

## From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another half term, I would like to share some positive news from across Nobel, celebrate the achievements of our students and staff, and provide a few important updates.

We held our first Nobel Celebrates Success event of the academic year, celebrating our new Year 7 cohort. It was wonderful to welcome families into school and share this special occasion with them. Next half term, we look forward to welcoming our Year 8 to Year 11 students and their families to celebrate their achievements too.

Thank you to the Year 7 parents and carers who took the time to complete our short questionnaire about their experience of Nobel so far. We are delighted with the results, with every measure receiving over 90% positive responses.

The results are as follows:

1. I am happy that my child attends Nobel: **97% agree or strongly agree.**
2. My child looks smart in their Nobel uniform: **97% agree or strongly agree.**
3. I valued the school offering a coffee morning for parents on the first day of term, even if I was unable to attend: **100% agree or strongly agree.**
4. The school keeps me well informed of key information: **91% agree or strongly agree.**
5. I value receiving the newsletter as a way of staying informed about the Nobel community: **92% agree or strongly agree.**
6. The introduction of mobile phone pouches allows my child to focus on their learning during the school day: **96% agree or strongly agree.**

We are very pleased with this feedback and grateful to parents and carers for sharing their views. As a school committed to the *Pursuit of Excellence*, we will continue to reflect on feedback and identify ways to strengthen our provision and communication with families.

We are incredibly proud of the achievements of our students in both A Level and GCSE examinations from last year, which reflect their dedication, resilience and hard work, alongside the commitment of our staff.

Our A Level results show significant improvement compared with the previous year

| Measure                  | 2024–2025   | 2025–2026   |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| A*–A grades              | 18.5%       | 26%         |
| A*–C grades              | 81%         | 87%         |
| Average vocational grade | Distinction | Distinction |

Based on Alps, a performance benchmarking system, these results place our Sixth Form in the top 25% nationally. This is an excellent achievement, and we are immensely proud of our students and the hard work of our staff in helping them reach their potential.

As a fully comprehensive school serving our local community, we are particularly proud that our GCSE results demonstrate strong outcomes for students across the ability range. Recently released performance data highlights that Nobel performs strongly against key examination measures when compared with other local schools. Our percentage of GCSE grades at 9 - 5 increased from 46.6% to 50.6%. This was higher than at any other local school fully serving the Stevenage community.

Both our A Level and GCSE results are a testament to the hard work and determination of our students and staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff personally. They regularly go above and beyond to support our young people, whether through checking in on students, providing additional revision sessions before and after school, or giving up time during half-term holidays. Witnessing this level of dedication and care throughout the last academic year has been truly heartwarming. We are fortunate to have such a committed team at Nobel.

We are pleased to announce that we are in the process of replacing the school's heating control system, with installation expected to be completed before winter. The new system will give us greater control over temperatures throughout the building, helping us create a more comfortable learning environment. Although we are fortunate to have excellent school facilities, some of our classrooms on the top floor can become particularly warm, even during the colder months. We hope the new system will help us manage this more effectively.

The introduction of the new heating system was one of the factors considered as we reviewed aspects of our uniform policy and decided to return to elements of Nobel's previous approach. School jumpers, which were introduced during the COVID period, were not part of our original uniform policy. We also wanted to balance the number of non-compulsory uniform items and address the challenges that arose when some students wore jumpers instead of the compulsory blazer, particularly during the spring and summer terms.

We appreciate that some students may feel cold at times, and we will shortly provide further guidance on suitable base layers that can be worn comfortably beneath the uniform. These should be plain, that remain discreetly beneath the school shirt and do not extend beyond its sleeves. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in maintaining clear, consistent and high uniform standards that reflect Nobel's culture, ethos and commitment to excellence.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 21 October was a tremendous success. We welcomed our largest-ever number of prospective students new to Nobel, with more than 450 bookings, alongside additional families who attended on the evening.

It was wonderful to see so many of our current Sixth Form students, including those who have joined Nobel more recently, volunteering their time to share their experiences of the school and talk enthusiastically about their chosen subjects. Many visitors commented on how articulate, passionate and helpful our students were throughout the evening. They were excellent ambassadors for Nobel, and I would like to thank them, alongside our staff, for helping to make the event such a success.

We now look forward to receiving and reviewing applications. A reminder that the application deadline is 30 November. Please ensure that applications are submitted by this date.

We end this half term on a positive note, with much to celebrate across our school community. From the encouraging feedback received from our Year 7 families to the excellent examination results and the success of our Sixth Form Open Evening, we can take great pride in all that has been accomplished.

I hope all our students and their families enjoy a restful half-term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of the new half term.

**Best wishes,  
Rav Phagura  
Headteacher**

## Boxing Success

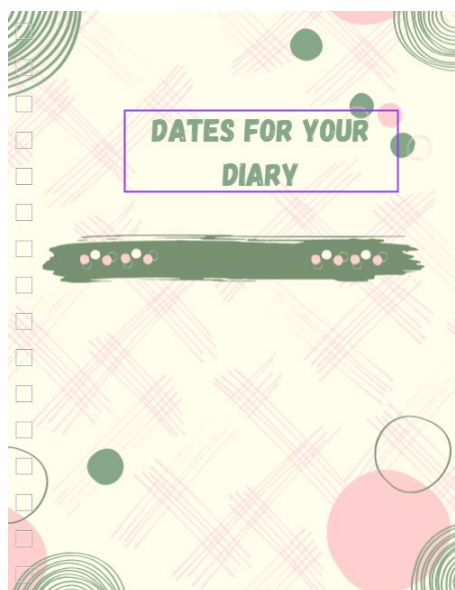
On Sunday 27th September, Tyler Connor in Year 11 participated in the National Development Championships, a boxing tournament held in London. Tyler competed in the Under 57kg weight bracket and fought in 2 matches. His first match was the semi-final where Tyler won on a points split of 4-1 before progressing to the final where he won on a unanimous decision.

We are pleased and proud of Tyler's achievements and wish him the best in any upcoming competitions.



