



**Braunton
Academy**

**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

9th October 2026

Dear Families,

We hope you have had a good week. Many of our Year 11s have been busy this week completing units of their final GCSE assessments. The Health and Social Care groups have had to make formal presentations of their coursework projects, and the first group of Year 11 Drama students have completed the practical assessment for component two. The second group complete this part of the GCSE next week.

Although it is still only the first half term of school Year 11 are on top of having started their formal GCSE exams in some courses and are also needing to look ahead to their choices for next year as applications for post-16 placements is now open. To support students and their families we are running a **Post 16-Pathways Evening** on Wednesday next week. The evening will be attended by all the post-16 providers in the area and Will give families the opportunity to speak to them and our careers advisers as well as members of staff in school. Previous feedback is that families do find this event helpful in the options process and we would encourage Year 11 families to attend from **6pm on Wednesday 14th October**.

Next week also has three big events with Year 10 Art students visiting St Ives, and the James Wilton Dance Company performance taking place on Thursday night.

Yesterday was a great day for the Year 9 netball team who performed really well in the North Devon Tournament losing only once throughout the day to the team that were the overall winners. Also, the under 14 girls' football team won the latest round of the national league 10-0, well done to them all!

Best wishes,

Mrs F Bowler
Principal

Key Dates for October:

Wednesday 14th
October:

Year 11 Post-16
Pathways
Evening 6.00 to
7.30 pm

Thursday 15th
October:

Year 11 Kingsley
School Sixth Form
Open Evening

GCSE Art trip to
St Ives – Day 1

James Wilton
Dance
Company 7.30
pm

Friday 16th
October:

GCSE Art trip to
St Ives – Day 2



Whole School Messages

[Whole School Messages - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

Medication in School – Prescribed and/Over the Counter (OTC)

Whilst we do have school spares of OTC pain relief medicine, we are asking if parents/carers can provide their own for their child, especially if they require a specific type e.g. liquid or dissolvable tablets. Please bring the medication to Reception, where you will be asked to complete a short medication consent form. Once this is done, the medication will be stored safely in First Aid and can be given to your child if they need it during the school day. If you have any queries, please contact: medical@braunton.academy

Free DIAS SEND workshops for parent carers

Free DIAS SEND workshops for parent carers are now open for bookings!



Making Sense of SEND: About SEND and school

October 14 @ 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Online via Teams

This one-hour workshop explains special educational needs, SEN support in nursery, school and college and how the SEND system works.

Making Sense of EHC plans: Understanding your child's EHC plan

November 16 @ 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Online via Teams

This one-hour workshop is about EHC plans, what should be in them and what they are used for. If your child already has an EHC plan, or is about to be issued with one, then this session is for you!

Click these links to book:

[Book About SEND and school – Making Sense of SEND: About SEND and school – Teams](#)

[Book Understanding your child's EHC plan – Making Sense of EHC plans: Understanding your child's EHC plan – Teams](#)

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world



Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Join our group sessions to support you in your parenting journey. Understand emotional health, wellbeing, behaviour, and more. A 10-week programme to help you raise confident, kind, emotionally aware people.



This group covers:

- Childhood development and emotional processing
- Ideas and techniques for nurturing wellbeing. Covering common areas of difficulty such as emotional regulation, sleep, toileting and friendships
- Support to reflect on your own child's health and wellbeing. Understand their behaviour and your relationship with them
- Helping you feel more confident about your relationships
- Helping you feel more connected to your child



Scan the QR code
to take you to the
Family Hubs
Request for
Contact Form



**FAMILY
HUBS**





NOT MY SENTENCE

SPACE is offering a 6 week support package for young people who have experienced a close family member go to prison. The Not My Sentence programme offers support, advice and education around prison, the justice system and wellbeing.

The **Not My Sentence** programme is a 1:1 support package with a youth worker and is bespoke to the young person. The programme can be tailored to meet their needs.

Programme Details:

6 Week Programme
1 Hour per Session
Young People Aged 8-16
Devon-wide
Confidential and Unbiased

Sessions cover:

Understanding the Justice System
Understanding Prison Life
Understanding Emotions
Future Planning



SCAN ME

<https://tinyurl.com/NOTMYSENTENCE>

**FREE spaces
available!**

**Scan QR Code or
contact us for
more information:**

☎ 01392 348215
✉ info@spacepsm.org
🌐 www.spaceyouthservices.org/sess

Parent Engagement Group

Last year we launched the Braunton Academy Parent Engagement Group giving parents/ carers the opportunity to work with the leadership team to develop the school. Last year a homework audit was carried out from feedback from this group and changes to the policy were made. We also developed the format of this weekly newsletter from collaborative work.

