



SCHOOL NEWS 06 FEBRUARY 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm delighted to share the news that we have been given approval by the DfE and the Regional Schools Director Dame Kate Dethridge, to explore the possibility of three existing schools to join South Downs Education Trust, of which Worthing High School and Clapham and Patching C of E Primary School are already part of.

The schools are as follows: Southwater Infant Academy, Southwater Junior Academy and Plaistow & Kirdford Primary School.

As a Trust, we are very excited all three schools have expressed an interest in being part of the SDET family, and the support that we all can provide in helping them, and SDET to develop and grow in the future.

Our growth plans have always been based around working with schools that share the same ethos and values, and not about growth at any cost.

As you can appreciate, there will be a great deal of work to cover over the next few months for all stakeholders involved. We are in the early stages of the process, but wanted to make you aware of this exciting opportunity for all the schools and will obviously keep you updated with any future developments.

Pan Panayiotou
Executive Headteacher
CEO of South Down Education Trust

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well done to Year 11 who approach the end of their first examination week having conducted themselves in exemplary fashion. Our pastoral teams are always vigilant around student's wellbeing, especially at points of the year where students might find things extra challenging. If you have observed concerns at home, please ensure you contact our pastoral team.

Year 7 – Mrs T Gordon
Year 8 – Mr J Facey
Year 9 – Mr J Fenlon
Year 10 – Mrs J Rhodes
Year 11 – Miss L Haslam

We are often able to support students and families and would rather do this before things like progress and attendance are impacted.

Next week is a very important week for all year groups, as teachers approach the final stages of this term's topics, before moving on to new themes. On Thursday, we will host our second focus day – a day of extra-curricular focuses for all year groups. For Year 9, this day will focus on 'taster' lessons where they will try out Key Stage 4 option subjects, ahead of making their preferences next half term. Also on Thursday, in the evening we host our curriculum choices evening, where parents, carers and students can discuss the subjects on

offer with our subject leaders. Please do come along if you can. Even if you cannot make the presentation, it would still be worthwhile visiting the subject area.

Below, you will see an update from Action Your Potential. As a partner school, their resources, support and learning platforms are free to all Worthing High families. Please have a look and if you can attend their workshops, I thoroughly recommend them; they are very practical and useful sessions that will support your child's wider wellbeing and progress at school

Finally, as we approach the end of half term, please check your child's equipment and replenish anything that might have run out or been lost. If you need support with this, please speak to the relevant pastoral leader who will be happy to help.

Adrian Cook
Head of School

#NeuroNinja Parent Partnership Webinar – Action You Potential

Please find a new webinar series, this will also be available on our app from April and the #NeuroNinja Learning Hub for any parents who can't make all live webinars. More webinars to follow soon.

Building Amazing Brains

In these webinars Andrew Wright from [Action Your Potential](#) will offer all of our wonderful parents and carers a window on the world of the developing human brain. Being a parent is the toughest job in the world. The aim of these webinars is to help parents and carers to explore:

- 6th March - How Our Brains Are Set Up
- 13th March - Resilience and Regulation, How A Brain Learns To Soothe Itself
- 20th March - Parenting Style v Brain Development - What We Know
- 27th March - Be a #NeuroNinja Parent

✖ Thursday's at 8pm - 45 mins + 15 mins Q&A

Sign up here for the whole series

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How our brain is set-up

The neuroscience of brain development

How to help their child to be resilient

How we can help our child first co-regulate and then self-regulate

How to parent for the long-term (for our child aged 40!!!)

How our own experiences as a child impact our parenting style

The webinars will each run on a Thursday through March.

