



It has been another busy week in school with a huge variety of activities going on as always. A number of Year 8 and Year 10 students visited Arrow Vale High School in Redditch, also part of Central Regions' School Trust, to support learning in Physics, and our post-16 students attended KPMG's 'Opening Doors to Opportunities' workshop before finishing their day with a visit to the German Market. Year 9 students took part in a 'Futbol Lingo' workshop to support their understanding of the importance of learning different languages, demonstrating the very strong links that football and languages have. These wider learning experiences are key to our work with our students; we are committed to developing and increasing the number of enrichment opportunities available. Please do encourage your daughter or son to make the most of these opportunities when they present themselves.

Many Year 10 and Year 11 students have been completing PSA assessments for their BTEC courses, and coursework is ongoing for GCSE Photography and GCSE Fine Art in Year 11; thank you for all of your ongoing support at this crucial time in the academic year for assessments. Mock examinations have concluded now for all Year 11 and Year 13 students, and teaching staff will be beginning to provide information to students about how they have done in the examinations. Grades are not currently being shared with students as staff replicate the processes that examination boards use in the summer to determine grades; this information will be shared in due course. It is extremely important that students keep their focus on their studies as we move towards the end of term; please keep encouraging the completion of homework for students in all year groups, and a reminder that sanctions are now being enforced for Year 11 students who choose not to complete their homework.

As always, if you have any questions or need any support, please do not hesitate to get in touch via [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#). We hope you have a lovely weekend, and look forward to seeing your daughter and/or son back in school on Monday morning.

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 11th December – Muay Thai Intervention

Wednesday 11th December – Year 8 Aspire to HE-
Campus Experience Day

Friday 13th-Sunday 15th December – CCF
Christmas Camp

Tuesday 17th December – Year 11 Veronica Nursing
Home Visit

Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Concert, 7pm-
8.30pm

Thursday 19th December – Post 16 Manchester
Trafford Centre Visit

Thursday 19th December – Year 7 and Year 8 Winter
Wonderland NEC Visit

Assembly Themes

Assembly focus this week was Homophobia and
Discrimination

w/c 09/12 – Dangers of vaping

w/c 16/12 – Christmas Rewards

Please take the time to talk to your child about
what they have learnt in Assembly.

Sixth Form

Sixth form students are continuing to work hard with their studies, and we are having positive feedback from staff. Well done.

This week is charity week run by Gospel Oak 6th form – we have many activities and competitions going ahead – bring in your change to participate

Reminder – To be completing 2 hours of Uplearn, Everlearner and Seneca.

Your sincerely

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Year 12 student of the week – Leshia P

Year 13 student of the week – Varni J

Year 12 attendance – 95.1 %

Year 13 attendance – 97.2 %

Events –

20th December - Deadline for post 16 application forms

12th December - Year 12 Work experience deadline

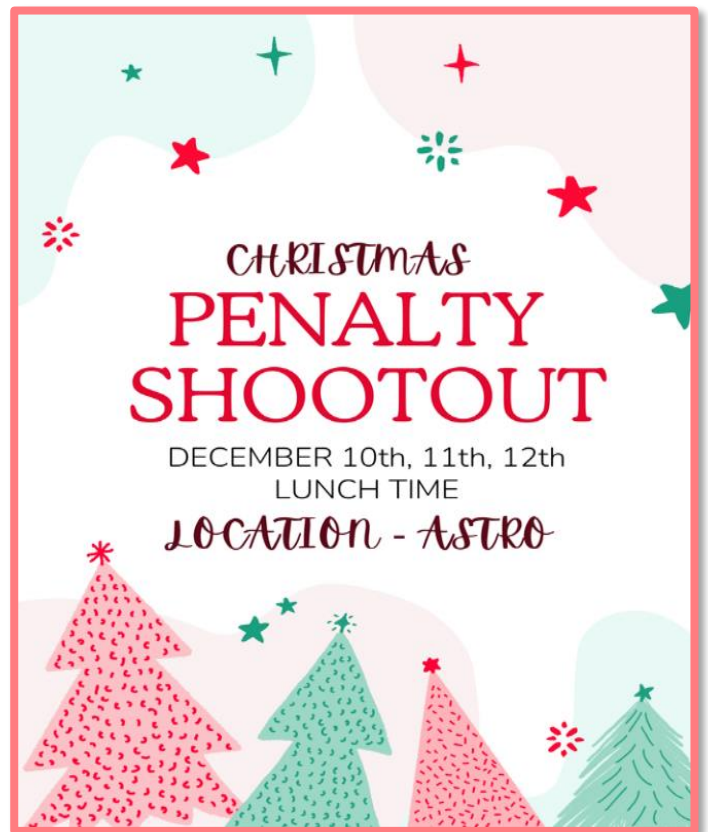
4th December – Trip to KPMG and the German Market

