

“Discovering and Learning Together, so all can Flourish”.

‘A tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season’ (Psalm 1:3)

Wisdom - Hope - Service - Resilience

Issue 1

26<sup>th</sup> May 2023



# The Deanery Way

## Meet the team... SLT

### Head teacher: Dan Neal

I am committed to providing the best learning experience for all students and as the Head teacher at the Deanery, I look forward to working with a dedicated team of staff as well as the students and the school community in ensuring that we meet the needs of all learners and provide each and every one the opportunity for a successful life with fulfilment in all that they do. I am looking forward to working with students and parents in a way that reflects my core beliefs, namely that students can become:

- Confident, self-aware and resilient learners.
- Active and responsible citizens who can take their place in their communities as well as the wider world.
- Ambitious and equipped for life-long learning.
- Rich in knowledge and understanding of themselves as well as others and the world in which they live.
- Able to live with wisdom, hope and dignity.

I have a deep understanding of school improvement, having been a Principal and Executive Principal within three Secondary Academies and one all-through Academy as well as the Regional Lead for School Improvement. I have worked within schools and education for 37 years, as a teacher, a senior leader as well as a Head teacher and during that time have had the pleasure of working with committed professionals in ensuring that students flourish and have the opportunity for success.

I am a husband and believe strongly in Christian values, having being married for over 36 years and blessed to have 3 grown up children and 3 grand-children. In my spare time, I enjoy the peace of gardening and sometimes enjoy watching my home football club.



### Deputy Head teacher (Pastoral): Laura Connors

I'm Ms. Connors, and I lead the pastoral team. The pastoral team includes behaviour, safeguarding, special educational needs and disabilities. I also teach English and VIP (PSHE). I have 9 years' experience as an assistant head teacher at two inner-city schools in Bristol and London.



My experience and research centre on the most vulnerable children in education. I am a qualified SENCo and have also studied Inclusive Education at Bath Spa University. In addition to being Deputy Head at the Deanery, I facilitate the national qualification for leading behaviour and culture for teachers in the South West. In my spare time, I enjoy yoga and walking my two dogs.

### Deputy Head teacher (Curriculum): David McDonald

I am delighted to be the Deputy Head teacher at The Deanery CE Academy. I have nearly 20 years' experience in secondary education, my subject specialism is mathematics. I pride myself on supporting an egalitarian education for all students and I believe that all students, regardless of their background have the ability to achieve excellence. I have recently completed my master's in education; my dissertation looked at what motivates leaders in secondary education to work in schools in the most deprived areas of the country. Outside of school, I am also a governor at my children's primary school and I enjoy reading educational texts and research. I am a keen cyclist and complete the 20km ride on a regular basis.



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## Follow us on Twitter!

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**DCEA:** @deaneryacademy  
**English department:** @Englishdeanery  
**Lettings:** @LettingsW  
**MFL department:** @mfl\_deanery  
**PE & Sports:** @PE\_deanery  
**RE department:** @RE\_deanery  
**Science department:** @science\_deanery  
**Worship at DCEA:** @worship\_deanery



## Absence reporting

If your child is unwell and will be absent from school, please call: 01793 236611 and leave a message, clearly stating your child's name, tutor group and reason for absence.



## This term's school value: WISDOM

What does it mean to be 'wise'? To know a lot of stuff? To be educated to a certain level? To have a lot of experience? To be old in years? I remember being at University and one of my Theology lecturers was extremely intelligent and knowledgeable, but his lectures were so boring!

He didn't know how to use the knowledge he had to create engaging lectures, which were inspiring and meaningful for the students. Being wise is much more than just being 'smart'. It is about knowing how to use the knowledge we have to make good choices and inspiring others to do the same.

One person who is particularly known and revered for their wisdom is King Solomon. A well-known example of Solomon's wisdom is his judgment in a dispute over the identity of the actual mother of an infant child (1 Kings 3:16-28). Solomon offered to split the living child in half, understanding that the true mother would prefer to lose her son to another woman than to have him killed. Solomon was not only wise in his rule as King but had excellent general wisdom as well, and multiple books are attributed to him in the Bible.

