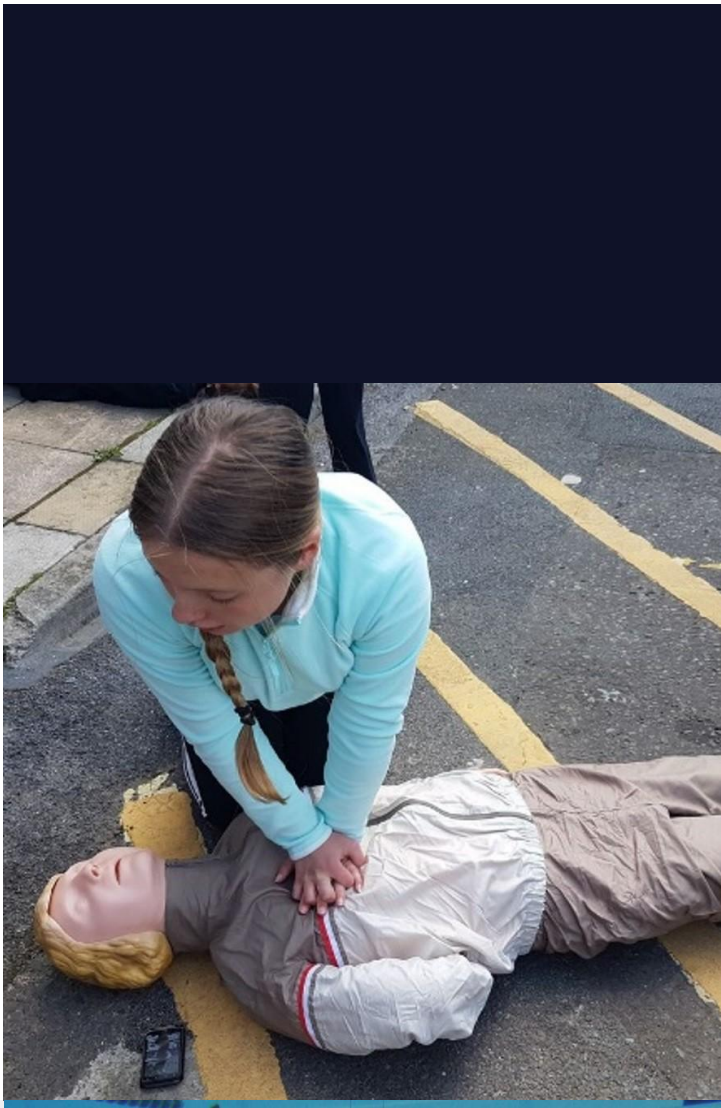
"Your Voice"





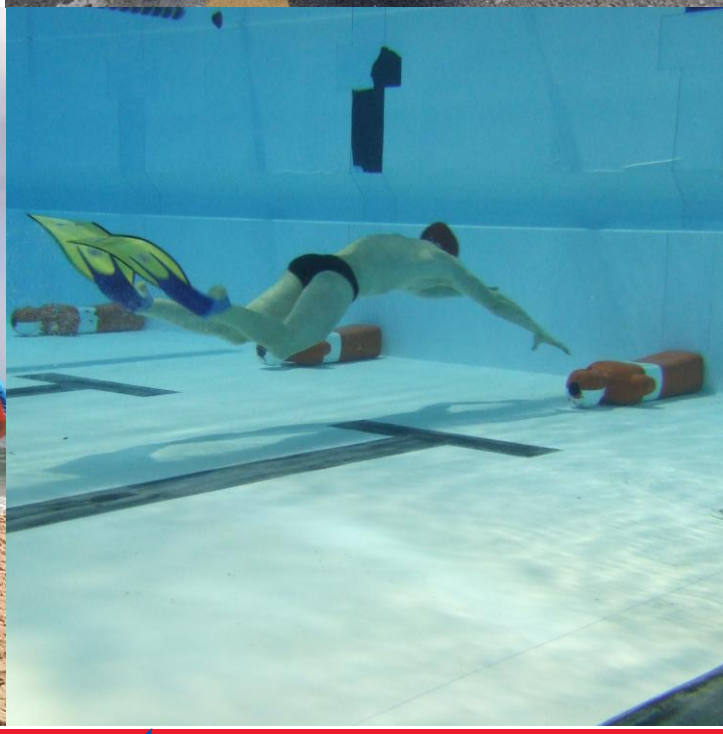
Keynsham Life Saving Club

Welcome to Keynsham Life Saving Club! During our training sessions you'll learn essential first aid and water safety skills, including how to spot hazards and stay safe. We'll teach you how to react if you see someone in difficulty in the water, and how to rescue them safely. You'll get to try sample some lifesaving competition events, learn communication skills, and use specialised rescue equipment such as torpedo buoys and throw-bags. If you think you'd enjoy lifesaving, do please come along for a taster session- we'd love to see you there! Check our Calendar for our next training session.

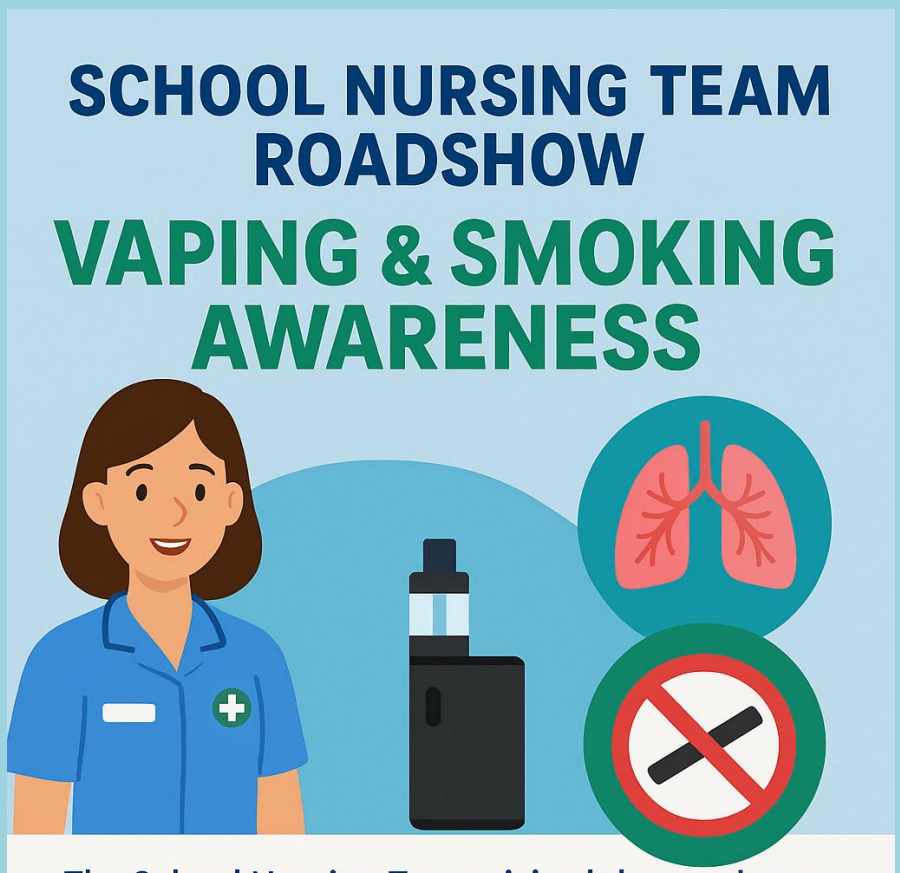


For full details
please visit www.klsc.co.uk





Y7 Vaping and Smoking Roadshow



On **Tuesday, 25th November**, the School Nursing Team visited the academy to deliver an engaging **Vaping and Smoking Roadshow** to one of our Year 7 classes.

This interactive session explored the dangers and health risks associated with vaping and smoking through practical activities that encouraged student participation. The aim was to provide accurate information and empower students to make informed choices.

Topics covered included:
- Environmental Impact
- Unregulated Vapes
- General Knowledge
- Peer Pressure
- Health and Appearance

The workshop gave students the chance to reflect on their own views, learn from others, and gain valuable insights into these complex issues.
In addition, students received guidance on how to access further support from the School Nursing Service, ensuring they have the resources they need for ongoing advice and assistance.
Feedback from both students and staff was overwhelmingly positive, with many describing the session as informative and engaging. We look forward to arranging more of these workshops in the future.

WEST OF ENGLAND MUSIC AND ARTS

A musical treat for the festive season!

Holiday Singing Days

Two fun and engaging singing days during the Christmas Holidays. One for children in years 3-6, and one for those in years 7 upwards. With WEMA musician, composer and conductor Joe Galuszka.

Monday 22 December: KS2 Singing Day
Tuesday 23 December: Secondary Singing Day



More Information:
wema.org.uk/music-activities-and-workshops

Cabot Learning Federation

Our Trust & Academy operate a zero-tolerance stance regarding sexual harassment

a policy which extends to all forms of bullying, harassment or discrimination in the workplace.

We would like to make all parents and carers aware that a new mandatory duty to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace became effective on the 26 October 2024.



Numerous high-profile cases and campaigns have highlighted the need for enhanced protection against sexual harassment at work – and has now been reformed resulting in a new **Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023.**

The Trust and our Academy have reflected on this important legislation and are now taking further positive, preventative action in this area to respond. This includes:

- Staff training
- Staff voice exercises
- Reviewing our HR policy & procedures
- Reflecting on any learning across the Trust

If we are made aware of any concern, we will always treat these concerns with great importance and act in accordance with our internal procedures. It is our ambition that all of our academies provide a safe, happy and enjoyable space for our colleagues, pupils and visitors.
If you do have a concern of this nature then we have a complaints policy and procedure which you can access via our website.

Free School Meals



Applying for free school meals could save you up to £414 per year, per child.

You can check if you are eligible by using our online application form at: **www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals**
For more information, speak to your child's school.

Your child could be entitled to free school meals.

You may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

You can check if you are eligible by using our online application form at: **www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolmeals**
For more information, speak to your child's school.

The quickest way to complete your free school meal application is online.

The Contact Centre is here to help and support those who are unable to access this service or require support in their online application. Contact **01454 868008** for more information.

Vaccinations

Health Promotion in Education Settings
South Gloucestershire

Help Us Improve School Vaccination Services

The NHS would like to hear your feedback about school vaccination services and your experiences when your child(ren) received their vaccinations.

Please share your views by completing the **BNSSG Parent / Carer Survey** using the link below:

BNSSG Parent / Carer Survey.

Your responses are completely anonymous and will help improve vaccination sessions for families and schools.

Deadline: Please complete the survey by **16 January 2026**.

Thank you for your support in making these services better for everyone.

Bristol Parent Power

Parent Power: Your Guide to University Admissions

Join us for a special Parents Power session with the admissions team from **University of Bristol.**

This Session will:

- Explain the admissions process in a simple, supportive way
- Help parents feel informed and involved in their children's choices
- Strengthen your ability to guide and encourage your child
- Create an open space to share your views, questions and concerns
- Offer valuable, direct contact with university admissions staff



Date : 16/12/2025
Time : 6pm -8pm
University of Bristol Micro campus, Ducie Road, Barton Hill, Bristol BS5 0AX

To register your interest and find more information, scan the QR code or contact:

Abir Ahmed at Abir.Ahmed@thebrilliantclub.org or 07366 594243

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UWE Bristol | University of the West of England

University of BRISTOL