19th December – Reward trip to Trafford centre

14th January – Trip to Cardiff University

27th February – Trip to Bath University

2.12.24 – 16.2.24 - Charity weeks



WINTER FEST

Looking for an evening of festive fun the whole family can enjoy?
Join us for a festive winter celebration and enjoy:

- * Live performances & a live DJ
- * Craft, food & gift stalls
- * Luxury Hot Chocolate & Waffle station
- * Hot food stalls
- * Festival Games & Competitions
- * Free soup kitchen
- * Free winter health checks
- * Activities for kids: craft decorating, cookie decorating & more...



BONUS:

FREE Christmas Gift for Each Child
7TH DECEMBER 5PM-9PM

Join us at: LCT, 2 Horseley Heath, Tipton DY4 7QT (Opposite Jamarck)

Sponsored by:
LIFE @ intcg

Work Experience Club

Work Experience club for Year 10's will take place every Tuesday, 3:00pm – 3:34pm in S10.

The club is to support with finding placements, making initial telephone calls and sending emails.



Speaking Masterclasses

To prepare for the speaking exam in April, speaking masterclasses for Spanish students in year 11 and Home Languages students in year 10 will take place every Thursday lunchtime in S10.



REMEMBER

Winter Funland

REMEMBER

Could you please complete your son / daughters Winter Funland consent forms if you wish for them to attend Winter Funland at Birmingham NEC on Thursday 19th December 2024. **Please also ensure that you have also returned your son / daughters Ice Skating Consent Forms or access will be denied for Ice Skating.**

Payment to attend Winter Wonderland can be paid either by School Gateway, Cash to our Reception or your son / daughter can purchase 25% discount from their class charts awards. If you are making payment by cash, then please ensure that this is in a sealed envelope with your son/daughters name and tutor group.



GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES

Go play Sandwell

GO PLAY SANDWELL FREE PLAY SESSIONS

EVERY MONDAY (UNTIL 16/12/2024)
3:00 PM – 5:30 PM
TIPTON LIBRARY, MAYFAIR GARDENS,
TIPTON DY4 8SR

EVERY THURSDAY (UNTIL 19/12/2024)
3:00 PM – 5:30 PM
NEW ROAD METHODIST CHURCH, MOUNT
ST, TIPTON DY4 7DE

**JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, LOOSE PARTS PLAY,
TABLETOP GAMES AND SO MUCH MORE!**

ALL GO PLAY SESSIONS ARE FREE, OPEN ACCESS (SO
COME ALONG AT ANY TIME) AND DO NOT REQUIRE
BOOKING. SESSIONS ARE AIMED AT FAMILIES WITH
CHILDREN AGED 6-12 AND UP TO 19 WITH
ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

SESSIONS ARE NOT DROP-OFF SESSIONS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JOHNNY AT:
JOHNNY.LOMAX@GROUNDWORK.ORG.UK
OR
07872857437
OR VISIT [HTTPS://GOPLAYSANDWELL.CO.UK](https://goplaysandwell.co.uk)

Funded by:
Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council



Holiday Activities - Tipton



Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

Winter activities will run from Saturday 21 December to Sunday 5 January 2025 (excluding bank holidays)

If your child is eligible for HAF then you will have received an email or text with a HAF activity voucher containing unique HAF codes for your child and a link that enables you to book activities. If your child does not meet the criteria, you can find other activities on our website (some may have a charge attached) visit <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

You can access activities anywhere in Sandwell but here are some activities available in your local area:



Time Step Dance at Coneygre Arts Centre - Help! We've Lost our Christmas Cheer - Family Christmas Show. An interactive family pantomime for all ages.

Sandwell Leisure Trust at Tipton Sports Academy - Plenty for your children to get stuck into with various sports activities such as tennis, football, basketball, athletics, dodgeball, cricket, badminton, netball, team games and a family fun day!

