



St Andrew's Academy- **Main School** Family Update Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

21st November 2025

Please note - all information in this newsletter is in relation to Main School site. FE Campus staff will share relevant information to parents and carers.

Headteacher's Welcome



A sense of belonging to our school community is a priority to us and next week represents two great opportunities to connect on our shared goal of excellence for every young person. Tuesday 25th November 3:30-6:00pm is our annual Outdoor Education Evening. Outdoor Education is an essential component of our curriculum offer, with every pupil accessing the key learning and life skills that can be found within the world around us. This is made accessible for all learners and has the capacity to achieve up to Gold Duke of Edinburgh. The outdoor education evening showcases key learning activities at the same time as being an informal and free event to socialise and catch up with most of our staff team available for discussion and support.

The second event next week you are invited to is our Makaton Coffee morning on Wednesday 26th November 9:15am-11:00am. This is hosted at Campus on Fieldsway Drive that previously hosted our KS5 pupils. Shirley Smith, a KS4 class teacher and licensed Makaton Tutor will lead on delivering training of Makaton that you can use with your young people. We are in the

process of refurbishing this provision with plans to work with SEN UTD & TJ and Tash's Army to create a wellness centre for sports, fitness, performing arts as well as a cafe and library. This is planned for after February half term, but the space is prepped and ready to welcome you all along.

It would be brilliant to welcome as many of you along as possible. However, if you're unable to make these events, there are plenty more planned in the coming weeks. Got an idea for an event you'd love us to provide? You're most welcome to reach out and make a request and suggest further events that we haven't currently got on our calendar.

Have a great weekend,

David Braybrooke - Headteacher

Dates for your diary

- Outdoor Education Evening - Main School - Tuesday 25th November, 3:30-6pm
- Coffee Morning - Learning Makaton - Wednesday 26th November, 9:15-11am, old Campus on Fieldsway Drive
- Christmas Market - Campus, **Whitaker Road** - 11th December - see poster below for further info
- Christmas Jumper day - Main School - 11th December
- The Glens trip to the Snowdome - 12th December
- Christmas performance (Main School) - Venue TBC - 12th December
- Whole School Panto trip to Dick Whittington - 17th December

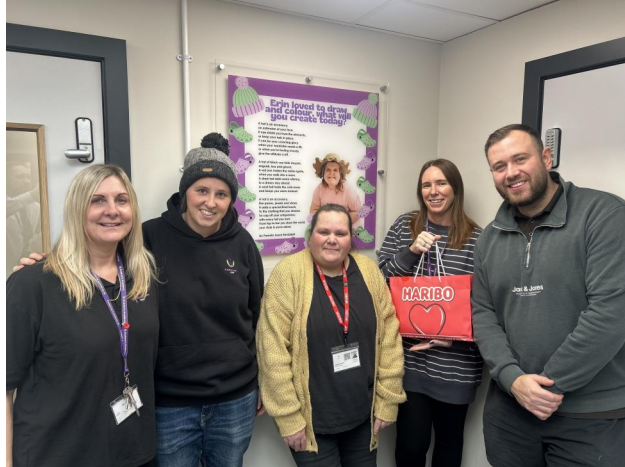
Erin's Art Installation



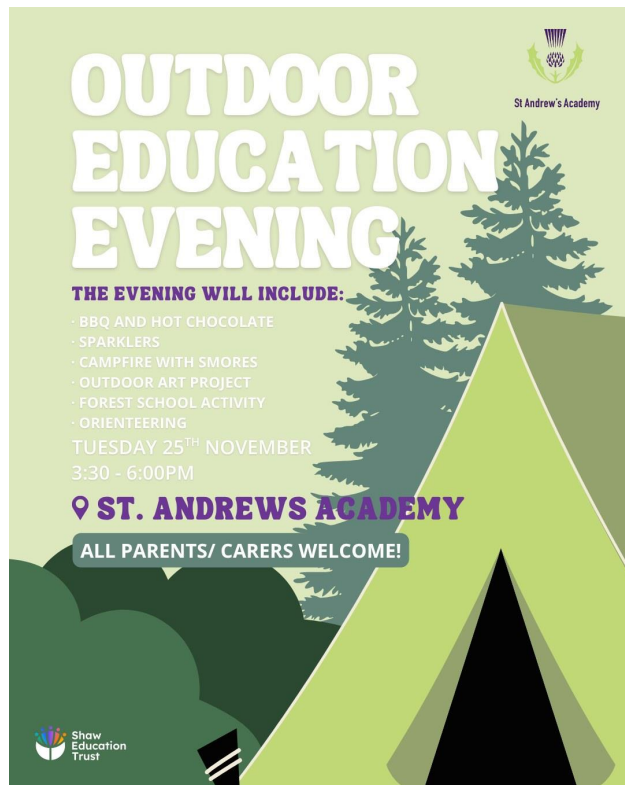
It was a pleasure to host Nikki and Tim, Erin's parents, on Monday of this week. We invited Nikki & Tim into school to share our installation to mark what would have been Erin's 18th birthday on 15th November. Erin was a cherished member of our school community who sadly lost her life following a short battle with a serious illness. The installation is in the Art room as drawing and colouring were two of her favourite parts of school. We will use the installation as a focal point to create conversation and re-tell stories of Erin's time at St Andrew's.

Huge thank you to everyone who took part in Erin's raffle. Many of those who took part in the raffle from St Andrew's were lucky winners! Check out Anna's Haribo hamper and Jess's woolly hat in the picture- Erin would have loved those!

Nikki is planning to run a similar raffle in the coming weeks so please do keep your eyes out for information. If you'd like to find out more, search Erin Madison Foundation on Facebook.



Outdoor Ed Evening- Tuesday 25th November 3:30-6pm



Christmas Fayre at The Enabled Centre



Coffee Morning- 26th November



Derby SEND Voice- Parent Drop In



The poster features a header with five stylized human figures in red, green, yellow, blue, and pink. Below them is the text 'DERBY SEND VOICE'. A yellow circular badge in the top right corner contains the date '27TH NOV 25'. The main title 'PARENT CARER DROP IN' is in large, bold, black letters. Below this is the location 'Derbion Centre Community Hub'. The middle section contains three logos: 'FamilyHubDerby' with a tree icon, 'SEND' with colorful letters, and the 'UNIVERSITY OF DERBY' logo with a mountain icon and the text 'FREE LAW CLINIC'. Two black boxes with white text provide the date '27.11.2025' and time '10am - 1pm'. To the right, a list of participating organizations is shown. The bottom section includes an invitation to 'come along for a relaxed chat, meet a few services and connect with other SEND parent carers. Please feel free to bring children'. At the very bottom, contact information is provided, separated by a horizontal line with a globe icon in the center.

DERBY SEND VOICE

PARENT CARER DROP IN

Derbion Centre Community Hub

FamilyHubDerby
Stronger families through support & friendship

SEND

UNIVERSITY OF DERBY
FREE LAW CLINIC

27TH NOV 25

27.11.2025

10am - 1pm

Join Derby SEND Voice
Family Hubs
SENDIASS
University of Derby
SEND Law Clinic

come along for a relaxed chat, meet a few services
and connect with other SEND parent carers.
Please feel free to bring children

derbysendvoice@gmail.com www.derbysendvoice.co.uk

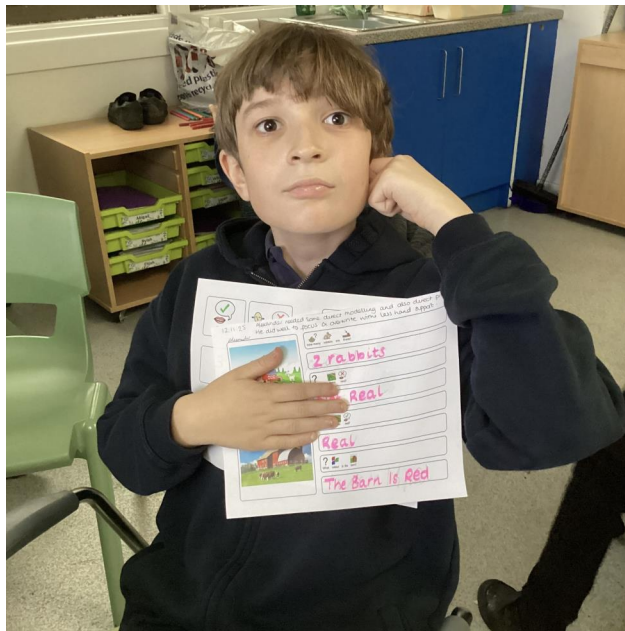
Christmas Market- Whitaker road- 11th December

