

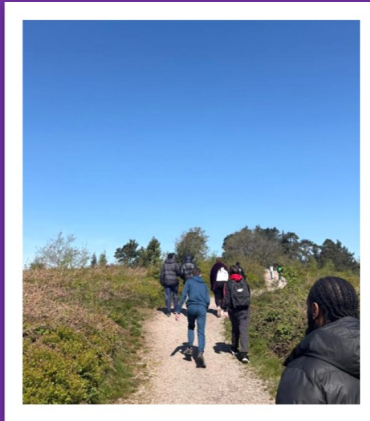


Summer Term 1

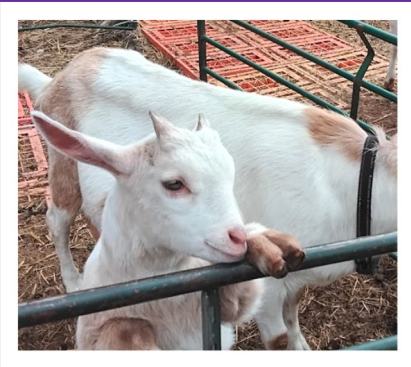
2025-2026



**Easter HAF
Programme**



**Examination
Timetable and
Information**



**Celebrating our
Ofsted Rating!**



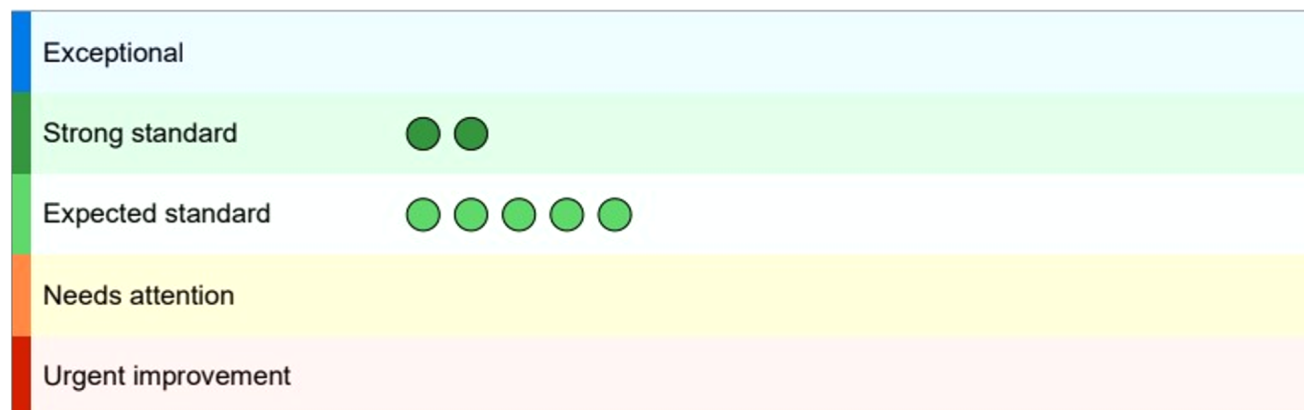
**Year 7 and Year
8 trip to
Twycross Zoo**



**Invitation to
Parents
Afternoon on 24th
June 2026**

VASE Academy Ofsted Rating

Inspection report: 24 February 2026



"The school's provision for the inclusion of all pupils is a significant strength. This is because the school takes considerable care and attention to ensure that it understands the pupils needs"

We are pleased to share the results of our most recent Ofsted inspection, which took place in February 2026

The inspection team spent three days in our school, observing lessons, meeting with staff and pupils, and reviewing our curriculum and safeguarding procedures.

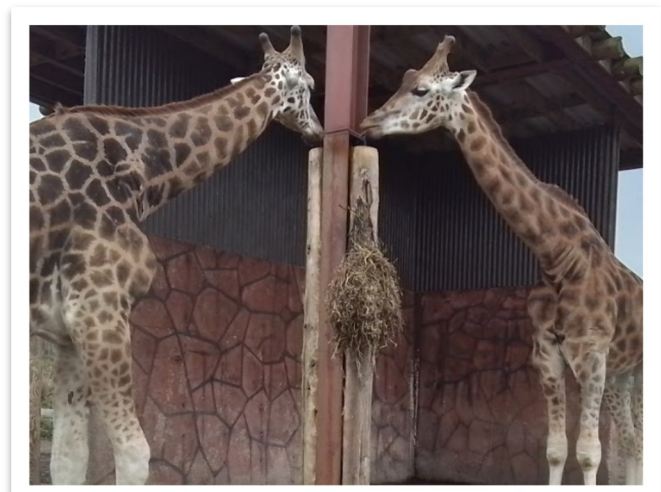
We are incredibly proud of the feedback received, which reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire school community.



