



Dartington C of E Academy Bulletin

4th September 2026

Dear Families,

As we begin a new school year, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our children, families, staff, and the wider school community. The start of a new year brings excitement, fresh opportunities, and the chance to build on the successes of the past. Guided by our vision, **"Together We Grow, Together We Flourish,"** we look forward to learning, achieving, and celebrating together. By working in partnership and supporting one another, we will help every child to develop confidence, resilience, and a love of learning, ensuring they thrive both academically and personally. We are excited for the year ahead and all that we will accomplish together as a school community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miss Coombe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Miss Coombe,

Headteacher

Who's Here to Help



Useful Links

- Absence Request - [Absence Request Form](#)
- Admissions - [Admissions](#)
- Clubs - [Our School Clubs](#)
- Medicine Form - [Administration of Medicines](#)
- Music Form - [Music Tuition Form](#)
- Nursery - [Our Nursery and How to Apply](#)
- Policies - [Policies and Governance](#)
- Term Dates - [Term Dates](#)

Class Information at a Glance

Class	Teacher	Year Group
Sparrows	Miss B	Nursery
Robins	Mr Jones / Mrs Faulkner	Year R/ 1
Wrens	Mrs Faulkner / Mrs Calder	Year R/1
Swallows	Miss Torr / Mrs Zaki	Year 1/2
Kingfishers	Miss Hardy	Year 2
Tawny Owls	Mrs Dando-Laing / Mr Bird	Year 3 /4
Nightingales	Mrs Eversfield	Year 3/4



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Woodpeckers	Mrs Davis	Year 3/4
Swifts	Dr Short	Year 5 /6
Goldfinches	Miss Wakeham	Year 5/6
Red Kites	Mrs Beecham	Year 5/6

Music

- Music Lessons - We offer
- Violin, Piano, Guitar, Ukulele, Drums, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet. Please complete the form here [Music Form](#)
- Rocksteady Band Lessons: Learn an instrument in a fun group setting! To find out more please visit their website here - [Home - Rocksteady Music School](#)

A BAND FOR EVERYONE

Band lessons take place in school and there's no experience necessary!

HAVE FUN AND LEARN

Rocksteady's unique curriculum includes up to 300 musicianship, performance and instrument skills.

INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED

All instruments for lessons provided. Choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.

END OF TERM CONCERTS

Watch as your child boosts their confidence by performing in the end of term concerts

PROGRESS AT THEIR PACE

Children can achieve an exam-free, Ofqual-regulated, Trinity Music qualification.

LED BY PROFESSIONALS

Rocksteady band leaders are highly trained musicians who make learning an instrument fun.

Key Dates 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term 2026:

Non Pupil Day:
3 September

Start:
4 September



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Half Term:

26 October – 30 October

Non Pupil Day:

2 November

End:

18 December

Spring Term 2027:

Non Pupil Day:

4 January

Start:

5 January

Half Term:

15 February - 19 February

Non Pupil Day:

22 February

End:

25 March

Summer Term 2027:

Non Pupil Day:

12 April

Start:

13 April

Bank Holiday

3 May

Half Term:

31 May - 4 June

End:

23 July

Safeguarding



WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility



Mr Trewinnard



Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Miss Coombe



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Miss Wilson



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

Mrs Eversfield



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead L3 trained

We use **CPOMS** to record timelines of incidents.

IT COULD HAPPEN HERE!

PROFESSIONAL CURIOSITY

Mental health	FGM	Neglect	Physical abuse	Emotional Abuse
HSB	Child on Child	Prevent Duty	Trauma	Anxiety
Poor attendance	Fabricated or Induced illness	Family Stressors	Withdraw	Sexual abuse
Domestic abuse	Child missing in education	Online safety	Parent mental health	Bullying Cyber bullying

Disclosure Checklist:

- * Stay calm - don not express shock, panic or disbelief
- * Find a private, safe place to talk
- * Be a listener NOT and investigator - Can you tell me more about that?
- * Believe the child
- * Reassure them for doing the right thing
- * It is not their fault—what can we do to make them feel safer?
- * Be proactive - Every child has the right to be safe strong and free
- * Don't make promises you cannot keep - you will tell someone to get more help
- * Inform the DSL / DSL / Police , dependent on need and record on CPOMS

If you are concerned that a child is being abused please call [0345 155 1071](tel:03451551071) or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk. If it's an emergency call **999**

What should I do if I have a safeguarding concern?

Keeping our children safe is everyone's responsibility. If you ever have concerns about the welfare or safety of a child, please report them immediately.

How to report a concern:

- **Contact the school directly:** Speak our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Safeguarding Leads.
- If you think a child is at risk of significant harm or want to talk about your concerns about a child or family, you can contact Devon Children's Services on 0345 155 1071. Calls are confidential and you can choose to remain anonymous.



- Link to website <https://www.devonscp.org.uk/make-a-request-for-support/parents-carers-public/>

If a child is in **immediate danger**, please call **999**.

