



Dear Parents & Carers,

We've had another busy and productive half term at School for Inspiring Talents, with students taking part in lots of activities indoors and getting outside into our grounds to make the most of the sunshine. Please remember if we get more good weather next term to send your young people into school with sun protection and suitable clothing (including sun hats).

We've been holding whole school assemblies at Place House and College House for the first time this term, and it has been really pleasing to see how well our young people have come together as a school community, talking in a mature and thoughtful way about issues that affect them and offering useful suggestions for Summer term activities.

We've also had lots of trips and have celebrated some special awareness-raising days, for example activities for Mental Health Awareness Week and a great visit from Barney at House of Maths, who demonstrated some amazing maths magic tricks and number puzzles to get everyone thinking on National Numeracy Day!

This May break is usually one of the best holidays for sunny weather, so we hope you all manage to get some time enjoying the sun next week!

Wishing you all a relaxing and refreshing half term break,

Pete Jenkins (Principal)

Emily Hanbury & Lewis Harben (Deputy Principals)

NEW STARTERS

We've welcomed the following new staff to the school this term:



Hamida Ben-Moussa
LSA

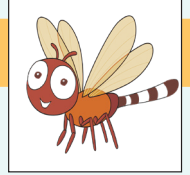


Chloe Ferris
LSA
(Teacher from September)



Sam Shepherd
LSA
(Teacher from September)

DRAGONFLY CLASS



What a joy it's been to experience some sunshine and it's certainly helped us engage with, and learn about, our theme this half term – Staying Healthy.

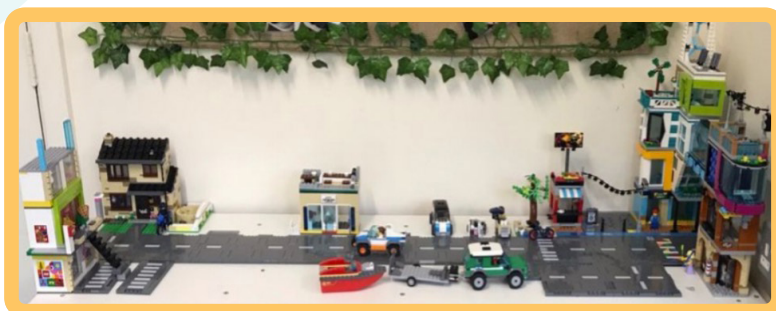
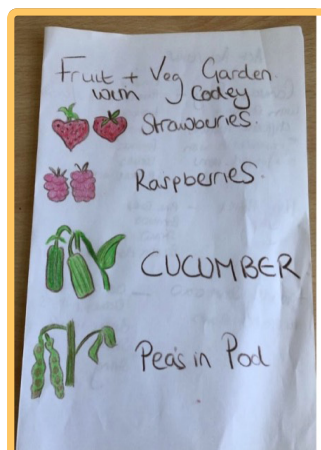
Being outdoors has generated discussions about self-care and the importance of listening to our bodies to know when we need to rest, eat, drink plenty of water and of course keep our skin safe from the sun! We've also experienced the effects of becoming too hot and shared ideas to manage any impact on us, both physically and mentally.

Our visitor this half term, John from Cycle Torbay, has been inspirational teaching us to repair and maintain bikes, and how important they are to our general fitness and wellbeing.

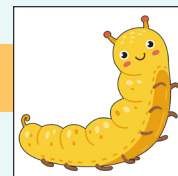
With the changing season we've been able to explore different foods including fruits and vegetables, herbs and salad. Our Food and Nutrition session show us different ways to prepare and eat our favourite foods, as well as try new recipes, and some foods we thought we didn't like! Seeing all the new life blossom around us has also helped us learn about what living things need to survive and stay healthy. It's even contributed to us planning to grow our own fruit and vegetables.

We continue to access oracy, literacy and maths every day throughout our alternative curriculum. Helping to weigh and measure out food for the animals we visit, reading recipes and calculating how many ingredients we need for our chosen meals, using our problem-solving skills to create and build constructions in Forest School and during our relational games sessions. Using instructional skills during PE, expressing our emotions and how we feel, and holding reciprocal conversations with our trusted adults and peers, ensures that we are constantly practicing and developing our spoken language.

I am sure you will agree with us that this has been a very busy half term! We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and wish you a happy half term. Fingers crossed the sun will continue to shine on us all.



