

## This Week at Derby Cathedral School

w/c 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025



In our final half term, we are reflecting on a verse from the Book of Proverbs. Thought to have been written by King Solomon, this collection of wise sayings was compiled around 3,000 years ago to guide God's people in practical, everyday living. These ancient principles remain remarkably relevant today, offering enduring wisdom for navigating relationships, character development, and moral decision-making.

**Proverbs 11:2** teaches us that **"When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."** This principle speaks directly to how we raise our children and model behaviour in both our homes and school community.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Our three days of Year 6 transition have been truly wonderful, with students providing overwhelmingly positive feedback about their first taste of life at DCS. We have thoroughly enjoyed beginning to get to know them, and it has been equally delightful to see our current students take such pride in showing the newcomers around and introducing them to our school culture. The way our incoming students have already started to learn and respond to our FAITH values has been great to see—their fellowship was immediately evident as they interacted well with one another and began forming new friendships. My special thanks go to the entire staff team who organised these important days.

Congratulations to our Year 8 students who participated in the public speaking competition. Our school community is rapidly gaining a very strong reputation across the city for the way our students engage in debates and public speaking. These vital life skills reflect the kind of wisdom that comes from humble preparation and confident delivery. I'm grateful to the staff members who continue to support these invaluable opportunities. Please do read the detailed article about their achievements.

This week our PE department launched our year group sports days, and it was wonderful to see Year 12 students proudly wearing their medals as they left school. It was great to see how much they enjoyed the day and we look forward to the competitions for Years 7-9 next week.

We extend our best wishes to our Year 10 students as they embark on their work experience week. This represents such a valuable opportunity for them to develop the wisdom that comes from real-world application of their learning. My thanks goes to Mrs Bingham for her tenacious work in supporting our students to secure placements—no easy task, but one that our entire staff team approaches with dedication to ensure as many students as possible can experience workplace environments firsthand. Our students consistently make us proud by demonstrating strong FAITH values, and we are confident this year will be no different. While some may feel understandably nervous, we know they will thrive, and we look forward to hearing about their experiences.

This newsletter contains important information about community events and support, including HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) programme details for the summer holidays. Please read this carefully, as it represents a fantastic free resource for all students eligible for free school meals. Watch for an upcoming email reminder about your HAF code. These activities are often accessible to all other students for a modest cost, so please review the link to see what's available.

These final weeks remind us that education extends far beyond academic achievement to encompass character formation, community building, and preparation for life's ongoing journey of learning and service.

I wish you all a wonderful week  
Mrs Brown

## Well done to Hannah!



Hannah Fox, one of our talented Year 12 students, achieved the remarkable feat of passing her grade 8 music exam in singing, and then in the same week also achieved her grade 8 violin.

She passed both with Merit, a truly fantastic achievement which the music department are very proud of, and Hannah should be too.

Well done Hannah!

## Word of the week - Scathing

### Scathing

**Definition:** Sharp, critical, hurtful

**In Spanish:** Mordaz

**Synonyms** (words with a similar meaning): harsh, withering, cutting, biting

**Antonyms** (words with the opposite meaning): amusing, playful, merry, gentle

#### **Sentences:**

She wrote a scathing review of the movie.

His scathing words hurt my feelings.

The teacher gave a scathing look.

He made a scathing comment about the food.

## DCS Public Speaking Competition

For the first time in DCS's history, some of our Y8 students competed against other schools in the city in a Public Speaking Competition. The event was run with the Lost Boys Theatre Company, who came into school to help the students write their own speeches. The following week, the students then went to Chapel Arts and took part in a workshop lead by the Lost Boys, and culminated in them delivering their speeches. The Lost Boys were blown away by the standard, and found it really difficult to pick who should go through to the final. After much deliberation, they decided on Nicole, Cindy and Marian. And on Friday 27th June, our 3 finalists along with the other Y8s who had taken part, went back to Chapel Arts for the final.

Our finalists were against students from years 9 and 10 in other schools – but you wouldn't have known, as they were so impressive (as was the standard across all involved). The judges had a difficult job deciding (we were told that calculators were used at one point, as it was so close between some of the students!) and whilst we didn't win, it was a wonderful experience. One of the nicest parts of the day was watching the support between, not just our own students, but between students from different schools. There was applauding, attentive listening and cheering in support, and a Year 10 student from another school came over to the DCS finalists to say that she couldn't believe they were only in Year 8, and how impressed she was with what they had produced!

A massive well done to all involved – they definitely did themselves and DCS proud!



*The Closing  
Chord:  
DCS Summer  
Concert*



6.00 PM

Wednesday  
23<sup>rd</sup> July

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Main  
School Hall

Tickets available soon!

# WELCOME!

DERBY CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

CATERLINK ARE EDUCATION CATERING SPECIALISTS, MEANING THAT WE FOCUS SOLELY ON PRIMARY, SECONDARY, ACADEMY AND COLLEGE CLIENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. HEALTHY EATING IS AT THE VERY HEART OF OUR APPROACH TO FOOD, AND WE EMPLOY GREAT TEAM MEMBER TO BRING THIS TO YOUR SCHOOL.

## A FEW FACTS ABOUT US!

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SOURCING INGREDIENTS WITH ASSURED PROVENANCE FROM LOCAL AND REGIONAL SUPPLIER IN EVERY KITCHEN WE WORK IN. WE USE PRODUCE WITH HIGH STANDARDS OF ANIMAL WELFARE. FOR EXAMPLE – RED TRACTOR MEAT, RSPCA ASSURED FREE RANGE EGGS, MARINE STEWARDSHIP APPROVED (MSC) FISH AND A RANGE OF FAIR TRADE PRODUCE

OUR MENUS ARE WELL BALANCED, EXCITING & FOCUS ON GREAT VALUE AND HEALTHY OPTIONS

WE HAVE SOME GREAT FOOD CONCEPTS THAT REFLECT THE HIGHSTREET SUCH AS STREET FOOD & PECKISH, AND OF COURSE FAVOURITES SUCH AS FISH & CHIPS

WE BELIEVE IN KEEPING PRICES AS LOW AS WE POSSIBLY CAN SO ALWAYS ASK ABOUT OUR MEAL DEAL AND LOYALTY SCHEMES, TO ENSURE YOU GET THE BEST VALUE YOU CAN, AND OF COURSE KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR OUR PROMOTIONS!

WE OFFER MEAL DEALS AND PROMOTIONS EVERYDAY, AND WE HAVE A FUN MARKETING CALENDAR EACH MONTH

## WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER..



**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination

# MEAL DEAL

CHOOSE FROM:

**ANY MAIN MEAL** ●

WITH VEGETABLES OR SALAD

**PASTA & SAUCE** ●

WITH SALAD

**HANDCRAFTED ITEM** ●

BAGUETTE, ROLL OR SANDWICH

**SALAD BOX** ●

● **LOOK OUT FOR THE  
GREEN DOT!**

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination

ONLY

**£2.61**



ONE OF:

● **DRINK**

WATER OR 125ML FRUIT JUICE

● **DESSERT OR JELLY**

OF THE DAY

● **PIECE OF FRUIT**

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



KEEP YOUR  
EYES PEELED! 



Did you know that if your child receives benefits-related free school meals, they are entitled to FREE holiday activities over the summer holidays? Holiday clubs are available across Derby where your child can make new friends and take part in a wide range of activities including sport, dance, drama, arts and crafts, as well as enjoying a meal each day. If your child is eligible, you will receive an email from **HolidayActivities.com**. Please keep a look out for the email and familiarise yourself with the logo above. Just follow the instructions in this email to book. Bookings for summer clubs will open at the end of June. Further details can be found at: [www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF](http://www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF).



## Holiday FSM Vouchers



Just a reminder that the expiry date for the **May Half Term FSM vouchers** is **12<sup>th</sup> August 2025**, so ensure that you redeem your voucher code well before this date. Please choose the supermarket you wish to use your voucher at and then your supermarket voucher will have a much longer expiry date once registered.



## Morleys Pop-Up Uniform Shop

Morleys  
Schoolwear



Derby Cathedral School

Pop Up Shop  
28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> July  
10am - 4pm

Try on & Buy on the day! **FREE PARKING**

CASH AND CARDS ACCPETED

On Site at the School !



[www.schoolwearsolutions.com](http://www.schoolwearsolutions.com)

Unit 2 St Mary's Retail Park, 446 Nottingham Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6PE

T: (01332) 281 311 E: [chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com](mailto:chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com)

# Morleys Pop-Up Uniform Shop

**Pop Up Shop**  
28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> July  
10am - 4pm  
At The School

**Morleys**  
**Schoolwear**

**PLEASE**  
**DON'T DELAY**  
ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED  
**BY 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY**  
TO GUARANTEE DELIVERY BEFORE  
"BACK TO SCHOOL"  
(subject to availability)

## Derby Cathedral School Uniform Price List 2025

Uniform items	From
Navy Blazer with Logo *	£27.99
Navy/Gold School Tie *	£6.50
Shirts and Blouses	Available
Black Trousers Boys	£16.95
Black Trousers Girls	£16.95
Black A Line Skirt	£16.99
Navy Pullover with Logo	£19.99
Unisex Day Shorts	£15.99
<b>Games Uniform</b>	
Games Top Royal/Black with Logo *	£13.49
¼ Zip Black/White Top with Logo	£19.95
ZR50 Black/White Shorts	£8.99
Black Tracksuit Pants with Logo	£18.00
Black Games Leggings with Logo	£18.00
White PE Socks 2 Pack	£5.99
*Compulsory items	
<b>Pre Loved:</b> Available in store	
<b>Online Shopping:</b> Available address below. Free Click and Collect from store... Home delivery also available...	
<b>Appointments Available:</b> Book online, address below.	

*E&OE Correct at the time of printing*

**THE SCHOOLWEAR  
ASSOCIATION**

### Summer Opening Hours

Monday - Saturday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Sunday Closed

### Winter Opening Hours

Mon to Wed – Fri – Sat 9.00am – 5.00pm

Thu & Sun Closed

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES**



**Reserve your  
Uniform today!**  
For a small £5 deposit

**www.schoolwearsolutions.com**

Unit 2 St Mary's Retail Park, 446 Nottingham Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6PE

T: (01332) 281 311 E: [chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com](mailto:chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com)

## **\*\*New\*\* Telephone Options for DCS**

As of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025, a number of telephone options will be offered to you when calling DCS. We are hoping that by giving callers the opportunity to be transferred directly to the relevant team, rather than holding in a long queue for the Reception staff to transfer you, it will help to ensure your query will be answered and dealt with more efficiently, and will reduce your wait time to speak to the relevant member of staff.

Please note the updated options below:

- To report a Year 7-11 student absence – Option 1
- To report a Sixth Form student absence – Option 2
- Staff absence – Option 3
- Attendance Team – Option 4
- Admission queries relating to years 7-11 – Option 5
- Sixth Form admission queries – Option 6

If none of the above options are applicable, you will be put through to the reception team who will aim to help with your query.

If you are unable to reach the team you wish to speak to, please leave a voicemail providing your name, the student's name, a contact telephone number and a short message and you will be called back by a staff member who should be able to help.

Alternatively, you may find it much easier and quicker to email in your query to [info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk](mailto:info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk). This inbox is regularly monitored and your email will be passed to the relevant member of staff for them to respond directly.

### Other Cost of Living support

#### Local Assistance Award Scheme:

Families can apply for support under this scheme for help with discretionary housing payments, utilities/food, goods for the home and Council Tax Hardship payments. Further information can be found here: [Local Assistance Award Scheme - Derby City Council](#)

#### Support with water costs:

Severn Trent runs the Big Difference Scheme aimed at helping people who might struggle with paying their water bills. To find out if you are eligible for this help, please see their website for more information:

<https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it>

#### Cost of Living Support

Community Action Derby has a list of help that may be available to you for support with money, food or mental health and wellbeing:

<https://www.communityactionderby.org.uk/crisis-support>

#### Healthy Start Scheme

If you're receiving a qualifying benefit and are pregnant or have children under the age of 4, you could get help to buy food and milk via the NHS Healthy Start Scheme. You can find more information and how to sign up here: [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)

Eligible families will receive a prepaid Healthy Start card which is topped up every four weeks with the following amounts:

- £4.25 per week from the 10th week of pregnancy
- £8.50 per week for each child from birth to 1 years old
- £4.25 per week for each child aged 1 to 4 years

In addition, the card can be used to collect free Healthy Start vitamins, which support individuals during pregnancy and breastfeeding, as well as vitamin drops for babies and young children. You can find your nearest vitamin collection point here [www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-health-services/healthy-start-vitamins](http://www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-health-services/healthy-start-vitamins)



**If you're pregnant or have children under the age of four, you could get help to buy food and milk.**

Apply online for NHS Healthy Start.

 [www.healthystart.nhs.uk](http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk)  
@NHSHealthyStart

 SCAN ME

On behalf of Derby City Council



**Funded by  
UK Government**



### Community Café and Community Shop (foodbank)

**Please consider donating to Derby City Missions  
Community Café and Community Shop.**

**We are grateful for all donations but please no  
chilled or frozen goods.**

**Thank you for your support**



Derby City Mission Charity Number 1140235 Previously 702027

01332 460346 - <https://www.derbycitymission.org.uk>



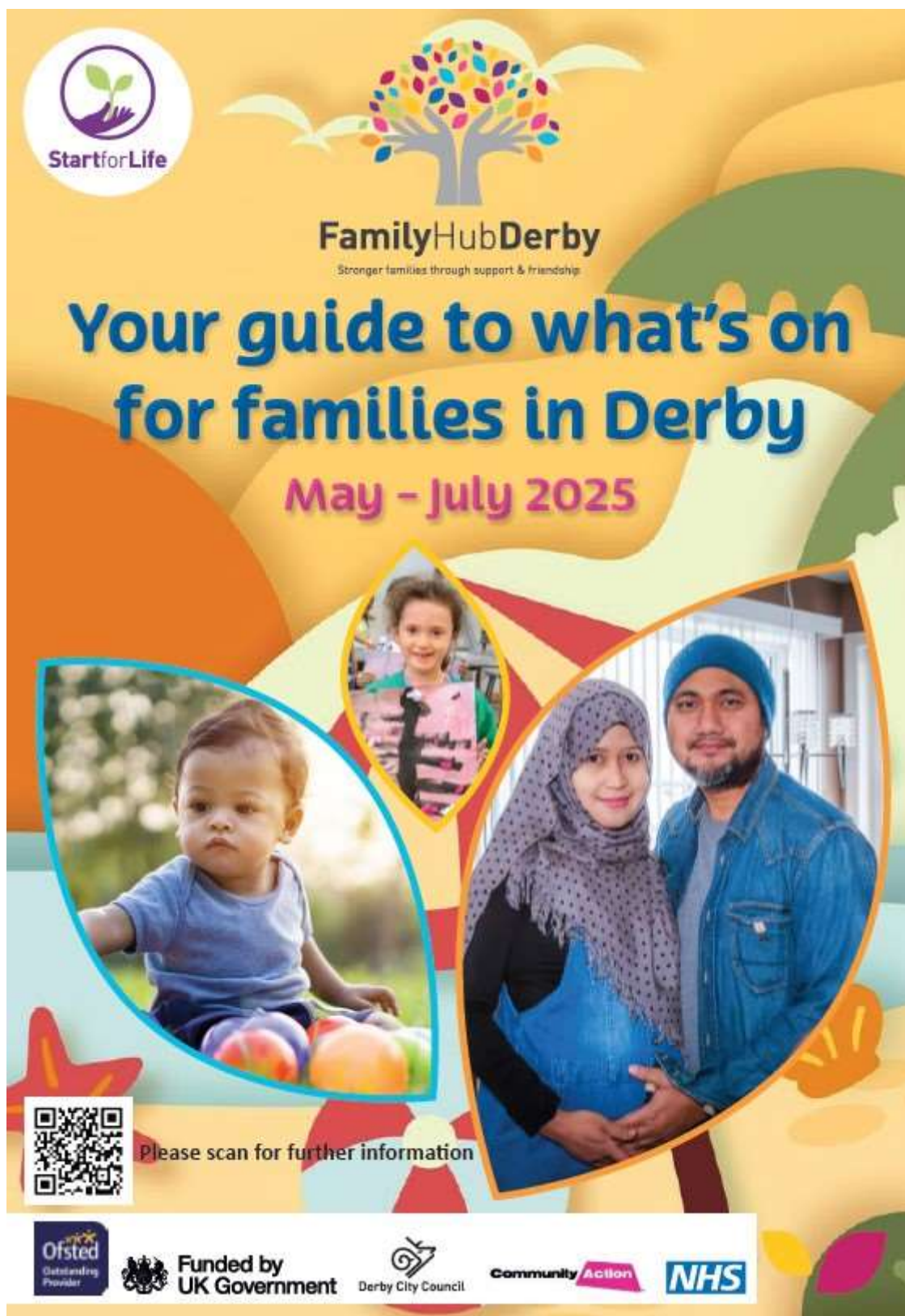
Derby Cathedral School are proud to be supporting Derby City Mission by collecting food donations for those in need in the local community.

