

Dartington C of E Academy Bulletin

15th May 2026

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of SATs week, I would like to take a moment to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported our Year 6 pupils during this important time. Our staff have shown tremendous dedication, ensuring that the week ran smoothly while providing calm encouragement and reassurance to every child.

I would also like to thank our parents and carers for the vital role you have played, whether through helping children feel prepared, ensuring they arrived each day ready to do their best, or simply offering words of encouragement at home. This strong partnership between school and home makes a real difference, and we are truly grateful.

Most importantly, we are incredibly proud of our pupils, who approached the week with resilience, determination and positivity.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Coombe, Headteacher



School Census Day – Thursday 14th May



DARTINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY



We're delighted to share some exciting news!

Our partnership of schools has been shortlisted in the prestigious *Times Educational Supplement (TES) Teaching Awards*, reaching the finals for **Inclusive Trust of the Year 2026**.

This recognition celebrates the way we work together as one family of schools. Rather than working in isolation, we actively share training, resources and expertise across all 18 schools, ensuring staff are supported and children benefit from the very best practice.

The shortlist also reflects the strength of our SEND support. It highlights the guidance we receive from our SEND experts and the collaborative work led by our SENDCO, **Mr T (Mr Trewinnard)** who works closely with SENDCOs across our schools to improve support and outcomes for children with additional needs.

We are also working hard to prepare for and respond to the government's SEND reform plans, making sure inclusive practice is at the heart of everything we do for all our children. To have this commitment recognised nationally is something we are incredibly proud of — and it is only possible because we work together as a strong, connected family of schools.

The TES finals take place in June, and we will be sure to share the outcome with you.

A simple way to say thank you to our teachers

Did you know there's a national **Thank a Teacher** scheme that allows families and pupils to send free messages of thanks to teachers and school staff?

With **Thank a Teacher Day taking place on 17 June**, now is a great time to start thinking about the staff who make a difference every day, from teachers and teaching assistants to office, site, and support staff.

You can send a thank-you message in just a few minutes via the Thank a Teacher website.

 [Send a "Thank You" card to an amazing teacher today!](#)

Let's join thousands of families across the country in celebrating the people who support our children to thrive



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](#)
- Curriculum Booklets - [Dartington Church of England Academy - Curriculum](#)

Class Information at a Glance

Class	Teacher	Year Group	PE Day	Forest School	Biking
Sparrows	Miss B	Nursery			
Wrens & Robins	Miss Mifsud / Mr Jones	Nursery / Reception	Tuesday AM & Friday AM	TBC	
Year 1 Robins	Mr Jones	Year 1	Thursday AM	Monday PM	Summer 1
Swallows	Miss Zaki / Mr Bird	Year 1/2	Monday PM & Thursday AM	Monday AM	Spring 1
Kingfishers	Miss Hardy	Year 2	Tuesday PM	Friday PM	Wednesday PM



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Tawny Owls	Mrs Stoneman	Year 3	Tuesday PM (Saints), Wednesday PM	Wednesday PM	Autumn 2
Nightingales	Mrs Eversfield	Year 3/4	Thursday PM & Friday AM	Friday PM	Spring 2
Woodpeckers	Miss Wakeham	Year 4/5	Thursday PM	Wednesday PM	Autumn 2
Swifts	Dr Short	Year 5	Wednesday PM & Friday PM	Thursday PM	Spring 2
Goldfinches	Mrs Davis	Year 5/6	Tuesday AM	Tuesday PM	Autumn 1
Red Kites	Miss Humphries	Year 6	Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday	Autumn 1

What's My Child Learning?

Explore our Curriculum Maps: [Dartington Church of England Academy - Curriculum](#)

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
- Photo Seeds: Thursday 3.15pm – 5pm | Email emma@emmastoner.com
- Spanish Club: Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime | [Kidslingo](#)
- Craft Club: Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.30pm | Email helenmepham@gmail.com
- Gardening Club – Thursday and Friday lunchtimes with Miss Eyland
- Quiet Club – Each lunchtime in the library
- *New* Argyle Community Football Club | Wednesday 3.15 – 4.15pm
- *New* Art Club – Wednesday 12.30pm KS1 | Wednesday 3.15 – 4.45pm KS2
<http://www.thewowhaus.co.uk/book>



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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](#)