CATERPILLAR CLASS



This half-term in Caterpillar Class, we have been busy with our learning and making the most of every opportunity to get outside and enjoy the fresh air. We have also focused lots on building relationships with new staff and peers.

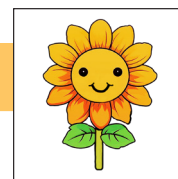


We've really enjoyed our trips out to A Kind of Magic, teaching us how to care for the animals. During PE sessions, we have really improved our throwing and catching skills and have focused on the importance of teamwork in helping us to create new friendships. We have spent some of our time offsite building relationships and expanding our horizons.



Our school day is always packed full of learning opportunities and as we begin to learn more independently, we are demonstrating to ourselves and each other the importance of daily reading, oracy, and maths, which is captured in our alternative, therapeutic play-based provision.

SUNFLOWER CLASS



Sunflower Class have had a fantastic first half term together!

As Mathematicians, we have been tackling how to tell the time and solving problems using analogue and digital clocks. We have also been learning about Money and how we can solve everyday problems working out change using given amounts.

As Readers this half term, we have been reading the book of 'Alice in Wonderland.' Everyone is enjoying how nonsensical the book is and finding it funny reading it out loud to our peers!

As Writers, we have been looking at the book 'A Walk in London' and how two characters are on a journey around London. The focus has been on speech punctuation and how we can show a conversation in our writing.

As Artists, we have been looking at the work of Van Gogh and his Starry Night picture. We have focused on the contrast of Light and Dark and how we can use these ideas in our own paintings.

We are super impressed with how Sunflower Class has settled this half term and the amazing relationships building between pupils and staff.

We hope you all have a wonderful May Half Term Break!



HONEYCOMB CLASS



I can't believe that we're already half way through the summer term – the last six weeks have flown by! We've had a super busy time at school again with lots of lovely learning opportunities.

As mathematicians, we have been immersed into a world of BIDMAS and Ratio – both of these topics have been challenging in the best way possible!

As readers, we continued to listen to *'The Boy at the Back of the Class'* by Onjali Q. Rauf which is about a young Syrian refugee who begins at a school in London. This book has been fantastic for challenging stereotypes and has created so many wonderful conversations about some hard-hitting topics.

We have continued to build friendships across Forest School, Food & Nutrition and PE and are making great improvements in our social skills. Whilst at the park last week, we realised there was an awful lot of litter in our local area so some of us made the decision to go on a bit of a tidy! We have decided we would like to expand on this next half term and hopefully get to do a beach clean-up.

In Project Based Learning, we have been exploring circuits and doodlers and we have very much enjoyed making flying saucers from our electrical circuit kit!



JUNGLE CLASS



Another wonderful half-term for the Jungle boys. We have explored lots of new adjectives and perfected our writing with inspiration from Colin Thompson's *'The Paperbag Prince.'* Our Guided Reading has taken us with Torak and Wolf to the Mountain of the World Spirit. This was a story we loved so much, we'll be reading the next in the series next half-term.

We've started looking at Electricity as a start to our Project-Based Learning and we are rolling with our Coding sessions on Purple Mash.

We have started to go out in the community together as a class, when the weather allows, which has helped us build relationships and trust as well as having lots of fun! Lots of long walks and running around has tied in perfectly to our PSHE learning around healthy lifestyles.

Can't wait for more of these adventures in Summer 2!



We then used the internet to research the answers to some of the problems that the animals were worried about, enabling us to write factual replies!

We have been thinking about our future careers. We have all identified what job we would like to do, thinking about the skills that are required and the links to learning with English, Maths and PSHE.

We have really enjoyed the 'hands on' learning experiences using the circuit kits and have worked collaboratively to produce electricity.

23.04.2024

Dear uneasy,

Thank you for your letter explaining your worries.

It is good to hear that you protect your eggs and care for them when they hatch. However, it is natural for other animals to leave their eggs behind. Some will survive and some wont, but this is normal. There is no need to worry or call the police. I hope this helps. If you have any more worries, please write back.

From Dr K Fisher.

Thursday 16th May 2024
I can plan a letter to Mr K Fisher.
Dear Mr K Fisher
I am an injured rockhopper who has a broken flipper which means that I can't swim. I can't jump up the rocks even the little rocks and the other rockhoppers laugh at me all day long. Will it take for my flipper to get better because I need to get to the egg box.
Please write back to me as quickly as you can.
Stuck on the rocks injured.

Dear Monumental

I'm sorry to hear your feeling like this.