Easter HAF Programme Success

Over the Easter holidays, our pupils took part in a fantastic range of activities through the Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme. The programme was a huge success and provided pupils with opportunities to stay active, build friendships, develop new skills, and enjoy exciting experiences during the holiday break.

Throughout the programme, pupils enjoyed trips to Alton Towers and West Midlands Safari Park, where they experienced thrilling rides, explored wildlife, and created lasting memories with their peers. Pupils also took part in trekking activities, football sessions, film club, cooking activities, and healthy eating workshops, all of which encouraged teamwork, confidence, and positive wellbeing.



The cooking and healthy eating sessions were particularly beneficial in helping pupils develop practical life skills and gain a better understanding of nutrition and healthy lifestyles. Pupils showed excellent engagement and enthusiasm across all activities, making the programme both enjoyable and rewarding for everyone involved.

We are also pleased to announce that the school will once again be taking part in the Summer HAF Programme, which will run during the first two weeks of the summer holidays. A variety of exciting activities and trips are currently being planned for pupils to enjoy. Exact dates and further details will be shared with families closer to the time.

We would like to thank all pupils, families, and staff for their continued support in making the Easter HAF Programme such a success.

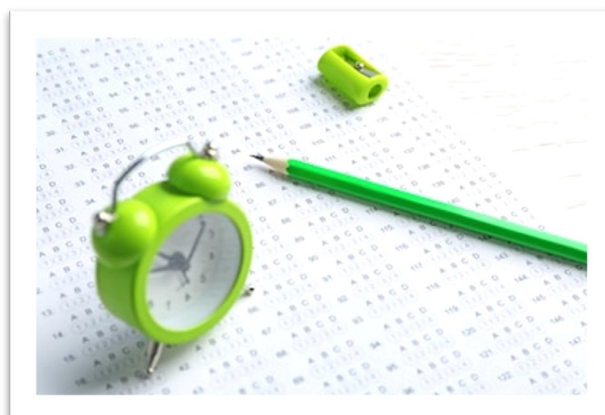
Exam Information for Students

Starting Times

Morning (AM Exams begin at 09:30AM.

Afternoon (PM) exams begin at 01:30 PM.

If your child has an afternoon exam on a Wednesday (Half-Day), transport will be arranged after the exam has finished. Students will be in as usual in the morning if they have an afternoon exam



Equipment Info

Equipment: Black Ink pens, Pencils, Rulers and any required mathematical equipment in a clear plastic pencil case will be provided

Prohibited Items: Mobile phones, watches (including smartwatches), and any web-enabled devices are strictly prohibited in the exam room.

Water: Students may bring water in a clear plastic bottle with the label removed. The school will also provide this



Exam Stress

Exam season can be overwhelming, but we've gathered the best tools and support links to help you stay calm, focused, and ready to succeed.

- <https://www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/education/exams/parents>
- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/blog/exam-tips-for-neurodivergent-and-disabled-students/>
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students/coping-with-exam-pressure-a-guide-for-students>
- <https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/feelings-and-experiences/exam-stress/>
- <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/school-college-and-work/school-college/exam-stress/>
- <https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/whole-school-or-college-resources/tips-for-managing-exam-stress/>