The Christian Bible is full to the brim with wisdom, whether that be found in the traditional Book of Proverbs in the Old Testament or the parables Jesus told during his ministry, which can be found in the New testament. However, sometimes it can be difficult to know where to look if we are seeking something in particular. One way of accessing the Bible could be to use a website [Biblegateway.com](http://Biblegateway.com). This website has a handy tool where you can enter a key word or phrase and it will give you results based on that. It also has the option to change the translation as well.

*"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom" ~ James 3:13. **Let us ask God to help us to make the right and wise choices in our lives, and to use the talents and gifts He has given us for the better of our world.***

**Mrs. Gallagher**

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# Service

*"... in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others"*

Some of our staff team completed the Swindon 3K Race for Life, in aid of Cancer Research UK and raised over £1200! A cause close to many people's hearts, this money will go towards vital research into finding a cure for cancer and raising awareness of what to look for when self-checking for the signs of cancer.



## Swinpup

Our students have been working extremely hard on our campus swinpup, which is part of The Big Dog Art Trail this summer in Swindon!

We were overwhelmed with the quality and creativity of the design ideas that were submitted from students across all year groups, including students at Kingfisher too. It was a very tough selection process but the Creative Arts team decided on elements of 14 student's ideas, which now form one collaborative design.

We are raising funds for the charity Julia's house as part of the project. Staff and students raised an amazing £238.50 at our recent cake sale and we still have 'sponge the teacher' and other activities taking place next week which we hope will raise even more money!

A group of students have worked extremely hard this week drawing and painting the design. We can't wait to reveal the finished swinpup to you all soon!

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# Wisdom

*"Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding"*

Our Year 10 students have the opportunity to visit Christ Church, in Old Town, last week. This complements their Christian practices studies in GCSE RS (*which will begin in term 6*) and gave us the time and space to ask insightful and enquiring questions of the clergy and members of the congregation. Some of the boys even did a bit of litter picking in the churchyard. Well done everyone!



## CyberICE 2.0 Conference

On 11<sup>th</sup> May, fourteen GCSE Computer Science students from Year 10 accompanied Mr. Campbell to the CyberICE 2.0 Conference event at the BCC Center in Chippenham. This cyber security event was organized by Swindon & Wiltshire Cyber Cluster to raise awareness of emerging threats in the cyber security world. Students were talked through the ways in which to gain entry to the cyber security industry through a degree apprenticeship and heard from apprentices currently in the sector.

In the Education Zone, students saw a demonstration of a replica WW2 Enigma machine and were allowed to encrypt messages on it after.

Other attractions at the event were stalls manned by representatives from Wiltshire College, Swindon and Wiltshire Institute of Technology (IoT), Dyson, STEM ambassadors – Computing Hub, Cyber Explorers and Swindon and Wiltshire Careers Hub.

All the students came away with a better insight into cyber security careers as well as a host of freebies – pens, notebooks, badges and even yo-yos. We will definitely be returning next year!

**Mr. Campbell**



The Maths department has taken part in Number Day 2023 and The UK Junior Maths Challenge. Well done to everyone who took part!



United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust

Number  
Day 2023

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# Resilience

*"I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me"*

Our Year 8 boys won the Swindon Europa League football final against Nova Hreed.

Man of the match - Peyton Day

Congratulations to the Year 7 Boys Football Team. Outstanding season, making it to the Swindon Schools Champions League Final narrowly losing in a tense tie with Ridgeway. The team were quality to a man throughout the season both on and off the pitch, representing the school impeccably.

The season saw a Cup Final wonder goal from Sam Webster; a penalty save double from Oliver Eales; Rolls Royce performances from the likes of Charlie W, Archie M, and Kieran T; skills school sessions with Adam T, Billy S and Sonny L; ice cold defending from Xavi R and Harry M; mazy runs from Harvey R and Oliver P; and comfortable keeping from Javed A, all led by captain Charlie F.