Your weight is only part of who you are try not to let it get you down if you are trying to lose weight then eat less go for a run or try spending sometime in the jungle gym.

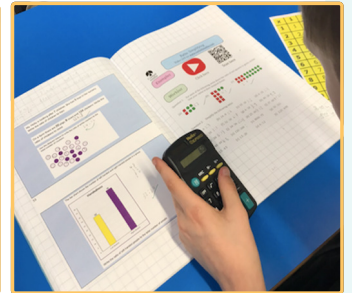
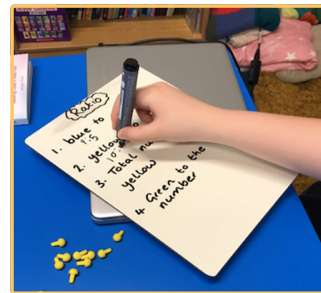
If you sleep, you could rest and dream of how to make yourself a better dino. I hope some of these ideas help you so stay healthy from DR k Fisher.







If you need you can come to my little hospital it is TQ12 1NH Stamp float itus tantrum.

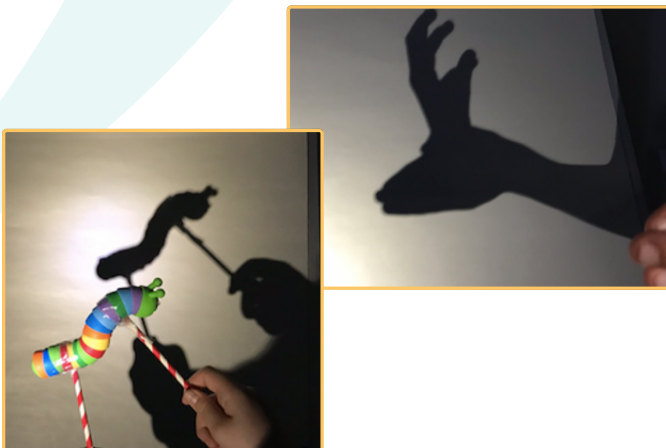
Tuesday 30th April 2024.

Dear Dr K Fisher
Un-very very-very-very-very.
I can't climb the 25 ft cliff
and all my friends are leaving
me. Every time I say word
climb I slip off and we almost
broken my leg. im getting
tired of crying David
Attenborough doesn't stop
following me and its annoying.
please help!

A pigeon built for cliffs
climbing.



					
Sports Coach	Accountant	DJ	Computer Technician	Baker	Vet
Enthusiasm Organisation Patience Perseverance	Patience Organisation Remaining calm Listening	Enthusiasm Organisation Listening	Keeping calm under pressure Patience	Keeping calm under pressure Patience Listening to others	Empathy Patience Decision making Resilient
Maths Four operations Percentages Weight Measurement Ratio	Maths Four operations Percentages Statistics Ratio Problem solving	Maths Problem solving Counting in steps / patterns	Maths Four operations Statistics Integers Percentages Problem solving	Maths Four operations Weight Measurement Ratio Problem solving	Maths Four operations Weight Measurement Ratio Formulas
English Clear communication Planning Presenting information	English Clear communication Speaking and listening Report writing	English Clear communication	English Clear communication Planning Presenting information	English Clear communication Reading / writing recipes	English Clear communication Report writing Speaking and listening
PSHE Teamwork Managing feelings	PSHE Negotiating Collaboration	PSHE Emotional and mental wellbeing Collaboration	PSHE Teamwork Negotiating	PSHE Teamwork Life skills - money	PSHE Teamwork Managing feelings



OAK CLASS



We've had a very busy half-term, I can barely believe we'll soon be at the end of the school year!

In our English, we have been developing the children's descriptive writing skills as well as consolidating previous skills - they have started some amazing planning for their final write-ups. In Maths, we have really grappled with our algebra - it is a particularly tricky topic and they have shown great resilience.



Our Project Based Learning has been about Electronics and the class have been really engaged and interested in - we have explored circuits, conductors and insulators and experimented with building simple robots - next half-term, the class will be creating their own electronic designs which could be very interesting!

The class have worked really hard and deserved a treat, so we have all just come back from an amazing day fossil hunting at Charmouth in Dorset. The children behaved

brilliantly and had the best time! We might even head back there next half-term...

EVEREST CLASS



Another half term has flown by in Year 9! In English we are currently completing discussion texts to answer a range of thought-provoking questions such as: Should the school holidays be reduced? We have looked at different discussion texts and are currently looking at how we can use conjunctions to link the for and against arguments.

