

Uphill Village Academy

Pastoral and Wellbeing Newsletter



A warm welcome to all our children and families from the pastoral team at Uphill Village Academy



Mrs Hetherington
EYFS and Key Stage 1 Support
Sensory Room



Mrs de Scossa
Key Stage 2 Support
Star Room

learningmentor@uva.clf.uk

Our Pastoral team is here to:

- Listen
- Offer support
- Promote positive behaviour
- Identify the barriers to learning and to set targets
- Offer encouragement, build self-esteem and confidence
- Support with life challenges and changes

We are here for everyone in the Uphill Village Academy family - Pupils, Parents & Carers

Pupils

Any child can ask to speak to our pastoral team if they feel they have a concern, a problem or a worry about school or home. They can do this by either approaching Mrs de Scossa or Mrs Hetherington or by asking a member of staff.

Parents & Carers contact

If you have a pastoral concern regarding your child please contact our Learning Mentors in person or by email for a confidential conversation on how we can support you and your family.



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Parent Coffee Mornings

This year we will be holding a number of parent coffee mornings throughout the year. We would like as many parents as possible to come along as it will be a great opportunity to get to know other parents and gain support. On a few of the mornings we will host visitors from a range of different professions to offer advice on areas that can help with supporting families.

Our next coffee morning will be on Thursday 22nd September from 9.00:11.00am

For this session, we are delighted to be joined by **North Somerset Parent and Carers Working Together**. This is what they say:

‘We represent the collective voice of North Somerset parent and carers to key decision makers across the local authority, health and education. Through our efforts, we aim to make everyday life better for parent and carers and help every child and young person with an additional need or disability to reach their full potential. ‘

They focus on support for children and families who have a child with an additional, educational or medical need. Come along to this very informative session and please do not feel your child needs to have a diagnosis of SEN or medical condition for you to attend, you can come along and discuss your child’s development and any concerns you may have.

Please speak to Mrs Hetherington or Mrs de Scossa if you would like further information or just pop along **Thursday 22nd September**.



learningmentor@uva.clf.uk



Foodbank vouchers



We know that anyone can find themselves at crisis point for a number of different reasons.

If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, we can organise E-Vouchers for you to use at the foodbank. Our service is confidential so please contact us if you need support.

Free school meals

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of certain benefits such as Income support, Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance, Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and annual gross income is £16,190 or less) etc.

If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals because of your income or circumstances, it is essential you apply. It is important, even for children who are already eligible for Universal Infant Free School Meals, as it also provides additional financial support from the school to help cover the costs of school trips, milk, school jumpers/cardigans and KS2 music lessons.

It is really important that if you think you might be entitled - claim!

Please contact the Pastoral Team for more information.



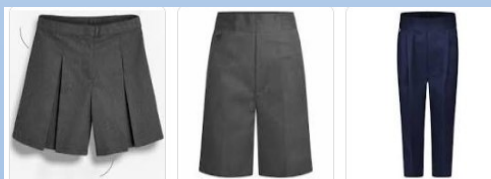
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Uniform



If you need help with your child(ren)'s uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We will be selling pre loved school uniform at events throughout the year, for which dates will be available shortly.

However in the meantime, if you require assistance with school uniform, please contact us.

We are collecting old school uniform that is in good condition and will accept all uniform items. If you have old uniform that is still in good condition that you would be willing to donate, we would love to receive it, please drop it into the school office.

We would be grateful if the donated items are washed and names cut out/removed.

Thank you.



At Uphill Village Academy we are vigilant in keeping children safe from harm and are committed to safeguarding all our children. All adults, including staff, parents, and governors, have a responsibility to safeguard children; any concerns, no matter how small, should be shared with the Safeguarding Team in confidence. Feel free to contact the school office to arrange a meeting or email us at safeguarding@uva.clf.uk

Safeguarding Team

Designated safeguarding lead	Mrs Hodder	Principal
Deputy designated safeguarding lead	Mrs Tinker	Assistant Principal
Safeguarding Team	Mrs de Scossa	Learning Mentor
	Mrs Hetherington	Early Years Specialist
Academy Council Safeguarding Link	Mr Shane Hawkings	Academy Council Chair

Attendance Information for families

Attendance Matters



Attendance

Attendance Matters at Uphill Village Academy. Here we are committed to providing the best educational experience for all our children and good attendance and punctuality is critical to this outcome.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, we ask that parents/carers telephone the school office, EVERY day of the absence, before 8.45am and clearly state the reason for their absence. Where possible, we ask that medical appointments are arranged outside of the school day. Where this is not possible, please ensure the appointment letter or card are handed into the school office in advance.



Holiday Requests

There is no automatic entitlement, in law, to time off during term time.

All requests for a leave of absence must be, by law, made in writing and in advance. As a school, we request parents use the 'Term Time Leave Request Form' which is available from the school office or from the link below.

Requests for term time leave are only authorised in exceptional circumstances. If you choose to remove your child from school when the request has been denied it will be recorded as unauthorised and the school may request the Local Authority issue a penalty notice.

<https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/wp-content/uploads/CLF-Term-Time-Leave-Request-Form.-2020-21.pdf>

Each academic year has **190 school days**, this leaves **175 non-school days** for family time, holidays, visits and appointments.

If a pupil is absent for just **1 day** each term that equals **6 days or 39 hours** a year of lost learning.

Every Day Counts!

It is vital that pupils attend school, on time, every day in order to gain the greatest benefit from their education.

If your child is worried about school please talk to us so we can support and not let your child attendance be affected.

Working together is the key.

Please find more information on our website. <https://uphillvillageacademy.clf.uk/our-academy/attendance/>



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School Nursing Webinars for Parents and Carers

The school nursing team are running some online sessions. They will be practical and informative sessions from your expert team of local school health nurses. The webinars last between 30 and 45 minutes, with the opportunity to ask questions throughout.

The sessions are suitable for parents and carers of children and young people of all ages.

Please use the link below to find out more.

cchp.nhs.uk/cchp/explore-cchp/school-health-nursing/school-nursing-webinars-parents-carers



North Somerset Parents and Carers Working Together run **FREE** regular online training. See the link below for up and coming training.

<https://www.nspcwt.org/>

Their Facebook forum is a fantastic page to follow for up to date information on their fantastic work and the training they offer.

<https://en-gb.facebook.com/nspcwt/>

Remember to ask for support or help from our Learning Mentors at any time if you have concerns about your child or your family is in need or crisis. We are always here for our families.

learningmentor@uva.clf.uk

Look out for more pastoral and wellbeing information on future newsletters.



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