



Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

TUDOR TIMES



2022-23 Term: Autumn | Issue 3 | Date: December 2022

A Message from our Heads of School Primary & Secondary



Dear Parents and Carers,

A Christmas Prayer Blessing

*Thank you for this treasured time with family and friends. Thank you for your goodness, for warmth, light and food. Thank you for the birth of your son Jesus, for coming from heaven to be with us. Light in the darkness, hope to the hopeless, we celebrate your love today.
Amen.*

We have once again arrived at the Christmas break after a very busy and successful term. September now seems a very long time ago and as you can see, so much has happened in the meantime. Once again, the amazing resilience and resourcefulness of our pupils have shone through – they continue to astound us with their thirst for knowledge and desire for learning. We have made great progress this term and we look forward to continuing success next term. Please make sure they take a well-deserved break, and they take this opportunity to rest and refresh for the New Year.

The high points of the term which are celebrated in this edition reveal how important our academy is for this community and community is at the heart of what we do. In promoting our Tudor values of Tolerance, Unity, Democracy, Opportunity and Respect, we always encourage our staff and pupils to get involved and to actively support in-school activities, community work, charity work and other opportunities. Academic success is important, but we also recognise the value of the many character-building opportunities we offer at school to ensure that the talents and interests of all pupils are developed and supported. I hope you enjoy reading about our successes!

Founders Day

We were delighted to welcome the Samworth Family and the Bishop of Leicester to celebrate Founders' Day on Monday 5th December. It was a time when we came together to celebrate an important group of people, and value their kindness, their generosity and their legacy. We are indebted to the late Sir David Samworth, the Samworth family and the Right Honourable Tim Stevens, then the Bishop of Leicester who had the vision that led to the creation of the school – originally known as The Samworth Enterprise Academy – back in 2007, and who have contributed to the



vision and the achievements of this school ever since. None of our educational achievements, for which this school has now become known for would have happened without the foresight of the original Founders, and the Governors of the school, who set out with the express intention of building a school which would provide an excellent education for this community – and therefore we will honour them on Founders' Day each year.

Attendance

From January attendance and punctuality will remain a high priority for the school and something we take very seriously. It is important that your child attends school every day. We know that there was illness over the last few weeks, and we appreciate that this may have caused some concern. The school has now received a deep clean and we have increased hours to support the cleaning of key touch points daily. We have many initiatives to encourage good attendance, but we do require your assistance. Thank you for your support with this. Please view the leaflet at the back of this newsletter for advice about when you should keep your child off school.

Above 98%	Excellent attendance: less than 4 days absence in a year
95%-96%	Good attendance: National expectation of a student in secondary school. Less than 9 days absence in a year. Tudor Grange Academies Trust attendance target for all students is 96% and above.
93%-90%	Below average/low attendance: Cause for concern. The Academy Attendance Welfare Officer will be making contact with you to discuss the situation to ensure attendance improves.
90% and below	Exceptionally low attendance: 19 days absence in a school year. Students with attendance of 90% or below are persistently absent from school. Parents of students with this level of attendance will be referred to the Local Authority for them to take the appropriate action, unless there are exceptional circumstances or recognised medical grounds.

Uniform

I am delighted with how our pupils have worn their new school uniform with confidence and respect. I have received many positive comments from the community who feel that our pupils now wear the uniform with a greater sense of pride. They have been a credit to you and our school. We will continue to be very vigilant about ensuring our pupils wear their uniform correctly. Please pay particular attention to the following items below (some items make good Christmas presents):

- Pupils are always expected to wear the correct footwear. Shoes should be plain black leather with a maximum heel height of 5cm and maximum sole thickness of 2cm (heel is measured from the ground to the welt up the back of the heel.)
- Pupils must always wear a school tie. Pupils who fail to wear a tie will receive a same day detention.
- Pupils are expected to bring a school bag every day.
- Pupils are not allowed to wear ear, nose, tongue or other piercings. If they have any visible piercings or retainers these must be removed before the school day. The use of a plaster to cover any of these items is also prohibited.
- Nail varnish and nail or eyelash extensions are not permitted.
- Hair should be kept neat and tidy and any hair accessories should be small. Extreme hairstyles e.g. unnatural colours or shaved lines or patterns are not allowed. Boys hair should not be below the collar.
- Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.