General Exam Timetable

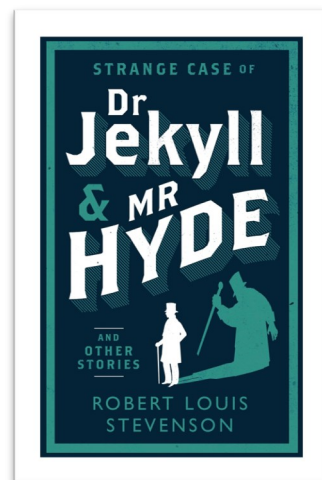
EXAM TIMETABLE 2025-2026.				
START OF EXAM PERIOD				
Subject	Paper	Date	Length	Session
GCSE Psychology	Paper 1	Thursday, 07th May 2026	1H 45M	Morning
BTEC Award in Child Development	Component 3	Friday, 08th May 2026	2H	Afternoon
GCSE English Literature	Paper 1	Monday, 11th May 2026	1H 45M	Morning
GCSE Biology F/H	Paper 1	Tuesday, 12th May 2026	1H 45M	Afternoon
GCSE Mathematics H	Paper 1 Non Calculator	Thursday, 14th May 2026	1H 30M	Morning
GCSE Psychology	Paper 2	Thursday, 14th May 2026	1H 45M	Afternoon
GCSE English Literature	Paper 2	Tuesday, 19th May 2026	2H 15M	Morning
GCSE RE Short Course	Section A & B	Wednesday, 20th May 2026	1H 45M	Afternoon
GCSE English Language	Paper 1	Thursday, 21st May 2026	1H 45M	Morning
SUMMER HALF TERM (ONE WEEK)				
GCSE Physics F	Paper 1	Tuesday, 2nd June 2026	1H 45M	Morning
GCSE Mathematics H	Paper 2 Calculator	Wednesday, 3rd June 2026	1H 30M	Morning
GCSE English Language	Paper 2	Friday, 5th June 2026	1H 45M	Morning
GCSE Biology F/H	Paper 2	Monday, 8th June 2026	1H 45M	Morning
GCSE Mathematics H	Paper 3 Calculator	Wednesday, 10th June 2026	1H 30M	Morning
GCSE Physics F	Paper 2	Monday, 15th June 2026	1H 45M	Morning
END OF EXAM PERIOD				

Your child would have received a personalised timetable before the exam season started.
If you need this to be resent home please let us know.

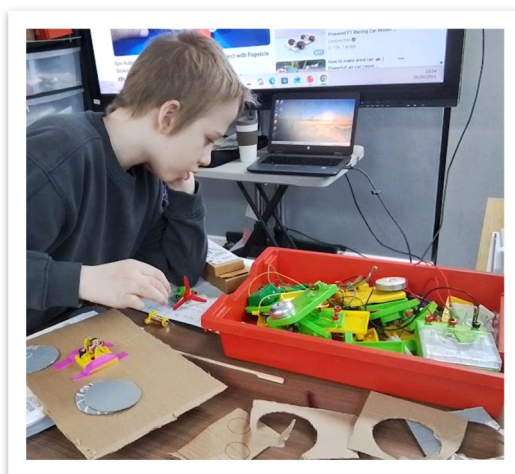
English with Ms Laura

This term, Year 8 students have been completing a module titled *Taking a Stand*, where they explored a range of historic speeches and analysed the techniques that make them powerful and memorable. Inspired by this, students created and delivered their own passionate speeches on topics important to them, including sleep and healthy eating, showcasing excellent creativity and persuasive skills.

Meanwhile, Year 9 students have been studying *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the gothic horror genre. They have analysed key character traits, themes, and the mystery surrounding Jekyll and Hyde, developing thoughtful interpretations and engaging discussions



Science with Mrs Shnya



For Science this half term, students across the year groups have explored a range of exciting topics through both theory and hands on learning.

Year 7 students studied sound, Year 8 focused on energy, and Year 9 explored electricity.

10 students covered a variety of biology topics, while Year 11 students concentrated on revision and exam preparation.

Throughout the term, students took part in many engaging practical and independent activities, including designing and making their own balloon powered cars and guitars linked to their learning topics. These activities encouraged creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, and students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to apply their scientific knowledge in practical way



Maths with Mr Ilyaas

Bridging the Gap: From Foundations to Functional Mastery

It has been an incredibly productive half term in the Maths Department. As we move closer to the exam season, our students have been working harder than ever to turn mathematical concepts into practical life skills.

Key Stage 3: Mastering the Essentials

- Our KS3 groups have been diving deep into the "Big Three" of numerical fluency: Fractions, Decimals, and Percentages. Understanding how
- these three concepts interlink is a major breakthrough for many students. By mastering these, our younger learners are building the solid foundation they need to tackle the more complex financial and vocational maths they will face as they move up the school.