Life in Community at Brook Street Community Centre and St Johns Church Hall - Enjoy a family day filled with Christmas cheer! Activities include crafting gift tags, cards, personalised baubles, placemats, and centrepieces. Get creative with festive bakes and treats. Join in fun games and dances with exciting prizes, and unwind with a Christmas movie and hot chocolate. Plus, meet some special visitors!

KIDS Specialist Provision at Brook Street Community Centre - Physically and mentally stimulating fun for the whole family. Activities focused around the social, physical, sensory and emotional needs of the children / young people with SEND.

ELP Sports LTD at Joseph Turner Primary School - Providing sports and games which will promote healthy physical lifestyles. They will also be a family fun day, enrichment activities such as orienteering and cooking.

4 Community Trust at St. Mark's Church - We offer wide range of activities like arts & crafts, drama, dance, cooking, healthy eating, nutrition workshops, visiting workshops (poetry), sports, digital media and technology activities, games, social play, themed activities, a family fun day, sensory play, water play, plus, many more!



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Holiday Activities - Wednesbury



Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

Winter activities will run from Saturday 21 December to Sunday 5 January 2025 (excluding bank holidays)

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You can access activities anywhere in Sandwell but here are some activities available in your local area:



Friar Park at Millennium Centre - Activities will range from, football, tennis, hockey, multi-sports mini-games, obstacle courses, basketball, netball, badminton, festive races and dodgeball. You will also be able to enjoy breakfast with Santa, creating fresh pancakes and fruit granola bowls. Additionally, there will be Christmas-themed crafts, activities, a family fun day and cycling sessions.

Pilot IMS Ltd. at Wednesbury Leisure Centre - Join us for fun filled days of adventure, crafts, games and cooking! Every day will be filled with new activities for young people to engage, learn and most importantly have fun! We have everything from multi sports, cooking, arts & crafts, a family fun day, dance and much more!

KIDS Specialist Provision at Wednesbury Leisure Centre - Physically and mentally stimulating fun for the whole family. Activities are focused around the social, physical, sensory and emotional needs of the children / young people with SEND.

Centre Spot at Leisure United - Sports and physical activities such as football, multi sports, dodge ball, basketball, and much more! We also have a family fun day and craft sessions.



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Holiday Activities - West Bromwich

Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

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 If your child is eligible for HAF then you will have received an email or text with a HAF activity voucher containing unique HAF codes for your child and a link that enables you to book activities.
 If your child does not meet the criteria, you can find other activities on our website (some may have a charge attached) visit <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

You can access activities anywhere in Sandwell but here are some activities available in your local area:

SADWICA at Beeches Road - Children will take part in fun, age appropriate activities in a secure setting, including days out and a family fun day!

Dynamic Kids CIC at Charlemont Community Centre - Junior bake-off, Junior MasterChef, New Years Eve Roller Disco and a family fun day!

Great Bridge Community Forum at Farley Park Lodge - Arts, crafts, games, sports, a family fun day and competitions.

Yemeni Community Association at Lodge Community Centre - Packed with activities that are fun, enjoyable, educational, challenging and enriching. We also have a family fun day!

G.A.P Entertainment CIC at G.A.P Entertainment Studios - Offer performing arts sessions, consisting of dance, drama, and music. We also have a family fun day!

Forge Mill Farm at Forge Lane - Explore the farm with activities like den building, a low ropes course and food farming. SENDsational: Enjoy games, animal interactions, and food-making tailored for all abilities. Family fun day! Celebrate with family games, music, lunch, and animal encounters.

SADA at Alpine Gymnasium - Non-contact boxing including bag work, pad drills, fitness exercises, and skipping.

Sports Plus at Yew Tree & Tamebridge Community Centre - Providing a wide range of fun and exciting sports, plus family activities!

KIDS Specialist Provision at Odeon Cinema - Physically and mentally stimulating fun for the whole family. Activities focused around the social, physical, sensory and emotional needs of the children / young people with SEND.

Centre Spot at West Bromwich Leisure Centre - Sports and physical activities such as football, multi sports, dodge ball, basketball, a family fun day and much more.