***An incredible achievement and brilliant way to kick start their school athletic career.***

A big thank you to the parents that supported the boys with a special shout-out to Mrs Tanner, Mr Tate, Mr Picton and Mrs Redfern who made the final possible. ***Next year we go again!***



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# Hope

*"I have come so that you may have life in all its fullness"*

A few photos of a lovely evening of talent from the Deanery and St Joseph's, hosted by Mr. Halpin. Supported by all the Deanery staff including Mr. Wray on drums. Thanks to all involved and looking forward to assembly performances this week!



FutureSmartCareers

Throughout May our Year 10 students have the opportunity to attend a careers interview with advisors from Future Smart Careers. In these appointments, students are able to ask questions, learn more about the options available to them beyond GCSEs and begin to think about what they would like to do next.

In their ViP lessons, Year 10 will sign up to **Career Pilot**. This is a useful website to navigate your way through the world of careers and the opportunities available post-16. Find out more here: <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>

## DCEA Worship committee

*Would you like to make a difference in our school community?*

We are looking for students to join our worship committee. Students of any faith (or none!) are welcome to join us in planning and designing the spiritual life of the school. If you would like to join, please see Mrs Gallagher.

Coming soon...



THE DEANERY CE  
ACADEMY

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# Uniform

We have all noticed a significant improvement in the students' uniform over the last two terms and would like to thank you and the students for your efforts with this.

Research tells us that wearing a uniform sets a boundary by placing a student in a 'working environment' mind-set and helps them separate their home and school life. School uniforms place children on a level playing field, reducing the pressure to wear the latest fashionable brands. It also shows pride and identity in the community they belong to.

As we continue to go through the remainder of this academic year we will continue to check student uniform and would like to remind you all that the policy can be found on our school website or using this link: [https://www.dcea.org.uk/site-deanery/assets/files/1593/the\\_deanery\\_uniform\\_policy\\_final.pdf](https://www.dcea.org.uk/site-deanery/assets/files/1593/the_deanery_uniform_policy_final.pdf)

We would like to draw your attention to a couple of specific things within this:

- **Leggings are not permitted.** Students should be in straight leg grey trousers, which are not of skinny fit, or in the school skirt, which should be worn at a suitable length.
- **Nose studs are not permitted.** We will allow students to wear a clear nose stud during the school day but no other nose studs or nose rings are permitted.
- Students **should not have false nails or nail varnish.**

*We appreciate your support as we continue to strive towards the very highest standards.*

**Sarah Parry**

*Assistant Head teacher (Pastoral)*



## We're looking for a sponsor!

The Deanery football kit has had an upgrade! However, we are looking for a local business to sponsor us. The business logo would be on the t-shirt and we need some help to get the school logo embroidered onto the kit. If you are interested, please contact [david.harmer@dcea.org.uk](mailto:david.harmer@dcea.org.uk)

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# Science Department Update

I would like to welcome, two new staff members to the Science team, Matthew Pollock who joins us as Lead Practitioner for Science and who will be over seeing physics and Lorna Bramley who joins us as a Science teacher. I am delighted to say that Emily Wright is now our new STEM Coordinator. Term 5 has been a busy term for us as we continue to provide many opportunities for your children.

## Enthuse Partnership

The Deanery CE Academy together with the Primary Schools of Abbey Meads, Greenmeadow, Kingfisher, Oliver Tomkins, Robert Le Kyng, Tadpole Farm, Wanborough, and Westlea, are proud to announce that we have been successful in becoming an ENTHUSE Partnership. As an ENTHUSE Partnership we will gain access to £20,000 worth of support over the next two years to help raise the profile of STEM-related subjects in our schools focusing on KS1, KS2 and KS3 Science.

As a partnership, we will receive access to continued professional development, leading educational resources, STEM Ambassadors and teacher placements.

We look forward to working with STEM learning, the ENTHUSE Partnership team and colleagues across our schools on this project over the next 2 years to bring high-quality teaching and learning and STEM related opportunities to our pupils. On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, students and teachers attended the launch event from all schools involved.



