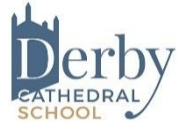


## This Week at Derby Cathedral School

w/c 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025



In the Old Testament book called Lamentations (3:22-23) it says:

**"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning."**

For us at DCS this is a reminder that whatever may have happened in the past, every day God gives us the opportunity for a fresh start.

Dear Parents/Carers,

In the beautiful words of the verse above, we are reminded of the truth that regardless of past challenges or setbacks, each day offers a fresh start and renewed opportunity through God's unfailing love and mercy. This verse certainly speaks to the heart of what we believe at DCS.

This spirit of renewal and possibility has been evident throughout our school community this week. I am delighted to share that our Debate Club continues to achieve remarkable success, with our talented team of Key Stage 4 girls securing a place in the city finals! Their articulate presentations and thoughtful arguments demonstrate not only their academic skills but also their growing confidence and leadership abilities. We extend our sincere congratulations to this impressive team and express our gratitude to Mr. Keene and their Sixth Form mentors for their dedicated support. This collaborative effort beautifully exemplifies our FAITH values in action, and perhaps hints at future careers in law or politics for these students!

The celebration of World Book Day brought extraordinary creativity and joy to our school. I encourage you to read the articles about our dressing-up extravaganza and the various book-related activities that took place. The enthusiasm shown by both staff and students for literature reminds us of the power of stories – how they too can offer us new beginnings and fresh perspectives, much like the daily mercies described in our Bible verse.

Our Year 9 students experienced their own new opportunity while participating in a sustainability-focused event at the University of Derby. Their engagement with this crucial global issue demonstrated the FAITH value of Aspiration as they explored innovative solutions for a more sustainable future. As always, they represented DCS admirably and embraced the challenge with characteristic enthusiasm.

Friday's Red Nose Day non-uniform event showcased our commitment to Fellowship as many students wore something red in support of this important charity. These moments of collective action for the benefit of others shows the 'doors' aspect of our spirituality framework – taking concrete steps to transform our beliefs into meaningful action.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all Year 7 parents and carers who attended last week's parents evening. Your partnership in your child's educational journey makes such a difference, and we really appreciate your support.

As we look ahead, our Year 12 students will embark on their work experience placements next week. We wish them well as they step into new environments and gain valuable insights into professional life. We have every confidence they will represent themselves and our school community extremely well, embracing this opportunity for growth and learning.

I wish you all a wonderful week. Yours faithfully

Mrs Brown

## Sustainability Day at Derby University



On March 12<sup>th</sup> a group of 42 Year 9s were invited to Derby University to discuss their ideas about sustainability, resilience and learn more about green careers.

We participated in student voice panels, where students created posters, mindmaps and even raps about their opinions on climate change. We were also invited to different lectures about local sustainability in Derby City, how to be more sustainable in schools, ways that scientists are fighting the impact of climate change globally, finding potable water and using sustainable building techniques.

There was also a green careers exhibition where our students participated in excellent conversations with employers about different career paths and how sustainability impacts economics and wellbeing. Some students also got to do work with Rolls Royce looking at how they are becoming more sustainable and why.



It was a very busy day, and the Y9s did an excellent job of taking on board the information from the lecturers. They showed wonderful aspiration and have decided that we as a school need to show more tenacity on our road to dealing with climate change.

## World Book Day celebrations – sparking reading excitement

Our recent World Book Day celebration (6<sup>th</sup> March 2025) proved to be an overwhelming success, igniting enthusiasm for reading throughout our school community.

Staff members embraced the spirit of the day by transforming into beloved literary characters, delighting students as book personalities came to life in hallways and classrooms. The creative costumes sparked numerous conversations about cherished stories and introduced students to new literary worlds.

The Book Bingo activity had students eagerly checking off the top Young Adult books from the past year. This scavenger hunt-style activity encouraged our students to explore diverse genres and authors that speak to contemporary adolescent experiences.



