



# St Andrew's Academy Family Update Newsletter

---

*Summer Term 1*

*15th May 2026*

---



## Headteacher's Welcome

It's always a landmark in our calendar when we welcome our prospective new students to St Andrew's. Today we hosted pupils who will be starting with us in September from their current Primary Schools. Our main feeder school is St Giles but this year we have our highest intake from Mainstream schools too. The idea of today's interaction was a shared playtime with our current KS3 classes. I can say, bursting with pride once more, that our current cohort did an expectational job in hosting their upcoming new friends and making them feel welcome. We had games, tuck shop and adult led activities in the sunshine to slowly welcome the new pupils into a new environment. I don't underestimate how daunting it is for any young person to move from Primary to Secondary School, and our aim today was to connect and enjoy time together. A huge thank you to the pupils who played football, showed the new pupils around and made them feel at ease. We have such a positive and friendly cohort, events like these really shine a light on our young people's maturity and independence.

**David Braybrooke - Headteacher**

## FE Campus Info Evening for new starters



St Andrew's Academy

# FE Campus Information Evening

Please come along to our FE Campus site at Whitaker Road to have a look around the building and ask any questions you may have about your young person's transition into FE in September 2026

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 4pm – 6pm**

St Andrew's FE Campus, Whitaker Road, Derby, DE23 6AR

## KS3

This week in Orkney class we have been looking at reusing our recycled materials. Within one afternoon, during art we decorated our recycled bottles so that we could re purpose them into musical shaker instruments that we could then use for our next music lesson. It has been great to get everybody involved and putting information about reusing and recycling that we have learnt this half term into practice! We enjoyed using our hand made musical instrument shakers in our music lesson, practising using them fast and slow as well as loud and quiet!

## The Glens

This half term, Mull Class has been making the most of the lovely sunshine and enjoying our outdoor learning space. We have loved using the sensory equipment and have focused on developing our interactions and play with peers while outdoors.

We also took part in a garden recycling project, where we painted tin cans and transformed them into bird feeders by filling them with bird seed. The children were very proud of their creations and enjoyed helping wildlife in our outdoor area.

Throughout the term, we have been working hard on developing our fine motor and writing skills. Activities included threading pasta to make necklaces, using pegs to match colours, and creating marks on paper with cardboard stencils while practising pencil grip and line tracing.

We have also been learning about using cards to pay for items. We set up a shop in the classroom, and each student made their own credit card. Every week, the children identify their own card, visit the shop, choose an item they would like, and “beep” their card on the machine to pay. We really enjoy this activity, and some of the students have even started making the “beep” noise themselves — which we absolutely love!

We also explored different foods, tasting a variety of flavours and discussing what we liked and didn’t like.

Mull Class has had a fantastic and fun-filled half term!!!