In Reading we've been focusing on the text '*The Hobbit*' which we have been really enjoying. It's been a pleasure to see the students develop their independence with this and their understanding of the vocabulary within the story has been superb.

In Maths we've worked on percentages and we are now working on ratio, our Mathematical fluency and reasoning has really developed over this year so far.

In our Project Based Learning sessions we've continued to focus on the question 'Would you rather have been a Roman or WWI soldier - and why?' In recent sessions we have looked at the work of the artist John Piper and have recreated some of his work.

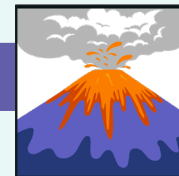
Our Food Preparation & Nutrition sessions have focused on the students' interests and they've worked together to make each other's chosen dishes, which has been really excellent to see.

We always enjoy our Forest School sessions and we have developed our whittling and fire building and management skills. We always enjoy outdoor cooking with a particular favourite being the Pizza Oven.

In PE we have played tennis and rounders as well as going on the bikes.

Another fantastic half term in Year 9!





It's been a busy term for Vesuvius class, with lots of outdoor learning. We have been developing our forest skills, particularly fire lighting. Paul Blake challenged us all to light a fire and keep it going for 10 mins. We've done some great forest cooking, making burgers and pizzas. Students can see that you don't need to buy readymade meals but can make things from scratch. Hopefully we will inspire our young people to have the confidence to continue with this mindset in the future!

We have had some memorable trips this term: one highlight was a trip to Hay Tor Quarry to go tadpoling. We've successfully rehomed lots of tadpoles to our forest school pond and are now eagerly awaiting their metamorphosis into frogs.

A class trip to Dartmoor Zoo proved very popular, as many students in our class have a keen interest in animals, especially the big cats! With the lovely weather, we will make the most of our time outdoors. Even a quick trip to the local park proves to be great fun.

We're beginning to think about our Post 16 choices and to help us make decisions, we'll be visiting lots of colleges. Last week Year 10 visited South Devon College in Paignton. We had a tour of some key departments, including Animal Care, Mechanical Engineering, Construction, Carpentry, Catering and Hair & Beauty. We also visited the Learning Opportunities area, where our students would be based. It's a lovely, calm and safe learning environment, which our students loved seeing, with their own kitchen, computer suite and even a sensory room. There are plenty of brilliant courses, many of which don't require GCSEs to access them. Their noticeboard shows the range of activities on offer there.

All these trips provide great learning opportunities. We've been producing writing in our English lessons drawing on these experiences, as writing about real events provides good inspiration for potential exam questions. You can see examples of students' work describing their visits to Dartmoor Zoo and tadpoling at Hay Tor Quarry.

There's been so much going on, so here's a brief overview of other activities: some students have successfully completed their BTEC First Award in home cooking. This involved a practical activity where they chose a recipe to cook and an accompanying written component. PE is another BTEC subject and we always try to motivate students by appealing to their individual interests. One student has been motivated to 'cycle to Paris' (the equivalent of 344 miles)... he may or not get there in time for the Olympics! Students are also working hard to complete the Arts Award by the end of the Summer Term, while in Music, our teacher has brought in keyboards and ukeleles, which we've enjoyed trying out.

The second part of the Summer Term promises to be equally busy, with more Functional Skills exams in English and Maths. To balance the demands of exam preparation, we're planning class trips and lots of outdoor learning. The first week of July is Work Experience Week, when we'll support students to spend time in real workplaces. We will carefully design placements that meet the needs of our students and will support them with every step!



Y10's Time at Dartmoor Zoo

On Friday 10th May our class Y10 was planning on going to Dartmoor Zoo. We were meant to be leaving at 10am. It was me, two students, and two LSAs. After a bit we were on the road to the zoo. It was a half an hour journey but me and the other students were chatting, so time went past quickly and before long we arrived at the zoo.

After getting into the zoo our first animal was a Capybara, luckily, they were very close to the fence, but it was not long before we got bored and continued up the path.

It was a nice day at Dartmoor Zoo, and we got to see lots of animals. My top favourites being the Jaguar and the Cheetah which I thought looked like a great catwalk model! And all the big cats.

I did not like that my hay fever was at its worse, making my eyes water, my nose sneeze, and my eyes itch.

So overall including the animals, the nice students, and the hay fever, I loved my time at Dartmoor Zoo, and I would love to go again, that is when I get my hay fever under control.

By Finley Baydon

DARTMOOR ZOO

On Friday we went to Dartmoor Zoo. We got there by a car and Kate was driving it. We left school at 10:00 and arrived at 10:30.

My favourite thing about the zoo was looking at the animals, taking pictures of them and walking around. The tiger was my favourite animal because he was lying down in the sun and resting his eyes.

I really didn't like the smell of the otter area because it stank of tuna. I also didn't like the little kids screaming in front of the animals because the animals were peacefully lying down in the sun and shade. The kids screaming were hurting my ears and it was so annoying, so we all walked away from it and went to look at different animals at Dartmoor Zoo.

By Ocean Fennell



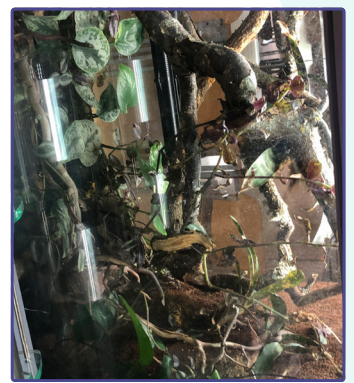
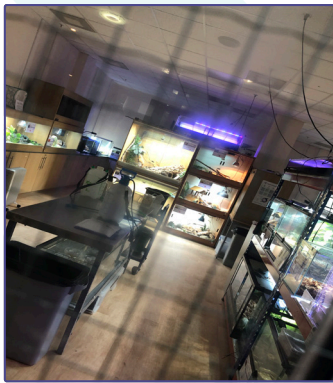
THE SHACK CLASS



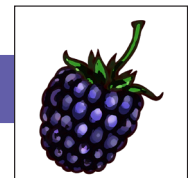
The Shack Class this term have had a big focus on careers to get them ready for their up and coming work experience next term.

To prepare for this they have written letters to potential work experience placements as well as having a tour around South Devon College so they have an insight to the next steps in their lives and can start thinking about what they'd like to do after School for Inspiring Talents. The pictures show some of the areas we enjoyed visiting, such as the Catering Kitchen and Animal Care!

Alongside this we have been doing lots of really helpful activities together around relationship building and interpersonal skills.



BRAMBLE CLASS



Exams are finally upon us and we are so proud of how the Students have handled themselves during this time. We are especially proud of how year 11 completed their speaking and listening for both functional skills and GCSE, we really appreciate how hard speaking in front of others (and a camera) can be - and they all did amazingly well.

Forest school has been a really good way for the class to wind down from exams on a Friday. We have made some lovely food including burgers and pizzas over the fire, some of year 11 also went for a walk on Haytor.

The students have enjoyed weekly swimming sessions this half term. Many students swam lots of lengths using a variety of strokes. Plenty of fun and games were also had in the pool.

Richard was back for music lessons this term where lots of the students learnt how to play the keyboard!



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

BTEC Exams:

Congratulations to our Year 11 and two Year 10 students who have completed their BTEC Home Cooking exam. It was incredible to see our students working independently to cook a recipe of their choice. Each student demonstrated excellent cooking skills that will serve them well in the future!

Year 9:

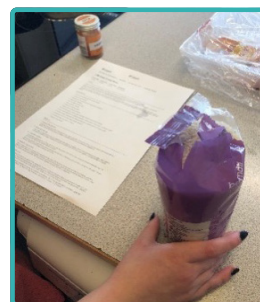
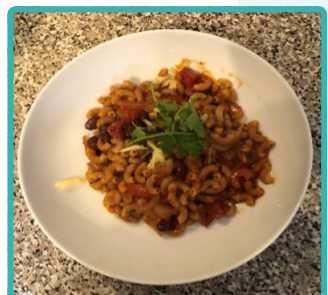
Year 9 students chose their recipes as a group this term; it was fantastic to see them working as a team to cook healthy family meals! They made delicious homemade burgers, spaghetti carbonara, spaghetti bolognese and curry.

Healthy Eating Week June 10th-14th 2024 (Place House):

Advance notice to all students and parents/carers that during Healthy Eating week there will be enrichment activities that may replace certain lessons on the timetable at Place House. Timetables for the week will be ready for students to view the first week back after half term. In the meantime, here are some links you may want to explore...

[Healthy Eating Week \(activityvillage.co.uk\)](https://activityvillage.co.uk)

[Healthy Eating Week 2024 - Monday 10 June to Friday 14 June \(nutrition.org.uk\)](https://nutrition.org.uk)



PE, SCHOOL SPORTS & ACTIVITY

I'm thrilled to share some exciting updates from this term. With the weather being kinder to us, we've maximised outdoor activities, giving our pupils plenty of sunshine-filled lessons. The focus this term has been on tennis, striking and fielding, and a touch of basketball. It's been wonderful to see our students thriving and enjoying their time outdoors, honing their skills in these sports.

We are also celebrating the incredible achievements of our Year 11 BTEC Introductory in Sport pupils. They have recently handed in their final assignments, marking a significant milestone in their academic journey. The dedication and hard work they've shown is truly commendable, and we eagerly await the results of their efforts.

In other news, our Year 7/8 football team made us all so proud at the Devon FA Headquarters in Newton Abbot. Competing against other schools in their first football tournament, our team won four out of five games, finishing as the second-placed team and top goal scorers. Their outstanding performance is a testament to their talent and teamwork. We're looking forward to more successes as we head into Summer Term 2!

Josh Iskander - PE Lead



PREPARATION FOR ADULTHOOD

Our Careers Lead is Issy Harben.
You can contact her at i.harben@sfit.org.uk

Careers at Sfit Update:

- Year 11 have started sitting their GCSE examinations.
- Year 10 are starting to receive work experience offers.
- Year 10 have visited South Devon College.
- Years 9 and 10 have visited Wilton Bradley to learn more about their career offering.
- Staff received Unifrog training – we will be rolling this out in September to track our careers provision.
- New bespoke 'Preparation for Adulthood' and 'Life Skills' schemes have been written which perfectly align with our students' needs and will cover Careers education as long with a host of other 'life learning'.

A 5 Step Guide to Talking Careers with Your Teenager

Talking to teenagers about careers options can be a challenge, especially since the world of work is constantly changing with new technology, emerging jobs and careers that don't even exist yet! It can often feel like a minefield to navigate the job market, but we are here to help.

Step 1: Ask your teenager what they enjoy at school

Subjects at school and college link to a whole host of careers. First off, ask your teenager what they really enjoy learning about. For example, do they have a love for maths and numbers? Perhaps a career in accountancy, software engineering or as a data analyst. Are they a wordsmith who loves writing? Careers in journalism, web content management or advertising could be the perfect match. Focus on their most enjoyable subjects and research careers related to them.

Step 2: Understand their strengths and weaknesses

Ask your teen to write a list of their strengths and weaknesses. Perhaps they are caring and a career in health/social care would be of interest? Maybe they love fashion, so a job in buying and merchandising could be the perfect fit. Additionally, looking at weaknesses allows you to see which ones may need development if the skill is required for a career of interest to them.

Step 3: Explain what opportunities are available in your area

If you're based in a rural area there is likely not to be as many opportunities available on the doorstep. Talk to your teenager about what opportunities are available, such as agriculture, gamekeeping etc.

Step 4: Encourage your teenager to carry out research

Research is essential to helping your teenager to discover what an industry is really like. They should think about the average salary, working hours, roles/responsibilities and entry requirements. Careerometer is a great starting point for this: <https://careermap.co.uk/careerometer/>

Step 5: Encourage them to speak to Issy Harben or their class team.

Your teenager can make use of Sfit staff to: develop their CV, understand the job market, identify their unique skills, discover career paths and connect with employers.

This term we have collaborated with:



Mentoring with Life Chance Trust

Supporting 16-25 young people who may have complex life histories, adverse childhood experiences or just need help navigating through life's transitions.



What we can support with?

- Confidence/self-esteem
- Signposting
- Education
- Employment
- Engaging in the community
- and much more!

What is our mentoring programme?

Our 12 week mentoring programme is delivered by trained mentors, where they will work on setting and achieving goals.

This is combined with therapeutic wellbeing, life skills and practical support.



Life Chance
TRUST

To make a referral:

www.lifechancetrust.org.uk/contact/make-a-referral or send us an email to trust@lifechance.org.uk

Term Dates 2024 / 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	12	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30	1	2	3	4	5
7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31	1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Term Lengths

- Autumn Half Term
 - 5th Sept - 25th Oct
- Half Term to Christmas
 - 11th Nov - 20th Dec
- Winter Half Term
 - 7th Jan - 14th Feb
- Half Term to Easter
 - 24th Feb - 4th Apr
- Spring Half Term
 - 22nd Apr - 23rd May
- Summer Half Term
 - 2nd Jun - 18th Jul

Key

- Holiday
- Bank Holiday