Our door decorating contest transformed the school into a vibrant gallery of literary scenes. Classroom doors showcased stunning displays inspired by everything from classic tales to contemporary favourites, creating an immersive atmosphere that celebrated the magic of storytelling.

The enthusiasm demonstrated by our pupils throughout these activities has been remarkable. Thank you for supporting your children's participation in this special day dedicated to fostering a lifelong love of reading.



## Y10 Maths Feast competition success

A group of Y10 students took part in a multi-school MathsFeast competition at Alvaston Moor Academy. The competition was designed to get students to think more outside the box and apply skills to unfamiliar contexts. Our amazing teams (10MA-Y1 and 10MA-X1) both took a top 2 finish in a round of the competition each. Many thanks to our sixth form helpers Josh and Laura who aided in marking for the judges.



## Craft Club - Suncatchers

Students helped to strip off the silver coating from old CDs, then used black sharpie pens to trace patterned outlines. They then coloured in their patterns using coloured sharpies and some metallic markers before attaching some pretty beads to compliment their chosen colour schemes.



## HAF Programme

### IMPORTANT UPDATE: Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)

We have now been informed that during this Easter break, Derby City Council will continue to support eligible families through the Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF). We have emailed all eligible parents with a detailed letter regarding this from Derby City Council.

From Easter onwards there will be a new booking system in place. The system allows you to discover and book all available HAF clubs.

Look out for an email or text message from HolidayActivities.com with a link to access your voucher. ***Please note that any HAF codes previously issued are no longer valid and will not be accepted by the new system.*** Vouchers will be issued to each eligible child via email or text message on Monday 17 March.

[Here's](#) a helpful guide to assist you with making bookings through the platform. Further information regarding the Holiday Activities and Food Programme can be found [here](#).



## Word of the Week - Pedantic

### Pedantic

**Definition:** Excessively concerned with minor details or rules.

**In Spanish:** pedante

**Synonyms** (words with a similar meaning): particular, precise, fussy, picky

**Antonyms** (words with the opposite meaning): carefree, undemanding, relaxed, flexible

**Sentences:**

Sorry to be pedantic but it really annoyed me for some reason.

Cricket has a reputation for its confusing, pedantic rules.



## What Parents and Educators Need to Know about Streamers

Livestreaming is now a major part of children's entertainment, evolving from gamers sharing screens into a booming industry with diverse personalities. While watching streamers can be entertaining, it comes with no small number of risks for children, such as misinformation, negative influences, and inappropriate content. With over 2.5 million viewers on Twitch – the current most popular streaming platform – at any one time, this guide highlights the potential dangers associated with watching livestreams and the importance of staying informed.

The National College have created a [free guide](#) – also available in podcast format – to provide parents and educators everything they need to know about streamers and how to keep children protected.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMERS

Livestreaming has become a big part of the entertainment people consume, and what began as a series of gamers sharing their screens has grown into a huge industry packed with personalities – and potential risks for your children. With over 2.5 million people watching Twitch, the most popular streaming service, at any one time, it's important to remain aware of the risks associated with streamers.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some gaming streamers will stick to family-friendly titles, but others will play more violent games that tend to be more popular. Non-gaming streamers could, in theory, discuss just about anything, and some streamers will often stream in revealing outfits.

##### NEGATIVE INFLUENCES

While things have improved, streamers are often paid by companies to promote products, and this isn't always stated explicitly. While it's unlikely these goods will be harmful to your child, some streamers and influencers have engaged (knowingly or not) in scams in the past.

##### FINANCIAL HARM

Streamers will often have donation buttons on their screens for users to submit money. What can start as small amounts can quickly spiral as streamers engage with paying viewers more often, potentially leading to financial issues.

##### UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Influencers often showcase how glamorous their lives are, making some users feel as though they are lesser. However, it's important to stress that, in many ways, this is an act, or at the very least, not common. Logan Paul, who has been successful as a streamer and influencer, has a Pokémon card worth \$5 million, but this is atypical of anyone working in the medium.

##### MISINFORMATION

Streamers are, in many ways, just like us – and they can get things wrong or read off an opinion without having thought about it. Some can simply say awful things to get a rise out of viewers or to sway them to their side of a hot topic.

##### ADDICTION AND SCREEN TIME

If your child is watching a lot of a particular streamer, it can be just as damaging to their social life as playing too many video games.

#### Advice for Parents & Educators

##### EXPLAIN HOW STREAMING WORKS

For a younger viewer, being a streamer or influencer seems aspirational, but it involves a lot of work and no small degree of good fortune. Streamers are often managed and unable to speak freely due to sponsors, and influencers are just that – influencing young minds, for better or for worse.

##### CHECK OUT STREAMING PLATFORMS

While Twitch was the de facto streaming service for years, YouTube has gained popularity too. Then there are Kick and Bumble, which have grown in popularity with moves for big-name streamers – despite many being dogged by controversy.

##### DO NOT LOG PAYMENT INFORMATION

Streamers can reward donations with additional content, on-camera "shout outs" and more. If you're unsure about who or what your child is watching, consider avoiding linking payment information. This is especially notable with Twitch, which is owned by Amazon and therefore has some crossover.

##### SET SCREEN TIME LIMITS

You can set screentime limits for mobile apps on iOS and Google, but with other platforms like a PC it may be more difficult to keep tabs. Consider checking in regularly to ensure your children aren't watching content they shouldn't be.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of the Daily Star, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/streamers>

**#WakeUpWednesday**

The National College

@wake\_up\_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 19.03.2025



## Cycle Derby – Easter holiday activities

**cyclederby**  
**EASTER**  
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES  
**2025**



**Holiday Club** £26  
10.30am - 1pm **6-12 Years**  
9<sup>th</sup> April at Derby Arena  
14<sup>th</sup> April at Markeaton Park

You need:

- Your own bike & helmet
- To be able to ride unaided
- Backpack with snacks & drink

30 minute skills and confidence session followed by a 120 minute ride

**New to two wheels**  
**4-8 Years** 10am - 11am **£12**  
9<sup>th</sup> April at Derby Arena  
14<sup>th</sup> April at Markeaton Park

Mini cycling club for those new to two wheels! You will need:

- Your own bike, helmet and drink
- To be able to ride unaided



All activities must be booked in advance  
To book call 07827 879647 or email [cyclederby@derby.gov.uk](mailto:cyclederby@derby.gov.uk)

[www.cyclederby.co.uk](http://www.cyclederby.co.uk)

 Derby City Council

**cyclederby**  
**EASTER**  
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES  
**2025**



**Trackdays**  
Day Session at Derby Arena **9-16 Years**

You need:

- To be a competent cyclist
- Appropriate clothing
- A packed lunch & drink

**8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April** **£36**  
10am - 3pm



All activities must be booked in advance  
To book call 07827 879647 or email [cyclederby@derby.gov.uk](mailto:cyclederby@derby.gov.uk)

[www.cyclederby.co.uk](http://www.cyclederby.co.uk)

 Derby City Council

**cyclederby**  
**EASTER**  
HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES  
**2025**



**Learn to Ride**  
at Markeaton Park

For children getting onto two wheels for the first time or those who have *almost* mastered it. Own bike preferred but not essential. **£21**

50 Minute Sessions available

10am, 11am, 12noon  
1.30pm & 2.30pm



**April**  
7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>,  
11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>

All activities must be booked in advance  
To book sessions please email [cyclederby@derby.gov.uk](mailto:cyclederby@derby.gov.uk) or call 07972 268171

[www.cyclederby.co.uk](http://www.cyclederby.co.uk)

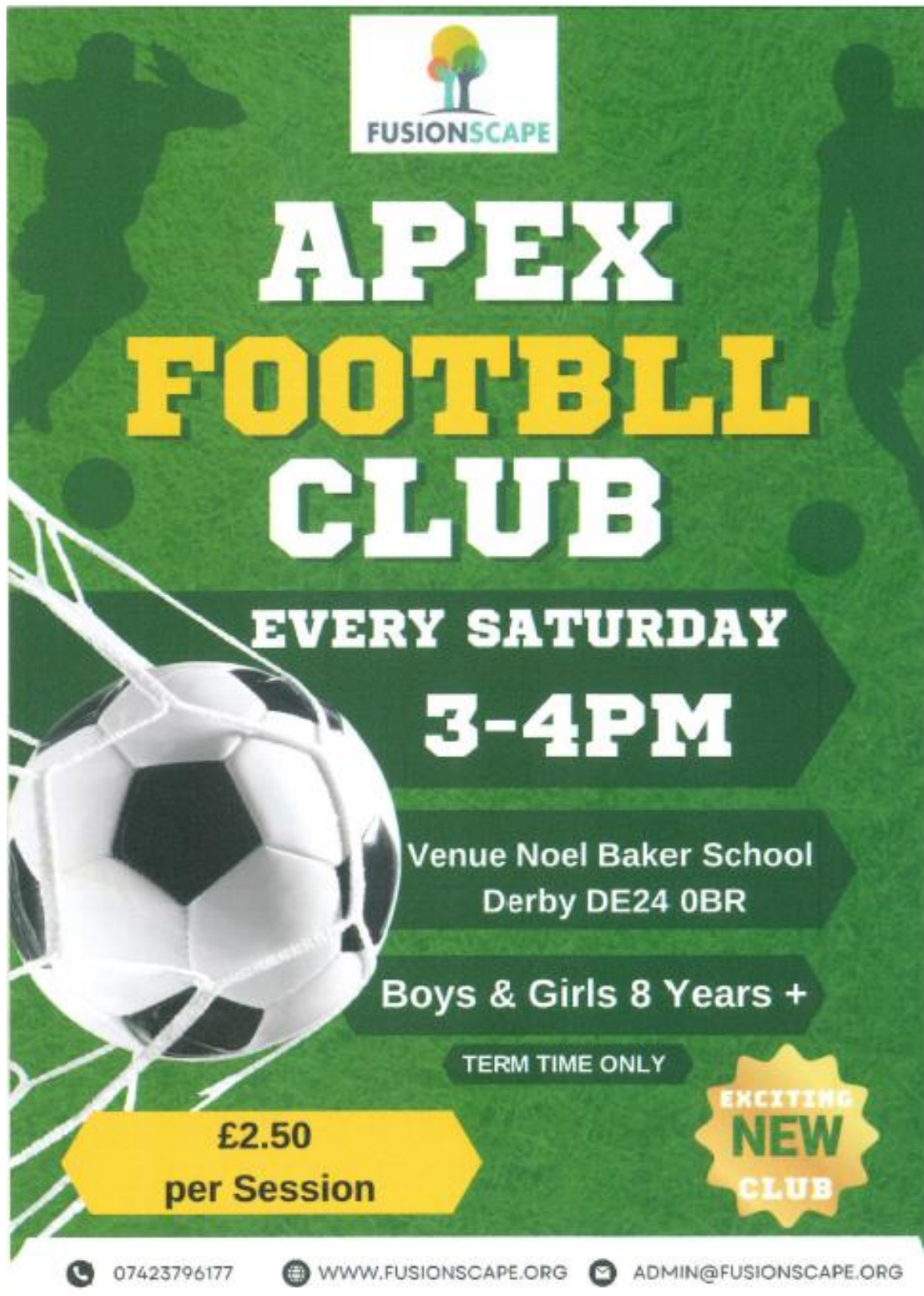
 Derby City Council

## Bridge The Gap - Drop-In Hub

Free walk-in support every Tuesday and Wednesday  
9am - 11am





A promotional poster for the Apex Football Club. The background is a vibrant green with a subtle pattern of soccer balls. Silhouettes of two soccer players are visible on the left and right sides. At the top center is the Fusionscape logo, which features a stylized tree with a yellow sun-like canopy and the word 'FUSIONSCAPE' in blue capital letters. The main title 'APEX FOOTBALL CLUB' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'APEX' in white, 'FOOTBALL' in yellow, and 'CLUB' in white. Below the title, the text 'EVERY SATURDAY' and '3-4PM' is written in white on a dark green arrow-shaped background. To the left of this text is a detailed image of a soccer ball hitting a goal net. Further down, the venue 'Venue Noel Baker School Derby DE24 0BR' is listed in white on a dark green arrow-shaped background. Below that, 'Boys & Girls 8 Years +' is written in white on a dark green arrow-shaped background. A small dark green arrow-shaped box contains the text 'TERM TIME ONLY'. At the bottom left, a yellow arrow-shaped box displays '£2.50 per Session'. At the bottom right, a yellow starburst shape contains the text 'EXCITING NEW CLUB'. The footer contains contact information: a phone icon followed by '07423796177', a globe icon followed by 'WWW.FUSIONSCAPE.ORG', and an email icon followed by 'ADMIN@FUSIONSCAPE.ORG'.

📞 07423796177

🌐 [WWW.FUSIONSCAPE.ORG](http://WWW.FUSIONSCAPE.ORG)

✉ [ADMIN@FUSIONSCAPE.ORG](mailto:ADMIN@FUSIONSCAPE.ORG)

## Reach Community Grocers



# REACH COMMUNITY GROCERS

• **NEWLY OPENED!** •

OPEN 10:00AM - 4:00PM MONDAY - FRIDAY

**You are invited to visit our newly opened community grocers.**

Reach Community Grocers,  
Riverside Court, Derby,  
DE24 8HY

[www.reachcommunitygrocers.org](http://www.reachcommunitygrocers.org)  
[hello@reachcommunitygrocers.org](mailto:hello@reachcommunitygrocers.org)  
01332 332044 (option 4)



# REACH COMMUNITY GROCERS

Are you struggling with the cost of living crisis and finding it difficult to put food on your table? If so, the community grocers is for you.

You can become a member for £5 per year. This will allow you to make up to three visits per week. For a contribution of only £6 each time, you can choose a range of good wholesome food valued up to £25.