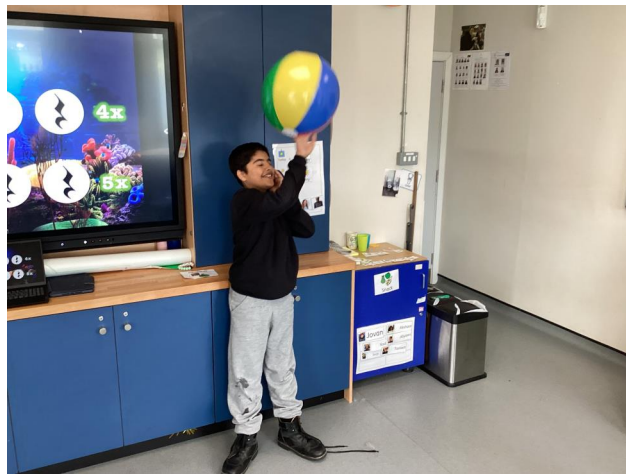




















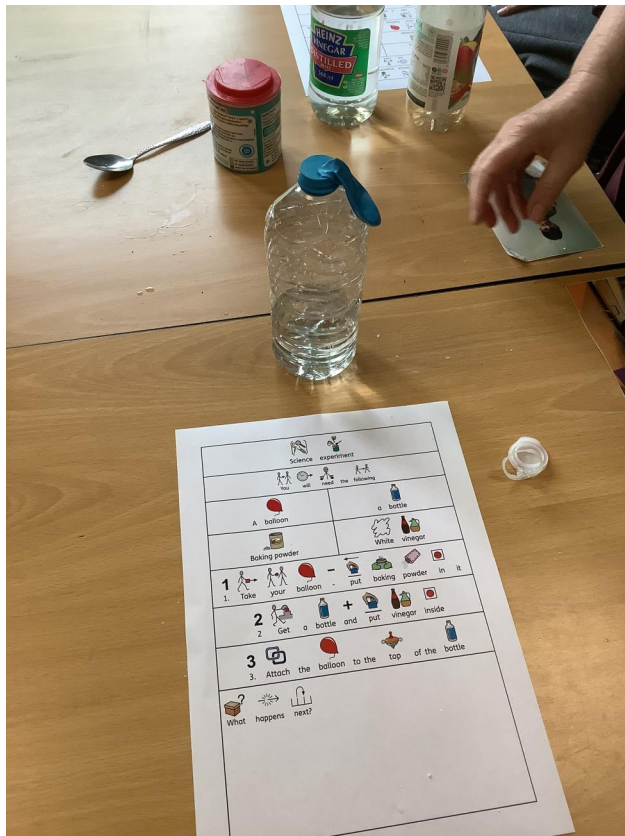




## KS4 Canna Class

This term we have been learning about changes in Science. We have conducted a number of experiments in class where we have explored solids, liquids and gases. This week we added liquid to a bottle ( white vinegar). We then got a balloon and put bicarbonate of soda in it. The students observed what changes occurred when they attached the balloon to the bottle and let the bicarbonate of soda fall into the bottle. This created a gas which inflated the balloon. They were very surprised that the balloon started to grow and observed what happened as we shook the bottle to increase the reaction. they weren't quite sure if it was safe as the liquid bubbled and grew in the bottle. But had lots of fun finding out!







## The Highlands

For Mental Health Awareness Week, Jura class enjoyed a short Attention Autism session on emotions and feelings. Students were shown sensory examples and symbols of happy, sad and angry; happy being represented through bubbles, sadness through short bursts of water spray and angry through bashing a metal tin. This was followed by a small 'colour explosion' using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda as well as the relevant food colouring. Students thoroughly enjoyed the bottle fizz, and loved seeing the bright colours! They did some great looking and listening, with lots of laughs included too. A great session with Team Jura!







## FE Campus

This week, a group of students attended the monthly Young Star Voices meeting held at Friar Gate studios, joining SEND peers from across the city to help contribute to improving services for young people with SEND in Derby. This week some of the attendees were interviewed and we were very proud to see how confident they were to express themselves in front of the camera.

Last night, we held one of our regular FE social evenings and were delighted to welcome ASPIRE Wrestling Alliance in to provide a highly entertaining show! We had over 60 spectators who enjoyed 4 different matches and some food. The wrestling was fantastic and we would like to say a huge thank you to the ASPIRE team for being so enthusiastic and welcoming to all the students and their families. We will definitely look to host another wrestling event in the future so watch this space!









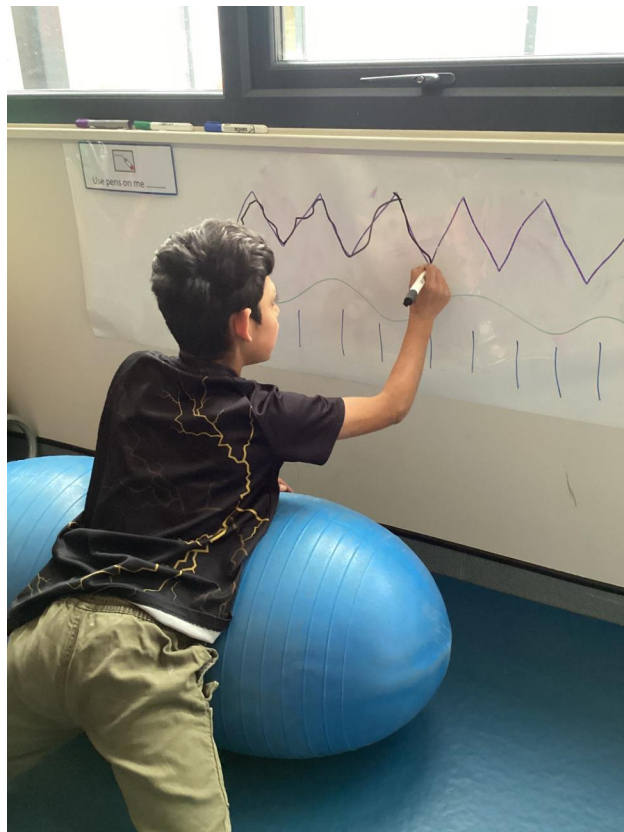
Therapy Input



Core strength is essential for our students and young people at school. A strong core acts as a "powerhouse" that provides stability for the arms which in turn helps with fine motor and handwriting.