Your vigilance helps us keep every child safe. Thank you for working with us to protect our school community.

Attendance

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school. The NHS have the following advice for illnesses.

Coughs and Colds – It is fine to send your child in to school with a cough or a common cold. However, you should keep them off if they have a fever over 38 degrees.

Chicken Pox – If your child has chicken pox, keep them off school until the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after they start appearing.

Cold Sore – There is no need to keep your child off with a cold sore.

Conjunctivitis – You do not need to keep your child off with this. They may come to school but will need advice from the pharmacy.

Head lice – There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice, but you will want to gain advice from a pharmacist on how to treat it.

Impetigo – If they have impetigo, they will need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until the sores have crusted over and healed.

Sore throat – There is no need to keep your child off with a sore throat unless they have a temperature too.

Vomiting and diarrhoea – If you think this is viral, children should stay off for 48 hours after being sick or having diarrhoea.

Covid -19 – If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or cough, and feels well enough, they can still come to school. They should stay at home if they have a high temperature or do not feel well enough to do their normal activities. If a test is taken, they should remain at home for 3 days.

For any minor illnesses like the ones listed above or headaches, sore throats, coughs or hay fever etc, your child can come into school and you can bring medicine to the office for your child to take throughout the day. Please ask for a Medicine Administration form from the office or click on the link above under Useful Links.

We hope this helps you to make decisions about whether your child is well enough to come to school. Any questions, we will be happy to discuss them with you.

For latest advice from NHS - [NHS Advice - Should I keep my child off school](#)



UK Health Security Agency **NHS**

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glomerular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Strep throat

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qr.co.uk/minfcs>

PTFA

Welcome to Dartington PTFA

All families who have children at our school are welcome along to the Parent, Teacher, Friend Association (PTFA). Our organising committee plans events and works closely with the school to identify funding needs. We're always happy to welcome new members who'd like to get involved!

Our Aims

- **Community** We aim to strengthen the bond between the school and our families.



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- **Fundraise** The money we raise goes to all sorts of things - from topping up the essentials to providing added enrichment to the school experience. Last year, alongside a calendar of events, we also funded a poetry exhibition and helped create a dedicated reading shed in the school playground.

Get involved? Our events are made possible by family volunteers. More hands and ideas are very welcome - please get in touch with events team

Hello@dartington-ptfa.co.uk

For more information and to make an online donation: www.dartington-primary-ptfa.co.uk

Dartington Community News



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Children, Young People and Families Neurodiversity Wellbeing Team

We offer a free, confidential advice line for children, young people and families on the Neurodiversity Pathway in Plymouth and Devon.

Advice can include:

- Anxiety
- Diet
- Friendships
- Sleep
- Linking with other teams and services in your area
- School difficulties
- Support strategies



Contact us: 01752 435404 Monday - Friday, 09:00-17:00

Have your say:

Share feedback to help us improve our services. Use the QR code to complete the questionnaire.



We support people to lead independent, healthy lives

Parent Information



https://togetherness.co.uk/mul/cornwall-and-devon/?es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=6729865E9BBC3677D8AD6A924D37D1E0&es_id=xg%c2%a342

Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay families: Build everyday emotional resilience!

Your free online learning. Big feelings, how the brain works, and relationship ideas for happier lives.

Cornwall, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Councils gives families free access to Togetherness resources to support wellbeing. For parents, carers, grandparents, and young people.

Learn from NHS clinical psychologists, practitioners, and other parents. The pathways will help you and your family understand and manage emotions in everyday life.



Speech, language and communication Easy access drop in sessions

As part of the Balanced System, we are starting easy access drop ins for pre school children.

Would you like any advice and support for your child's speech, language and communication skills? Visit one of our easy access drop ins with your child to see a Speech and Language Therapist. Get advice, support and strategies from the team.

Drop in sessions are now being held in different locations across Torbay, South Devon and North Devon. Exeter, East and Mid Devon.

If you would like to attend a drop in, there is no need to book, simply use the table below find a location and time that works for you.

https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/easy-access-drop-in/?fbclid=IwY2xjawRDJPleHRuA2FlbQlxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEegDsR4TAkc6LUrecwNGuc4KyGadit-Egy6c6eEgVH8J-Az0hGdHWt-YHTSNs_aem_jkYG6-OTYCheUDTN1-zR0g&es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=70BD98FC47C9CAB4E97652D13A591423&es_id=xg%c2%a342#jump-collapse10010



LEAP workshops – free online support for families and professionals

Parent Carer Forum Devon and SEND Family Voice Torbay, working in collaboration with Children and Family Health Devon (CFHD), are offering a new programme of free workshops for families and professionals across Devon and Torbay.

The workshops focus on SEND, and are designed to build understanding, confidence and practical skills to support children and young people in everyday life.

Topics include autism, sensory processing, masking, dyslexia and supporting independence.

https://leapworkshops.org/?es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=71ECADB155925EBC18C9D658508CC35E&es_id=xg%C2%A342

Contact Us

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