Year 10: The Maths of the Real World

- Our Year 10 students have taken a massive leap into "Functional Maths" this term. They have been exploring the mathematics behind everyday life and the workplace, including: Earnings & Deductions: Calculating wages, rates of pay, and understanding tax and budgeting. Technical Measurements: Mastering units of length, weight, and capacity, as well as conversion graphs. Physics in Maths: Exploring the relationships between Speed/Distance/Time and Mass/Density/Volume. This hard work is paying off, as the Year 10s are now in the final stages of preparation for their Functional Skills Entry Level 3 and Level 1 exams.

Exam Readiness: Year 9, 11, and 12

- The atmosphere across all year groups is one of focus and determination:
- Year 9 are making exceptional progress; they are currently working towards Entry Level 3, with several students showing such confidence that they will likely be ready to sit the actual exam very soon.

Year 11 and 12

- Year 11 and 12 have officially completed their curriculum content. They are now in "Exam Mode," sharpening their skills for Functional

Skills Level 1 and Level 2.

- Whether it's calculating a rate of pay or solving a reverse percentage problem, our students are showing the resilience and effort that makes
- V.A.S.E Academy such a productive place to learn. We wish them all the best of luck in their upcoming assessments!

The Paycheck Challenge



If Alex works 35 hours in a week at £10.00/hour, what is their Gross Pay?



2. With a 10% bonus, what is the new total?



If Alex saves $\frac{1}{4}$ of their total each week, how much after 4 weeks?

Submit your answers to Mr Ilyaas for a chance to win extra Pupil Points!

History with Ms Seema

This term, we became archaeologists exploring the wonders of Ancient Egypt. We carefully dug through the sand and searched around the blocks to discover hidden treasure, just like real explorers uncovering artefacts from thousands of years ago. Working together, we used patience and teamwork to reveal clues about life in Ancient Egypt, including how people lived, what they valued, and the treasures they left behind. It was exciting to imagine discovering secrets from the time of the pharaohs!



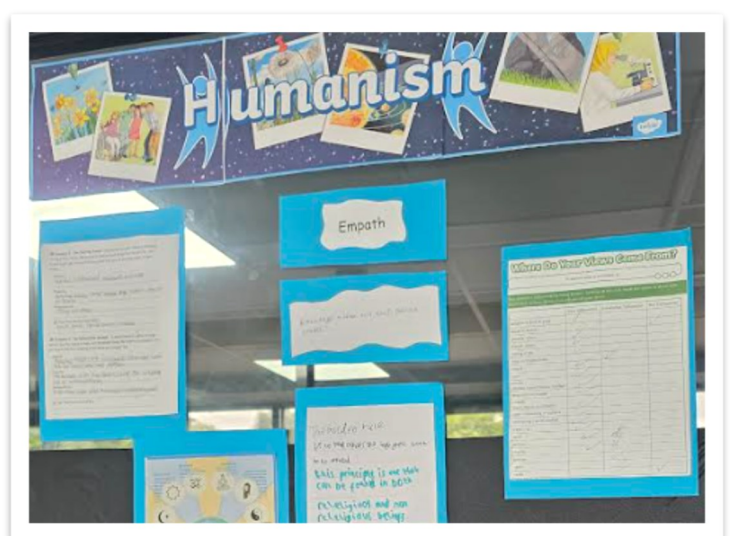
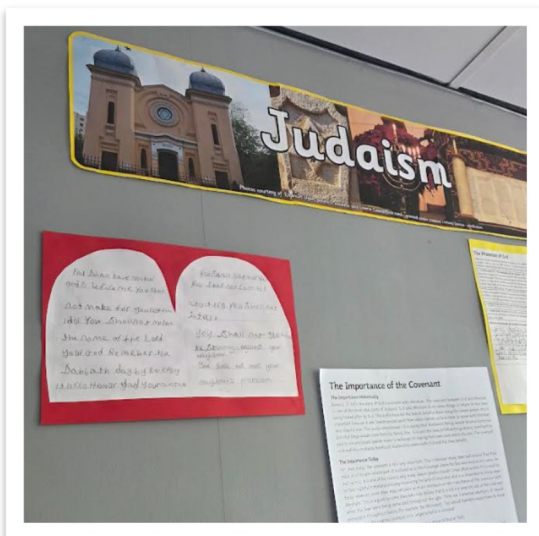
RE with Ms Seema

Yr 7 Judaism Display Board Caption

Our Year 7 students have explored the beliefs and values of Judaism through creative work based on the Ten Commandments. This display showcases their understanding of how these teachings guide moral choices, respect, and responsibility in everyday life.

Yr 8 Humanism Display Board Caption

Year 8 students have been exploring Humanism and how people use empathy, reason, and an understanding of consequences to make ethical decisions. This display highlights thoughtful reflections on living a good life through compassion, critical thinking, and human responsibility.



PSHE with Mr Shah

Year 7

- Students explored individuality and identity in PSHE, growing in confidence as they discussed what makes everyone special. They also enjoyed a fantastic, memorable trip to Twycross Zoo to learn about wildlife and conservation.

Year 8

- Pupils focused on online safety and digital footprints, learning how to navigate social media responsibly. Huge congratulations to Year 8 for achieving the best attendance this term—their rewards include upcoming trips! They also represented the school brilliantly during last week's visit to Twycross Zoo.

Year 9

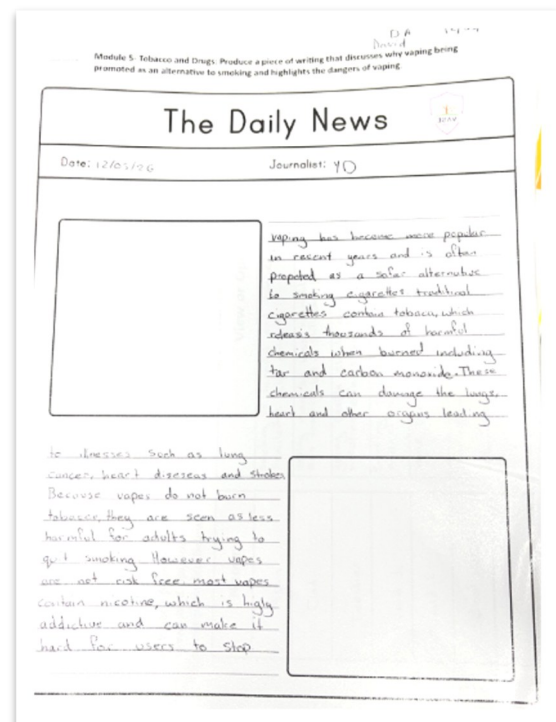
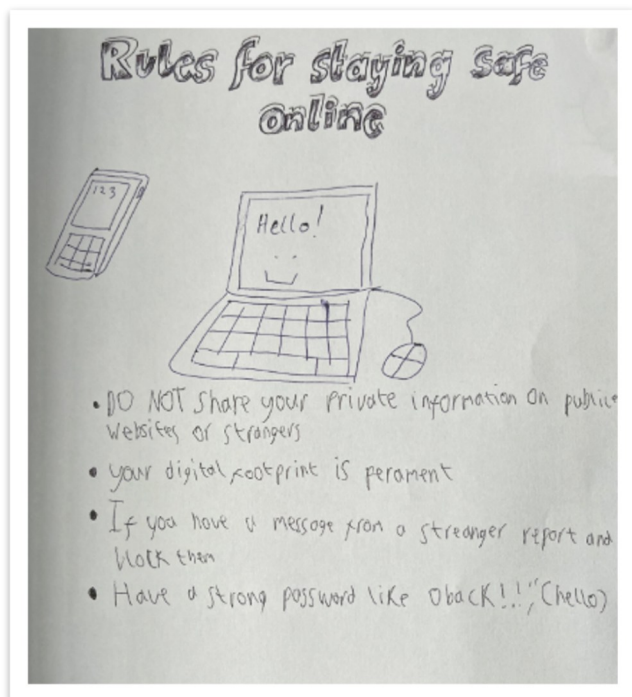
- Focus turned to the future with careers education. Students developed vital employability skills by writing CVs, practicing interviews, and exploring different career pathways based on their personal strengths and ambitions.