It can help towards stamina and focus, as a weak core can tire easily, causing children to slouch, lay on their desks, or put their heads in their hands.

In our core strength sessions we use the therapy ball as a key piece of equipment as well as the sensory circuit in the courtyard.





## FREE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATIONS

Derby City Council have announced that parents can now apply for free school meals online on the DCC website:

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

The link below will take you directly to the 'Apply for Free School Meals Online' form:

[https://myaccount.derby.gov.uk/en/service/Apply\\_for\\_Free\\_School\\_Meals](https://myaccount.derby.gov.uk/en/service/Apply_for_Free_School_Meals)

If you believe your child is eligible for free school meals, please use the link above to apply.

## Tips for Reading with your Young People at home



ST. ANDREWS ACADEMY

**WEEK 15: LINK READING TO REAL LIFE**

- IF YOU'RE READING A BOOK ABOUT ANIMALS, VISIT THE PARK.
- IF YOU'RE READING ABOUT COOKING, TRY A RECIPE TOGETHER.

THIS MAKES STORIES MEANINGFUL AND MEMORABLE!

READING CAN ALSO BE FUNCTIONAL E.G. READING RECIPES, LABELS, SIGNS



The graphic features a purple background with green leaf-like shapes. It includes the St. Andrew's Academy logo in the top right, a yellow star in the top left, and another yellow star in the middle right. The text is presented in various colored boxes and fonts, with a stack of colorful books and a person sitting on them in the bottom right corner.

# TJ's Army - Sign with Tasha & TJ

**TJ's Army**

## SIGN WITH TASHA & TJ LTD

*"These hands were made for talking"*

★ Learn Makaton With a Licensed Tutor

- ✓ Online Training
- ✓ Face-to-Face Workshops
- ✓ Level 1 - Level 4 Makaton Training

Bespoke Workshops Available For

- 🏠 Early Years Settings
- 🚑 Emergency Services
- 🚑 Urgent & Emergency Care
- 🦷 Dentistry
- 🏥 Nursing
- 👤 Learning Disability Teams
- 💖 General Wellbeing

**Book Your Training**

- 🌐 [www.bookwhen.com/signwithtashaandtj](http://www.bookwhen.com/signwithtashaandtj)
- ✉ [signwithtashaandtj@gmail.com](mailto:signwithtashaandtj@gmail.com)
- 🎵 TikTok: @tashaandtj

**Makaton Tutor**

# Home to School Travel Service - A message from Derby City Council



## Home to School Travel Service School/College Newsletter – March 2026

Hello!

Welcome everybody to the Home to School Travel Service Newsletter.

It's March already, and we are in full swing with planning for the September 2026 intake!

Our application window opens soon, so please encourage all parents to complete their applications during this window to allow us sufficient time to plan routes etc., ready for September. Please see below details of who will need to apply/re-apply.

### Applications for Travel Assistance for 2026-2027

**The on-line application for travel assistance for 2026-2027 opens on 01 April 2026.  
Applications received before this date, will be automatically refused.**

### Who needs to apply?

A new application must be completed if any of the bullet points below apply:

- ❖ Family is applying for travel assistance for a child for the first time.
- ❖ A child is starting school in Reception class in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is starting a new school in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 3 in September 2026 (Infant to Junior Schools only).
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 7 in September 2026.
- ❖ A child is moving into Year 12 in September 2026 (e.g., sixth form or college).
- ❖ A student is currently in post 16 or post 19 education and will be continuing in education in September 2026 (post 16 learners and adult learners must apply every year).
- ❖ Applying for a bus pass for a child for academic year 2026-27.



## Derby City Council

- ❖ Moving to a new home address before September 2026.

**Please note: If none of the above apply, and a child already receives travel assistance, this will remain in place for academic year 2026-27.**

### How to apply?

The on-line application window is open between 01 April 2026 and 31 May 2026. Families can apply by using the link below. If an application is received after 31 May 2026, it will still be processed, but travel assistance arrangements may not be in place for the start of the autumn term. Before making your application, please read our policy at: -

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/education/send/travel/hst-assistance-policy-2025-2026.pdf>

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/education/send/travel/hst-assistance-post-16-policy-statement-2025-2026.pdf>

If a student wishes to apply for travel assistance, independently of a parent or carer, they must be age 18 or over.