Our friendly volunteers will be here to help you with your shop and any further information.



Reach Community Grocers,  
Riverside Court,  
Derby,  
DE24 8HY.

Bring this flyer along for an extra free shelf item when you join as a member.

© 2024 Reach Trust (Formerly East Midlands Christian Fellowship)  
Registered Charity No. 1090095  
Reach Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No. 367667.  
The Reach Centre, Riverside Court Pride Park | Derby | DE24 8HY



## Lost Property

During last term we had an excessive amount of lost property handed in, which is subsequently put out on display three times per week in the school canteen and can be collected after school or before Period 1 on each occasion. To enable us to return lost property back to students, please ensure all items are labelled with student names.

Moving forwards, any lost property items that are put out for two consecutive weeks and not collected will either be disposed of or sent for recycling as we do not have the space to continuously store these items long term.

## Medical Illness within School

During the winter months, we see an increased number of students presenting at Medical with coughs/colds and stomach bugs; however, please be aware that we are unable to treat minor illnesses such as nausea, stomach cramps and headaches, usually related to winter viruses. Students are encouraged to be resilient and self-manage where appropriate. We encourage students to stay hydrated and eat a warm meal at break or lunch.

We cannot provide any medication in school unless prior arrangements have been made between parent/carer and the Medical Officer, Miss Smith. If you wish for your child to keep medication at school, please collect a medication consent form from reception and hand the medication in to Miss Smith in its original packaging.

## Contact/Meeting Requests

Our phone lines are extremely busy for the majority of the school day. If you have a query for a member of teaching staff or Head of Year, the easiest and quickest way to obtain a response is to email [info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk](mailto:info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk). Please include in your email who you wish to speak to/meet with, along with a brief message. Your email will then be forwarded on to the relevant member of staff who will aim to respond to your request within 48 hours.

Teaching staff, Head of Years and Pastoral Year Leads will not be available to meet with parents/carers at any time during the school day without a prior appointment being arranged. Any requests of this kind will be declined by the Reception Team.

If you have an urgent safeguarding issue to report, please contact our Safeguarding Team on [safeguarding@derbycathedralschool.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@derbycathedralschool.org.uk). If a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call reception and your concern will be raised with the safeguarding team.

## Breakfast Club – FREE breakfast for all Students



Our Breakfast Club is open Monday to Friday from 8:20 – 8:35 am

During the above times, all students are entitled to have breakfast items totally free of charge from the Dining Hall. Items available are:

- Toast
- A variety of cereals (subject to availability)
- Porridge

To request Gluten free toast or to discuss any other special dietary requirements, students should liaise directly with the catering staff who will aim to source the necessary items however, advance notice should be given.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT NO DRINKS OR OTHER FOOD ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DURING BREAKFAST CLUB**



## ParentPay Credit/Top ups

Thank you for your support with our parent pay system. The vast majority of families are ensuring there are sufficient funds on their child's accounts to purchase food in school. We are very grateful for this.

Unfortunately, there are an increasing number of requests from students to call home to have ParentPay accounts topped up so meals can be purchased. This is adding significant pressure to reception staff who have limited capacity to deal with the multiple requests.

We would ask that all families ensure students have sufficient funds on their ParentPay account to pay for these items. This will allow your child sufficient time to purchase food and consume it without having to queue at Student Services and wait for a phone call home beforehand; therefore reducing their break/lunch time considerably.

Please also note that students can purchase a 'main meal deal' at **lunch time only**, for the great price of £2.50, which is by far the best value for money on our menu. A meal deal includes a Hot or Cold Main Course, Dessert and Cuplet drink, whereas a sausage roll alone is currently £1.45.

For those who qualify for Free School Meals, the allowance does enable students to purchase items at break time if they wish, however this will leave them unable to take advantage of the meal deal option at lunch time. If you wish for your child to purchase additional snacks at break time, please add extra credit each day/week to their ParentPay account to cover the cost of these items. Alternatively, students are welcome to bring in snacks from home to consume at break time.

Full details of our Catering Menus and Price Lists can be found on the Derby Cathedral School Website or by scanning the QR code



## Community Pharmacy First Services



Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you  
with **seven common conditions**  
without needing a GP appointment

- **Sinusitis**  
(adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat**  
(adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache**  
(children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**  
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo**  
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles**  
(adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection**  
(women, aged 16 to 64 years)



Ask your pharmacy for more  
information about this  
free\* NHS service

**Visit your  
Pharmacy First!**

\*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied





## Dates Ahead

### School Holidays 2024-25

7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025 – Easter Break (inc Good Friday and Spring Bank Holiday)

5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Bank Holiday

26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – May Half Term (inc Bank Holiday)

24<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term

### INSET Days 2024-2025 – School closed to all students

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Parents Evenings / Opening Evenings 2024-25

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Y9 Parents Evening, 3 pm – 6 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

#### Please Note:

For any students sitting exams on the above dates, they will be required to stay in school until the exam has ended.

### **\*\*NEW\*\* - School Term Dates and INSET days 2025-26**

Please click on the link below to view the Term Date calendar and INSET days for 2025-26:

[DCS Term Dates 2025-26 with INSET.pdf](#)

### INSET Days 2025-26 – School closed to all students

Thursday 4 Sept 2025

Friday 5 Sept 2025

Friday 5 Dec 2025

Monday 2 Feb 2026

Friday 26 June 2026

### Other Key Dates

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 – Year 11 & Year 13 Group Photographs
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Y11 Prom 2025

Term and key dates can also be found on our calendar on the school website:

<https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/>