



PARENT BULLETIN

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12th January 2024



Dear all,

Our first full week back has been a busy one. We have enjoyed meeting many parents at our coffee mornings over the last week and I hope the parents involved have found it useful. We have two further events, an afternoon tea drop in on Wednesday 17th January from 3pm - 4.30pm and a coffee morning on Thursday 18th January from 8am - 10am, which we would welcome any more parents and carers to sign up to. This is a fantastic way of meeting your child's pastoral team, asking for an update or answering any queries you may have. We also very much value your feedback and if there are areas for improvement, these can also be discussed.

Year 9 are currently focusing on their Option choices and we have the taster sessions and the open evening fast approaching. Your child does need to attend with you to get all the information required.

Year 11 have enjoyed our raffle initiative, where excellent engagement is being recognised by the senior leadership team. Names are being collected and entered into a raffle for free prom tickets, hoodies and other goodies which tend to appeal more to a Year 11 audience.

It has also been lovely to see a number of Year 7 and 8 lessons this week. Behaviour has been impressive and students are working very hard. Year 10 have equally impressed me with their commitment to their GCSE studies. Keep up the hard work!

We have just secured another brilliant English teacher, starting in July, and we will ask him to introduce himself in the next bulletin. We are also interviewing early for our next team of learning mentors, next Friday. Many are ex students and we are delighted they wish to return to work with us for a year, starting in Sept 24. We are also looking to increase our number of History teachers so will be advertising shortly, especially with increased pupil numbers again in Year 7, in the next academic year.

Can I draw your attention to the Quiz Night happening on Friday 26th January, and also the High School Musical Production on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th February.

We very much hope to see you there.

Best wishes,

Mrs May

**FRIENDS OF WILLINGDON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
PRESENT**

QUIZ

NIGHT

FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY 2024

6.30PM ARRIVAL

7PM QUIZ STARTS

**FREE
PARKING**

**£5
PER PERSON**

Food and drink available

Parking available on site

**Tickets can be purchased from main reception or
on ParentPay.**

**Please do email in who you are sitting with if
paying via ParentPay**

Max number of 6 people per team

Email:

learningmentors@willingdonschool.org.uk

Book your place for an evening of fun. The £5 entry fee will automatically enter you into our raffle, which will be held at the end of the evening.

Willingdon Community School
presents

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th February 2024
6PM (doors open at 5.45PM)

Tickets are available
on ParentPay
Adult £7 / Child £4

Willingdon School
Broad Road
BN20 9QX



Willingdon
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

NEW STAFF INTRODUCTIONS



Teacher of PE

My name is Mr Scowen and I joined Willingdon on a permanent basis at the start of this term after being here on a supply basis since October. I have lived in East Sussex all of my life and worked at my previous school for 18 years. I entered the teaching profession to make a difference in young people's lives and have this at the forefront of all that I do. My interests are sport and fitness based as I am a keen cyclist and runner, liking nothing more than a 3 or 4 hour bike ride at the weekend! In my younger years I played a lot of football and cricket but a double leg break ended my playing days.

I have a 4 year old Springer Spaniel called Reggie, so when I am not cycling or running at weekends, I spend my time on long woodland walks with him. I have really enjoyed my start to life at Willingdon and look forward to hopefully being here for many years to come!

My email address is dscowen@willingdonschool.org.uk



Teacher of Science

My name is Mrs Wells and I joined Willingdon Community School in January. I'm originally from Belgium and moved to Eastbourne in 2011 to complete my A-levels here. I completed a level 2 NVQ hairdressing before moving on to studying Natural Sciences (Biology) with the Open University whilst working as a teaching assistant. I carried on gaining experience in education during my degree, ready to train to teach afterwards.

In my spare time, I enjoy trying to teach myself to play guitar (although I am not very good!) as well as going for walks, cooking/baking and reading.

My email address is nwells@willingdonschool.org.uk



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Willingdon Pompeii visit - 03/03/2025

Be part of the first ever Languages trip to Italy

- An amazing opportunity to visit the ancient city of Pompeii.
- The tour will include visits to ruins of Pompeii, Herculaneum, Mount Vesuvius and other local sites of interest (including gelato factory).



- Price includes flights, transfers, accommodation for three nights in a hotel full board
Initial deposit: £106 by 31st January 2024
Then five further instalments of £174 by November 2025
Total cost of trip: £976 - See parent pay for full details.



YEAR 9

Making Your Option Choices

Reminder of the Options Evening next Tuesday, 18th January, 5pm-7pm.

This event is for parents/carers and Year 9 students to speak to a range of subject teachers and find out more about making their final choices.

There will be a talk from Mr Holt at 5.30pm in this main hall, this will be repeated at 6.30pm.

YEAR 10

Year 10 Applications are now opening for the 2024/2025 Student Leadership Team

There are a huge range of positions available within the team and with such a strong cohort of students in Year 10 we are hopeful for a big field of applicants from every House. The Student Leadership Team occupy an significant place in the school community and their voice and ideas drive forward improvements for all year groups.

Year 10 students received an assembly explaining the process on Monday this week and were all sent an invitation to attend the student council meeting on Tuesday 16th January to be part of the discussions around House events and projects for the rest of this year. It is not a compulsory event but was offered if it would be helpful for students in writing their application forms or in planning for interviews.

We would strongly encourage all students to consider applying and have that discussion with you. Please do refer to the Student Leadership section of the website for further information and discuss with your young people the benefits to them and to the school of enjoying leadership positions.

All students that have an interest in making a difference, improving their community and who have ideas for fun events and House challenges should consider applying. Students who have organisational skills or can support different types of projects are all encourage to apply. From marketing teams to prom planning, fundraising to podcasting, we are looking for a range of talent to drive projects this and next year.

The application form will be sent to all Year 10 students after the student council meeting on Tuesday 16th January. They will then have until **26th January** to submit their application by email. The experience is so valuable and really can help students build in confidence, learn to work in teams, and to practice social skills for college and sixth form.

Learning mentors, staff, tutors and Year 11 Student Leaders are available throughout this period to support students with further information or support in writing their applications. Student Leaders are available every Friday lunchtime in G2. If you or your young people have any queries, please email collins@willingdonschool.org.uk

YEARS 10 & 11



OPEN EVENT!

SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024

10:00AM-12:00PM

To register your interest, please contact dv8admissions@londonlc.org.uk

SMALL CLASS SIZES SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT CREATIVE SPECIALISTS

DV8 Sussex, Victoria House, 125 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3WB

Bexhill Hive, 41 St Leonards Rd, Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 1HS

The Open Day is a great opportunity to experience the different courses available at Dv8 Sussex . You will have the opportunity to meet our specialist industry tutors who show you around our facilities and provide a fun taster of what it is like to study with us.

BRIGHTON

Victoria House (between Mountain Warehouse and Ackerman Music)
125 Queens Road
Brighton
BN1 3WB

BEXHILL

41 St Leonards Road
Bexhill-on-Sea
TN40 1HS

Please reply to this message with details of which campus you would like to attend and if you are interested in the Games, Media or Music courses.

If you are unable to make our Open Day, we can offer a guided tours at a more suitable time. This will offer you the chance to view every area of the College and ask questions to our experienced marketing team.

In the meantime, please see the 2024/25 prospectus here <https://www.dv8sussex.com/prospectus/> .

YEAR 11



The banner features a hand placing a small figure on a wooden step, with other steps and a figure in the background. Logos for Education East Sussex and East Sussex County Council are in the top right. The text reads: 'SPOTLIGHT ON SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS' and 'Monday 15 January 2024, 4:30pm-6:15pm'.

A free online event for parents and carers or young people with special educational needs and disabilities preparing for adulthood and the world of work.

To book a place on this free online event please [Click here](#) 

*Please note that booking closes on 10 January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following the Year 11 mock interviews on Thursday 14th December, we will be distributing the interviewer feedback to the students in the coming days so as to provide them with constructive suggestions and advice for future interviews.

For those students that may have struggled with the interview process, we are aiming to provide individual feedback to them and reassure them that they can speak with me should they want further support with interview technique.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk or 01323 485254 ext 281 if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Sarah Rooney
Careers Adviser