We would love for you to join us for all or even just some of the sessions this year on the following dates. The meetings start at 5.30pm and finish at 7pm and are held in the Conference room at the Academy.

Wednesday 21st October 2026
Wednesday 9th December 2026
Wednesday 10th February 2027
Wednesday 24th March 2027
Wednesday 26th May 2027
Wednesday 7th July 2027

Devon Family Hubs



DEVON FAMILY HUBS

FREE Family Advice & Guidance

For Parents/Carers of children aged 0-19 and Young People aged 13 –19 (25 with SEND or Care Leaver)

Single Session Appointments available in person, via phone or online

CALL:

Advice & Guidance Line
0800 5385458
Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

SCAN


Request for Contact

Devon County Council **BEST START IN LIFE**



DEVON FAMILY HUBS

Family Hub Advice & Guidance Line, **0800 5385458**
Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

'Connecting Moments'- Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**? Join us for **Connecting Moments** – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What's it all about?

- Connect with other families in a small, welcoming group
- Share experiences and ideas
- Build a peer support network

Please join us on the **12th December at 10am**, for a 1 hour session– email-childsc.familyhub-mailbox@devon.gov.uk to book a space, places are limited and the session will be run via Teams.

If you would like support from the Devon family hub, please scan this QR code and complete our request for support form



Devon County Council **BEST START IN LIFE** **DiAS** Devon Information Advice and Support

DICE Parenting Programme





DICE Parenting Programme

DICE is a **4 week free universal support** for **parents/carers of pre-teens and teens** who are worried about parenting in the modern world, with the risks and challenges this presents.

DICE provides families with **information, advice and support** to help them provide a **safe and protective environment** for their child or young person.

The programme is running on a **regular basis throughout the year, online and face to face**. Contact details overleaf for further information or a referral form.

01752 256339

exceed@barnardos.org.uk

[Online referral form](#)

www.barnardosexceed.org.uk



You can email us to be sent a referral form, or follow the link/scan the QR code for our online referral form.

Registered Charity Nos. 214255 and 30327025





DICE Upcoming Dates

Please note this is a 4-week course, therefore **please ensure you're able to attend all 4 dates listed**.
Online sessions are run on Teams.

Face to face	Online sessions	Action for Children
Green Ark, Devonport Plymouth 1pm-3pm	Tues 13th Oct Tues 20th Oct Tues 27th Oct Tues 3rd Nov	New January 2027 dates coming soon!
Dell Family Hub, Highview School, Efford Plymouth 12.30-2.30pm	Tues 12th Jan '27 Tues 19th Jan '27 Tues 26th Jan '27 Tues 2nd Feb '27	
Online daytime Microsoft Teams 10am-12pm	Weds 11th Nov Weds 18th Nov Weds 25th Nov Weds 2nd Dec	New January 2027 dates coming soon!
Online evening Microsoft Teams 5pm-7pm	Mon 9th Nov Mon 16th Nov Mon 23rd Nov Mon 30th Nov	





Session 01: Introduction and the life of a teenager

The teenage brain, why teenagers might take risks and the pressures they face in the modern world.

Session 02: The exploitation of children and young people

Grooming - what is it, how does it happen, where and by whom? How can we spot the signs?

Session 03: Digital dangers

Social media, nudes and the complexities of the online world. How can we be better digital parents/carers?

Session 04: A safe place to share ideas about parenting

Parenting top tips - practical advice and information about communicating effectively, support networks and working together.

The Barnardo's Exceed service is open 9am - 5pm Mondays to Fridays (not including bank holidays). We aim to get in contact with you within 1 working day after receiving your enquiry.
For all enquiries, further information or a referral form please contact - exceed@barnardos.org.uk

Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website
[Clubs & Activities - Branton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

FC Camps – October Half Term



Ferdinand Collective | **FC CAMPS**

OCTOBER HALF TERM

FOR AGES 5 - 14
DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES

TARKA	KINGSLEY	ILFRACOMBE
26 - 30 OCTOBER 9AM - 4PM	26 & 27 OCTOBER 10AM - 3PM	28 OCTOBER 10AM - 2PM

BOOK ONLINE HERE

WWW.FERDINANDCOLLECTIVE.COM



Competitions

Year 8,9,10&11 netball matches at Park on Tuesday 13th October. Pupils to meet at the front gate at the start of P6. We aim to return to Branton approximately 5.45pm

Year 11 News

Year 11 Post-16 Options Evening

You and your child are invited to attend our forthcoming Post-16 Options Evening. This is an opportunity for you both to gain valuable information about the pathways that are available once your child leaves Braunton Academy.

Date – Wednesday 14th October 2026

Time – 6pm to 7.30pm

Where – Isaac Hall

The event will have representatives from:

- Bideford College
- Cornwall College (Bicton and Duchy Colleges)
- Engineering Trust
- Exeter College
- Ilfracombe Academy
- Kingsley School Sixth Form
- North Devon College
- West Buckland School

The evening will begin with presentations from us followed by an opportunity to talk to tutors from all the post-16 providers.

This is a good opportunity for the students to build on the information, advice and guidance they need to inform them of the choices available to them for the future. To assist your child in his/her decisions for the future, he/she will take part in a number of events in Personal Development lessons over the next two terms. These include Mock Interviews, Interview Skills, Completing Application Form Workshops, Careers Talks and Presentations and support from post-16 providers. Please encourage your child to make the most of these opportunities to help them in their future planning.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Parsons, Lead Teacher of Careers & Personal Development

Kingsley School Sixth Form Open Evening

We have received information from Kingsley School, Bideford, regarding their Open Evening on Thursday 15th October 2026, 6pm to 8.30pm.

Students and parents can meet their teaching staff, explore their A Level and BTEC courses, tour their Sixth Form Centre, Surf Academy, FC Rise Football Academy and Earth Centre, and chat with current Sixth Formers about life at Kingsley. They also offer academic and sports scholarships in rugby, football, netball, judo and gymnastics.

Places can be booked at - [School Open Days & Visits | Kingsley School Devon](#)

Please follow this link to our Careers webpage for details of all upcoming Open Events:

[Careers - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

Exeter College Open Events

Below is a poster with the dates for the upcoming Open Events for Exeter College. Please scan the QR code to register for these events.

OPEN EVENTS

Discover Exeter College

exeter college

October 8th 4-8pm

November 18th 4-8pm

April 20th* 4-7pm

*(Suitable for Year 10s)

All city centre sites, plus our
Construction Centre and Technology Centre
(Engineering, Automotive and Aerospace)

Attend a variety of talks throughout the evening

Speak to our subject specialist lecturers

See our facilities

Find out about the support available

Meet our students

Scan for dates and to register

Year 10 News

No football club due to fixtures

Year 9 News

No football club due to fixtures

Year 8 News

No Football Club or Netball Club Due to Fixtures

Year 7 News

No Football Club or Netball Club Due to Fixtures

Catering

This is a polite reminder that we are a nut free school. Please ensure your child does not bring nuts or food containing nuts as part of their lunch. Many thanks.

Main Meal 	Chicken stir fry served with noodles & veg	Exmoor beef lasagne with garlic bread, salad & coleslaw	Roast chicken served with roast potatoes, seasonal veg, Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Exmoor pork sausages served with mashed potatoes, peas & gravy	Fishcakes served with hash brown bites, peas or beans
Veggie	Vegetable stir fry served with noodles & veg	Quorn lasagne with garlic bread, salad & coleslaw	Veggie cottage pie served with Yorkshire pudding, seasonal veg & gravy	Veggie sausages served with mashed potatoes, peas & gravy	Omelette served with hash brown bites, peas or beans
Desserts 	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots
Grab & go Break &	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese Veggie option	Chicken pesto pasta with loaded veg Veggie option	Chicken rice & vegetable medley Veggie option	Pasta bolognese Veggie option	Thai green curry with rice & veg Veggie option
Grab & go Break	Cod fish finger bap served with iceberg lettuce & tartar sauce	Halloumi burger, roasted peppers, mayo, sweet chilli sauce	Bagel with cream cheese bacon & chives Veggie option	Breakfast wrap Veggie option	Meat ball sub roll Veggie option
Deli Bar	Freshly made rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad