

Parent Newsletter

Friday 28th June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you've had positive weeks.

New Danebury School uniform for September

Stitch-a-logo in Andover are our suppliers, this week they have confirmed the process by which you can obtain our new uniform for September. We will be funding a new uniform for **all pupils** in Years 7-11 next year. We have provided stitch-a-logo with pupil names; you will be able to order online or visit the shop, orders received after 9th August 2024 will not be ready for September 3rd 2024. All you need to do is give your child's name when ordering, the school will be invoiced directly by stitch-a-logo.

We have consulted at every level on the new uniform and managed to reduce the cost significantly. We are passionate that all our pupils feel like they belong and are equal within our school community, we believe the new uniform is smart, comfortable and practical for a rural school. School uniform is a real leveller for pupils, I know the pupils are excited about wearing it, please support us with our vision.

Your child will be supplied with the following items **free of charge**:

- Danebury coat (this will be the only coat to be worn)
- Danebury navy blue v-neck sweatshirt
- Navy blue pleated skirt or grey trousers
- Danebury tie
- Danebury PE T-Shirt.



You may buy additional items should you wish, but **the start-up uniform above is fully funded by the school**. Shoes must be plain black leather, polishable and logos of any kind aren't permitted. **Trainers are not permitted.**

PE kit

- Blue shorts or skirt
- Blue Danebury PE T-Shirt (supplied in start-up kit free)
- Blue navy football socks
- Shin Pads
- Trainers – non marking
- Football boots
- Danebury navy blue $\frac{3}{4}$ zip up long-sleeved top – Optional

We've rounded our week off with a Colour Run this afternoon to mark the end of Pride month, it was lovely to see so many pupils taking part, much fun was had by all! Miss Sandilands also organised a cake sale, profits are going to AKT, a charity for homeless LGBTQ+ children and young adults. Many thanks to Miss Sandilands for organising these events.

Year 10 are over halfway through their Mocks now; they've conducted themselves really well and have been largely positive when discussing the questions afterwards. Good luck for the last few exams next week Year 10, you've got this!

We only have 16 school days left of the academic year, but there's still lots to squeeze in. We are all excited about Activities Day, Sports Day, the remaining trips and 'Stock Fest'. Year 10 will be heading off on work experience the week after next, such an exciting opportunity for them! Until then, it's business as usual and lots of learning to do. We have our final School Improvement Review next week, which will be carried out by the Trust. I will share the outcome of this with you in due course.

A polite reminder that the last day of the academic year is July 22nd, we will finish at 3:20pm. All pupils are expected into school on this day. Enjoy the sunshine this weekend.

Warm wishes,
Mrs N Goodridge
Head of School

More about all the activities occurring in and out of lessons at Test Valley School can be found on our Facebook page: Test Valley School, Twitter Feed: @testvalleysch and Instagram Account: testvalleyofficial. Reshares and likes are always appreciated!

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Vacancies

Please see our website for current vacancies: [Test Valley School - Vacancies](#)

Venue Hire

Do you require a room for a meeting or sports event? School facilities are available to hire outside of the school day. Please email leisure@testvalley.hants.sch.uk for all enquiries.

Forthcoming Dates

w/c July 1st 2024 - Week 1

Year 10 Mock Exams

Monday 1st July – Year 6 Transition Day & Transition Evening

Test Valley School is delighted to **invite parents of EAL** pupils to a coffee morning on **Monday 8th July at 10am**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Attendance

Appointment reminders:

Medical and Dental appointments should, where possible be made for outside of school hours. If your child has an appointment during school hours, please email us at absence@testvalley.hants.sch.uk with the details and proof of the appointment giving at least 24 hours notice where possible.

Thank you.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 Mock Exams

Date	Tutor P1 & 2 start	9:00am	Period 3 & 4 start	11:50am
WEEK ONE Monday 1 st July	Science Physics	1hr45	Option D Food 1hr15 P.E 1hr History 1hr R.E 55m Art students to lesson	
Tuesday 2 nd July	English Literature 1hr		Catch Up Session ROOM 35	
Wednesday 3 rd July	Art Exam All Day			

Exam Preparation

Year 10 exams commence on Monday 24th June and subject teachers are preparing 'self-study programmes' to support students to manage their preparations. Details of examination preparation materials will be posted to students via class-charts.