Supporting documents e.g., Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP), medical evidence, proof of free school meals, proof of baptism will need to be included with the application.

Families who do not have access to the Internet should visit a local library or the Council House for free computer and Internet access to complete the online application.

**Please note: Responses provided on the online application form MUST be in relation to the school that a child will be attending from September 2026.**

If you have any questions, please contact the team via email: [schooltravel@derby.gov.uk](mailto:schooltravel@derby.gov.uk), or by telephone 01332 642716.

For more information about the Home to School Travel Service please see [Home to School Travel Assistance - Derby City Council](#)

### Home to School Travel Service Update:

We have welcomed Lynne onto the team! Lynne joined us in January 2026 and is supporting the team by making sure our systems are all working. Lynne also oversees our appeals process and is the Clerk at Stage 2 appeal hearings.

For information about the whole team, please go to the end of this newsletter.



## Derby City Council

### Mileage Allowance and Post -16 Personal Travel Budgets Update:

The summer term payment is due to be paid to parents during Easter 2026. Email requests for attendance data have already been sent to schools. Due to the way Easter falls and the Council's financial closedown, please provide the attendance data for the spring term by no later than 11 March 2026.

#### Detentions:

We have had some recent experience of students who are on Council Organised Transport receiving after school detentions. If school is giving this sanction, they must contact the transport provider and cancel the transport as the crews cannot wait until the detention is over. The responsibility for collecting a child following after school detention is with the parent/carer.

#### NEW: Designated safeguarding inbox for schools

The Home to School Travel Service have created a new inbox for schools to use in the case of safeguarding incidents/concerns.

Please use this inbox instead of the general school travel one for anything related to safeguarding. The email address is [safeguarding.htst@derby.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding.htst@derby.gov.uk)

Please **DO NOT** give this address to parents.

#### Meet the Team (Snapshot of Duties):

##### Carole:

Carole is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. Please contact Carole for any safeguarding concerns.

##### Matthew:

Matt is responsible for processing travel assistance applications. Please contact Matt if you have any queries about your application. Matt is also the Presenting Officer at Stage 2 appeals.

##### Lauren:

Lauren is responsible for making the mileage allowance payments and post-16 PTB payments. Please contact Lauren if you have any questions about your payment.

##### Amelia:

Amelia is responsible for supporting Matt with processing applications. Please contact Amelia if you have any queries about your application.



**Derby City Council**

**Lynne:**

Lynne is responsible for making sure our systems are all working. Lynne also oversees our appeals process and is the Clerk at Stage 2 appeal hearings.

**Helen:**

Helen is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and is responsible for the day to day running of the team.

**Tom:**

Tom is the Commissioning Manager and the strategic lead for the Home to School Travel Service. He is responsible planning, policy development, performance and quality.

**Contacts:**

**General Enquiries:**

[Schooltravel@derby.gov.uk](mailto:Schooltravel@derby.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01332 6427416

**Designated Safeguarding Concerns:**

[safeguarding-htst@derby.gov.uk](mailto:safeguarding-htst@derby.gov.uk)

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you over this next half-term.

## School Uniform Discount



**New Starters**  
SAVE 10%  
VALID UNTIL 31 JULY 26

Save 10% with code **INTAKE26** at checkout



SHOP NOW AT  
[www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com)

\*offer excludes bundles, clearance items and events hoodies

# 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)	
<b>September 2025 (19 days)</b>		<b>October 2025 (18 days)</b>		<b>November 2025 (20 days)</b>	
M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30				
M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	
M	T	W	T	F	S
					1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29
30					
<b>December 2025 (15 days)</b>		<b>January 2026 (20 days)</b>		<b>February 2026 (16 days)</b>	
M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31			
M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31
M	T	W	T	F	S
					1
2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
29					
<b>March 2026 (20 days)</b>		<b>April 2026 (14 days)</b>		<b>May 2026 (15 days)</b>	
M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31				1
2	3	4	5	6	7
9	10	11	12	13	14
16	17	18	19	20	21
23	24	25	26	27	28
29					
M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30		
M	T	W	T	F	S
					1
4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23
25	26	27	28	29	30
31					
<b>June 2026 (22 days)</b>		<b>July 2026 (17 days)</b>		<b>August 2026</b>	
M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30				
M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31	
M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29
30					