Year 10

- Students showed great maturity while studying the dangers of tobacco and alcohol. Through case studies and discussions, they explored how these substances impact health and relationships, helping them learn to make informed, healthy choices.

Year 11

- As they prepare for their next steps, Year 11 engaged in thoughtful, respectful discussions about diversity and inclusion. Students reflected on equality and considered how they can positively contribute to an inclusive society.



Post-16 with Mr Saqib

Post-16 Update – Practical Skills, Exams & Exciting Developments

This term, our Post-16 students have continued to show excellent progress across their vocational pathways, with some fantastic practical work taking place around school.

A special mention goes to our very own Max, who is currently working towards his Construction qualification. Max has been working collaboratively with Liam in Year 10 on a range of practical projects to improve the school environment. Together, they have helped to create a mesh fence around the school site, as well as building benches and new tables for students to use during break and lunch times.

Both students took great pride in their work and demonstrated a strong level of focus, teamwork and attention to detail. It has been brilliant to see them applying their practical skills in a real-life context and contributing positively to the wider school community. Their efforts have made a real difference, and we look forward to seeing them continue to develop their skills further.



Exam Season at V.A.S.E Academy

The GCSE exam season has now begun at V.A.S.E Academy, with some of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students already sitting their first exams. So far, students have come out feeling positive and happy with the work they have completed, which is fantastic to see.

Staff continue to support students with revision, confidence-building and exam preparation to help them achieve their best possible outcomes. We wish all of our learners the very best of luck for the rest of the exam series and hope it continues to be a successful period for everyone involved.

Exciting Times Ahead for Post-16

We are also very excited to share that V.A.S.E Academy has now received the keys to a new site, which has the potential to be used by our Post-16 learners next year as part of their vocational studies and interests. This opens up some exciting opportunities for our Sixth Form students, including possible areas such as construction, enterprise and other practical learning pathways. As our students begin preparing for their transition into next year, this new space could provide them with even more opportunities to develop their skills, confidence and independence.

Exciting times are ahead for our Post-16 learners, and we look forward to seeing how these opportunities continue to grow.

SMSC Calender

For this term, the focus has included themes such as democracy, equality, civil rights, as well as kindness, being good to others, and charity. Students have taken part in a range of activities across subjects and tutor time.



Enrichment with Miss Chloe

This term, with the arrival of the brighter spring weather, our students have embraced a variety of outdoor experiences across several refreshing locations including the historic town of Stratford-upon-Avon, Cannon Hill Park, Barr Beacon, Clent Hills and, of course, our favourite spot, Lickey Hills Country Park.

Outdoor learning provides huge benefits for children with SEN, helping to reduce anxiety, improve communication and social skills, build confidence and encourage positive wellbeing. Exploring nature and new environments also supports sensory development, emotional regulation and gives students valuable opportunities to learn beyond the classroom in a calm and engaging setting. Bring on the summer!



Outbound with Mr Craig

This term in outdoor education, we have explored a range of exciting activities, including mountain biking, where some students successfully completed challenging black routes while developing their understanding of bike safety. Other students have also achieved their Level 1 award in archery.



Animal Care with The Green Care Team

In Animal Care, we have been learning about zoos with the children and discussing whether they are a good or bad thing for animals. We explored different opinions, including how zoos help with conservation and protecting endangered species, as well as concerns about animals living in captivity. To help the children with their learning we went on a trip to Twycross Zoo, where we seen loads of different animals and their enclosures and learned more about how zoos care for them. The visit really helped the children understand the importance of zoos and the role they play in education, research, and animal welfare.



Mental Health Week



Helplines & Textlines

Mental Health Awareness Week

As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, students took part in activities focused on wellbeing, kindness, and supporting others. One of the activities included students making cupcakes, which were then sold during break time.

The activities helped promote positive conversations around mental health and emotional wellbeing within the school community.

It was lovely to see students engaging positively and showing interest



Helplines & Text lines

If you feel overwhelmed, or feel like you need support you can:

- Text **SHOUT** to **85258** to contact the Shout text line
- Call **HOPELINE247** on 0800 068 4141
- Call **NHS 111** and select option 2
- Contact Childline by using 1-2-1 chat or calling

0800 1111

- Call Samaritans on 116 123 for 24/7 support

School Update—Squash







HEALTHIER CHOICES: NO MORE SUGARY DRINKS AT SCHOOL!

PROMOTE WELL-BEING & FOCUS: Say Goodbye to Sugary Drinks!



REMOVE HIGH-SUGAR DRINKS

- SODAS & FIZZY DRINKS 
- SWEETENED FRUIT DRINKS 
- SUGARY CORDIALS & SYRUPS 
- SPORTS & ENERGY DRINKS 

*Cordials (dilutable squash) are often packed with hidden sugar!

2.



BENEFITS OF HEALTHIER CHOICES



BOOSTS ENERGY
LEVELS & FOCUS

IMPROVES
DENTAL HEALTH



SUPPORTS BETTER
CONCENTRATION



HELPS MAINTAIN A
HEALTHY WEIGHT



3.

REFRESHING WATER PITCHER & GLASS



3.



FRESH,
REFRESHING
WATER



FRUIT-INFUSED
WATER



UNSWEETENED
MILK



DILUTED (100%)
FRUIT JUICE

BUILDING HEALTHIER FUTURES, ONE DRINK AT A TIME!



Autism West Midlands: Parent/Carer Support Groups

Northfield Parent Carer Support Group Evening



Join us for our Parent Support Group where you will be able to meet with other parents, share ideas, celebrate achievements, and offer support.

There will also be a focus each session, including the opportunity to benefit from guest speakers and a focus upon wellbeing and embracing neurodiversity.

Tuesdays 6pm - 8pm:
12th May
9th June
14th July



autism
west midlands



Allens Cross Community Asssoiaion
23 Tinkers Fram Rd, Birmingham, B31 1RH

Castle Vale Parent Carer Support Group



Join us for our Parent Support Group where you will be able to meet with other parents, share ideas, celebrate achievements, and offer support.

There will also be a focus each session, including the opportunity to benefit from guest speakers and a focus upon wellbeing and embracing neurodiversity.

Friday
10am - 12pm
May 8th 2026
June 12th 2026
July 10th 2026

autism
west midlands

Light refreshments will be provided, and a member of Autism West Midlands will be present to offer support, advice and guidance.

Young Stars Community Hub
Spitfire House, 10 High Street, Castle Vale, B35 7PR

Great Barr Parent Carer Support Group



Join us for our Parent Support Group where you will be able to meet with other parents, share ideas, celebrate achievements, and offer support.

There will also be a focus each session, including the opportunity to benefit from guest speakers and a focus upon wellbeing and embracing neurodiversity.

Thursdays
16th April
14th May
11th June
9th July

10am - 12pm

autism
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A member of Autism West Midlands will be present to offer support, advice and guidance.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Great Barr Methodist Church
2 Sundial Lane Birmingham B43 6PA

Solihull Coffee Morning



Join us for our Parent Support Group where you will be able to meet with other parents, share ideas, celebrate achievements, and offer support.

Led by an Autism specialist from Autism West Midlands who can offer advice, guidance and training.

13th May
10th June
8th July

10am - 12pm



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Light refreshments will be provided.

Most second Wednesdays of every month. Not during school holidays.

Room 4
Solihull Methodist church, Blossomfield Rd, Solihull B91 1LG

Autism West Midlands: Parent/Carer Support Groups



Birmingham and Solihull

Teen Autism Confident

Free



This course offers an opportunity to learn more about autism in a small, supportive, group setting. It provides an opportunity to discuss individual experiences, hear the experiences of others, and identify strategies that could help in your day-to-day life.

Castle Vale

Dates and times to be confirmed
October 2026 start date



Selly Oak

September 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
October 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th



Shirley High Street

May 18th
June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
July 6th, 13th



Rising to the Challenge

autism
west midlands

All information for Autism West Midlands events can be found on our Eventbrite



The course will help parents / carers gain a more in depth knowledge of autism and how it impacts the person that you care for. We will be looking at autism as a spectrum; communication; anxiety; sensory differences and much more.