We wish you all a safe, restful and relaxing time with family and friends over the festive period and we look forward to welcoming you back after the break they deserve.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Collins

*Head of School
Primary*

Mr A Bannon

*Head of School
Secondary*

Key Dates

Important dates and some polite reminders are added to this letter, and I thank you in anticipation of your support for our high standards and expectations.

Tuesday 10th January

- » Primary Parents Evening

Thursday 12th January

- » Primary Parents Evening

Friday 13th January

- » Applications for Reception Class Deadline

Monday 16th January

- » Year 1 Travelling Toys

Thursday 19th January

- » EqualTeach Agents for Change Trip identified Pupils

Friday 20th January

- » Y7-Y10 Reports Are Issued

Monday 23rd January

- » INSET Day – School Closed

Thursday 26th January

- » Year 9 Parents Evening

Friday 3rd February

- » NSPCC Number Day Primary

Monday 6th February

- » Children's Mental Health Week

Thursday 9th February

- » Year 2 Forest Schools Fire of London
- » Year 10 Parents Evening

Friday 10th February

- » Year 1 Puppet Show/Toy Day

Tuesday 14th February

- » Safer Internet Day

Thursday 16th February

- » Year 5 Synagogue/Mosque Trip
- » Year 9 Options Evening

Thursday 2nd March

- » World Book Day
- » Year 8 Parents Evening

Tuesday 7th March

- » EYFS – Fire Brigade Visit

Monday 13th March

- » British Science Week Primary

Thursday 16th March

- » EYFS Mother's Day Assembly

Monday 20th March

- » Easter Activity Week Primary

Tuesday 21st March

- » World Poetry Day

Thursday 23rd March

- » Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 24th March

- » Holy Trinity Assembly Primary
- » Year 9 Option Meetings Deadline

Thursday 30th March

- » Easter Bonnet Parade Primary

Friday 31st March

- » Last Day for Pupils

Key Stage 1 Performance



The Key Stage 1 nativity was thoroughly enjoyed by the adults. Key Stage 1 were very proud of themselves!





The children made a lorry for the Samworth family to celebrate Founders Day. The children's creations were displayed for the Samworth family to look at. For the last two weeks we have been discussing the Nativity. The children went to see the EYFS Nativity play, and they all sat lovely throughout the show. The children have been making cards, decorating Christmas trees and made personalised baubles for the Christmas Market. We invited the parents in for Craft Day. The children got to make stained glass baubles, they painted their decoration and explored Christmas playdough.



In November the children learned about people who help us. We looked at fire officers, doctors, dentist, post officers and police officers. They all loved dressing up as their favourite role models. The children made a poppy wreath for Remembrance Day. We also learnt the importance of Road safety, we went for a walk around the field, saw a road crossing and talked about what we need to do when we are going to cross the road. For Children in Need the children took part in an obstacle course and had lots of fun.



Nursery



As October was unusually warm for the time of year, we made the most of the good weather and spent lots of time investigating the outside resources. We went on an Autumn walk looking at the signs of Autumn and collected lots of leaves and sticks for us to use. We read 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'; the children loved this story so we continued the topic for two weeks. The children helped to create the three bears' cottage, finding resources from within the classroom and giving them to the appropriate bear. During this topic, we learned some of the language of size and sorted by size. We also started tooth brushing within class; the children are very enthusiastic and remind me when it's toothbrushing time.



Reception



December has inspired much excitement in the Reception classroom. We have been busy writing letters to Father Christmas after reading our core text 'Letter To Santa'. We have also been thinking about night and day in relation to 'time' in maths. We learnt about our daily routine and sequenced events in our day. This followed an exploration of light and dark which links this to our understanding of the world/science. We made a tent in the classroom and explored different light sources and reflective objects which was lots of fun. The children worked very hard to learn and practice songs for our Christmas Nativity, 'Whoops A Daisy Angel' and it was a memorable time as our families came to see us perform.

During November we learnt about the people in our lives and communities who help us, specifically the roles of police officers, dentists, fire fighters and postal workers, as well as the people in our family who do all the special jobs to care and look after us. In literacy, we read and wrote about 'The Gruffalo', performed sound poems inspired by fireworks, and we invited the tiger to join us for a special tea party linked to the story, 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'. In maths, we have been consolidating our understanding of numbers to five and calculating one more and one less.



Year 1

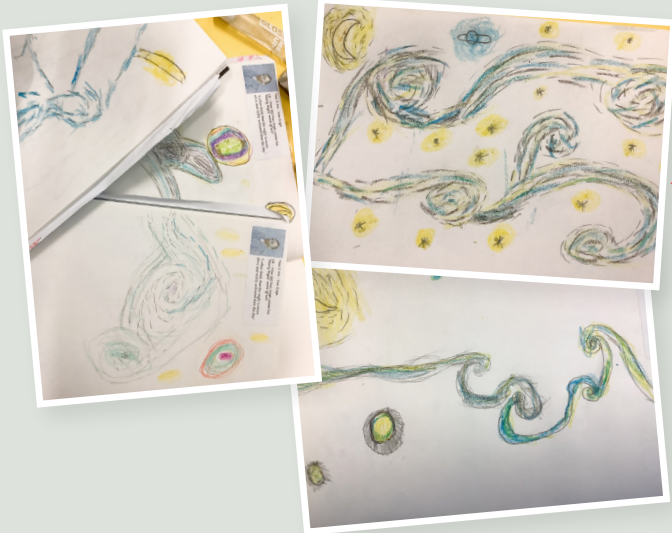


Year 1 absolutely danced their socks off in support of Children in Need. As a year group, we raised over £84! We burned so many calories but had a whole lot of fun doing it!



Year 1 had a successful Bug Hotel Day. We spent the morning learning all about creepy crawlies and their natural habitat and in the afternoon, we created our own bug hotel in the playground where we can see the changes over the seasons.

Year 3



In art we have been studying the artistic style of Van Gogh and how he used lines to create his images. Van Gogh also said 'I often think that the night is more alive and richly coloured than the day'. So, we looked at Starry Night and had a go at creating swirls and whirls in our own starry night picture.

In PSHE we have been looking at words that can cause upset or pain. We turned negative words into positive words so that we can encourage and support each other.



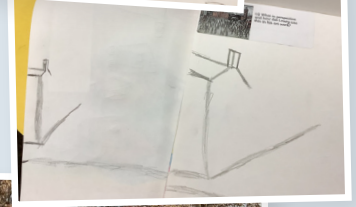
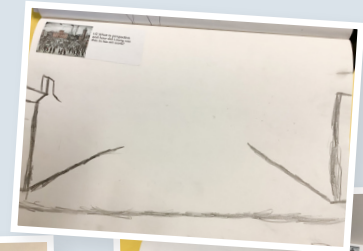
We have been reviewing our learning for the term and children chose how they would like to show what they have learnt. Some created posters whilst others tried mindmaps. We have covered lots and have also remember lots too.

Year 3 (continued)



We are studying the artist Lowry. We started looking at colour mixing with hard and soft blending. Lowry is meant to have only used 5 colours, so we used the 3 primary colours to make the secondary colours. We also posed in a Lowry scene which we will use later to create our work of art.

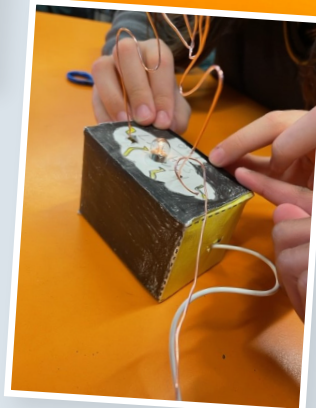
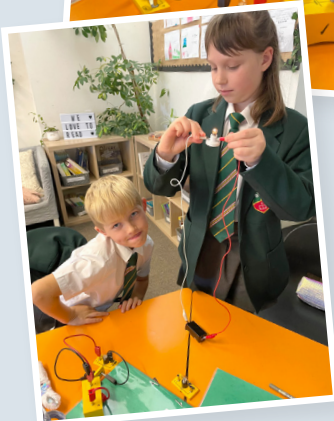
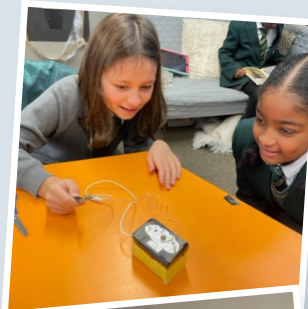
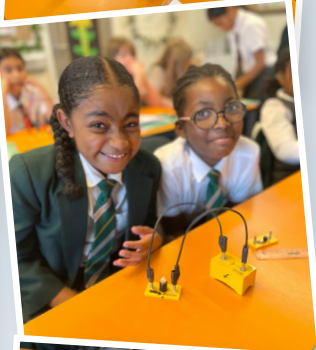
As part of our unit on Lowry, we have been looking at perspective. We used one of his works of art to recreate a street scene. After initially thinking it was going to be a big challenge, we were Resilient Rats and tried our best. In the end, we impressed ourselves with what we created – Year 3 Proud Peacocks!



Year 4



Year 4 have been busy learning about electrical circuits. We have learnt to name the different components and have worked together to create working circuits. Next Year 4 started designing, building and evaluating their own electrical games. They used their knowledge of electrical circuits to make a game that lights up if the handle touches the wire.



Year 5



This week, Year 5 have been recreating artwork in the style of Wayne Theibaud. They have produced wonderful colourful paintings of food.



Year 5/6 Football

Our year 5/6 football team played a set of fixtures in the Danone (District) cup competition in October. We played some fantastic, fast and amazing football. They played really well together considering it was their first set of fixtures as a team. So the moment you have been waiting for.

The results were as follows:

- TGSA 2 – 0 Stokeswood Primary
- TGSA 2 – 1 ARH
- TGSA 1 – 1 St Johns The Baptist

Congratulations to these players, as they are now district champions:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Caylen Meade | Mladen Golic |
| Maleik El-Ashrafi | Mackenzie Malcolm |
| Harvey Herbert | Damian Jabar |
| Elo Onuchukwu | Kye Rudkin-Johnston |

- Mr Roberts

Year 6



Year 6 sampled what life was like during the First World War this week, as museum curators came in to run an interactive session with our pupils.



The Student Leadership Team Update



It's been a busy first term for the Student Leadership team; they have been involved in supporting a number of events in school.

Anti Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying week took place on the 14th of November. This year's theme was "Reach out". During the week the leadership team lead a whole school assembly, offered some drop-in sessions in the yellow door room and launched an anti-bullying poster competition. Congratulations to Kristians Svikis in Durham for the winning design!

College Competitions

The student leadership team have been supporting a range of college competitions this term. The term started off with the "Soldiers Mile" for Remembrance Day, followed by the anti-Bullying poster competition and most recently the Bake off! Congratulations to Neenah Bangura and her team for winning the Bake Off and taking the prize for Durham college.

The current college competition points are:

Cambridge	60
Oxford	80
Warwick	90
Durham	100

- Mrs Connor

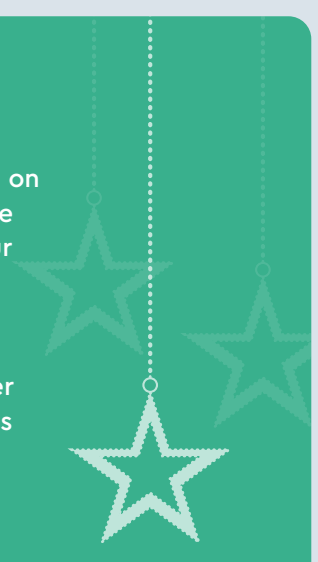


Christmas Whole School Service



We are looking forward to our whole school service for Christmas on the final day of term. This is a real opportunity to celebrate all that is good and look forward to the New Year and the opportunities it brings. There will be a wide variety of music and performances from all age groups across our school, and we have been working hard on opportunities to sing collectively, learning new songs and hymns where we can praise and thank God together. We will have prayers and reflection, including a talk from our Vicar Chris Collins on the meaning of Christmas. Collective worship is a real gift and opportunity to come together at the end of each full term to celebrate our students' continuing achievements and be together as a whole school across Primary and Secondary phases before we break up. We wish everyone a happy Christmas together with their families and friends, and we look forward to a new year full of opportunities and possibilities.

- Mrs Saunders



The Soldiers Mile



Following last November's epic running challenge where Mr Bell ran 11 miles a day for 11 days, matched by students from across the Academy, and in support of the Royal British Legion, the participants of the newly formed Duke of Edinburgh course decided we needed to outdo ourselves this year. The DofE students organised and participated in this year's remembrance challenge, supported again by Mr Bell, staff and other students from all year groups, raising close to £500 for the Royal British Legion.

This year marks 40 years since the Falklands war, where Britain lost 255 soldiers and three civilians. To remember the fallen, our students took part in a 255-mile running challenge "The Soldiers Mile" which was completed at 11.00am on 11th November – Remembrance Day – with Mr Bell and Sufyaan Amejje running the last 2 miles. The event was preceded by a whole school assembly by Mr Tully, explaining the history and geography of the Falklands war, as well as personal video messages from serving soldiers, one sent from the Falklands.

This was no easy challenge, and it was achieved in 9 days with an outstanding distance ran of 285 miles, not to mention the hundreds more cycled. As a veteran himself, and on behalf of the military community, Mr Bell would like to congratulate and thank all members of the Academy for their resilience, determination and early starts! Bring on next year's challenge!



Our Year 10/11 rugby team played at Welford Road in November against a combined team of players from Thomas Estley and Castlemead. The girls were so excited to be at the ground and on the pitch.

We didn't get off to the best of starts giving away a try in the first 30 seconds, however this gave our girls motivation and determination. There were then 2 fantastic tries, one from Yamasa and one from Kayleigh. This took us into the lead at half time 10-5.

In the second half Thomas Mead came at us strong, however we battled and persevered. Our hard work on tackling paid off showing how powerful we were in defence. There were some amazing and hard tackles made; some stand outs were from Lovena, Yamasa, Mandela, Ruwaida, Emelen and Elsie. With 5 minutes to go with some fantastic quick passes and high speed running avoiding tackles, Kayleigh scored another try which was skilfully converted by Elise. In the last second Kayleigh made a fantastic break, however a try saving tackle was made by the opposition. This ended with us winning 17-5.

After the match the girls interviewed two Leicester Tigers womens' players. Our girls were credited for the level of questions asked, including "what is your mindset during a game", "what has been your biggest set back" and "have you ever had second thoughts on rugby and how did you overcome these"?

The girls then watched the Leicester Tigers womens' team play. They were so well behaved and even created their own chants. After the match the girls were all allowed down to the pitch to meet the players. The girls spoke to the players and had pictures with them, some of them have even labelled the players as their idols!

It was such an incredible day which will stay with the girls forever. The amount of emotion the girls had after the match and how proud they were of themselves is something I will always remember. A huge thank you to the teachers who took time out of their weekend to support them, the girls and I appreciate it. The other team voted Yamasa as our MVP. Every single girl had a huge impact on the game, please give them a huge congratulations and praise;

- Lovena Greenaway
- Maizy-Rae Alton
- Ruwaida Abdilaahii
- Aimee Nutting
- Emelen Onuchukwu
- Elsie Earls
- Raadiya Abdilaahii
- Lorna Thorpe
- Nenah Bangura
- Elise Cunningham
- Taylor Simmonds
- Mandela Koueni
- Reagan Henry
- Kayleigh Brooks
- Saberena Mahamud
- Yamasa Mass

- Miss Hancox



Year 8 Boys' Football



The Year 8 football team played against New College In November and lost 5-3. They started very slowly and went 3 down after 10 minutes. We then made a few changes and brought on Callum Brogan to sort out the defence and his no nonsense, rugby style defending worked a treat!

We pulled it back to 3-3 after 2 great goals from Regan Adcock and an absolute thunder strike from Farzad. New College then nicked a couple of goals at the end, against the run of play. All in all, it was a great second half performance and the boys never gave up.

The pupils that played were:

Connor Martin	Tom Lawrence
Chase Broughton	Charlie Mulholland
Jenson McClafferty	Farzad Jalai
Regan Adcock	Balamusa Sanyang
Ibrahim Patel	Darsim Jabar
Kelvin Zomba	Callum Brogan
Jashanpreet Singh	Tyler Thorne

- Mr Oldershaw



Year 7 Boys' Basketball



The Year 7 boys' basketball team played very well last week. They won both their games, beating Lancaster 6-2 and Beaumont Leys 12-6. The player of the tournament was Unathi as his rebounding was excellent and his shooting really improved. There was a great atmosphere in the sports hall as there were lots of older students supporting the team which was great to see. A huge thankyou to the Year 10 boys' team as they refereed the games and did the scoreboard. We finished 2nd in the league behind Brooke Mead so hopefully we go can one better next year and win it.

The players involved were:

Lyam Pedzeni
Unathi Ncube
Tayyib Chetcuti
Mueez Imran
Glenn Preston-Jovenard
Charle Cook
Rizwan Patel
Raajan Grewal
Alfie Beatty
Tatenda Bomani

- Mr Oldershaw



Performing Arts News – Studio 79



On Wednesday 30th November, 2nd year students from Studio 79 Performing Arts College came to showcase their most recent performance work to our students! The students were a fantastic audience and were blown away by the incredible dancers! One student said *'Watching these dancers has inspired me to want to perform more, I shall be taking more opportunities to do this in school!'* Afterwards students from across year 8 and 11 were treated to a commercial dance workshop led by one of the lead teachers and choreographers at the college. It was a hard dance routine but our students were so resilient and worked extremely hard to perfect this! They all had great fun and experienced a new dance style!

- Mrs Smith

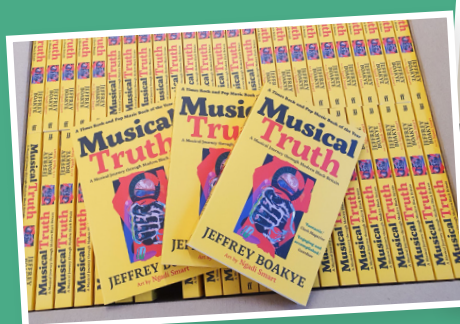


Jeffrey Boakye Virtual Talk



We had Jeffrey Boakye do a virtual talk with our year 7s on his book "Musical Truth". He explored black music from its origins to present day with the children. We had a great discussion together on the power of music. It was a real treat for all!

- Miss Wooley





The STEM club have been hard at work this term taking part in the National cipher challenge hosted by Southampton University. The competition is written in conjunction with special police and many past competitors have gone on to careers in the police and the government! Our students have become spymaster extraordinaires mastering transposition cipher, rail fence cipher and even dabbling in some vignere cipher. We have enjoyed delving into the mystery and I am so proud of the students who have been top of the leaderboard for almost every round.

The students said:

"STEM club has been eye opener to the world of science and what you can create and discover"

"I have enjoyed discovering different ciphers, cracking the mystery and discovered clues and connections"

STEM club returns in the new year on Tuesdays after school with the Engineering section of our curriculum. STEM club is open to year 7-10; we would love to see you join us in January!

- Mrs Cufflin

Year 10 Netball



Our year 10 netball team were crowned West Leicester champions and City Wide Leicester champions in November, meaning they qualified for the county championship. They then played their first knockout game in the county championships, which they won 5-0, resulting in them now being in the quarter finals and one of the top 8 teams in the county.

Every girl played to their fullest and put in everything they possibly could! Lovena Greenaway was voted woman of the tournament not just by me but by the organisers who noted how she was everywhere. She was fantastic in defence and saved us many times and she was also great at getting the ball forward to help us score.

The girls involved were:

- Libby Warren
- Nenah Bangura
- Kyra Meade
- Lyla Richards
- Jessica Herbert
- Anaxa Rajah
- Lovena Greenaway
- Blessing Iyoha

- Miss Hancox



Girls' Football:

Girls' Football Club has been going well since the beginning of term, lots of interest and everyone having fun and getting stuck in! Mrs Lewis would like to encourage more girls to join us Mondays after school 3:15-4:15pm – the more the merrier!

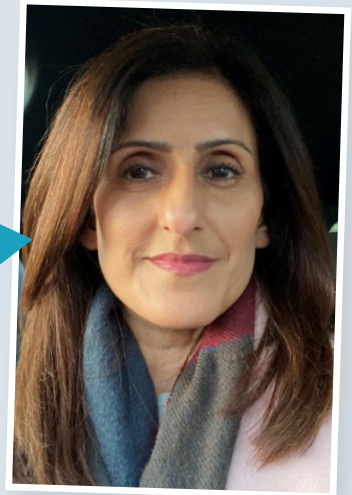


My name is Deesh. You may see me around the school from mid January 2023. I am a Trainee Educational Mental Health Practitioner (TEMHP) attached to the school. Currently I am completing a Diploma In Educational Mental Health Practitioner via Northampton University whilst employed by Leicestershire Partnership Trust working as part of the Mental Health Support Team.

I will be working alongside the school and support systems already in place. My aim is to support students referred to me by the school over a 6-8 week period, to help them develop ways to manage and improve their emotional wellbeing by using low intensity Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) interventions. CBT includes a range of talking therapies, activities and exercises to support a child or young person to manage their difficulties, make changes and help develop coping strategies when experiencing difficulties such as low mood or anxiety over a short period of time. In the future I hope to be able to also offer workshops for students and parents.

I myself am a mum of 3 boys and have personal experience from a parental perspective of supporting a child with anxiety. I have previously worked for Children's Triage & Navigation Service where my passion to help and support young people developed further. I enjoy relaxing and catching up on what's new on Netflix but also going to the gym when I can but one my favourite things has got to be down time with my 5 year old dog Barney who is a mischievous cockapoo but lots of fun.

I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know you.



Mental Health Support Teams in Schools



8 teams are working in Leicester City, North West Leicestershire and Hinckley, Loughborough, Melton and Rutland and South Leicestershire (Oadby and Wigston) focusing on areas with military families, high areas of deprivation and areas with high Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic populations to bring mental health support to those who can't usually access it.

Support is provided through direct individual, virtual and group work sessions.

We work with both primary and secondary age school children and young people.

We also help schools to develop a whole school approach to improve their mental health offer for all children and staff.



We use low intensity CBT, a talking therapy treatment with practical ways to improve emotional and mental wellbeing.



Each team has four Education Mental health Practitioners (EMHP's) and 2-3 more senior clinicians (Band 6 and 7) providing clinical supervision, management and oversight of the teams.



8000 children and young people per term will be helped by the service from November. We will be working with 20 schools per term.



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.