



Dartington C of E Academy Bulletin

18th September 2026

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled into their new classes and routines. The school is already buzzing with enthusiasm, learning and excitement for the year ahead.

This week, our PTA met in school to share their fantastic plans and ideas for the coming year (see below for dates). We are incredibly grateful for their continued support and dedication to our school community. There are some exciting events and opportunities being planned, so watch this space for further updates!

We look forward to a successful and enjoyable year working together with our families and wider school community.

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

Miss Coombe,

Headteacher



DARTINGTON

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learning
academy
partnership



Love



Friendship



Courage



Respect



Truthfulness

BENEDICT'S LAW

Allergy safety in schools – what parents need to know

Benedict's Law is the name commonly used for new allergy-safety protections in England, introduced following the death of five-year-old Benedict Blythe after an allergic reaction at school.



**ALLERGY
ALERT**



**MEDICAL
SUPPORT**



**ADRENALINE
AUTO-INJECTOR
(AAI)**

From September 2026, schools in England are expected to:



Have a dedicated allergy safety policy.



Provide allergy awareness and emergency response training for staff.



Keep spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergencies.



Have clear individual healthcare/allergy plans where needed.



Record incidents and near-misses.



Provide inclusive support for pupils with allergies.



HOW PARENTS CAN HELP



Tell us about any allergy or change in medical needs.



Keep your child's allergy/healthcare information up to date.



Provide prescribed medication/AAIs and check expiry dates.



Make sure the school knows about any changes to your child's emergency plan.



Speak to the school office if you have questions or concerns.



Keeping children safe, included and able to learn is everyone's responsibility.

Allergy safety is a partnership between school, families and healthcare professionals.



learning
academy
partnership



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CENSUS DAY

**THURSDAY
1ST OCT**

**ALL-DAY BREAKFAST
WITH A TWIST**

**ALL-DAY VEGETARIAN
BREAKFAST
WITH A TWIST**

**BLUEBERRY
PANCAKES
WITH SQUIRTY CREAM**

**FRESH FRUIT
OR YOGHURT**

WE WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND YOUR CHILDREN FOR A SCHOOL DINNER ON THIS DAY AS EVERY CHILD WILL BE ENTITLED TO A HOT MEAL. A LARGE CHUNK OF SCHOOL FUNDING FOR THE YEAR IS BASED ON HOW MANY CHILDREN EAT LUNCH. THIS FUNDING GOES DIRECTLY TO MAINTAIN RESOURCES AND A GOOD QUALITY OF EDUCATION FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

 **Educatering**
The School Food Revolution

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	PE Day	Forest School
Sparrows	Miss B		
Robins	Mr Jones / Mrs Faulkner	Tuesday AM & Friday AM	Thursday PM
Wrens	Mrs Faulkner / Mrs Calder	Thursday AM	Monday PM
Swallows	Miss Torr / Mrs Zaki	Monday PM & Thursday AM	Monday AM



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Kingfishers	Miss Hardy	Tuesday PM	Friday PM
Tawny Owls	Mrs Dando-Laing / Mr Bird	Tuesday PM (Saints), Wednesday PM	Thursday PM
Nightingales	Mrs Eversfield	Thursday PM & Friday AM	Friday PM
Woodpeckers	Mrs Davis	Thursday PM	Tuesday PM
Swifts	Dr Short	Wednesday PM & Friday PM	Tuesday PM
Goldfinches	Miss Wakeham	Tuesday AM	Tuesday PM
Red Kites	Mrs Beecham	Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday PM

Clubs

- Breakfast Club: 7:45–8:40am (Mon–Fri) | £4.50 full / £1.50 short | *Book via My Child At School App*
- After School Club: 3:00–6:00pm | £9 per session (20% sibling discount) *Book via My Child At School App*
- Sports Clubs (Saints South West): KS1 Tue | KS2 Thu | Football Fri [Saints Southwest](#)
- Frazoo Exotic Animal Club: Tue after school | Email: frazie@frazoo.co.uk
- Spanish Club: Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime | [Kidslingo](#)
- Gardening Club – Thursday and Friday lunchtimes with Miss Eyland
- Quiet Club – Each lunchtime in the library
- Art Club: Wednesday lunchtime and after school club | www.thewowhaus.co.uk/book

Music

- Music Lessons - We offer
- Violin, Piano, Guitar, Ukulele, Drums, Recorder, Flute, Clarinet. Please complete the form here [Music Form](#)



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- 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

Calendar Events:

- 29 September – Woodpeckers Trip to Sharpham Estate
- 30 September - Tawny Owls trip to Sharpham Estate
- 1 October – Nightingales trip to Sharpham Estate
- 15 October - Open Classroom
- 19 October – Parent Consultations
- 21 October – Parent Consultations
- 23 October PTA Pumpkin Party
- 20 November Christmas Jumper Exchange
- 11 December PTA Dis-glo
- 16 December – Christmas Lunch Day
- 17 December – Christmas Fair



Autumn Term 2026:

Non Pupil Day:

3 September

Start:

4 September

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	Disclosure Checklist: * Stay calm - don't express shock, panic or disbelief * Find a private, safe place to talk * Be a listener NOT an 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
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	

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](#)



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	Glandular 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://qrco.de/minfoc>.



School aged vaccinations

Did you know children will be offered these routine vaccinations at school?

- ✓ **FLU** - Reception - Year 11
- ✓ **MMR** - Catch-up
- ✓ **HPV** - Year 8 - Year 11
- ✓ **Meningitis ACWY** - Year 9 - Year 11
- ✓ **Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP)** - Year 9 - Year 11

Did you miss us?
We also have community clinics across Devon for:

- ✓ Home educated children
- ✓ Anxious children
- ✓ Children who missed the session at school

FLU
MMR
HPV
MENINGITIS ACWY
DIPHTHERIA TETANUS POLIO (DTP)

Call us on
01392 342678
Kernowhealthcic.schoolimmsdevon@nhs.net





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.
- **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.