We will be accepting donations at Main Reception every weekday from 8 am – 4 pm. Please hand all suitable donations to our Reception Team so they can be placed in the box for collection.

Thank you for your generosity 😊

## Family Hubs – what's on during May to July 2025

Derby City Council's Family Hubs have lots going on from May to July 2025. To discover what's happening in your area for your child's age group please visit <https://www.derby.gov.uk/community-and-living/family-hub-childcare/family-hub/> or scan the QR code below.



The graphic features a warm, abstract background with orange, yellow, and green shapes. At the top left is the 'StartforLife' logo, which includes a stylized green plant growing from a purple hand. To its right is a colorful tree with multi-colored leaves. Below these is the 'FamilyHubDerby' logo with the tagline 'Stronger families through support & friendship'. The main title 'Your guide to what's on for families in Derby' is written in large, bold, blue letters, with 'May - July 2025' in pink below it. Three circular photo cutouts are arranged in a cluster: one shows a young girl holding a pink book, another shows a baby sitting on colorful balls, and the largest one shows a man in a blue beanie and jacket standing next to a pregnant woman in a grey hijab. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner, with the text 'Please scan for further information' next to it. The footer contains logos for Ofsted, the UK Government, Derby City Council, Community Action, and the NHS.

**StartforLife**

**FamilyHubDerby**  
Stronger families through support & friendship

**Your guide to what's on  
for families in Derby**  
May - July 2025

Please scan for further information

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding Provider

**Funded by UK Government**

**Derby City Council**

**Community Action**

**NHS**

## Please be considerate in the school car park

This is a polite reminder to everyone who uses the visitor car park at school to please be considerate of the following:

- Smoking/vaping is not permitted anywhere on school grounds, including the car park
- It is illegal to smoke/vape inside a vehicle when someone under the age of 18 is present
- The beginning and end of the school day are very busy times, please park considerately in the spaces or drop-off bay
- Disabled parking spaces are only to be used by those with a valid Blue Badge

Thank you for your co-operation and for helping to make the school site safe and accessible to everyone who needs to use it.

## Medical Illness within School

Now the summer months are here, we see more students visiting us with hay fever symptoms. 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. If your child suffers from hay fever, please ensure they take their medication before school in a morning where possible.

It is also essential that all student have a water bottle to ensure they stay hydrated during the school day. Students can purchase a reusable water bottle from the reward shop if they do not already have one.

## 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



## Period Poverty – a message from Aldi



### Breaking the cycle of Period Poverty

At Aldi, we believe that access to period products is a basic right, not a privilege. That's why from March 2025, we'll be providing free pads and tampons in our stores and office toilets. Customers and colleagues will be able to take what they need, when they need it—no questions asked.

### Why Access to Period Products Matters

Period poverty is a reality for far too many. Research shows that 41% of Brits struggle to afford period products with 30% forced to choose between buying them or other essential items like food or clothing. Without access to these products, some rely on

substitutes like toilet paper, kitchen roll or old clothing, leaving them feeling embarrassed, stressed and excluded from everyday activities such as work, school and social events.

By taking this step, we hope to support those who menstruate while encouraging others to join the effort to end period poverty for good.



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

24<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term – 12 pm finish for all students

### **\*\*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

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

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