The Ogden Trust School Partnership

SWINDON OGDEN PARTNERSHIP PRESENTS:

**WIN PRIZES!**

**STEM CAREERS COMPETITION**

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS

**HOW TO ENTER:**

- 1) We would like you to produce a report on a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) career that you find interesting. This may be a career you would like to pursue in the future, or perhaps the career of a person you admire. We would like to know all about what the job involves and why you find it so interesting.
- 2) You can produce your report in any way you like – ~~powerpoint~~ leaflet, video, interview, poster etc. You can even present it to us 'live'!
- 3) Please submit your entry to your Science Teacher. The Science Leaders in each school will choose winners for EYFS/KS1, KS2 and KS3. The winning entries from each school will be entered into a cross school final for an even bigger prize!

**ENTER TO WIN**

A promotional poster for the STEM Careers Competition. It features a central graphic with 'STEM' in large letters, each containing a different icon (a microscope for Science, a gear for Technology, a hard hat for Engineering, and a calculator for Mathematics). Below this are several small images: a group of students in lab coats, a person in an orange astronaut suit, a person in a white lab coat, and a person in a white hard hat working with equipment. The text includes 'WIN PRIZES!', 'STEM CAREERS COMPETITION', and 'HOW TO ENTER:' with three numbered instructions. At the bottom, it says 'ENTER TO WIN' in a blue banner.

## Ogden Trust

The Science department continue to work with the Ogden Trust. The Ogden Trust aims to increase the uptake of physics post-16 by supporting physics and engagement for all young people (4-18), particularly those in under-represented groups. This term we entered the Ogden STEM Careers Competition and next term we will announce the winners for Key Stage 3. We would also like to thank The Ogden Trust for donating £300 to help us buy physics related books.

## Events in Term 6

At the start of next term, Miss Case will be leading the Science trip to Amsterdam.

We are also looking forward to Year 5 students from several Primary Schools visiting us for a WOW Day of Science.

The STEM Awards Evening will be held on Thursday 20th July 2023.

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## Science enrichment

Over the last couple of months, the Science Team have run several enrichment clubs:

### ***Year 10 – Scientific Café (Revision Session) – Wednesday evening***

In term 6, we will continue to run our Science Revision session for Year 10 on a Wednesday night. If you would like your son/daughter to attend please, can you contact [Abigail.case@dcea.org.uk](mailto:Abigail.case@dcea.org.uk) so that we can add them to the register.

If you would like to support your son/daughter with their revision. The following websites are useful:

- **Biology** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpgcbk7>
- **Chemistry** – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8xtmnb>
- **Physics** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zsc9rdm>
- **Science** - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h>
- **Maths and Physics Tutor** - <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/>

### ***Think like a Scientist Enrichment***

This club continues to inspire each week with students taking part in a range of engaging projects linked to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Students were given the chance to be involved with visiting the Explorer Dome. The Explorer Dome is an internationally known, vibrant, popular science outreach organisation that provides students with the opportunity to experience hands-on learning outside the classroom in a fun, inspirational and interactive way under a Dome.

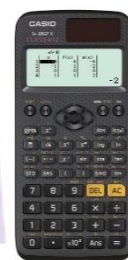
### ***Gardening Spaces***

As summer is now approaching and the days become longer and warmer, our students have been back out in the garden. Students will be laying cardboard, straw and mulch on one of the raised beds, hoping to kill off all the weeds. We have started to plant some onion sets and broad beans and have been very successful so far. When we return after half term, we are hoping to harvest some produce of radishes, lettuce and potatoes.

We are always on the lookout for some spare bags of composts and flowerpots. If you have any please can you email [Claire.hockin@dcea.org.uk](mailto:Claire.hockin@dcea.org.uk)

### ***Any Old Calculators?***

If you have a scientific calculator at home that is not being used, please consider donating it to the Science department. We have given calculators to students who needed them and are now short of calculators to help other students. Even if it does not work, we may be able to replace the battery and get it working again. Please have a hunt around at home and consider helping us out! If you have any please can you email [Claire.hockin@dcea.org.uk](mailto:Claire.hockin@dcea.org.uk)



## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)**

### ***STEM ambassadors***

If students are interested in applying for a role of STEM Ambassador, please could they write a letter of application stating

- Why they think STEM is important
- Why they are suitable for the role

As a STEM ambassador, students will be required to help at any STEM events throughout the year.

Applications need to be emailed to Miss Wright ([emily.wright@dcea.org.uk](mailto:emily.wright@dcea.org.uk)) by **Friday 9th June**.

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## Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



# Safeguarding

As we approach the end of Term 5, we continue to work collaboratively across the campus, to ensure that we keep our young people safe. This week, we will be delivering an important session on Exploitation in Knife Crime Awareness week to our year 7 - 10 students.

Children (up to the age of 18 as in the legal definition), are inherently more vulnerable than the adults around them. They are generally physically less powerful and in almost all cases their voices are not heard as prominently. Sometimes, even when their voice is heard it isn't believed, or isn't given the same weight as the opinion of adults around them. This leads to a situation where children might be exploited.

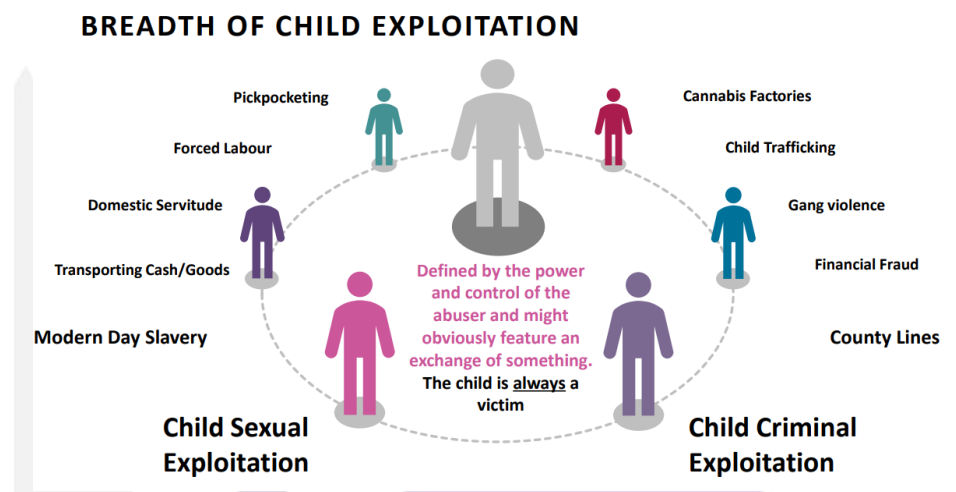
*Child Exploitation occurs where an adult, or a group of adults, takes advantage of the power imbalance that exists, to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. Children can be exploited by other children on occasion too. Typically, a child has done a certain act which is referenced by some exchange (of goods, payments, relationship or increased status in a group).*

Our constant vigilance and reporting and recording of the seemingly "smaller" situations and comments, builds up a picture that might demonstrate a child is not safe and is potentially being exploited.

This might be the key information needed for agencies, such as the police and the safeguarding hubs in local authority areas, who often aim to work pro-actively to disrupt perpetrators, to act and keep children safe from all types of exploitation happening in the local area.

It is important to remember that child exploitation can occur anywhere, and involve anyone.

We must look out for the key risks and signs of child exploitation in order to protect the children in our care, all of whom are vulnerable to this kind of abuse. Thank you for your support.



## Young Carers

### Is your child a young carer?

A young carer looks after someone within their family home, a parent, sibling, or other family member. A young carer supports someone who is ill, has a disability, or has mental health issues. Or maybe the person has difficulties with alcohol or drugs and are unable to care for themselves. Caring for someone may involve physically supporting someone with daily tasks, such as dressing, cooking, and cleaning if the family member cannot do these things. They may also offer regular emotional care, such as comforting, listening and talking to the person they care for, which causes them stress, worry, or anxiety.

If your child is caring for someone at home, we know young carers can sometimes struggle to balance all aspects of their life, so please get in touch so your child can be supported at school and signposted to other services for support. Please contact either Mrs Matthews or Mrs Lappin if you feel this applies to you. Thank you.