AGM - all welcome

Friday 2 October, 2-3pm Designs Cafe and from 3.15pm at Things Happen Here

Our annual general meeting is for all parents, friends and teachers who are interested to learn about the work of the PTFA. We'll have two sessions to catch as many people as possible.

This term's events!

Save the date - we've got a term full of fun and fundraising planned, with more details to follow soon:

- **Pumpkin party** - Friday 23 October
- **Christmas Jumper swap** - Friday 20 November
- **Christmas Dis-glo** - Friday 11 December

Ways to get involved



We know everyone is busy and time is tight so every contribution - big or small makes a difference.

We're event planning a little differently this year with a way to indicate your interest in helping out on different events or activities. Joining a specific chat doesn't mean you're signing your life away! Just shows your interest and keeps you updated on what's happening.

Join the PTFA planning group here >

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/HeirKncYviU32cNgrT7Xg1?s=cl&p=i&mlu=4&ilr=4>

Last year was a record-breaker - most events ever and a huge amount raised for the school. Let's see if we can top it this year!





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Dartington Community News

the WOH AUS

AFTER-SCHOOL ART CLUB

16.09
23.09
30.09
07.10
14.10
21.10

10 SPACES
£12 PER CLASS
WEDNESDAYS
3:15 - 4:45 PM

WEDNESDAYS

DARTINGTON C OF E
STUDIO ROOM
AGE 6 - 11 YEARS

WWW.THEWOWHAUS.CO.UK/BOOK



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DRAMA CLUB

with Rachel

WHY THEY'LL LOVE IT

- ✓ builds confidence
- ✓ creative play
- ✓ learn to improvise
- ✓ perform on stage

Thursday Lunchtime - year 3-6 £7

16 MAX PER CLASS

**CONTACT: RACHELSAVAGE@PM.ME
TO BOOK A PLACE**



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TOTNES RFC
YOUTH RUGBY
MINIS SECTION

COME JOIN THE FUN!

FREE TASTER SESSIONS
FOR 4-10 YEAR OLDS
SUNDAY 13TH & SUNDAY 27TH SEPT
9:30-10:30AM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
ALAN - 07814 792753 • **OWEN** - 07780 701458

TEAMWORK ★ RESPECT ★ FUN ★ COMMUNITY



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KEVICC Open Evening

Thursday 17th September 2026 6 - 8.30pm



Shakespeare Festival 2023



Battle of the Bands 2022



Year 7 Freshers Fair



Ten Tors Training 2024

We have seen **record applications** to our College in 2026. Come and see why so many students, parents and carers are making us their first choice school.



www.kingedwardvi.org.uk





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Friday 25th September
& Friday 2nd October 2026
9.00am to 11.00am



Sprung



KS3 Club Night



Year 11 Prom



Ten Tors

We have seen **record applications** to our College in 2026. Come and see why so many students, parents and carers are making us their first choice school.



www.kingedwardvi.org.uk





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OPEN EVENING

8 OCTOBER 2026

WELCOME SPEECH AT 6.00PM
SUBJECT VISITS AND SITE TOUR
UNTIL CLOSE AT 8.00PM

RESERVE YOUR PLACE VIA THE QR CODE
OR AT WWW.TGGSACADEMY.ORG/OPENEVENING



TGGS
TORQUAY GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL





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Young People's Theatre Playground Arts



Inclusive, creative physical theatre sessions...

Make friends, have fun, build skills, perform...

NEW!
Contemporary
Dance

at The Mansion Totnes

Saturdays

Pre-Juniors 3-6 yrs 9:15-10am

NEW Contemporary Dance

6-9 yrs 10:15-11:05am

Junior Drama

6-9yrs 11:15am-12:30pm

Thursdays

YPT 10-16 yrs 4:15-6:15pm



at The MiC Buckfastleigh

Mondays

Juniors 7-10 yrs 4-5:30pm

Tuesdays

YPT 11-16 yrs 4:15-6:15pm



Questions welcome - for more info contact
Sarah 07387553237 playgroundartstheatre@gmail.com

THE
MANSION



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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

Free Parent Safety Workshops and Resources

We would like to share a valuable resource for parents and carers from **Let's Talk Safer Families**. The organisation provides free, evidence-based information, guidance and online events to help families understand and respond to issues affecting children and young people, including online safety, healthy relationships, exploitation, neurodiversity and emotional wellbeing. The sessions are designed to help parents build confidence, start important conversations with their children and access trusted support.

Parents and carers can view upcoming events and access a range of helpful resources by visiting:

www.letstalksaferfamilies.org/events



Free SEND Workshops for Parents and Carers

We would like to highlight **LEAP Workshops (Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare)**, a free programme of workshops designed to help parents, carers and professionals better understand and support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The sessions cover a range of topics including sensory differences, communication, anxiety, sleep difficulties, behaviour, dyslexia, masking and developing independence.

The workshops are available online and in person across Devon and Torbay, providing practical strategies, expert guidance and opportunities to learn from both professionals and families with lived experience. They are free to attend and are open to all parents and carers.

To find out more and book a place, visit: www.leapworkshops.org.



SEND Workshops for Families and Professionals

Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare.

Contact Us

Tel: 01803 862357

Monday – Thursday 8.30am – 12.30pm/2pm – 4pm, Friday 8.30am – 12.30pm

Email: dartington@lapsw.org

Address: Shinnars Bridge, Dartington, TQ9 6JU