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



## St Andrew's Academy School Term and Holiday Dates 2026-2027

<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> School Holiday	<span style="background-color: red; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Bank Holiday (Shut to all)	<span style="background-color: blue; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Inset Day (Shut to students)
<span style="background-color: lightblue; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Autumn Term	<span style="background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Spring Term	<span style="background-color: lightgreen; border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px;"></span> Summer Term

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

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

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

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

January 2027 (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027 (19 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2027 (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May 2027 (19 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

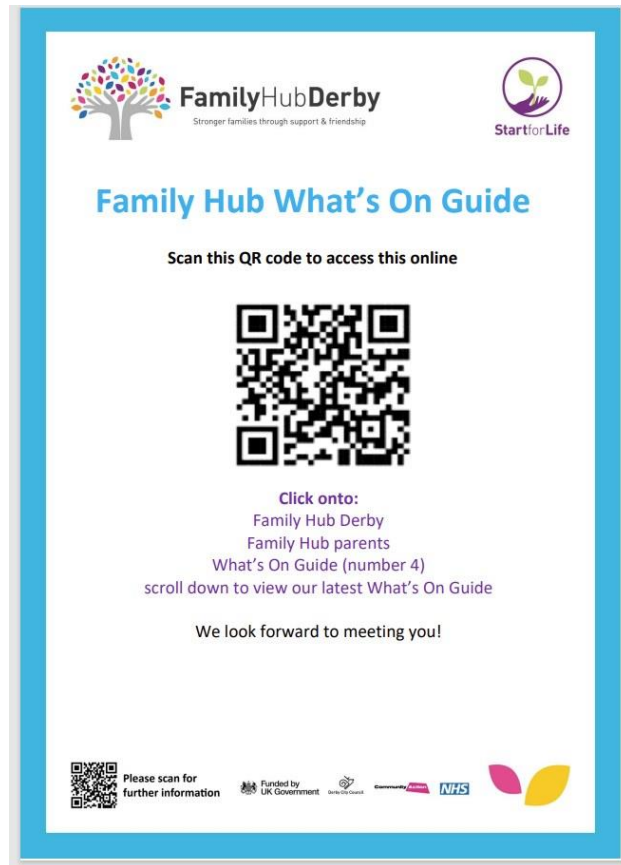
June 2027 (18 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				


July 2027 (18 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	


August 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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

## Family Hub QR Code




 **FamilyHubDerby**  
Stronger families through support & friendship

 **StartforLife**


### Family Hub What's On Guide




Scan this QR code to access this online



**Click onto:**  
Family Hub Derby  
Family Hub parents  
What's On Guide (number 4)  
scroll down to view our latest What's On Guide

We look forward to meeting you!

 Please scan for further information

Funded by UK Government   

## Go and Follow our Social Media Pages!



 St Andrew's Academy

 Shaw Education Trust

**DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US!**

**WE POST WEEKLY**



Facebook - [St. Andrews Academy](#)

Instagram - [Standrews.academy](#)

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

## SEND Football



**S.E.N.D FOOTBALL**  
**FUN FOR ALL**

INCLUSIVE FUN FOR ALL  
WITH EDUCATIONAL,  
PHYSICAL & DEVELOPMENT  
NEEDS PLAYING IN THE PAN  
DISABILITY LEAGUE

**UNDER 16S**  
BOYS AND GIRLS WELCOME!

EVERY TUESDAY  
5PM-6PM

FRIESLAND SCHOOL  
SANDIACRE - NG10 5AF

EMAIL US ON  
Robcraintree411@gmail.com

VISIT OUR FB PAGE  
SANDIACRE TOWN FC BALLERS

FREE KIT - SUBS £20 PER MONTH

The poster features a large soccer ball on the right side. The crest of St. Andrews Football Club is visible, with the letters 'S', 'T', 'F', 'C' and 'SAINTS' on a shield, and 'EST 1978' on a banner below it. The background is a dark, blurred image of a soccer field.

## Contact Us

Main School:

St Andrew's Academy

St Andrew's View

Breadsall Hilltop

Derby

DE21 4EW

Tel: (01332) 832746

Email:

FE Campus:

St Andrew's FE Campus,

66 Whitaker road,

Derby,

DE23 6AR

Tel: (01332) 947259

Email: [standrews.admin@sas.set.org](mailto:standrews.admin@sas.set.org)