## Family Liaison Officer

Mrs. Lappin is the Family Liaison Officer and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for The Deanery CE Academy. If you would like support with home or school concerns, and would like a point of contact in school to discuss anything at all, then please email her at: [tracey.lappin@dcea.org.uk](mailto:tracey.lappin@dcea.org.uk) to make an appointment and to discuss what help you may require. Appointments can be made for in school or at home.

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# Friends of Wichelstowe Trinity Learning Campus

*As the fundraising team for WTLC, we organise community or school events to raise money to support the Academies for the benefit of our learners.*

## Events we have held so far include:

Autumn fayre, Christmas Fayre, Quiz Night, Primary disco, providing refreshments for school events.

We have received lots of ideas for events and fundraising, it will be up to the membership to decide which events they wish to run and when, so if there is something specific you would like to help organise or run, please come along to a meeting and get involved.

These events will help to raise funds to provide extra items of equipment for the campus.

Look out for information as we continue fundraising with:

- Film nights & discos
- Quiz nights
- Bake Sales

Larger events such as Summer Fetes, Christmas Craft Fairs and a Silent Firework Event are being assessed for viability and, as you can imagine, there is a lot to co-ordinate and plan, so if you can assist in anyway or know of someone willing to sponsor or donate time and skills to support our events, please email us.

## How to contact us

Please email:

[fowtlc@dbat.org.uk](mailto:fowtlc@dbat.org.uk)



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Anxiety is what we feel when we are worried, tense or afraid – particularly about things that are about to happen, or which we think could happen in the future.

Anxiety is a natural human response when we feel that we are under threat. It can be experienced through our thoughts, feelings and physical sensations.



Take a look at The Mental Health Foundation's guide to coping with anxiety here:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week/what-can-we-do-cope-feelings-anxiety>

Mind have a helpful guide for those experiencing anxiety, as well as a guide for family and friends:  
<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/types-of-mental-health-problems/anxiety-and-panic-attacks/about-anxiety/>



#### **Where to go for support:**

- Your GP
- [www.hubofhope.co.uk](http://www.hubofhope.co.uk)
- [www.anxietycare.org.uk](http://www.anxietycare.org.uk)
- [www.nomorepanic.co.uk](http://www.nomorepanic.co.uk)
- [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)
- [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

### **Mental Health Support at the Deanery**

Since January, we have introduced the following mental health support:

#### **For Pupils:**

Assistant Head of Years, ELSA support, a school counsellor who visits once a week, 1:1 chaplain mentoring, BEST boxing mentoring, Swindon Town Football Club Emotional Support, Step Well-being Group and Anxiety Gremlin Support. We are continuing to develop our emotional and behaviour curriculum, if you would like to know more or have any suggestions, please contact your child's head of year.

#### **For Parents:**

Mrs Lappin is our new family support Liaison. If you are struggling with anything, please make an appointment to see her.

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# Dates for the diary

A copy of the term dates calendar is available on our website: <https://www.dcea.org.uk/parent-information/school-information/term-dates/>

**27<sup>th</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June** = Half term

**5<sup>th</sup> June** = Term 6 begins

**5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June** = Amsterdam trip

**19<sup>th</sup> June – 7<sup>th</sup> July** = Year 10 end of year exams

**29<sup>th</sup> June** = Year 6 parents evening

**30<sup>th</sup> June** = Year 6 transition day

**6<sup>th</sup> July** = Sports day (*weather permitting*)

**14<sup>th</sup> July** = Royal International Air tattoo trip

**20<sup>th</sup> July** = STEM awards evening

**26<sup>th</sup> July** = Summer holidays begin

**5<sup>th</sup> September** = 2023/24 Term 1 begins for students

**A reminder:** For queries, please use the main Academy email address: [admin@dcea.org.uk](mailto:admin@dcea.org.uk) and your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

We aim to acknowledge all emails **within 2 working days**, and to respond in full (*or arrange a meeting or phone call if appropriate*) within 5 working days.

If you feel your query requires an urgent response, please call the academy.

Our communication policy can be found here:

<https://www.dcea.org.uk/important-information/policies/>

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