Shirley High Street

October 8th, 15th, 22nd
November 5th, 12th, 19th

10am - 12pm



Selly Oak

June 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
July 1st, 8th

6pm - 8pm



Acocks Green / Fox Hollies

June 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th
July 2nd, 9th

12.45 - 2.45pm



Legal Duties in Education



You must complete this form to guarantee a place:



Date and Time

Thursday 21st May
2026

10am - 11.30am

Autism West Midlands are working in partnership with Ken Upton (MBE), to deliver an online workshop for parents and carers of autistic young people.

This online workshop will support parent / carers to gain greater understanding of the legal duties of education settings and much more

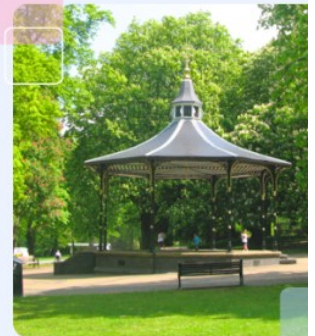
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You will receive a link to join 3 days before from
AmyS@autismwestmidlands.org.uk
Please check your junk mail



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Family Wellbeing Walk



Join us for a fun, relaxed walk in Cannon Hill Park. A chance to connect, move and enjoy time together as a community!



Cannon Hill Park
Russell Road, Moseley,
Birmingham, B13 8RD



Email
amys@autismwestmidlands.org.uk
for questions



Friday 12th June



10am - 12pm



Meet at the band stand



Scan to book your free place!

Children and young people welcome. If it's raining bring your wellies and a broly!

Autism West Midlands take no responsibility for children or property



May Half Term Break & Parents Afternoon

As we wrap up this term, we want to wish all of our students and their families a restful and relaxing May Half Term break. Whether you are heading away or staying local, we hope you enjoy the sunshine and the chance to recharge.

Please take note of the following dates for the return to school:

- **Monday, 1st June 2026:** Staff Training Day (School closed to students).
- **Tuesday, 2nd June 2026:** All students return for the start of the new term.

Looking further ahead into the final stretch of the academic year, please also mark your calendars for our **Parents Afternoon on Wednesday, 24th June 2026 1PM to 4PM.**

This will be a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate their achievements throughout the year, and look ahead to the next steps in their education. We will be sending out a letter closer to the time with further information

We look forward to seeing everyone back on the 2nd, refreshed and ready for a successful final term!



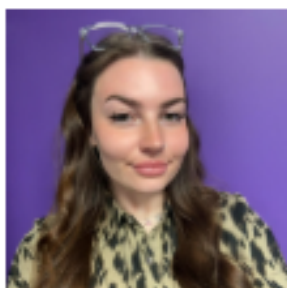
Keeping Our Pupils Safe



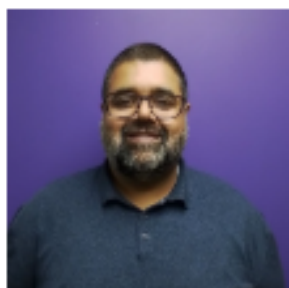
Our Safeguarding Team



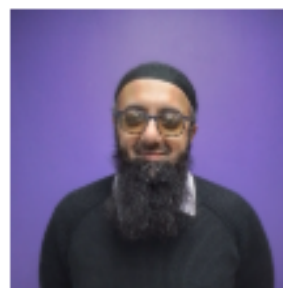
You can speak to any adult at school about anything that is worrying you. However, there are key adults who have the main role of keeping you safe



Deputy DSL
Miss C Rigby



DSL
Mr A Hussain



Deputy DSL
Mr I Sallu

V.A.S.E Academy is committed to protecting the welfare of our learners.

We expect all staff, volunteers and governors to do the same.

If you are concerned about a child, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

V.A.S.E Academy School

0121 551 4882

Safeguarding@vaseacademy.co.uk

Birmingham	Sandwell	Walsall	Solihull	Dudley
Birmingham Children's Trust	Sandwells Children's Trust	Walsall Safeguarding Partnership	Solihull Safeguarding Partnership	Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership
0121 551 4882	0121 569 3100	0300 555 2866	0121 788 4300	01384 813061
Birmingham LADO Team ladoteam@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk	Sandwell LADO Team sandwell_lado@sandwellchildrenstrust.org	Walsall Safeguarding Partnership https://walsallsp.co.uk/children/	Solihull LADO Team lado@solihull.gov.uk	Dudley LADO Team allegations@dudley.gov.uk