**Mr M Jones**  
**Head of Year 11**

## Dates for your Diary



- Mon 26<sup>th</sup>-Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct Half Term
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov Yr 7 Parents Coffee Morning 8.30-9.30am
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Nov Flu Vaccinations
- Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Yr 13 Consultation Evening (Appointment Only)
- Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Nov Yr 9 Options Fair
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Nov Whole School Meet the Form Tutor 4-7pm (Appointment Only)
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Nov Flu Vaccinations
- Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Nov Meet the Form Tutor 9-12.20pm (Appointment Only)
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Nov Occasional Day (School Closed)

## Senior Girls' Netball

The Senior Girls' netball team put in a fantastic performance against some very tough competition on the 30th of September at John Henry Newman, with scores of 2-3 and 2-4. Despite facing challenging opposition, the girls held their own throughout all 3 matches, showing great determination, teamwork and resilience. They were particularly impressive when moving the ball out of the defensive third following interceptions, demonstrating excellent composure and coordination under pressure. Overall, the team should be incredibly proud of their efforts, with plenty of positives to take forward into their next matches!

**Mrs O'Reilly**  
**PE Teacher**

The Senior netball game on the 30th was amazing. It was a great time filled with fun and teamwork. Despite coming from different year groups everyone was friendly and welcoming and we all slotted right into place working together to turn the games around. Everyone fought hard and gave their best effort and it showed. Well done to all the girls who took part!

**Mackenzie**  
**Year 12**



## Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football team made a great start to their fixtures as they beat Thomas Alleyne's 4-2 in what was a convincing win. Thank you to the huge turn out from parents who came to watch.

A huge well done to the team who were brilliant.

**Mr V Lwanga**  
**PE Teacher**



## Year 10 Girls' Football Team

The Year 10 girls' football team were fantastic on Wednesday 14th October, showcasing their talent, determination and excellent teamwork across three exciting matches.

The girls got off to a brilliant start with a 1–0 victory against Hitchin Girls' School, demonstrating great resilience and teamwork to secure the win. They then followed this up with an outstanding 7-0 victory against St Francis, displaying their attacking ability and confidence on the pitch.

Their final match saw them face JHN, where, despite putting in a fantastic effort, they suffered an unfortunate 2-0 defeat. Although the result wasn't what they had hoped for, the girls continued to show great determination and a positive attitude throughout.

What stood out most across all three games was the team's fantastic communication and tactical awareness. The players worked brilliantly together, constantly talking to one another, discussing strategy and supporting each other on the pitch. They were a wonderful example of what it means to be a cohesive team, with every player contributing to the team's overall performance.

Thank you to Elana whose leadership as team captain helped bring the team together and encouraged the girls to play with confidence and unity. Well done to Evie who was chosen as Player of the Match by one of the opposing teams.

The team should be incredibly proud of their performances, not only for their impressive results but also for the sportsmanship, teamwork and determination they demonstrated throughout. We look forward to watching them perform again soon and seeing what they achieve next!

Well done, Year 10 girls!

**Mrs O'Reilly**  
PE Teacher

The matches on Wednesday were very good. We started strong with a 1-0 win, then we won 7-0. This was a really good result since we had 7 players and had to play back to back with no breaks. Our final game was a loss 2-0, however, overall we all played really well.

**Elana**  
Team Captain



# FONS

## Key Dates:

### FONS Meetings (Rotating Mon/Tues) All in the Library

Contact [kymarthur@btinternet.com](mailto:kymarthur@btinternet.com) for more information

Tues 24 November 2026 7pm  
Mon 25 January 2027 7pm  
Tues 23 February 2027 7pm  
Mon 26 April 2027 7pm  
Tues 15 June 2027 7pm  
Mon 5 July 2027 7pm

All of these meetings last one hour maximum. They focus on arrangements for any upcoming events and also agree funding bids made by school depts.

Tea and coffee are provided.

### Y7/8 Discos Dining hall / Main Hall

Fri 12 March 2027 7.00-9pm TBC

### Other events Dining hall / Main Hall

### Quizine

Fri 21 May 2027 7-10.00pm

## Year 7/8 School Disco

FONS held their Year 7/8 disco on Friday 16th October which was another great success. Thank you to the students who attended and our FONS members who volunteered on the night. See the pictures included of the sweets and drinks which were sold during the evening. We made £400 profit from this event which will go towards things such as equipment to help the students of Nobel. We will update you of where the money will go in the future.



**JOIN OUR 100 CLUB!**

**Just £2 per number!**



**A fun way to support  
Friends of Nobel School**

**How it works:**

- **You get allocated a number(s)**
- **You will be entered into our monthly prize draw.**
- **Each month, we'll draw two winning numbers: one for 1st Prize and one for 2nd Prize.**
- **Both winners will receive a cash prize!**

**Every number helps support  
Friends of Nobel School**

**To join: Maxine - [fonssg2@gmail.com](mailto:fonssg2@gmail.com)**

Secure your 100 Club number for the whole year for  
just £24 – that's only £2 a month!

Pay £2 a month by standing order over 12 payments,  
or £24 upfront for the year.