Mr Langdown will place the 'self-study programmes' into the Year 10 team and share the link to these via student's school email so that all Year 10 students can plan their preparations commencing at the end of April.

Preparation for these exams is an opportunity for student to start the process of forming good study habits which is the key to success. The one single thing which has the greatest impact upon exam success is starting preparations early and we therefore urge students to commence their study for their Year 10 exams at the end of April to give them the best opportunity to succeed.

As students' progress into Year 11, they will sit two further mock exams in November and February to further support their preparation before sitting their actual GCSEs which commence in May 2025.

Forming these good study habits now will help build on their knowledge and confidence on their learning journey and ultimately take them towards success and a wide range of choices for their next steps into adult life.

University of Southampton Year 10 Residential

After its successful launch in 2022, this 3rd edition of the Learn with US Year 10 Residential invites students to live in Halls of Residence, learn all about student life at university, experience subject tasters and develop skills for learning as they work on a group project presented at the end of their stay with us.

To improve this opportunity further, we have been working with Year 10 Youth Consultants who have evaluated what we do and made improvements that are for the benefit of their peers:

'This residential has been co-designed by a group of year 10 students who are determined to create the best experience for other year 10 students and to show them what life is like as a university student.'

In this experience, we have learned how to work as a team, and come up with different solutions to different problems we may have come across. We have given each other effective feedback on our work to see where we can improve, and have developed new ideas when doing so.'

As a *Widening Participation* initiative, the residential is FREE for eligible students (including the reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses). Eligibility criteria, along with full details and how to apply, can be found on our webpage: [Learn with US Year 10 Residential | University of Southampton](#).

Within the application form, applicants will have to complete three shortlisting questions. In order to give the best chance for those in higher need to access the opportunity, spelling and grammar WILL NOT form part of the shortlisting process.

Applicants will also be expected to provide a teacher reference – the main aim of this is to verify the eligibility criteria, plus any additional contextual information from a widening participation perspective – we will happily assume that everyone that applies and gets a reference would be a fantastic participant! As part of this we will also need confirmation that permission has/will be granted for the days to be registered as authorised absences for the students taking part.

Sport/Physical Education

Summer Cricket Camp
South Winchester CC
SO21 2JN

5th-9th August 2024
9.30am-3.30pm

Level 2 coaches
7-14yrs

£32/day or £130 for 5 days
(includes lunch)

10% discount for siblings

Age group specific drills

Fun games

Nets Matches

Prizes

To book:
<https://forms.gle/Bqi5StvjABMHRDrQ7>

Sports hall available if wet

Queries?
graham.meech@gmail.com

South Winchester Cricket Club will be running its Summer Cricket Camp at the IBM Hursley playing fields from August 5th to 9th. The camp is for boys and girls from 7 to 14 years old. It will be run by ECB Level 2 coaches, and includes lunch each day. Further details, including cost and a link to the booking form, are included in the attached flyer.

OPPORTUNITIES – OUTDOORS & ENVIRONMENT

GEOGRAPHY / DUKE OF EDINBURGH / PSHE / UCAS SUPPORT

As we look ahead to the Summer, we are delighted to announce more FREE outdoor / practical sessions for local young people to explore the impact of climate change within their local communities through positive youth social action. The programme is part of the YouCAN youth for climate and nature scheme, in partnership with the New Forest National Park Authority, supported by National Lottery Community Funding.

Suitable for young people **aged 14-25 years old**, passionate about making a difference in their communities, the programme can also support skills development for Duke of Edinburgh qualifications / endorse personal statements for UCAS.

We will escort young people from Southampton on the train to some of the locations. This includes SEVEN interactive and site-specific sessions with climate scientists, marine biologists, park rangers and creative practitioners from May to September 2024. We will be using youth voices and findings around climate change in our local communities to inspire the creation of a brand-new theatre production - *Generation Anthropocene*.

CITY CENTRE - SOUTHAMPTON

13th July

7th September

...with Southampton National Park City Project and Sholing valley study centre.