[A poster to sign up to the webinars is here.](#)

[Zoom link to sign up for whole series is here.](#)

[Here's a video from Andrew at AYP explaining what we'll be looking at in this series.](#)

Thursday 6 March 8pm (45 mins with 15 mins for Q&A)

Building Amazing Brains: How Our Brains Are Set Up

Thursday 13 March 8pm (45 mins with 15 mins for Q&A)

Building Amazing Brains: Resilience and Regulation, How A Brain Learns to Soothe Itself

Thursday 20 March 8pm (45 mins with 15 mins for Q&A)

Building Amazing Brains: Parenting Style v Brain Development What We Know

Thursday 27 March 8pm (45 mins with 15 mins for Q&A)

Building Amazing Brains: Be a #NeuroNinja Parent

Any questions about these webinars just email Andrew - andrewwright@aypuk.com

ClassCharts Parents/Carers App – Behaviour

We are pleased to inform you that we have made progress with the functionalities in ClassCharts, and you can now access detailed information regarding your child's behaviour. This includes both positive recognition points and negative consequence points. The system presents graphs that outline the type of behaviour (positive or negative), when it occurred, who awarded the points, the lesson context, and the value of the points. If you hover over the centre of the pie chart, you can see the total points your child has gained (dependant on the date range you have entered at the top of the page). Below these graphs, a list of the individual behaviour activities related to your child is also available.



If you have not downloaded the app, please download from your device's app store. It's a simple and convenient way to access important school information. Your login details were sent to you at the start of last term. If you have not received them, please contact the school office at office@worthinghigh.net. For more information, including our full 'February

Update', links to the parent guidebook and FAQs please visit our [website](#) . If you experience any issues or have any questions, please feel free to reach out; your feedback is invaluable to us as we continue to improve your experience with the app. Thank you for your continued support.

HAF Programme

We are very pleased to share that last week, the Department for Education confirmed that funding for the Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme will be continued into 2025.

This means that children who are currently accessing benefits related free school meals will continue to be able to access free activities and meals during the Easter, Summer and Winter holidays this year.

We look forward to sharing more information for eligible families in the coming weeks. If you have any questions about the HAF Programme, please contact us by emailing HAF@westsussex.gov.uk.

Library Closures

There are some upcoming library closures for before and after school sessions:

Wednesday 12 February – Closed after school

Thursday 13 February – Closed to students all day, including before and after school

Please ensure, if your child would usually use the library at these times, they have made other arrangements for those days.

Non-Uniform Day 14 February

Friday 14 February will be a non-uniform day raising funds for local charity Little Lifesavers. Little Lifesavers ran a free session teaching bystander-CPR skills to our incoming students at our summer school this year, and have to date passed these skills onto almost 20,000 young people across the country. You can find out more information at <https://littlifelifers.org/>. More information about the non-uniform day and how to contribute to the charity will be shared next week.

Physical Education

REF: Physical Education and Dance Clubs

Spring Term 1 clubs and fixtures have started. However, I wanted to outline a few dates when clubs will unfortunately not be able to run.

Monday 10 February – no clubs will run due to staff meetings

Year 11 mock period Monday 3 – Friday 14 February

Any clubs which take place in the Sports hall will not be able to run. This will include, Badminton, Basketball, and Volleyball.

Please click the link to the [Spring Term 1 Clubs Timetable](#).

Non-Sports Clubs

Please find the [Non Sports Clubs](#). If you have any questions, please get in touch with the

member of staff running the club.

VACANCIES AT WORTHING HIGH SCHOOL

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under **Join Us/Vacancies**. Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

We are currently advertising for the following positions:

Teaching

No Current Vacancies

Non-Teaching

No Current Vacancies

TWITTER

For up-to-date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Whole School: @WorthingHigh

Headteacher: @WorthingHigh_ht

South Downs Education Trust: @sdetrust

Trips: @worthinghighout

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: @WorthingHighCar

Lettings: @HighLettings

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 Mock Exams	03/02/2025 – 14/02/2025
Year 9 Curriculum Choices Evening	13/02/2025
Early Finish – 13:30	27/02/2025
Year 9 SRE	27/02/2025

INSET Days for Academic Year 2024-25.

The school will be closed to students on these days:

Friday 20/06/2025

Monday 21/07/2025

Tuesday 22/07/2025