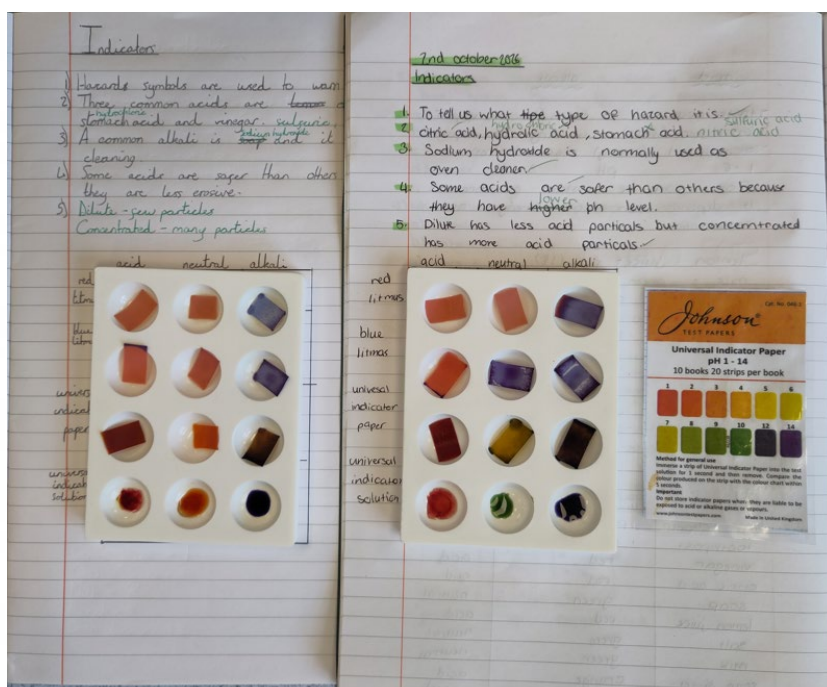
## Year 8 Science

This week, Year 8 were learning about acids and alkalis. The lesson was about indicators, chemicals which are added to unknown substances to identify them. We investigated litmus (a single indicator) and universal (a mixed indicator responsible for the classic colours of the pH chart). You can see the pH chart in the photos. Students drew a results table the correct size in their books. They could then place their spotting tile (or dimple tile) on top of their results table to keep track of what was in each dimple. They followed my instructions to the letter as they added the correct indicator to each row and the correct solution to each column. But one group noticed an issue, their results didn't look like their friends' results. They let me know and suggested that I had mislabelled one of the beakers: it said 'neutral' but actually contained an acid. They even realised that it must be a weak acid due to the slight difference in the colour of the universal indicator paper. They showed curiosity and confidence and were able to apply their knowledge to solve a human error, they even tidied up neatly. What excellent scientists and true Nobelians!

**Ms A Redmond**  
**Head of Chemistry**

Indictators

|                              | acid | neutral | alkali      |
|------------------------------|------|---------|-------------|
| red litmus                   | red  | red     | blue        |
| blue litmus                  | red  | blue    | blue        |
| universal indicator paper    | red  | green   | blue/purple |
| universal indicator solution | red  | green   | blue/purple |



## Current House ABC Points Totals

| 21 <sup>st</sup> October 26 | House   | House Points |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------|
| 1st                         | Mandela | 8265         |
| 2nd                         | Eliot   | 8142         |
| 3rd                         | Curie   | 7677         |
| 4th                         | Teresa  | 7475         |



Are you a family with children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Need and/or Disabilities looking for local activities?

The SEND directory promotes a wide range of local activities and support groups, some activities will also include discounts for families registered for our Herts Card (SEND).

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDdirectory](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDdirectory)

## Sparx Reader Update

Last year, Nobelians read a staggering 7,881 books! This is a fantastic achievement. With this year being The National Year of Reading, I would like us to smash that this year!

After half term, our new year 7 students join their peers in the wider school in completion of weekly online reading. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents of students in years 7-11 that Sparx Reader is a fantastic tool to support learning. At KS3, the platform positively enhances students' comprehension, inference and vocabulary acquisition, whilst at KS4, in addition to that, students can also revise some of our core GCSE literature texts.

Sparx Reader homework is always optional during school holidays; however, any students who do decide to read online over the holiday will be awarded house points.

We appreciate how many distractions there are for young people today and that many students have commitments outside of school but hope that you will agree that just 10 minutes reading each day is manageable. If you would like to familiarise yourself better with the platform, please see the links to user guide videos below.

The parent page on the Sparx Reader website has all the information you need to know to support your child. The main page is accessed via this link. <https://sparxreader.com/parents/>

These individual links below will take you straight to the each of the four useful short videos that explain Sparx Reader. They are only between 2 and 4 minutes long.

1. Why does Sparx Reader exist? <https://sparxreader.com/parents/#PxA-Yjy-1AA>
2. Why do you interrupt the reading with questions? <https://sparxreader.com/parents/#izYxubuZwyw>
3. Is Sparx Reader just encouraging young people to spend more time in front of a screen?  
[https://sparxreader.com/parents/#a7N\\_dFq1lmw](https://sparxreader.com/parents/#a7N_dFq1lmw)
4. How can I support my child with their reading at home?  
<https://sparxreader.com/parents/#9sajwleC4jU>

**Best wishes**  
**Mrs Di Gregorio**  
**Literacy Lead**

## Come and join the Nobel Notes Choir

The Nobel Notes choir will be collaborating with the BIG Sing choir on their Christmas Tour culminating in an exciting concert , supported by charity SOUL on the 20th December 2026 Sunday at Nobel School Leslie Rose auditorium at 11am.

This will be an unforgettable opportunity to perform LIVE alongside the professional BIG Sing choir (<https://big-sing.com/>) at one of their exciting, high-energy concerts.

Come and speak to Mrs. Shakespeare for more details and join the Nobel Notes choir after school on Mondays 3:15-4:15am in Music room 222.

## Black History Month in the Library

Black History Month is a national event that takes place every year in October to commemorate the impact that black people have in our community. Here in the library at Nobel, we have designed a display all about black history to give students the chance to learn more about this topic and recognise the influence black people have made in Britain and across the world.

The books listed below are on display and free for students to borrow:

- ‘The Black History Book: Big Ideas Explained Simply’
- ‘A Year of Black Joy’ by Jamia Wilson
- ‘Black History for Every Day of the Year’ by David and Kemi Olusoga
- ‘Black and British’ by David Olusoga
- ‘Bright Stars of Black British History’ by J.T Williams
- ‘Conversations with Maya Angelou’
- ‘Ghost Boys’ by Jewell Parker Rhodes
- ‘Black in Time’ by Alison Hammond



There are also many other books like these that can be found elsewhere in the library. We encourage students to come down to the library at breaktime, lunch, or after school and take a look at some of these books as just one of the many ways to celebrate this amazing event at Nobel.

Sophia J and Eleanor H, 9E RCN

## Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our book fair. It was great to see so many students browsing and purchasing a wide selection of books which were available.