Working in the heart of Southampton City, in the National Park and surrounding areas, exploring air pollution, travel and the impact of City life on our environment.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

College Information

There is information on our website regarding forthcoming College open events, including dates and how to book a place.

Salisbury 6th Form College: www.salisbury6c.ac.uk

Peter Symonds College: www.psc.ac.uk

Open Evenings: 5.30 to 8.30 pm 3rd & 4th July 2024 or 1st & 2nd October 2024

Andover College: www.andover.ac.uk

Also, it is not too late to apply to Andover College as applications are still open and Year 11 students can still apply by visiting the Andover College website or by using [Apply - Full Time and Part Time courses - Andover College | Hampshire](#).

Sparsholt College – www.sparsholt.ac.uk

Also, it is not too late for year 11s to apply to Sparsholt College as applications are still open and students can apply by visiting the Sparsholt website or by using [How to Apply - Sparsholt College and University Centre Sparsholt](#).

Basingstoke College of Technology - www.bcot.ac.uk

Pop Up Ensemble

FREE



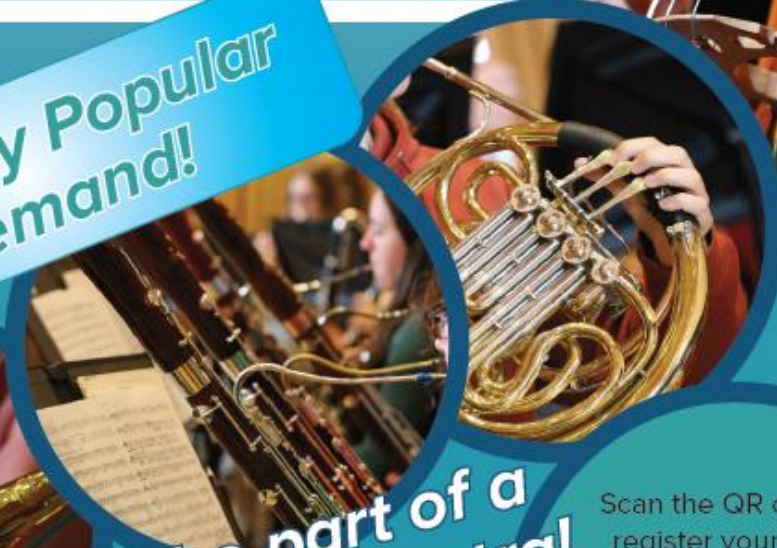
**Pop Up Ensemble
Winton School, Andover**

JMST Theatre, London Road, Andover,
Hampshire SP10 2PS
Sunday 14 July 9.15 - 13.15

Beginner to Grade 4



**Back by Popular
Demand!**



**Come and be part of a
'from scratch' orchestra!**

Scan the QR code to
register your place



Hampshire
County Council

www.hantsmusicHub.org.uk

andover
musical
theatre
company

amtc **starlights**
YOUTH THEATRE

**Calling all
maggots
aged 9-18!**
(from current Year 5+)

**Do you fancy
being a little bit
naughty?**



BOOK BY
DENNIS KELLY

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
TIM MINCHIN

ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL
JR.

31ST OCT - 2ND NOV 2024

FREE Workshops

Sundays 9th and 23rd June.
Knights Enham Primary School, Andover.
10am-12pm

Auditions

Sunday 30th June
Time slots will be allocated

Show fee £180

This includes professional tuition, insurances and licenses, sets, props etc and all staff hold DBS
Payable in 4 monthly instalments - sibling discount available

To register visit andovermusicaltheatre.co.uk/matilda

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

Andover Musical Theatre Company is a registered charity number 1143762

CELEBRATING NEURODIVERSITY

A TRAINING DAY FOR PARENT/ CARERS & PROFESSIONALS

19TH JUN 2024

Celebrating Neurodiversity Training Day

A day that focuses on learning skills and strategies for parents, carers and professionals who are supporting an autistic young person.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic, rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the home or school, a child may have caring responsibilities at home, for example, a change in family dynamics, bullying and friendship difficulties at school, pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams, or moving from primary school to secondary school.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly during school holidays or on school days). It's a child or young person's behaviour. There is some evidence to suggest there are more reports of school life which can cause distress such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of aching aches, headaches, or aching the feet. If when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause, always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School avoidance can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Absence from school can impact on the child's social, emotional and mental health. It's important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be long-lasting and may have long-term impacts on learning and development. For example, lead to reduced future opportunities, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to a continued school avoidance over time. As a result, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a risk to their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious - increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm, acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and consistency. Schools can help create a timetable routine for the child's school day required.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Barman has a superb understanding of what works in practice, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.

Wake Up Wednesday
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guide/school-avoidance

[@wake_up_weds](https://twitter.com/wake_up_weds) www.facebook.com/thenationalcollege [@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.instagram.com/wake.up.wednesday) [@wake.up.weds](https://www.tiktok.com/@wake.up.weds)

Hampshire Parent Carer Network (HPCN) in partnership with Hampshire CAMHS are delivering monthly meetings across the County. For more dates and venues click here.

FUTURE IN MIND PARENT PEER SUPPORT

PARENTS & CARERS MEETINGS

31ST MAY 2024

SUMMER TIMETABLE

Talks are delivered online via zoom 7pm to 9pm £24 each
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

FREE - Supporting Healthy Sleep FREE - Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	27 JUN 30 JUL
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	16 MAY, 11 JUL, 8 AUG
Understanding the Teenage Brain	20 MAY, 15 JUL
Raising Self-Esteem	21 MAY, 16 JUL
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 MAY, 20 JUN, 18 JUL, 15 AUG
Anxiety Explained	30 MAY, 25 JUL, 22 AUG
Understanding Anger	3 JUN, 29 JUL, 26 AUG
Introduction to OCD	11 JUN, 6 AUG
Improving Family Communication	17 JUN, 12 AUG
Autism: Improving Communication	8 JUL, 5 AUG
What is ACT?	9 JUL
Decreasing Depression	23 JUL
Supporting Healthy Sleep	20 AUG
Today's Teens & Drugs	27 AUG

Please find our Raring2go! Summer magazine link below. It's full of things to do for families during the Summer break,



Summer Reading Challenge 2024
Delivered in partnership with libraries



Hampshire
County Council

Library Service

Marvellous Makers



This summer we need volunteers in
our libraries to help us run the
Summer Reading Challenge!

It's great fun and very rewarding – if you're aged 14+
please speak to a member of staff or scan the code to
find out more and apply:



THE
READING
AGENCY

Celebrating
creativity

CREATE
ARTS PROGRAM

Illustrations by Natelle Quek and logo artwork by Lizzie Everard. All © The Reading Agency 2024



@hantslibraries

hants.gov.uk/library

Annual "Trout n About" street festival in Stockbridge

This year it'll be held on **Sunday August 4th**. The whole of the High St will be filled with artisan food, drink, crafts etc. And there is a Festival Field which has music, children's activities, circus skills, face painters etc food trucks and a picnic area.

Have a concern about you or
someone else?



At Test Valley we are committed to building an engaging inclusive environment where success and excellence is experienced by all. We will achieve this by ensuring:

KINDNESS

We always show care, respect and consideration for each other. Test Valley is a warm, welcoming and safe place for all.

RESILIENCE

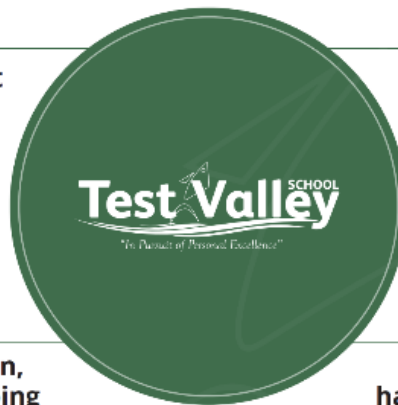
We show courage by not giving in, challenging ourselves, stepping out of our comfort zones and not fearing failure.

EXCELLENCE

We are relentlessly determined to strive for the best in all we do; developing excellent learning habits which help us to grow.

EMPOWERMENT

We help pupils to evolve into happy, independent, knowledge rich citizens who have the skills to make a real difference in our ever changing world.



In pursuit of personal excellence you must dream big work hard and make it happen.