4 Community Trust at The Hub - Offer arts & crafts, drama, dance, cooking, plus family activities!

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Holiday Activities - Oldbury

Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

Winter activities will run from Saturday 21 December to Sunday 5 January 2025 (excluding bank holidays)
 If your child is eligible for HAF then you will have received an email or text with a HAF activity voucher containing unique HAF codes for your child and a link that enables you to book activities. If your child does not meet the criteria, you can find other activities on our website (some may have a charge attached) visit <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

You can access activities anywhere in Sandwell but here are some activities available in your local area:

Oldbury United at Portway Lifestyle Centre - Offering multi-sports such as football, dodgeball, basketball, athletics, dance, a family fun day and party games.

Warrens Hall Riding School at Oakham Road - Activities include stable management activities as well as a 30-minute pat a pony session. We also offer craft, sensory and family activities.

Earls Gymnastics at Earls Gymnastics Centre - Children will have the opportunity to participate in a number of gymnastic activities as well as themed arts and crafts. We also have a family fun day!


Genius! Tuition at Lightwoods Primary Academy - Consists of different activities including science experiments, arts and crafts activities and sports activities. We also have a family fun day!


4 Community Trust at St Johns Community Centre, Crosswells Road and Burntree Primary - A range of activities, arts & crafts, drama, dance, cooking, healthy eating, nutrition workshops, sports, digital games, social play, family activities, plus many more!

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Holiday Activities - Smethwick

Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

Winter activities will run from Saturday 21 December to Sunday 5 January 2025 (excluding bank holidays)
 If your child is eligible for HAF then you will have received an email or text with a HAF activity voucher containing unique HAF codes for your child and a link that enables you to book activities. If your child does not meet the criteria, you can find other activities on our website (some may have a charge attached) visit <https://holidayactivities.sandwell.gov.uk/>

You can access activities anywhere in Sandwell but here are some activities available in your local area:

Community Connect Foundation at North Smethwick Resource Centre - Providing activities such as dodge ball, football, trekking, music, a family fun day and much more!

Fantastic Journeys at Windmill Community Centre - Fantastic Journeys is a social enterprise providing a multi-sensory music and movement session for children with additional needs.

Bears' Playhouse at Thimblemill REC - Arts and crafts, smoothie making, football skills, and invigorating relay sessions. We also have a family fun day!

Chess Mate Hub at St Hilda's Church - Providing activities such as chess, yoga, puzzles and much more!

Limitless Academy at West Smethwick Park - Boxing, fitness circuit, roller skating, dodgeball, soft archery, badminton and a family fun day!


Premier Education at St Gregory's Catholic Primary School - Activities include archery, fencing and curling! We also have a family fun day!

The Abrahamic Foundation at Smethwick High Street and Dorothy Parkes Centre - A diverse range of activities that cater to every interest and age group. Providing activities such as cooking and sports, there's something for everyone. We also have a family fun day!

Centre Spot at Windsor Olympus Academy - Sports and physical activities such as football, multi sports, a family fun day and much more.

ELP Sports at Sandwell Aquatics Centre - Providing sports and games which will promote healthy physical lifestyles as well as a family fun day!

Go Play Sandwell - FREE play for all ages <https://goplaysandwell.co.uk/>



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Holiday Activities - SEND

Sandwell Holiday Activities offer exciting opportunities for children who live or go to school in Sandwell to take part in activities during school holidays. There is lots of choice right across Sandwell with different activities happening in each town. Activities are for children aged between school age 5-16 years.

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Here are some of our SEND specific activities across Sandwell:

Exclusive provision for children with SEND and families only:

Fantastic Journeys at Windmill Community Centre - Fantastic Journeys is a social enterprise providing a multi-sensory music and movement session for children with additional needs.

KIDS Specialist Provision - Provide borough wide activities focused around the social, physical, sensory and emotional needs of the children / young people with SEND. Activities will take place at Odeon Cinema, West Bromwich, Wednesbury Leisure Centre and Brook Street Community Centre, Tipton.

4 Community Trust SEND at 4 Community Trust Hub in West Bromwich - Offer a range of activities, arts & crafts, drama, dance, cooking, healthy eating, nutrition workshops, sports, digital, games, social play, themed activities, sensory play, a family fun day plus, much more.

Inclusive provision to meet SEND needs:

Warrens Hall Riding School at Oakham Road - Activities include stable management activities as well as a 30-Minute pat a pony session. We also offer a family fun day, craft and sensory activities.

Creative Active Lives CIC at Rowley Learning Campus - You can expect circus skills, animal experience, archery, inclusive console, PC and VR gaming, smoothie bike, ball games, outdoor play, nerf games, sensory area, reading corner, painting, crafts, jewellery making, LEGO, board games, hula hooping, giant bubble shows, a family fun day and much more.

To contact the providers or find out more search SEND on our website!

Go Play Sandwell - FREE play for all ages <https://goplaysandwell.co.uk/>



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Our Ref: SBa.KH.3149

Your Ref:

To: Sixth Form Parents/Carers

6th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Sixth Form Additional Work

I am writing to you to extend how delighted I am with the students in sixth form and the start they have made to their post 16 learning journey 2024/25. We are looking forward to them reaching their full potential when they sit their exams in 2025 or 2026. Last year's results indicate an improvement in outcomes and we want to continue this upward trend.

This letter is with regards to the importance of engaging in additional work beyond the classroom. This extra effort not only enhances academic performance but also fosters resilience and cultivates a mindset of high expectations among students.

Engaging in additional work allows students to deepen their understanding of subjects, leading to improved outcomes in sixth form. It encourages them to push their boundaries, develop critical thinking skills and apply their knowledge in practical scenarios. Moreover, the discipline required to manage extra responsibilities builds resilience, equipping students to face challenges with confidence.

Furthermore, this commitment to additional work aligns with personal growth, as students learn to set and achieve ambitious goals. By fostering a culture of high expectations, we can inspire our students to strive for excellence, ultimately preparing them for future success in their academic and personal endeavors.

Thank you for considering the significance of additional work in our student's educational journey.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bala
Associate Assistant Principal Post 16



To: Sixth Form Parents/Carers

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Our Ref: SBr.KH.3146

Your Ref:

6th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Sixth Form End of Term Arrangements

We are now approaching the end of a very successful autumn term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support of the school.

I am writing to inform you of the end of term arrangements and those for the start of term in January.

School will finish at 12.20pm for all year groups on the last day of this term, Friday 20th December. May I please remind you of the importance of good attendance right up until the end of term. Although we are approaching the end of the academic year, students will still be completing important work, including in some cases, coursework/controlled assessments and therefore it is vital that they maintain their attendance right up until the last day.

The school will re-open on Tuesday 7th January 2025 for all year groups.

May I also take this opportunity of wishing you and your family a happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Brownlow
Executive Principal



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Our Ref: SBr.KH.3147

Your Ref:

To: Yr 7 to 11 Parents/Carers

6th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: End of Term Arrangements

We are now approaching the end of a very successful autumn term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support of the school.

I am writing to inform you of the end of term arrangements and those for the start of term in January.

School will finish at 12.20pm for all year groups on the last day of this term, Friday 20th December. Any students who are unable to find their own way home at that time may remain in school where they will be supervised until 3.00pm. Please let us know by Thursday 12th December using the 'Contact Form' at [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) should you wish your son/daughter to remain in school until 3.00pm.

May I please remind you of the importance of good attendance right up until the end of term. Although we are approaching the end of the academic year, students will still be completing important work, including in some cases, coursework/controlled assessments and therefore it is vital that they maintain their attendance right up until the last day.

The school will re-open on Tuesday 7th January 2025 for all year groups.

May I also take this opportunity of wishing you and your family a happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Brownlow
Executive Principal



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To: Year 7 Parents/Carers

Our Ref: MC.KH.3159

Your Ref:

3rd December 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Emergency Lockdown Procedures

Lockdown procedures are important and would be used in response to an internal or external incident which could be a threat to the safety of staff and students in the school.

Lockdown procedures may be activated in response to any number of situations including;

- Reported incident/civil disturbance in the local community.
- An intruder on the school site with the potential to cause harm to children or staff
- A warning being received regarding risk locally of air pollution (smoke plume, gas cloud etc.) or biological, chemical or radiological hazards
- A major fire within the vicinity of the school
- The close proximity of a dangerous animal roaming loose
- An extreme weather event

The school's procedure aims to minimise disruption to the learning environment whilst ensuring the safety of all students and staff.

Tutors will be sharing this procedure with their class with the intention of the school carrying out an emergency drill to ensure that everyone is clear in what they have to do.

The drill will take place during the Summer term and involve the lockdown alarm being sounded.

Assemblies and Tutor briefings will be held throughout the year to remind the students of the importance of understanding what a lockdown is, what we need to do in a lock down and the importance of the drill.

Parents/carers also have a role to play in lockdown procedures. Should a lockdown take place parents/carers are asked:

- To communicate the same message to their son/daughter that the school is a safe place and the drill is to ensure that everyone knows what to do in a real situation
- To be aware that calling the school for additional information could block vital lines of communication compromising safety

- Not to attend site until they are instructed to do so by either the school or emergency services, as they could place themselves in danger.
- Not to attempt to make contact with their son/daughter by calling or texting personal mobile phones as this could place them in danger if an intruder was in the building
- To understand that the lockdown may continue for a prolonged period, extending beyond the schools normal operating hours

Thank you for your cooperation and support in this crucial aspect of student health and safety.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M Clapham
Estates Hub Manager



To: Parents/Carers

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Our Ref: MC.KH.3160

Your Ref:

2nd December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Christmas Lunch Menu Selection - 2024

We are excited to announce that this year's Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 18th December during the regular lunchtime. To make the occasion special, our catering team (Aspens) have prepared a festive menu with a selection of delicious options for students to enjoy.

To ensure that every student gets their preferred meal, we kindly ask for your assistance in selecting your son's/daughter's Christmas Lunch choice. Please review the menu options and indicate your son's/daughter's preference on the online Microsoft Form at: <https://forms.office.com/e/1EQ1kQNVcg>

Christmas Lunch Menu - £2.60

- Traditional Roast Turkey, Roasties, Xmas Vegetable Medley, Gravy & Yorkshire Pudding
- Cheesy Cauliflower and Leak, Puff Pastry Wreath - Roasties, Xmas Vegetable Medley, Gravy & Yorkshire Pudding
- Dessert Options
 - Christmas Tree White Chocolate Blondie
 - Mince Pie Crumble Bar

We kindly request that all menu choices be submitted by **12 noon on 10th December** to ensure we can accommodate everyone's preferences. If no selection is made by this date, we will assume your son/daughter will bring a packed lunch or select from one of the normal food items available on that day.

If your son/daughter has any dietary requirements or allergies, please include this information on the form.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

Mr M Clapham
Estates Hub Manager



To: Parents/Carers

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6th December 2024

Our Ref: AHi.KH.3157

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Student Illness & Returning to School

We are writing to clarify our policy regarding student illnesses and returning to school, as well as to emphasise the importance of regular attendance.

At Gospel Oak School, there is no 48-hour exclusion policy for sickness or diarrhea. If your son/daughter feels well enough to return to school after being unwell, they are welcome to do so the next day - please see [ls my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). We trust parents/carers to assess their son's/daughter's recovery and readiness to return to school.

Attendance plays a vital role in a student's education and overall academic confidence. Every day missed means a potential gap in learning, which can impact progress and understanding, especially as topics build upon each other. For example:

- Missing just one day a fortnight equates to 20 school days missed in a year.
- This is over 4 weeks of lost learning, which can significantly affect academic outcomes and a student's self-belief in their ability to succeed.

We understand that illnesses are sometimes unavoidable, but we encourage students to return to school as soon as they are well enough to participate. Being present not only ensures consistent learning but also helps maintain routines and social connections that are crucial for confidence and success.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the school via the contact us page on the school website.

Thank you for your ongoing support in prioritising your son's/daughter's education and ensuring they have the best opportunities to succeed.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Hickinbottom
Assistant Principal



To: Parents/Carers

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6th December 2024

Our Ref: AHi.KH.3161

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Rewards System

At Gospel Oak School, we continually strive to ensure that our rewards system is both meaningful and motivating for all students. Following feedback from our students, particularly those in older year groups, we have reviewed the rewards available in our ClassCharts Rewards Store.

As a result of this feedback, we are excited to announce some updates to the Rewards Store that will make it more relevant to our older students:

- Year 11 students will now have the opportunity to use their rewards points to purchase discounts on prom tickets.
- All students will be able to redeem points for discounts on school trips, providing even greater value for their hard-earned rewards.
- Older students will see more age-appropriate vouchers added to the Rewards Store.

We hope these changes will encourage students to continue working hard and demonstrating positive behaviour in line with our school values. If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us using the 'Contact Form' at [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Hickinbottom
Assistant Principal



To: Parents/Carers

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21st November 2024

Our Ref: SBO.KH.3143

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Reasons for Absence

I am writing to share some positive updates about our school community. Over the past few months, we have seen a noticeable improvement in both attendance and the overall culture here at Gospel Oak School. Our students are not only achieving better academically, but they are also developing a strong sense of belonging and pride in their school. This is a credit to the hard work of both our staff and students, as well as the support we receive from you, our dedicated parents/carers.

The Government have kindly put together a document which outlines guidance around when students should and shouldn't have a day off, please see [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk) Whilst the Government understand that you want the best for your son/daughter, they are encouraging you to consider whether it might be better for your son/daughter to attend school, even when feeling slightly unwell, please see [How to improve your child's school attendance and where to get support – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](http://blog.gov.uk)

When Should Your Son/Daughter Come to School?

There are several situations where the Government explain that students should still attend school, even if they are not feeling their best. Some examples include:

- Mild cold symptoms (e.g., a runny nose or slight cough) without a fever or significant discomfort.
- Minor headaches or mild tiredness that does not impact their ability to learn or participate.
- Slight stomach discomfort that does not involve vomiting or diarrhoea.
- Low-grade sore throat that can be managed with fluids and rest.
- Allergy symptoms (e.g., hay fever) that do not affect their ability to concentrate.

In these cases, attending school ensures that students do not miss out on valuable learning time and can continue to engage with their peers and lessons.

We believe that by keeping school attendance high, we can continue to foster a thriving, engaged and supportive school environment for all our students. As always, if you have any concerns or questions about your son's/daughter's health or attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate year team.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students succeed and feel at home here at Gospel Oak School.

Kind regards,



Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal



Gospel Oak School

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To: Yr 11 Parents/Carers

6th December 2024

Our Ref: CM.KH.3162

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 11 BTEC Examinations – BTEC Business and BTEC Sport

Students who study these option courses have examinations in January; these examinations count towards their final grade. The dates of the examinations are as follows:

- BTEC Business – Tuesday 7th January, 9am
- BTEC Sport – Wednesday 8th January, 9am

In order to support students with their preparations, revision activities will be provided for students for the Christmas holiday period. In addition to this, revision sessions will be delivered in school. BTEC Business students will have a revision session on Wednesday 18th December and BTEC Sport students will have a revision session on Tuesday 7th January.

Please ensure that your daughter or son prepares thoroughly for their examination. Please do not hesitate to get in touch using [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the work of the school.

Yours faithfully,

Miss C Middlehurst
Senior Vice Principal



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Our Ref: SBO.KH.3163

Your Ref:

To: Parents/Carers

6th December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: No Aerosol Policy

I am writing to inform you that, as of 7th January 2025, Gospel Oak School will be implementing a **no aerosol policy**. This decision has been made following careful consideration of the potential dangers associated with the use of aerosol sprays within the school environment.

Aerosol sprays, such as deodorants, air fresheners and other similar products, can pose serious health risks due to the chemicals they contain. The use of such products in closed spaces can lead to allergic reactions, respiratory issues, and may cause discomfort for some individuals, particularly those with asthma or other respiratory conditions.

To ensure the safety and well-being of all our students and staff, we are asking that aerosol sprays no longer be brought onto the school premises. We will be communicating this message clearly to both staff and students, and we will ensure that everyone understands the rationale behind this policy.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing this change with your son/daughter and helping us to create a safer school environment for all.

Kind regards,

Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal



To: Parents/Carers

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6th December 2024

Our Ref: SBO.KH.3164

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: School Uniform – No Leggings

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about our uniform expectations at Gospel Oak School. We have provided detailed information about the uniform, including visuals, on our website. You can find all the details here [Uniform Information](#).

Unfortunately, we have noticed an increase in students wearing leggings. Please be reminded that leggings are not part of our school uniform policy and, in fact, are not considered appropriate for school. We appreciate that this time of year can be busy, and we understand that the holiday season is fast approaching. Therefore, we will not be enforcing this uniform expectation until the new year.

However, from 7th January 2025, students will no longer be permitted to wear leggings as part of their uniform. To support this transition, we have purchased a large number of trousers that will be available for students who may need them.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work together to maintain high standards of uniform.

Kind regards,

Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal