w/e 14.02.25

п

OLLOW US

0 N

×

T 0 D

D

AILY UPD

⋗

The

SHINING A LIGHT ON OUR AMAZING SCHOOL

WBSpotlight

EMAIL CLAIRE.MINCHER@WBS .318EDUCATION.CO.UK WITH CONTENT IDEAS.

The WBSpotlight Contents page



3	What a Week It's Been (with Mrs Mincher)
4	What's on at The Edge?
5	Extra-Curricular opportunities –
	updated Dance timetable
6-7	DofE details – Bronze Award Letter and
	Kit list
8	PTA Bingo event
9-10	Transition Event and Easter Egg
	donations
11	Year 9 PCE Letter
12	Food Bank collection – Red Nose Day
13	Year 13 letter – Student Finance
	applications
14-23	Amazing Us!
24	Timings of the day change for Exams
25-27	Careers and Destinations
28	Prom Dresses
29-32	Shropshire Council Services



Dear WBS families

This week has been eventful and rewarding, starting with the superb primary dance show where our feeder primary schools collaborated with our Elite and GCSE dancers for an incredible performance. Additionally, we have had a multitude of sporting and extracurricular visits.

Within this Spotlight, there are several requests for support. The newly formed PTA is hosting a bingo evening in April; we kindly encourage everyone to attend, as it promises to be a wonderful community event. We are also supporting Red Nose Day through a food bank collection. The food items donated will help support local families in crisis.

There are numerous parent letters to be aware of, including information about the Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening, Year 13 student finance, and the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh kit list for participants. I have also included details of the Easter event we are organizing for Year 5 and 6 students. Our aim is to conduct more transition events to strengthen our connections with feeder schools. Year 7 and 8 leaders will be running this event, providing them with a fantastic opportunity to develop their leadership skills. We are requesting Easter egg donations for this event; your support would be greatly appreciated.

I had the absolute pleasure of attending the visit to Symphony Hall alongside Ms. Adams, accompanied by Year 7, 8, and 9 students. It was truly inspirational for the students to see and experience.

After half term, Year 11 and Year 13 will be entering exam practice season once again. This is a critical period, and we will be implementing a 3:2 timetable split to support this. I have also shared the Golden Ticket reward with Year 11, which focuses on recognizing hard work, effort, and achievement.

Have a wonderful half-term!

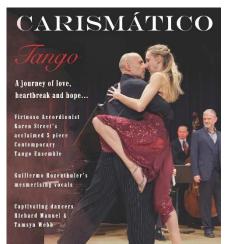
Mrs Mincher, Deputy Headteacher



https://www.williambrookes.com/community/the-edge-arts-centre/



Saturday 22nd Febuary

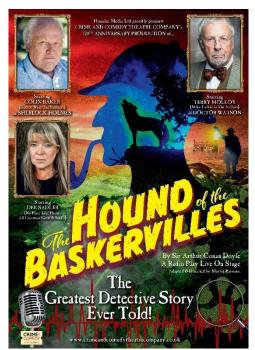


The Edge Arts Centre, Much Wenlock 😵 Saturday 8th March 2025 | 19:30 (doors open 18:30) | £2

0.5









Extra-curricular



	Dance Clubs	
WILLIAM BROOKES SCHOOL	2025	

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 7 Dance Club	Year 11 GCSE Dance	Year 8 Dance Club	Elite Dance
Studio 3	Rehearsal Space	Studio 2	Studio 2
Kieran Howorth	Available	Kieran Howorth	Mrs Leason
	Mrs Leason		
Year 9-11 Dance Club		Year 11 GCSE Dance	
Studio 2		Rehearsal/Revision	
Sixth Form Dance		Mrs Leason	
Leads			

All Dance clubs run from 3:20-4:20pm.

Please come along to join and be a part of our annual Summer Dance Production in July 2025!

BRONZE DofE

Extra Curricular

Parents meeting on TEAMS

There will be a parents meeting on Teams on **Monday 24th February at 6.00 pm** where we will explain more about the requirements of the expedition section. Dave Mayo from Chase Training Solutions (our Approved Activity Provider) will be in the meeting to answer any questions. The meeting will be recorded for those unable to attend (please email me afterward to request the recording).

Please join the meeting via the link in the email.

Expedition Dates

- Thursday 13th March (8.45 am 9.15 am: Tutor time): Pre-training meeting in CLT
- Wednesday 19th March (9.15 am 3.20 pm): Navigation day
- Thursday 20th March March (9.15 am 4.45 pm): Expedition skills day in school
- Friday 21st March (9.15 am 4.30 pm): Practice walk
- Tuesday 13th May (1.15 pm 1.40 pm: DEAR): Pre expedition meeting (distribution of kit) in room 219
- Friday 16th May (8.45 am) to Saturday 17th May (approx. 4 pm): Qualifying expedition

Expedition teams

Participants have been emailed a link to a form that they need to fill in regarding their expedition team. Many have already done this but please remind them.

<u>Kit list</u>

The kit list is attached. It has details about what you need to provide and what school can provide.

Welcome packs

If you child activated their eDofE account over 8 weeks ago but has still not received their Welcome Pack please let me know.

<u>Balance</u>

The balance for expedition is due on school gateway by Sunday 2nd March.

DofE Information

Lots of information about DofE can be found on the school website at <u>The Duke of Edinburgh's Award -</u> <u>William Brookes School</u>

<u>Kit List</u>

To Wear

- · Walking Boots (broken in, waterproof)
- Walking Socks (thick)
- T-shirt (e.g. sports t-shirt)
- Fleece jumper (no hoodies)
- Walking trousers or leggings (NOT jeans)
- · Waterproof coat with hood (breathable)
- Waterproof over trousers

Personal Kit

65 L Rucksack

All items to be packed in plastic bags:

- Sleeping mat (on outside of rucksack)
- Sleeping bag
- Water bottle (1-2 L, hardwearing)
- Plastic bowl
- Plastic cutlery
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Spare underwear
- Spare walking socks
- Spare t-shirt
- Spare trousers
- Spare jumper
- Warm hat
- Sun hat
- Watch
- Torch
- Personal First Aid Kit: plasters, antiseptic wipes, wound dressings, blister plasters, personal medication etc.
- Sun cream
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Food (as per planned menu):
 - Packed Lunches
 - Breakfast
 - Hot Evening Meal
 - Hot drinks
 - Snacks

Group Kit (to be shared between team)

- Maps #
- Route cards #
- Compass
- Whistle
- Tent *
- Stove *
- Gas for stove *
- Lighter *
- Washing up materials
- Extra plastic bags for rubbish and waterproofing things

Group Emergency Kit

- Emergency rations (high energy food)
- Coins for phone box
- Paper and pencil
- Gaffer tape
- · Mobile Phone in sealed plastic bag

Notes

these items will be provided * these items can be provided

- · Everything on this list is compulsory
- Remember it is only <u>2 days and 1 night</u> take small amounts

Other items to think about (but will add extra weight):

- · Gloves (it can be cold in May)
- Small game e.g. Frisbee or pack of cards
- Method of recording your journey e.g. disposable camera or diary











We are delighted to extend an invitation to you for a Transition Family Morning on Saturday, 5th April from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This event is specifically designed for Year 5 and Year 6 students, along with their parents. However, we warmly welcome younger siblings to join as well!

Our goal is to showcase our beautiful school facilities and provide you with the opportunity to meet some of our exceptional Year 7 and Year 8 leaders. During the event, we will have a Family Easter Scavenger Hunt where you can 'crack the code,' and Easter crafting stations for you to enjoy.

If you are interested in attending, please use the following link to indicate how many members of your family will be attending. Use the link or scan the QR code:

https://forms.office.com/e/B33Bx489K6



This will help us plan accordingly. We will be asking for a small fee on the day of £3 per family to cover the costs of refreshments.

Should you have any questions regarding the event, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Leason (Head of Year 7) at <u>lucy.leason@wbs.318education.co.uk</u> or Mrs. Mincher (Deputy Head Teacher) at <u>claire.mincher@318education.co.uk</u>, who are leading this event.

We look forward to meeting you all!

Warm regards

William Brookes School







Farley Road, Much Wenlock, Shropshire TF13 6NB Headteacher: Mrs R Shaw, BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH Tel: 01952 728900 www.williambrookes.cor Email: wbs-reception@wbs.318education.co.uk William Brookes School is part of The 3-18 Education Trust. Registered Address: Squinter Pp Way, Shrewsbury, SYS BPY. Company Reg. 08044698 To assist us in organizing this transition event, we are seeking Year 7 and Year 8 student leaders. If your son or daughter is interested in volunteering, please contact Mrs. Leason or Mrs. Mincher.



We are also collecting donated Easter eggs to help support the running of this family event. If you are able to contribute an Easter egg, it would be greatly appreciated. We need a substantial number of eggs for the scavenger hunt! If your son or daughter donates an Easter egg, they will be rewarded with a Coubertin house point. Please drop off the eggs at reception and leave your name, so we can ensure the house point is awarded.







Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to you to advise that our face-toface Year 9 Parents Evening is taking place on 6th March in school from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. The

booking system will be live to book appointments from 9am on 24th February and will close on 4th March at midday to allow time to print appointment schedules.

To access the booking system please use your Arbor Parent Portal or Arbor App. Please ignore appointments for previous school years on the booking area and only book appointments with your child's current teachers for the academic year 2024/5.

We very much value your attendance, so that you can be kept up to date with the progress your son/daughter is making and how further improvement can be achieved. Our intention is to try and ensure that all parents can attend the evening, but we understand that there may be work commitments and exceptional circumstances that sometimes prevent this. If this is the case, please contact <u>wbs-reception@wbs.318education.co.uk</u> and we will ensure you are able to communicate with your child's teacher.

If you have any problems logging in to your Arbor Parent Portal or Arbor App – please click here for assistance - <u>Troubleshooting login issues - why can't I log in to my school's Parent</u> <u>Portal or Arbor App? – Arbor Help Centre (arbor-education.com)</u>

The system allows you to book appointments with your child's subject teachers at times to suit you. May we please ask that you **leave 5 minutes between your appointments** to ensure you have enough time to get to your next appointment on time as staff will be situated on all 3 floors of the building.

On arrival please head to your child's house table to sign in and collect your appointment schedule.

Should you need any further assistance with making your appointments, please don't hesitate to contact our Student Services Department via email on <u>wbs-</u><u>info@wbs.318education.co.uk</u> or alternatively please call reception.

Kind regards

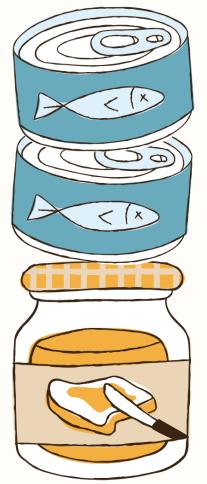
Student Services Department

PICKLES

WILLIAM BROOKES SCHOOL

Food Bank Drive Red NOSE DAY 2025





Red Nose Day will be returning on Friday the 21st of March. This year, the event will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness

Tinned, Dried or pickled items wanted. If you can spare any of these items or add a extra tin to your shop please donate!

Please bring to reception or hand in to tutors by Friday 21st March.

Donations will be taken to local food banks



Dear Year, 13 Student/Parent

If you intend to get a student loan for university, please be aware that you need to apply for this independently from the school. We do not handle student finance applications. However as the applications are due to open I thought I would inform you how to complete this.

To apply for student finance for the academic year 2025, please follow these steps:

Application Opening:

Full-time undergraduate applications will open in March 2025.

Eligibility: You can apply if you normally live in England and are going to university or college. <u>Apply online</u> <u>for student finance - GOV.UK</u>

Types of Finance:

You can apply for Tuition Fee Loans and Maintenance Loans. <u>Apply online for student finance - GOV.UK</u>

Assessment: Applications will be assessed based on your circumstances, and payments will be made accordingly for the academic year 2025 to 2026. <u>Student finance: how you're assessed and paid 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK</u>

Comprehensive Guide: For detailed information on how to apply, deadlines, and repayment, refer to the official guidance. <u>Student finance 2025: what you need to know- Times Money Mentor</u>

Please make sure to check the official websites for the most accurate and updated information.

Thank you

Mrs Mincher





Amazing Us!

Libby and Fern, Year 8 both produced an excellent mono print based on German Expressionism this week.





The group of year 7s are working with Miss Owen in Tokyo Hub, completing their numeracy intervention. The group works really hard, completing all the tasks and tackling tricky tasks or questions together.

Miss Owen brings in a little treat to have at the end of each session for their hard work!

Well done year 7s







Year 10 GCSE Art and Design students have made an impressive start to their Coursework on Landscapes. I think you can all agree the portfolios are stunning!







Year 7 Careers Event took place on Wednesday 5th February.

The aim of the day was to broaden the students' horizons by introducing them to careers they may not have considered yet.

The Year 7's gained valuable experience from our employers and visited each of the six diverse workshops on a carousel.

During the last period of the day students all came together to watch a presentation from the Army and the Navy. They also celebrated the winners of the Grainger & Worrell competition.

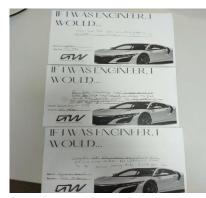
Grainger & Worrell worked with the students on a very interactive competition called:

"If I was an Engineer"





A picture of the top three students who won a goodie bag from the company Lucy Taylor, Lucy Paterson and Saffron Beech.



Here are three examples of other students' ideas. STARTTECH



Lewis Hardie from STARTTECH who the leading Certified IT provider in the Shropshire area. He spoke to the students

about cybersecurity. He answered a lot of the students' questions.

Crop Doctor

Peter Jones has been involved in farming and growing food for 42 years; he travels each day to various clients to support the growth and health of the food we eat each day. Students found his presentation fascinating.

Karl Brown is a Personal Trainer at Proyu.



"At Proyu, we're all about transforming education and knowledge from extensive research into real-life action! We make it super easy for you to eat well, stay active, and enjoy the amazing rewards that come with it." Alun Thorpe is an Enterprise Adviser with The Careers and Enterprise Company.

He spoke about the difference between Marketing & Journalism and career pathways.

Students were thrilled to watch and listen to his presentation.







Students were introduced to Unifrog. This is the careers software that they will use here at school. They were able to create their account and start to explore various career roles.

During the final period of the day, all the students came together and had a talk from both the Army and the Navy. They spoke about various career roles and opportunities in the Armed Forces.

What our employers said:

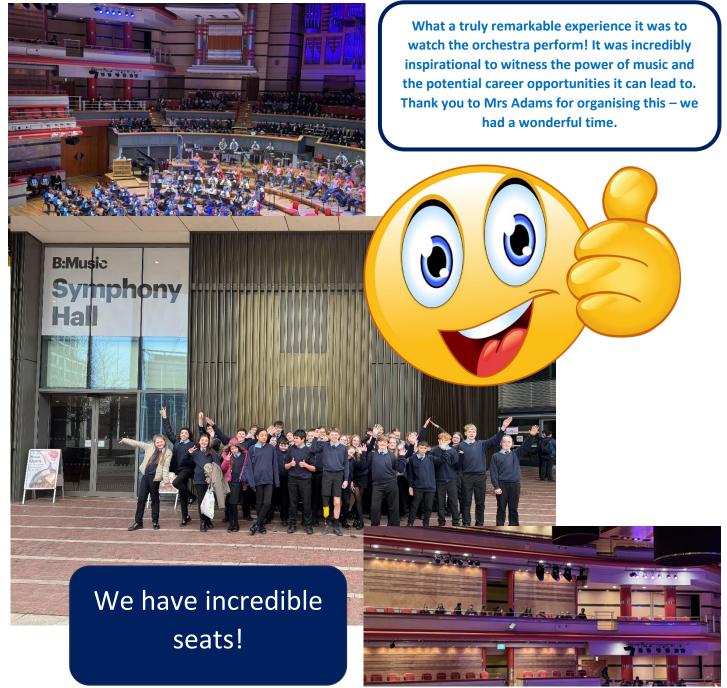
Karl Brown Proyu -" I appreciate you and the team's work in organising such a successful event. I am certainly interested in participating in future events!"