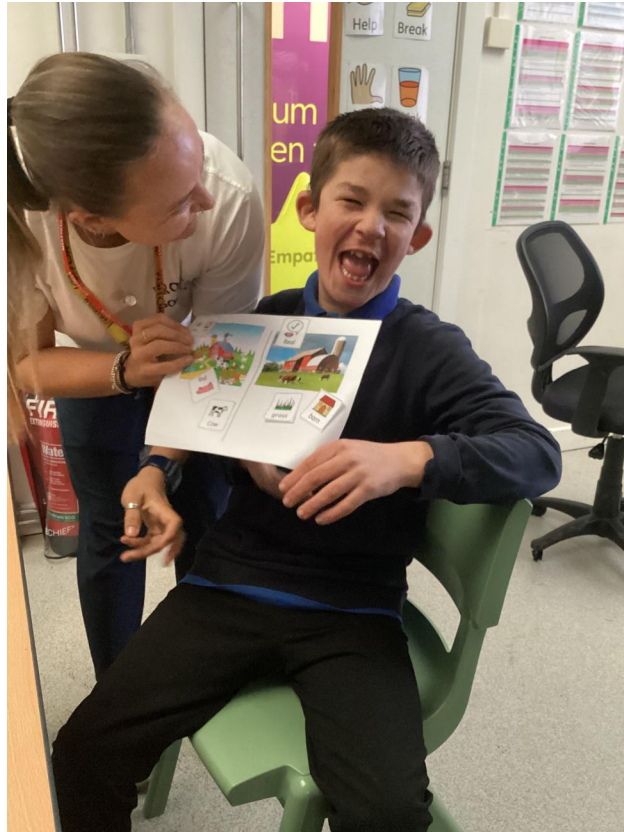


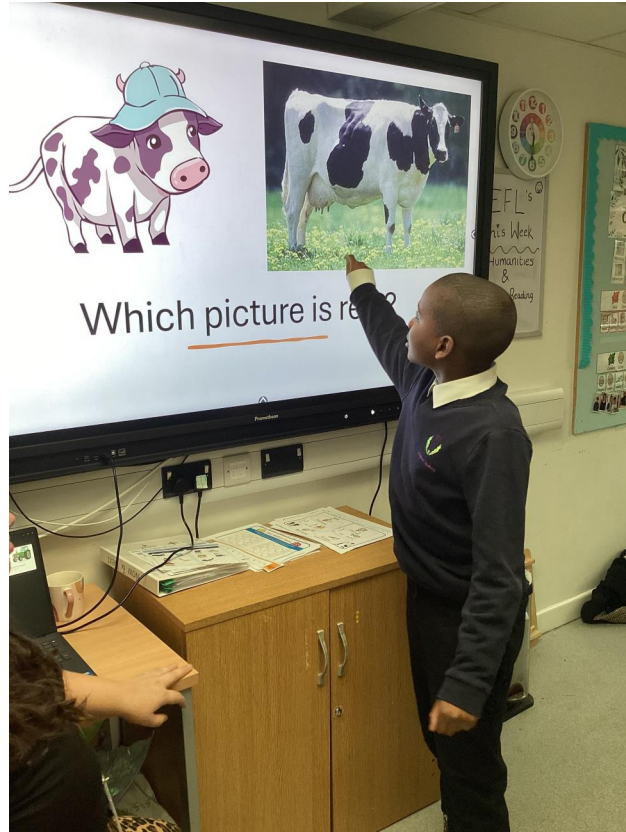
Key Stage 3



In Key Stage 3, we have been continuing our learning of farming across the curriculum! We have been learning about the history of Farming in humanities, exploring non-fiction books about farming in English and listening to British folk music about farming in music plus much more! Learners have been excelling with learning new vocabulary through speech, symbols and signing- this has really shown an improvement in communication across the key stage!











The Glens



Mull Class have had a fantastic week filled with exploration, creativity, and plenty of fun!

We began the week with a lively Math's session featuring a flour storm! Our challenge was to count how many flour towers we could build — and by the end, a few of us looked as though we'd stepped straight out of a snow globe!

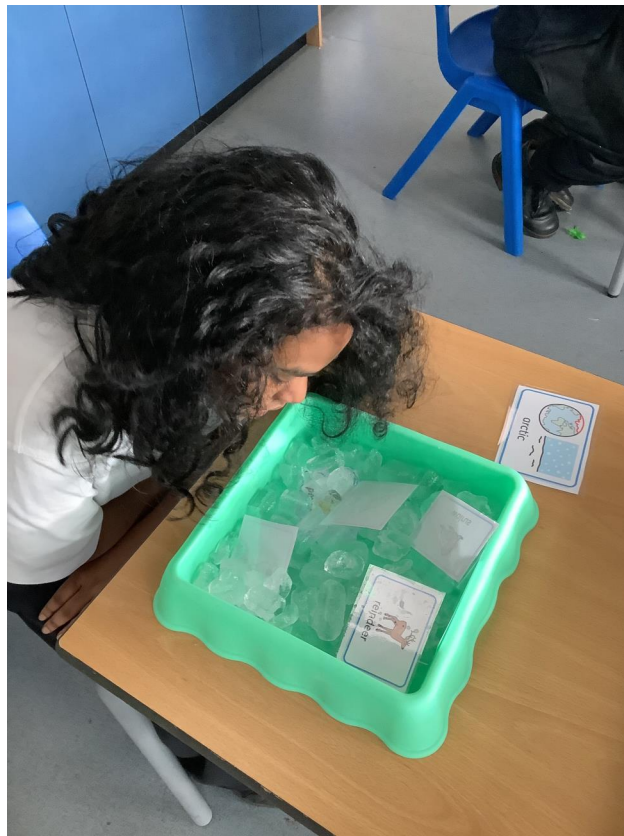
Our sensory circuits have also been a highlight, especially with the introduction of our brand-new trampette. The pupils have absolutely loved the extra bounce it brings to their sessions. We also explored sensory trays inspired by environments from around the world, including the jungle, the ocean, the Arctic, and the desert — a fantastic way to spark curiosity and imagination.

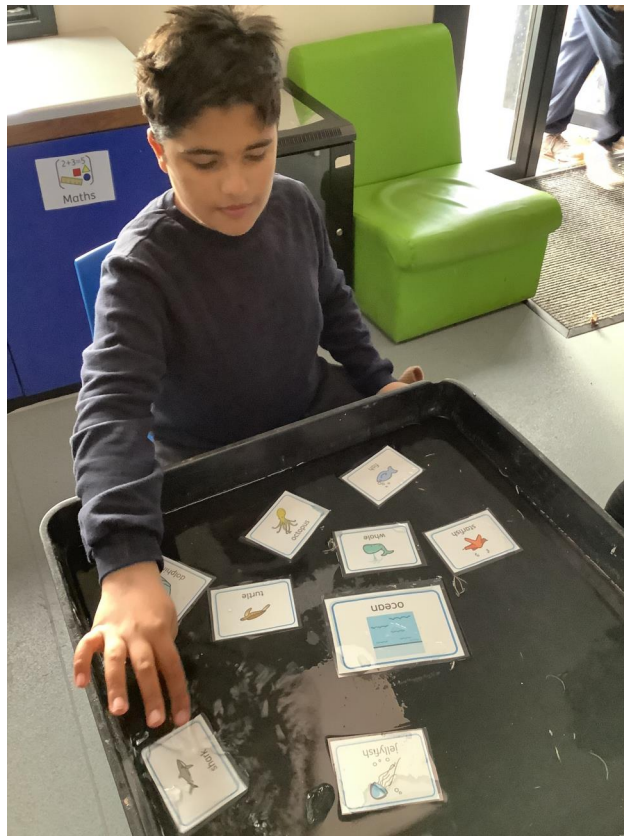
Mid-week took us into the world of farming as we tried our hand at sheep shearing and corn making. A lot of the “corn” (otherwise known as Cheerios!) mysteriously disappeared along the way — but that’s all part of the fun!

In Music, we've been exploring folk music, and our folk dancing skills are really beginning to shine. It's been wonderful to see everyone joining in with such enthusiasm.















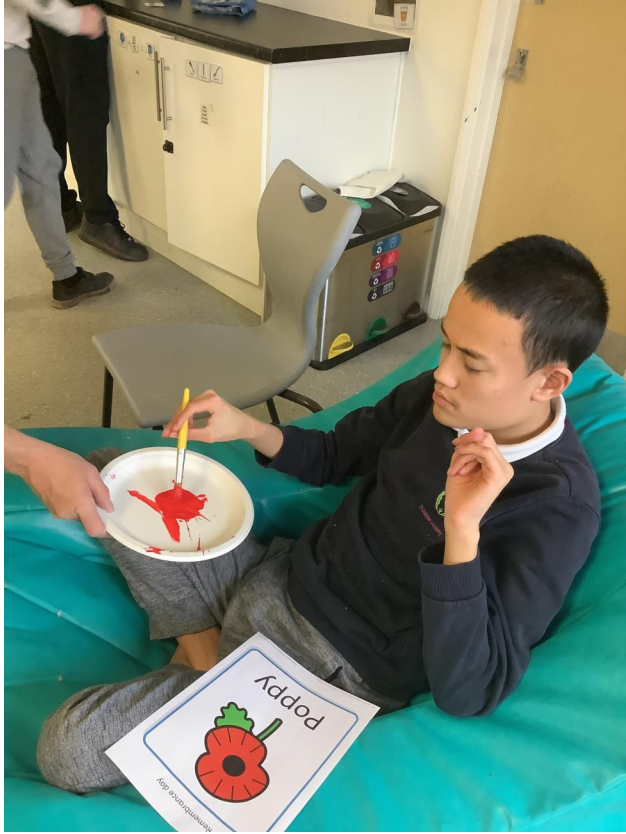




The Highlands









This week in class, we have been learning about Remembrance Day. The students took part in an engaging Attention Autism session inspired by the poem *In Flanders Fields*. They listened to music, watched a short film, and reflected on the meaning of remembrance. To finish, the students enjoyed creating beautiful poppies using a variety of materials.

This week in Taransay we have been looking at personal hygiene and why it's important we keep ourselves clean. Students are learning how to wash their hands effectively. Students have been reaching their own individual targets. Some of the students have been having their hair washed, learning how to put deodorant on and how to take care of themselves.

Therapy Input



Some students have been enjoying some time in the full immersive/interactive sensory room.

Hand/eye coordination is being engaged when participating in games. The room also helps students develop their self-regulation and coping strategies.





Makaton- Sign of the Week



Capstone Foster Care

*'There are over 56,300 children in foster care across England, and more carers are urgently needed in your local area. By fostering with **Capstone Foster Care**, you'll help give a young person safety, stability and hope for the future. In return we provide specialist training, 24/7 support and a financial package up to £44,720 each year. If you're interested in finding out*

more, visit **capstonefostercare.co.uk** or call **0800 012 4004** to speak to one of our friendly fostering advisors.

Make a difference that lasts a lifetime, start your fostering journey today.'



Thinking about Fostering?

Your spare room has more to give

Turn it from a boring office, laundry room or simply a dumping ground to something much more.

Make it into a new opportunity, a new home, a safe space, a new start for a child or young person.



To find out more call:
0800 012 4004 or visit **fosterwithus.co.uk**

Newsletter & Social Media Feedback – Help Us Improve!



We would love your feedback on our school newsletter and social media. This quick survey asks how you stay updated, what content you enjoy most, and how we can make our communication more useful for you. Your input will help us share news, celebrate students, and keep you better connected!

[Parent / Carer feedback survey questions \(Newsletter and social media\)](#)

School Term and Holiday Dates



St Andrew's Academy School Term and Holiday Dates 2025-2026

Autumn Term	Summer Term	Bank Holiday (Shut to all)
Spring Term	School Holiday	Inset Day (Shut to students)

September 2025 (19 days)							October 2025 (18 days)							November 2025 (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

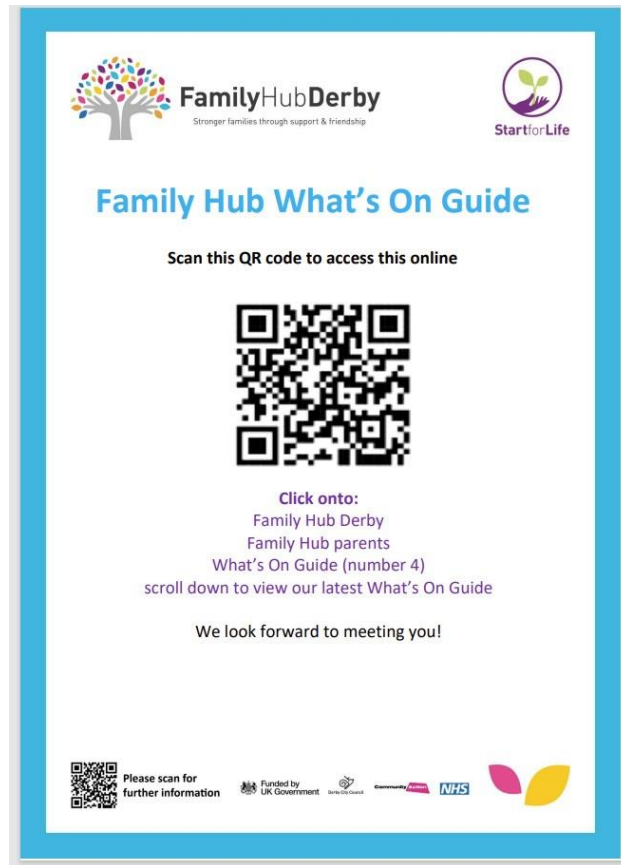
December 2025 (15 days)							January 2026 (20 days)							February 2026 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20 days)							April 2026 (14 days)							May 2026 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
30	31					1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026 (22 days)							July 2026 (17 days)							August 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	31					1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

195 Days – including up to 5 days to be taken as professional development days for teaching staff.

Family Hub QR Code and Family Fun Sessions



Go and Follow our Social Media Pages!



Facebook - [St. Andrews Academy](#)

Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

LinkedIn - [St. Andrews Academy, Derby](#)

Contact Us

St Andrew's Academy

St Andrew's View

Breadsall Hilltop

Derby

DE21 4EW

Tel: (01332) 832746

Email: standrews.admin@sas.set.org