<p>A BAND FOR EVERYONE</p> <p>Band lessons take place in school and there's no experience necessary!</p>	<p>HAVE FUN AND LEARN</p> <p>Rocksteady's unique curriculum includes up to 300 musicianship, performance and instrument skills.</p>	<p>INSTRUMENTS PROVIDED</p> <p>All instruments for lessons provided. Choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.</p>
<p>END OF TERM CONCERTS</p> <p>Watch as your child boosts their confidence by performing in the end of term concerts</p>	<p>PROGRESS AT THEIR PACE</p> <p>Children can achieve an exam-free, Ofqual-regulated, Trinity Music qualification.</p>	<p>LED BY PROFESSIONALS</p> <p>Rocksteady band leaders are highly trained musicians who make learning an instrument fun.</p>

Key Dates

Summer Term 2026:

- Start 21 Apr | Half Term 25–29 May | End 22 Jul

Calendar Events:

- 21st May – Year 2 & 5 Fire Safety Workshop
- 1st June – 11th June – Year 5 - Bikeability
- 8th June – KS2 – Author Visit
- 10th June - Year 3 Trip – RAMM, Exeter Museum and Gallery
- 10th June – Drowning Prevention Assembly
- 17th June – Year 4 Trip - RAMM, Exeter Museum and Gallery
- 22nd June – EYFS & KS1 – Author Visit



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- 22nd June – Year 4 – Forest & Beach Residential
- 26th June – PTFA – Summer Fair
- 30th June – Whole School Transition Day
- 7th July – Curriculum Open Afternoon
- 8th July – 10th July – Year 6 Residential - UAC
- 14th July – Year 6 Leavers Production PM
- 15th July – Year 6 Leavers Production AM
- 17th July – Sports Day – **NEW DATE**

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	<p>Disclosure Checklist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Stay calm - don not express shock, panic or disbelief * Find a private, safe place to talk * Be a listener NOT an investigator - Can you tell me more about the t? * 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 / DDSL / 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](tel: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.



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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.



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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.
- **Making memories** Sampling a homemade bake, dancing at the disco, ice lollies on sports day - our events aren't just for fundraising, we want to come together and have some fun.

THANK YOU

The spring party raised over £500, thank you for your generous support. These funds will go towards a sensory garden at school.

MEET THE AUTHOR

The PTFA have worked with school to arrange visits by local authors - Erin Allgrove (KS1), Tom Palmer (KS2). You'll have received an email with more information.

NEXT UP

Keep an eye on the noticeboard outside school or join the what's app community for updates.

20 May - Seed and plant sale

26 June - Summer fair



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GET IN TOUCH

You can reach the PTFA on hello@dartington-primary-ptfa.co.uk

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





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Dartington Community News



SOUNDS AT THE MANSION
MUSIC - SONG - SPOKEN WORD
A FAMILY-FRIENDLY FESTIVAL

Daytime (**free**) 10:30am - 1pm Evening (**ticketed**) 4pm - 9pm

Kids entertainment | Totnes Vocal Improv Choir
Facepainting | **Theatrical** **Holly Ebony** | Briony Greenhill
storytelling | **Puppet shows** **Shakalaka** | **Disco Snails**
Bubbles the Pixie | **Global** **Street food pop-ups** | **local**
Soul Beach Club DJ **beers** | **Pimm's**

Bank Holiday Monday, May 25
themansiontotnes.org TQ9 5RP





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Exeter Paediatric Integrated Care Solutions

invite you to:

Our 'Open Door' Event

29th June 4-7pm.

Come and discover what makes us different, explore our bespoke newly refurbished premises and hear about our new and established multidisciplinary services for children and young people 0-25 yrs.

All are welcome.

Glen and Hillfields House, Matford Park, EX2 8NL

Tel: 01392 829989

Website: www.epicsolutions.org.uk

Email: admin@epicsolutions.org.uk



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May Half Term at Buckfastleigh Library

**Libraries
Unlimited**

Tuesday 26th May, 10.30am

Author visit Erin Allgrove

Local author Erin will be joining us to share her story 'Bosun Bob, The Salty Old Sea Dog' We'll also have salty sea dog crafts all week.



Thursday 28th May, 11am

Pebble painting

Come along for a creative pebble painting session, just drop in 11-12.30
£1 per child



01392 642638



discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk



lbuckfastleigh.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092. Every penny raised supports local library services. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



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MAY HALF TERM WEEK

EVENTS



Buckfast Abbey

Buckfast Abbey is a registered Charity No. 232497

Mon 25th Circus Skills Workshop (Schiller Lawn)

Tue 26th LEGO Fun Day
Book online.

Wed 27th Free Craft Activities (School Room)

Thu 28th Willow Weaving (Education Centre Lawn)
Email education@buckfast.org.uk to book. £10 per person.

Fri 29th Pottery Painting (Education Centre)
& **Sat 30th** No booking required. Cost starting from £3.

Sat 30th Needle Felting (Education Centre)
Email education@buckfast.org.uk to book. £10 per person.

*Face Painting and
Ice Cream available!*



To find out more visit www.buckfast.org.uk/events
or email education@buckfast.org.uk to secure your place.

**FREE
ENTRY.
PARKING
£10/CAR**

Buckfast Abbey

29th - 30th May

Food

Festival

Taste the Best of Devon!





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To all Bakers, Makers and Gardeners!



The **Totnes & District Show** will be held on **Sunday 26 July**.

Entries are invited for the

Homecraft, Handicraft and Horticulture Competitions.

There is a wide range of classes to suit all abilities!

Entry fee only 75p per exhibit.

Cash prizes - you may even win a Pennywell Farm VIP prize!

Entries are open to all, not limited to the Totnes area

For more information, please visit the **TOTNES SHOW** website:

<https://showingscene.com/events/totnes-show-2026-jul-2026/homecraft-handicraft-horticulture/classes>

Or contact the HHH Steward on

hhhtotnesshow@gmail.com

Please note!

Judging will take place the day before the show, Saturday 25 July

Get your discounted entry tickets for the show via

<https://totnesshow.ticketsrv.co.uk/tickets/>



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Dare to join a top Grammar School? It might not be as hard as you think...

If your son will be in Year 6 in September 2026, you can register to take the entrance tests for Torquay Boys' Grammar School from 1 March 2026. We're excited to welcome our next potential students!

The tests will be on Saturday, 19 September 2026 and they have been thoughtfully-designed to cover the Maths and English that your son has been learning at primary school. No extra tutoring is needed - just bring your enthusiasm.



Additional Support for Pupil Premium Students

We believe every child should have a chance to shine, no matter their background. That's why we're excited to team up with Atom Learning. If your child qualifies for Pupil Premium, they can access a fantastic free online programme to help build their confidence and skills for test success. It has been shown that students with a glimmer of academic potential make more progress in schools such as TBGS, and this offer of PP support is part of our continued effort to

encourage as many students as possible to consider us for secondary school.

Not eligible for Pupil Premium? You can still try Atom Learning with a free five-day trial on their website: atomlearning.com.

To apply to take the tests, complete the online registration form: tbgs.co.uk/join-us

Why you should dare to join us?

TBGS is renowned for providing students with:

- a top-quality, rich and varied curriculum, which enables academic progress, whilst encouraging inquisitive minds;
- a wide range of extra-curricular pursuits, and sporting opportunities, contributing to developing the whole person;
- a caring environment and strong pastoral system allowing the nurturing of academic excellence of each individual.

The essence of what TBGS strives to do is captured in our clear mission to:

- **enable** students' enjoyment of learning for its own sake, whilst developing their creative talents to fulfil their intellectual potential;
- **provide** individuals with the knowledge and skills to respond to a changing world with confidence and humility;
- **encourage** each person to be reflective, open-minded and principled so that they can make a positive contribution to their community and the wider world.

Excellence Integrity Leadership



TORQUAY BOYS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Book a tour
tbgs.co.uk/join-us

OPEN DAY

Tours
8 July
at 9:30
& 2:00

Dare to be
www.tbgs.co.uk
enquiries@tbgs.co.uk



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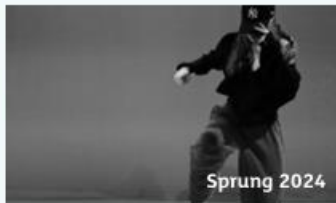
Music Festival 2025



Theatre Royal 2024



Ten Tors 2024



Sprung 2024

We have seen **record applications** to our College in 2026. Our Summer Open Mornings are a fantastic opportunity to 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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SPANISH CLUBS at Dartington C of E Academy



Learn Spanish through songs, games, role play and fun activities

TUESDAY:

12pm-12:30pm for Year 3, 4, 5 & 6

12:30pm - 1pm for Year 1 & 2 **(Fully Booked)**

Teacher: Monica

Cost: £22 per month / per child

Free access to over 250 online games



**Summer term
starts 21st April**

patty.rojas@kidslingo.co.uk To book a space please visit
www.kidslingo.co.uk/area/teignbridge-s-hams-torbay/



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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



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**People's
Emergency
Briefing**
Totnes

Totnes Civic Hall
May 15th, 6:30-9pm

In November 2025, in Westminster's Central Hall, ten leading UK scientists and experts to present clear, evidence-based insights on the escalating climate and nature crisis facing the UK. Their aim was to reset the national conversation by explaining the scale of the risks and the level of response required.

This powerful 45-minute film with Chris Packham documenting the landmark event invites us all to be part of the wave of actions that are being planned.

Caroline Voaden and George Monbiot will be attending and giving their response to the film as fellow constituents.

TICKETS:





tinyurl.com/NEBtotnes



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tinyurl.com/NEBtotnes



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The poster features a dark green background with a gold and purple crest at the top center. Below the crest, the text 'Annual Public Meeting' is written in a mix of white and gold fonts. A yellow banner below the title contains the text: 'An opportunity for the community to find out about the work of the parish council.' Below this is a red banner with three columns: 'DATE: Monday 18th May', 'TIME: 6 - 8pm', and 'VENUE: Things Happen Here / Meadowbrook'. The main content area is white with a red header 'ON THE EVENING'. It lists four items: 'Hear from groups the council has supported' (with a microphone icon), 'Ask questions of the council' (with a speech bubble icon), 'Find out about becoming a councillor' (with a star icon), and 'Hear an update on the council's strategic plan' (with a document icon). A dark green footer bar contains a house icon and the text 'All residents are welcome — free entry' and 'No booking required. Come along and get involved.' The bottom of the poster has a dark green bar with the Dartington Parish Council logo and name on the left, and the website 'dartington-pc.gov.uk' on the right.

Annual Public Meeting

An opportunity for the community to find out about the work of the parish council.

DATE
Monday
18th May

TIME
6 - 8pm

VENUE
Things Happen Here /
Meadowbrook

ON THE EVENING

- Hear from groups the council has supported**
Including local projects & grant recipients
- Ask questions of the council**
Your chance to share views & aspirations
- Find out about becoming a councillor**
Help shape the future of Dartington
- Hear an update on the council's strategic plan**
Our vision and priorities for Dartington's future

All residents are welcome — free entry
No booking required. Come along and get involved.

DARTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL dartington-pc.gov.uk

Contact Us

Tel: 01803 862357

Email: dartington@lapsw.org

Address: Shiners Bridge, Dartington, TQ9 6JU

Parent Information



Nature Adventurers – outdoor days at Slapton Ley

Nature Adventurers is a free outdoor activity for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and children in care who enjoy being outdoors.

Children will take part in hands-on nature activities in a supportive setting, with small groups of up to 16 children and four adults. The activity is aimed at 11 to 14-year-olds, with some flexibility for 15 and 16-year-olds if this would suit them.

Dates and times:

Tuesday 26 May and Wednesday 27 May, 10:00 to 14:30

Thursday 28 May and Friday 29 May, 10:00 to 14:30

Children can be dropped off at Slapton, and free transport is available from Kingsbridge or Totnes.



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https://www.field-studies-council.org/shop/courses/nature-adventurers-slapton-ley-26-05-2026/?es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=E28438CB9EF3A4749435C7A4C163FE25&es_id=xg%c2%a342



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.



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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=IwY2xjawRDJPlleHRuA2FlbQlxMABzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzIxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEegDsR4TAkc6LUrecwNGuc4KyGadit-Egy6c6eEgVH8J-Az0hGdHWt-YHTSNs_aem_jkYG6-OTYCheUDTN1-zR0g&es_c=0C2A601FC8C312E5576375CABE5127DC&es_cl=70BD98FC47C9CAB4E97652D13A591423&es_id=xg%c2%a342#jump-collapse10010



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SEND Workshops for Families and Professionals in Devon or Torbay

Learn. Empower. Advocate. Prepare.

A programme of workshops helping families and professionals better understand and support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Take part online
Join in via your computer, tablet or smartphone



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