Lewis Hardie STARTTECH - "Thanks for having me. It was great and all the students were very well behaved and had some interesting questions"



City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra concert at Symphony Hall









The curtain rises on 1910s London, with an enormous dolls house square in the centre of the stage. Voices can be heard, drifting from the open windows. A family party. Self-centred, self-absorbed people, enjoying their own lives, and ignoring the events of society outside.

Year 10 and 11 journeyed with us through the National Theatre production of "An Inspector Calls", and watched as the characters were forced to face the wrong choices they had made in their lives.

Our students were excellent – thoughtful, polite and engaged, with a real focus on how the staging brought the ideas of the play to life. We hope the performance will support them to achieve the highest possible grades.





JL Edwards Memorial Fund & Liz Thomas Award!

This is an amazing opportunity – applications now open!

JL Edwards Memorial Fund

Jack Edwards was the Headmaster of Much Wenlock Modern School for 16 years – the first Headmaster of the school that was to become William Brookes. He was a cheerful, wise and enthusiastic man who was a much-loved local figure.

After Jack died in 1968, the large community institutions of the area, like the Old Students' Football Association, the Wenlock Players, the Youth Club, the Town Councils of Broseley and Much Wenlock, the School Governors, the Rotary Club of Ironbridge, and many others got together to form a Trust in his name.

The idea of the Trust was to ensure that the original motto of the school lives on in the actions of its students. At the time, this was "Courtesy, Enterprise and Endeavour", three things that Jack Edwards valued very highly.

Courtesy – means being polite, kind and considerate

Enterprise – being enterprising – means showing initiative, courage and imagination Endeavour – means that you will always be committed to working hard

(not a million miles away from Respect. Excellence and Friendship!)



Liz Thomas Award

- Champion of the Arts!
- Liz and her husband Brian moved to Much Wenlock in 1985 with Liz soon becoming an active and well-respected member of the local community. She went on to hold roles with the Town Council and the Wenlock Olympian Society for many years. Liz was invited to join the School's Board of Governors in 1999 and went on to support the School and its students using her experience and contacts within the world of the Performing Arts and media whenever appropriate.
- In 2004, Liz was a member of the team which was instrumental in the design and development of plans for The Edge Arts Centre. She was also a key member of the Governing Body during the planning, design and construction of the new school building which was completed in September 2010.
- Following Liz's sudden death in March 2016, a Memorial Fund was created using the donations made by friends, colleagues and acquaintances.
- It is the wish of Liz's family that this Fund is used to continue her support of students of William Brookes School in the form of an annual award to be used to widen and enhance their experience of a chosen interest.



Past award winners

2016-17

Amy Yeomans West End	Awarded £130 to travelled to London to see a show
Katie Steele	Awarded £100 to attend dance lessons
Molly Southgate	Awarded £100 to attend dance lessons
Aimee Sellars musical	Awarded £70 to travel to Manchester to see a
Joe Bynoth sessions	Awarded £140 to attend Key Theatre Academy
Jemimah Whittaker Music	Awarded £200 to attend the National Youth Theatre as Wardrobe Assistant

How do I apply?