Mrs Hawke  
Librarian

## What we have been doing in our library lessons

(from the perspective of two Year 7s)

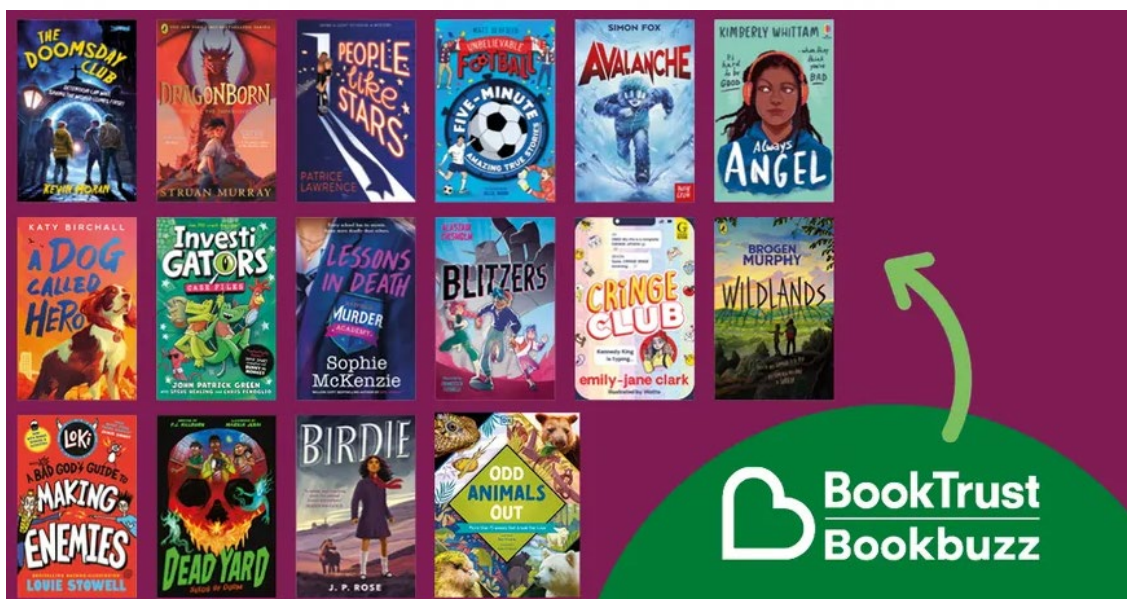
At Nobel, members of staff often encourage us to read more. We volunteered to help our librarian, Miss Hawke at lunchtime on Thursdays and Fridays. She oversees the library here at Nobel, which consists of a variety of jaw-dropping books, a set of computers for homework, and of course our amazing English library lessons that happen here.

In one of our English library lessons, we each had the chance to purchase a book of our choosing for free. We watched a video all about the unique books that we were able to choose from, where the authors of each one had 30 seconds to talk about their book. The selection of books was brought around the tables. We looked at each one carefully and decided which had the best title, blurb, and beginning for their category, for example; Cringe Club by Emily-Jane Clark was put into the 'diaries' section and Dragon Born by Struan Murray was put into the 'fantasy' section.



In conclusion, we have really enjoyed our school library, and especially the English lessons which we have in it!

Written by Sophie and Grace, 7C NWS



### Library Opening Times

Monday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Tuesday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Wednesday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Thursday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Friday 8:15am to 3:45pm

Also remember, you have



whenever you need them

### Our Genre focus for this week is Animal Stories

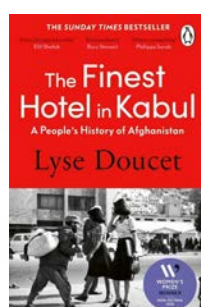
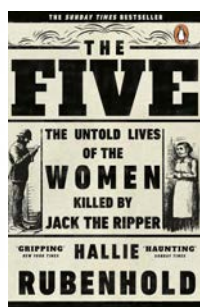


Pop into the library for recommendations and to look at our display

### NOBEL SCHOOL, PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

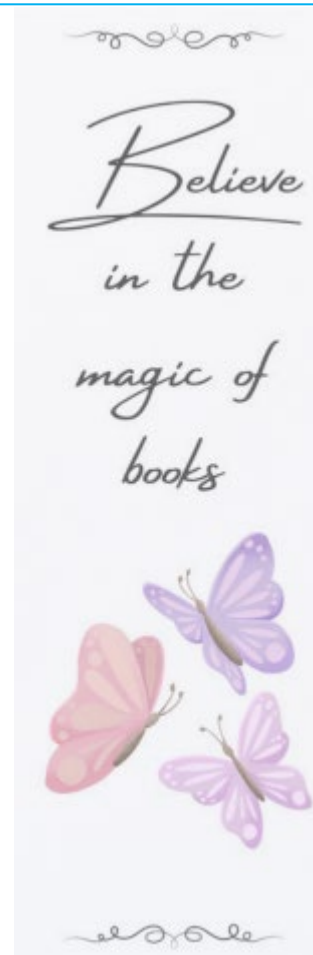
The next meeting will be held in the library at 6.30pm on Tuesday 3 November

The books to read are:



Read all or part of the books and discuss in a friendly informal group

Contact: Amanda Hawke  
01438 222600



# Developing Character

Dear Students and Parents/Carers,

For the two weeks between 19/10/26 - 06/11/26 the character focus is our Nobelian virtue of being GRATEFUL.

The Character Conundrum for the fortnight is below. Please can you take some time during the fortnight to read through this with your child and discuss what the right moral choice would be.

## **Character Conundrum 4 – GRATEFUL**

Maisie is on her way home and passes the village war memorial. Sat on the steps is a group of students that she knows well from school. As she approaches, she notices that the students are dropping all their litter on the floor, and one is doodling on the list of people who died in the war. She feels quite angry that these people do not understand the sacrifice that these men and women made to secure the future that Maisie and her peers all enjoy. She wants to say something but is worried about the reaction she might get, both in the instant and later at school. What should she do?

## **Support**

Peer pressure is a difficult thing for most young people. The wish to be accepted, liked and popular can often overshadow the key notion of being respected. Mary cannot fix the views of all the people in the world, but she can have an impact on these few. It is important that someone says something so that these young people understand that their behaviour is unacceptable but, if Maisie is concerned about some sort of reproach, perhaps speaking to a trusted adult would be a better approach. These students need educating rather than telling off.

## **Questions**

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- What do you think Maisie should do?
- What do you think the reaction of the groups of students will be?
- Does it matter if they are the same age as her or younger?
- If you needed to speak to a trusted adult, who would you choose?

# Developing Character

For the two weeks between 9/11/26 - 20/11/26 the character focus is our Nobelian virtue of being AMBITIOUS.

The Character Conundrum for the fortnight is below. Please can you take some time during the fortnight to read through this with your child and discuss what the right moral choice would be.

## **Character Conundrum 5 – AMBITIOUS**

Paul has, what some may consider, pushy parents. They have told him that they expect top grades in all his subjects. Maths has always been a particularly difficult subject for him but luckily, in class he sits next to his friend who always helps him. Sometimes, if he is honest, he still doesn't understand but just copies the answers so that the teacher thinks he can do the work. One day Paul goes into class and realises that they have a test. He completely forgot and consequently hasn't revised. They are sat in their normal seats and Paul can see his friend's answers. Should he copy the answers he doesn't know or has his ambition to succeed and please his parents overshadowed the fact that he needs help? What should he do?

## **Support**

Whilst copying the answers may earn a good mark in the test and 'keep his parents off his back', ultimately Paul needs help. Young people hate to think of themselves as fallible and often see asking for help as a weakness, let alone the comments they might receive from their peers. This may solve the problem of this test but what about subsequent exams and the GCSEs? The students need to understand that asking for help is a strength, not a weakness, and the only way to improve.

## **Questions**

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- Would you (honestly) consider copying answers in a test?
- Who is ultimately affected when someone cheats?
- What happens in the real exams when you can't see anyone else's answers?
- What would be the mature way to approach this situation?

Warm regards,

Mr N Brown  
Assistant Headteacher

## Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Gold Practice Expedition

For four challenging yet rewarding days, I and my team took to the rolling hills and woodlands of the Chiltern Hills for my Gold DofE practice expedition.

Carrying everything needed to survive on our backs, my team was entirely responsible for our own navigation. Relying strictly on maps and compasses we navigated muddy footpaths and steep ridges. We definitely made a few wrong turns, but heading into local towns and popping into pubs to refill our water bottles always gave us a welcome boost and a chance to get back on track.

Each evening, the challenge shifted to campcraft. After walking up to 20 kilometers a day, pitching tents and cooking on Trangia stoves was exhausting, but sharing meals under the stars was a massive highlight. Despite unpredictable weather and sore feet, team morale stayed high.

Completing the expedition was a huge milestone. I learned a lot about teamwork, resilience, and the importance of a waterproof rucksack liner. We are incredibly grateful to the staff who supported us.

**Dara Year 12**



On our Gold Expedition, we walked around Chiltern Hills for a minimum of 8 hours per day. Compared to Silver, it was definitely more intense, given that we are walking for an extra hour and carrying all our belongings in one rucksack. We agreed on going to sleep immediately after dinner and waking up very early in the morning to get a head start with walking, even if it meant walking in the cold and dark. It was still fun regardless. We walked up steep grassy hills and captured lots of great photos of the scenery and landscape with our cameras to look back on as memories.

We did face setbacks, such as following the wrong route, going off the map and accidentally entering private property. There were moments where we had to walk near fields of cows but decided to find alternative routes to avoid them. However, we remained determined and made it back to the campsite with exactly 8 hours of walking outside each time. It was a very successful practise expedition in preparation for the upcoming next summer.

**Phoenix, Benjamin and Tomas**

# Silver Duke of Edinburgh Students Celebrate Success

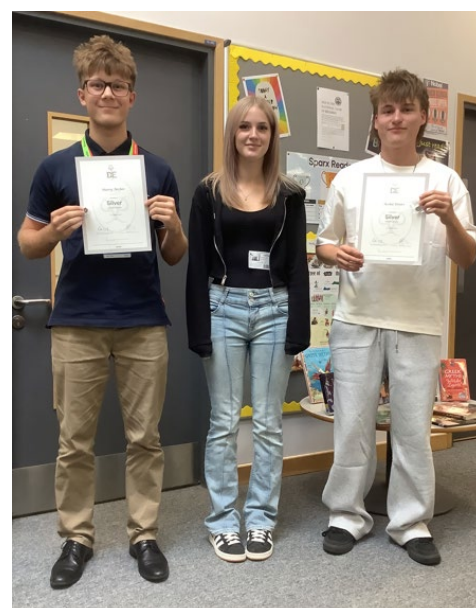
Three groups of students celebrated with parents and their key DofE expedition staff the successful completion of their Silver DofE Award over a delicious buffet lunch. Whilst completing their GCSEs, these students also committed three hours a week volunteering, developing a skill and completing a physical activity. They are to be congratulated for their resilience and perseverance.



**Miss L Steele**  
DofE

Congratulations to:

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| Harry     | Archer      |
| Riley     | Webb        |
| Phoebe    | Kiss        |
| Archie    | Peters      |
| Jack      | Paine       |
| Benjamin  | Dang        |
| Tomas     | Parkes      |
| Phoenix   | Beardsworth |
| Dara      | Oluwatomi   |
| Miriam    | Owusu       |
| Freya     | Chumbley    |
| Julia     | Wilczynska  |
| Mackenzie | Zeelie      |
| Charmaine | Chiura      |
| Taju      | Amadu       |
| Roberta   | Chastell    |



## Year 9 Battlefields Visit 30th September – 1st October 2026

40 Year 9 students embarked on an educational visit to France and Belgium to visit some of the World War I battlefields, memorials and cemeteries. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of the conflict, pay respects to those who served, and reflect on the cost of war. Sites visited included Tyne Cot Cemetery, the Vimy Ridge Memorial, Essex Farm Casualty Clearing Station, and the Menin Gate.

One of the most impressive and moving places we visited was Tyne Cot Cemetery which is the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world as it is the final resting place of nearly 12,000 servicemen of the British Empire. The scale of the cemetery left a deep impression on the students, prompting thoughtful discussion and many questions for our guide and teachers. The students used this as an opportunity to pay their respects to soldiers who share their surname.

Next, we visited the Vimy Ridge Memorial in France, a stunning monument dedicated to the Canadian soldiers who fought and died during the Battle of Vimy Ridge in 1917. The memorial stands atop the ridge itself, commanding panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. The visit highlighted the contributions of the Canadian forces and demonstrated the shared sacrifices made by soldiers from across the Commonwealth.

At Essex Farm Casualty Clearing Station, students learned about the role of battlefield medicine during the war. This site is also significant as the place where Canadian physician John McCrae is believed to have written his famous poem "In Flanders Fields." The preserved bunkers and medical posts illustrated the challenging conditions faced by doctors and nurses treating the wounded, and students gained a better understanding of the harsh realities of war beyond the battlefield.

A particularly poignant moment of the trip came during our visit to the Menin Gate in Ypres. Each evening, the Last Post ceremony is held here in honour of the missing soldiers of the British Empire whose bodies were never recovered. Our students had the honour of watching the moving ceremony take place.

Throughout the visit, the behaviour and conduct of the Year 9 students were exemplary. They showed maturity, respect, and curiosity at every site, engaging meaningfully with the historical context and demonstrating sensitivity during commemorative moments. Their respectful attitude was noted by both the staff and members of the public.

I would like to thank Mr Willsher, Mr Morley and Mr Philcox who accompanied the visit and students for supplying these photos.

**Miss H Taylor**  
History Teacher





## My Story Survey for Stevenage

The *My Story* project brings creative professionals into libraries through a Creative in Residence programme, offering workshops, activities and opportunities for people to engage with creativity in their local library. These residencies could feature musicians, artists, writers, performers, makers, digital creatives and many other types of creative professionals, who would work with local communities through workshops and events.

We'd love to hear your views on the kinds of creative activities and professionals you would like to see in your local library.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/c9Me5Q7QyH>

The Nobel School  
**SPRING FAIR**  
Calling all Stall Holders  
or  
Activity Demonstrators  
**RESERVE YOUR SPACE  
NOW!**

book your space for  
**Saturday 20th March 2027**  
11am - 3pm

**Stall holders/Demonstrators spot £10**  
**Stall holders for Charity £5**

We would also like to showcase some  
Local Activity by way of Demonstrations  
such as:-

Line Dancing, Taekwondo, Maypole Dancing,  
Morris Dance Group, Dance Troupes, Choir Singers,  
Yoga/Aerobic group etc.

Please make contact by emailing:-  
[jane.nash@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:jane.nash@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

# THE BRIDGE



The Bridge is a support group designed for parents, carers and young people in school years 6,7 and 8 who are struggling with school attendance. This includes those who are not attending school at all or on a significantly reduced timetable.

## Purpose of The Bridge?

The group aims to provide a safe and supportive environment where families can:

- Share experiences
- Receive emotional and practical support
- Build confidence and resilience

## Topics Covered:

- Anxiety and worries related to school.
- Friendships and social dynamics
- Health and wellbeing
- Neurodiversity
- The Future

## WHO Who is running the group?



Sessions are facilitated by Michelle C, Suzanne and Michelle J from the Intensive Family Support Team, working with a range of specialist professionals who offer tailored insights and support.

## Session Details

Sessions will run for 12 weeks starting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2026- 9<sup>th</sup> March 2027 (Not including School Holidays)

Time: 12:30pm – 2:30 pm Where: Stevenage Old Town Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 38 High Street, SG1 3EF

Questions? Please contact Michelle C, Suzanne or Michelle J on:

[Michelle.Chapman1@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Chapman1@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

[Suzanne.Welham@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Suzanne.Welham@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

[Michelle.James@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.James@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

## WHERE





**STEVENAGE  
STARLETS FC**



# **U14 NAVY PLAYERS WANTED**

**Defenders & Midfielders**  
**For the 2026/27 season**



Girls aged 13–14  
(School Years 8 & 9)



Based in Stevenage,  
Hertfordshire



Thursday evening  
training



Saturday league  
matches —  
HG FPL Division 2



Friendly, supportive team  
with qualified coaching

***Come and join us!***



Contact:  
**Simon Keehne**



07722 294650



skeehne@gmail.com



www.starletsfc.com

# HERTS GIRLS RUGBY FESTIVAL

Run by Sharks Rugby & Herts RFU

**Free Entry & Open to all schools**



**Year 7 teams (contact and non-contact)**



**Year (8/9) teams (contact and non-contact)**



**Year (10/11) teams (contact and non-contact)**



To Enter Scan  
the QR Code



**Hertford Rugby Club  
Hoe Lane  
Ware  
SG12 9NZ**



**Thurs 12 November**



**12:45pm - 3.30pm**



[www.juniorsharksrugby.com](http://www.juniorsharksrugby.com)



**Herts Rugby**



## Collection

# Talking ASD & ADHD: \*FREE\* for parents in Herts



A series of workshops for parents and carers of young people with (diagnosed OR suspected) ASD & ADHD, commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council to provide FREE support, information and advice for families of children living and/or schooling in Herts.

## Events in this collection



Talking ASD & ADHD: Responding to Anger (837) For parents/carers in Herts.

Tue, Jun 2 • 9:30 AM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Stress & Anxiety (838) For parents/carers in Herts.

Mon, Jun 8 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Tech Use (839) For parents/carers in Herts.

Tue, Jun 16 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: The Teenage Years (840) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Jun 24 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Responding to Anger (871) For parents/carers in Herts.

Mon, Sep 21 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Stress & Anxiety (869) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Sep 30 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: School Avoidance(872) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Oct 21 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Tech Use (870) For parents/carers in Herts.

Thu, Nov 19 • 9:30 AM GMT

Free

## **Hertfordshire Local offer website**

They have lots of useful information on services available across Hertfordshire as well as signing up to the local offer short breaks service and the Hertfordshire additional needs database (HAND offer).

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/the-hertfordshire-local-offer.aspx>

## **Hertfordshire based charity Angels.**

Angels support families of autistic children and /or children who have ADHD (and those awaiting a diagnosis). All Angel's staff are parents of neurodivergent children. They provide individualised advice and support to parents as well as help families meet with others with shared experiences. <https://angelssupportgroup.org.uk/>

## **The Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Service**

Provides early intervention emotional wellbeing and mental health support to children and young people aged 5-19 who would benefit from, low intensity support. Support is provided through 1-1 and group interventions

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-21/>

## **ADD-Vance.**

A local charity developed by a group of parents of neurodivergent children who want to support families with children or young people with ASD/ADHD. They offer a variety of services including workshops, courses, a support telephone line, as well as family events and much more.

<https://www.add-vance.org/parents/courses/>

## **SPACE**

A Hertfordshire based charity supporting families of children or young people who are neurodivergent (Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia, Tourette's and other neurodiverse conditions)

<https://spaceherts.org.uk/>

## **Families in Focus**

Families in Focus are a Hertfordshire-based community interest company that provides online evidence-based, award-winning therapeutic parenting courses as well as providing a safe space to meet others with shared experiences.

<https://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk/>

### Supporting Links

We are a local social enterprise, providing parenting support through courses, workshops and 1:1 mentoring of parents and children throughout Hertfordshire and the surrounding area  
<https://www.supportinglinks.co.uk/>

### Family Lives

We are a charity that provide support to families around all aspects of life including your child development, understanding your child, issues with school, parenting/relationship support and much more  
<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

### Dolphins swimming club

A swimming club (at Stevenage Leisure centre) for people with physical and mental disabilities that would benefit from time in the water but are uncomfortable attending a normal swimming session. We are a registered charity  
<https://stevenage-dolphins.org/>

### Graces Space and the Brighter SENTER

Brighter SENTER is an inclusive life skills and wellness hub for children and young people ages 5-16 with SEN. They have a team of consultants, coaches, facilitators, psychologists and relaxation therapists who have a desire to see children and young people have a bright outlook and the freedom to explore, develop and thrive in every area of life.

Graces space is a volunteer and parent Saturday Club that meet twice a month.  
<https://brightersenter.com/>



**Grace's Space**  
supporting families for a brighter future

GRACE'S SPACE is a parent and volunteer led monthly Saturday Club that supports:

- Children aged 3-9 years old diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Their parents and siblings

**GRACE'S SPACE WILL PROVIDE:**

- A space to play, learn and relax
- These sessions will include: musical activities, sporting activities and creative dance

Venue: Grace Community Church Hall, Hydean Way, Stevenage, SG2 9XJ.  
Each session lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes

Attendance is via registration only and admission is FREE  
Registered children will get a FREE T-Shirt with our Logo

Grace's Space runs two sessions on the first Saturday of every month  
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
12:30 PM - 2PM

To register or for more information call or email us on:  
Telephone: 07972 345 797  
Email: [graces\\_space@live.co.uk](mailto:graces_space@live.co.uk)  
Website: [www.gracespace.org](http://www.gracespace.org)



### **Chat Health School Nurse text messaging service for parents/carers: 07312 263002**

A new service from Chat Health has recently launched for parents/carers to provide advice on supporting children and young people's health and wellbeing (launched July 24)

Find out more about the wide range of services available to support Hertfordshire's children, young people and their parents/carers with emotional wellbeing/mental health at:

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth)

### **Young Minds**

Young minds are the UK's leading charity fighting for young people's mental health.

They have a Parents Helpline which is a free national service for any parent or carer concerned about a young person aged 0-25 yrs. We give customised advice and provide translation services in over 200 languages. We also have comprehensive resources on the Parent and Carer section of our website,

[https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline/?utm\\_source=website&utm\\_medium=website&](https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline/?utm_source=website&utm_medium=website&)

### **With Youth online groups for children and young people**

With Youth free online emotional wellbeing groups for 7–12-year-olds and ages 13+.

E: [withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org](mailto:withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org) for more information and/or find out more [here](#)

### **The sandbox**

The Sandbox is an innovative **digital mental healthcare** service for **Children and Young People**.

We work together with the **NHS, local government, and other organisations** to help Children and Young People with their mental health.

<https://thesandbox.mindler.co.uk/>

Follow us on Facebook- [https://www.facebook.com/p/DSPL2-Stevenage-100063726952451/?\\_rdr](https://www.facebook.com/p/DSPL2-Stevenage-100063726952451/?_rdr)

Our website is continuously updated with useful information- <https://www.stevenagedspl.org.uk/>

# Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

1 day Champion course designed specifically for Hertfordshire  
Parent/Carers of 8 to 18 year olds.

**FREE**



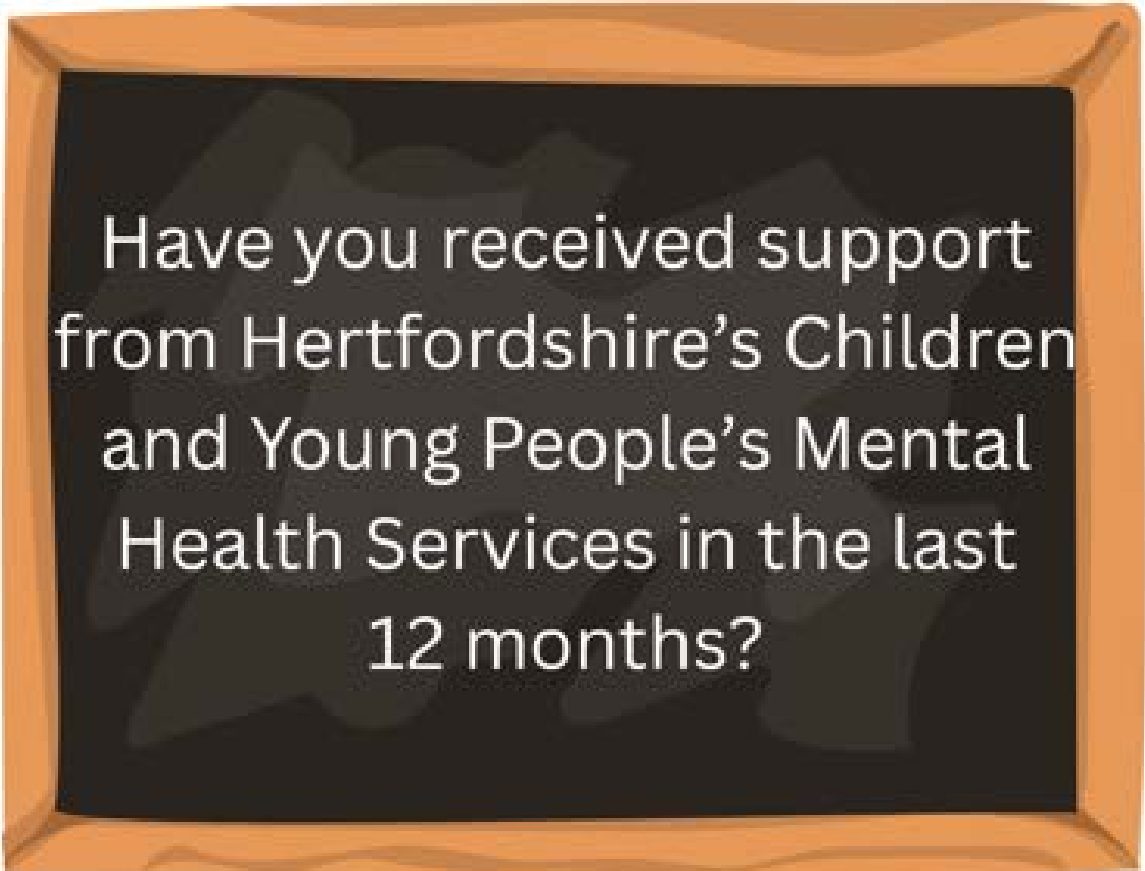
MHFA England

## You will learn:

- An understanding of common mental health issues and how they can affect young people
- The ability to spot the signs of mental ill health in young people, and guide them to a place of support
- Knowledge and confidence to advocate for mental health awareness
- Skills to support positive wellbeing

|                                     |                                                             |                |                                          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------|
| Friday 13 Nov 2026<br>9.30am to 4pm | Peartree Spring Primary School,<br>Stevenage, SG2 9GG       | Parents/Carers | Parking available on<br>roads near venue |
| Friday 12 Mar 2027<br>9.30am to 4pm | Hobbs Hill Wood Primary School,<br>Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8ER | Parents/Carers | Parking available<br>on site             |

To book your place please email [schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsmh@hertfordshire.gov.uk)  
*Places are limited to two representatives per education setting*



Have you received support  
from Hertfordshire's Children  
and Young People's Mental  
Health Services in the last  
12 months?

We are asking young people, parents and  
carers to share your views and experiences.



**MH  
LDN**

**COMPLETE SURVEY**

[www.hertshub.co.uk](http://www.hertshub.co.uk)



**FREE DROP IN SESSION**



Come along to meet other parents, have a coffee/tea and hear about support and advice available in the SEND world

**no booking or  
appointment needed**

**Calling all Parents**

**Do you have  
a child with  
SEND?**

- Find out about local services
- Meet other families
- Advice and support

**SERVICES ATTENDING:-**

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Herts MIND       | Tracks              |
| Supporting Links | Lending Space       |
| Step2Skills      | Home Start          |
| Phoenix          | SET Family Support  |
| Angels           | Well Being Junction |
| ADDvance         | Herts Parent Carer  |
| Family Centre    | Involvement         |

**DATES & VENUE:** We are running the events between 9 -11am on:-

24<sup>th</sup> November Lodge Farm School, Stevenage, SG2 0HR

23<sup>rd</sup> March Mossbury School, Stevenage, SG1 5PA

15<sup>th</sup> June The Leys School, Stevenage, SG1 4QZ

Tel: 01438 233900 | Email: [dspl2@peartreesprings.herts.ac.uk](mailto:dspl2@peartreesprings.herts.ac.uk)



Delivering Special  
Provision Locally



## Parent & Carer Support Autumn Term 2026



**FREE** to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire

### TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.



**Tuesdays 8.00 – 9.30pm**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sep to 20<sup>th</sup> Oct**

**Online Course ID 864**

**Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Nov to 8<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Online Course ID 859**

**Wednesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Nov to 9<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**F2F Course: ID 858**

**Longdean School**

**Hemel Hempstead**

### TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



**Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm**

**17<sup>th</sup> Sep to 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct**

**Online Course ID 861**

**Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am**

**4<sup>th</sup> Nov to 9<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Online Course ID 860**

### TALKING ANXIETY

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Nov to 9<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Online Course ID 862**

## TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**

**16<sup>th</sup> Sep to 21<sup>st</sup> Oct**

**Online Course: ID 867**

**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Nov to 8<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Online Course: ID 868**

## TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children & adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm**

**15<sup>th</sup> Sep to 20<sup>th</sup> Oct**

**Online Course: ID 863**

## TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:

- The Teen Brain: the changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**

**16<sup>th</sup> Sep to 21<sup>st</sup> Oct**

**Online Course: ID 865**

**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**

**4<sup>th</sup> Nov to 9<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**Online Course: ID 866**

### Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on:  
**07512 709556 or [bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)**

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund  
Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request



# TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS



**Tuesdays 8.00-9.30pm ONLINE Course ID: 864**  
**15-Sep, 22-Sep, 29-Sep, 06-Oct, 13-Oct, 20-Oct 2026**

**Tuesdays 9.45-11.15am ONLINE Course ID: 859**  
**03-Nov, 10-Nov, 17-Nov, 24-Nov, 01-Dec, 08-Dec 2026**

**Wednesday 7.00-9.00pm F2F Course ID: 858**  
**04-Nov, 11-Nov, 18-Nov, 25-Nov, 02-Dec, 09-Dec 2026**  
**Venue: Longdean School, Hemel Hempstead**

**A 6-week group for parents and carers of children 2-19yrs with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.**

- **Understand your child's behaviour**
- **Develop strategies that really work**
- **Reduce conflict and increase co-operation**
- **Improve emotional regulation**
- **Explore sensory needs**
- **Increase child's resilience**
- **Manage the different needs within your family**

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

**'I have been on a few courses to help me with my child but this was by far the most helpful'**

**Booking essential**  
**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**[bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)**  
**[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)**

Funded by  
Hertfordshire  
County Council



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

# TALKING TEENS



**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Course ID: 865**  
**16-Sep, 23-Sep, 30-Sep, 07-Oct, 14-Oct, 21-Oct 2026**

**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Course ID: 866**  
**04-Nov, 11-Nov, 18-Nov, 25-Nov, 02-Dec, 09-Dec 2026**

**Courses delivered online via Zoom**

**6, weekly sessions for parents of children aged 12-19, covering:**

- **The Teen Brain, the physical and emotional changes and why their behaviour changes.**
- **The link between behaviour and difficult feelings.**
- **Maintaining your relationship with good communication.**
- **Understanding risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.**
- **How to communicate during a conflict situation.**

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

**"Our home is no longer a battlefield. I am less stressed and my teenager speaks to me more. Thank you!"**

**Booking essential**  
**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**[bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)**  
**[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)**

Funded by  
Hertfordshire  
County Council



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.