- Complete your application over February Half term and submit to Mrs Shaw for shortlisting (I will put application forms in form trays)
- Talk to your families about any ideas you might have
- Do some research so that you can include this in your application
- If you are successful in the first round, you will then need to put together a presentation for the JL Edwards and Liz Thomas trustees. They will then choose the overall successful students.



We are looking forward to receiving student's applications!

Monday 24th – Friday 26th February

Change in timings of the day due to year 11 practice exams.



P1	9.15-10.10
P2	10.10-11.05
BREAK	11.05-11.25
P3	11.25-12.20
LUNCH Y9-11	12.20-12.45
DEAR Y7/8	12.20-12.45
LUNCH ALL	12.45-13.05
LUNCH Y8/9	13.05-13.30
DEAR Y9/10	13.05-13.30
Ρ4	13.30-14.25
Р5	14.25-15.20

AM (exam start time 09.00)

Line up as usual. Students brought in first and escorted by tutors to DS2 & 3. Tutors to register. From here students will be called to the different exam rooms. 201 and Library first, followed by CLT and S1. Students to enter S1 as per exam session i.e. if whole cohort exam, in alphabetical order, if multiple exams, as per seating plan.

PM (exam start time 13.10)

Students go to DS2 & 3 straight from lunch. Tutors to register. Follow routine as above.

Careers and Destinations

For all events for 2025 – Please check on each website that the events are still going ahead.

Shrewsbury Town Football College & University



https://www.stfccollegeanduniversity.co.uk

01743 289177 EXT 8 - Recruitment@foundationstfc.co.uk

Shrewsbury Town Football Club (Media Suite), Oteley Road, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ST

Level 2 & 3 Courses in Sport, Physical Activity, Coaching and Business

Monday 24th February, 7pm - 8pm

south Staffordshire College (Rodbaston Campus)



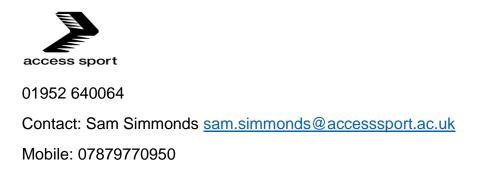


01785 712209 joanna.simms@southstaffs.ac.uk karen.burley@southstaffs.ac.uk www.southstaffs.ac.uk Land based courses

February half term tasters

Monday 17th February and Tuesday 18th February 2025

Access Sport (Formerly Coaching Connexions) (Telford ADC)



https://accesssport.ac.uk/

Apply here for place and/or open day invite (same form) https://accesssport.ac.uk/applying-for-a-course/

17 February 2025 1.00pm-3.00pm Half term experience session

Incomm Engineering Apprenticeships



Jayne Guest | Recruitment Manager

M: +44(0)7391015415

E: jayneg@in-comm.co.uk

- Or keiras@in-comm.co.uk
- W: https://in-comm.co.uk/facility/telford/

Engineering Apprenticeship Training Centre, Telford

Saturday 22nd February 2025 10.00am - 2.00pm

Juniper Training

Juniper

01952 299016 (Telford)

Enquiries@junipertraining.co.uk

Adam.Saunders@junipertraining.co.uk

Open Days – Pre Apprenticeship Programme

16-18 Pre-Apprenticeship programme which includes vocational pathways, work experience, Maths and English Functional Skills and GCSEs.

Wednesday 19th February 10am - 6pm

nk you for Jour Support Prom Dress Event Week

Monday 17th March to Saturday 22nd March Shop open 9-5

Over 200 gowns, different styles, sizes and prices. Brand new, sample and pre-loved gowns.

At our Monkmoor Shop 5 Conway Drive Telford Estate Shrewsbury SY2 5UA

- NATERA







Welcome to our February newsletter. Are you feeling ready for the half term holiday? There are lots of activities and events going on for the whole family to enjoy. Remember, here at the Family Info Service we cover everything and anything to do with family life, so if you have a question, chances are we'll be able to help, or if we can't, we'll point you in the direction of someone who can. Find us on Facebook, Instagram or X. Call 01743 254400 or email ShropshireFIS@shropshire.gov.uk



There are lots of exciting activities and events happening across the county this half term including:

- Free drumming workshops in Oswestry •
- Valentines Roller Disco in Market Drayton
- Free Building Brick fun at the Darwin Shopping Centre, Shrewsbury
- Free Valentines Cookery and Craft session in Ludlow
- Bubbles and Balloons at Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms
- Jack and Beans Puppet show in Bridgnorth

Bishop's Castle Arts Festival

You can find a full list of what is going on in your area, by visiting our Family Information Directory.

Find out more



Clubs to keep the kids busy

If you need childcare, or just something to keep the kids busy this half term, take a look at our list of holiday clubs.

From football to forest school to farm animals there is bound to be something that sparks their interest!

Find out more



New coffee and chat stay and plays

Shropshire Early Help have recently launched some free stay and play sessions for children and their families.

While the children are playing you will be able to get free information, advice and support around:

- Family life
- Parenting support
- Domestic abuse support
- Money worries
- Housing support
- and much more

The sessions are being held at:

Bridgnorth Library, WV16 4AW, Tuesday afternoons, 1pm-3pm

Oswestry Library, SY11 1JN, Thursday mornings, 9.30am-12 noon

Raven House, Market Drayton, TF9 3AH, Tuesday mornings, 9.30am-12.30pm

There is no need to book, just drop in.

The Early Help team hold a range of other drop-in events across the county. You can find your closest event on our <u>Family information Directory</u>.



Help us to meet your needs now and in the future

The Family Information Service provides info on all aspects of family life. From finding childcare or things to do during the school holidays, through to money worries, relationship issues and parenting support.

Please help us to keep up-to-date with the changing needs of Shropshire families by taking our short survey. Sharing with us what is important to you and your family now and what may be important in the future.

Take our survey



Drop in clinics for 0-5 year olds

Shropshire Health Visitors help families with children aged 0-5 years old, offering information, advice and support on a range of topics, including:

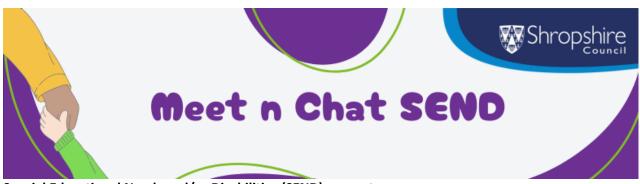
- Infant feeding and breastfeeding advice
- Emotional health and wellbeing
- Development, behaviour and sleep

If you'd like to chat to a Health Visitor, you are welcome to come along to one of their drop-in sessions. No appointment needed. The sessions take place at Community Hubs in

- Highley
- <u>Ludlow</u>
- Bridgnorth
- <u>Shrewsbury</u>
- Market Drayton
- Oswestry

If you would like support but are unable to get to a session, you can also get help by calling 0333 358 3654 or texting the team on 07520 635212.

Find out more about Community Hubs



Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) support

Join us for an informal session designed to support families of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This is a great opportunity to discuss any general SEND queries and learn about the resources available to you.

You can chat with people from:

- <u>The EHCP team</u>, offering advice on Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and other SEND processes.
- <u>Designated Clinical and Social care officers</u> (DCO/DSCO), providing insights into health and social care support for SEND.
- <u>SENDIASS (SEND information, Advice and Support services)</u>, helping with school-related concerns and advocacy.
- An Assistant Psychologist from <u>BeeU</u>, offering guidance on mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- <u>Early Help</u> practitioners, providing advice and support for families navigating SEND challenges.
- <u>School Nurses</u>, providing advice on supporting health needs with educational settings.
- <u>PACC (parent and Carer Council)</u>, offering support and a voice for parent carers of the children with SEND.
- <u>Family Information Service</u> and <u>SEND Local Offer</u> offering information and advice on all aspects of family life.

Come along, have a chat and explore the support available for your family.

Sunflower House, Shrewsbury, SY1 4ES, Wednesday 26 February 2025, 9.30am-12.30pm