

# SCHOOL NEWS 17 APRIL 2026



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Early Finish (13:30pm)	30/04/2026
Year 8 SRE	30/04/2026
May Bank Holiday (school closed)	04/05/2026
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	06/05/2026
May Half Term	25/05/2026 – 29/05/2026
Year 7 ARE	04/06/2026
INSET Day	19/06/2026

## **INSET Days for Academic Year 2025 - 26**

**The school will be closed to students on these days:**

Friday, 19 June 2026

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope you have enjoyed the Easter break and that our students have returned rested and ready for the challenges ahead. This is a busy term, and I hope that your child makes full use of all the incredible extra-curricular opportunities we have on offer.

Students have returned to school with a positive mindset and have had an excellent first week back. For our Year 11's, they are just 12 school days from their GCSEs. A number of Non-Examined Assessments, speaking exams and coursework modules have already been completed; these all contribute towards their final grades and we are very proud of the dedicated approach our students have taken. We appreciate this is an incredibly stressful time and fully recognise the challenges they face, but we also see how hard they have worked to reach this point.

If you or your child have any concerns, please contact either Mr Morris, Year 11 Progress Leader, or Mrs Rhodes, Year 11 Pastoral Leader, in the first instance.

To help them prepare as effectively as possible, we strongly urge students to attend Period 0/6 interventions. These sessions have a genuine impact, even with the short amount of time left in school.

We wish our Year 11 students the very best with their revision and as they embark on their GCSEs. Thank you to our students, our staff, and to you our Parents and Carers, for their and your continued support.

You will also now be aware of our new Zebra crossing that is now in place in St Lawrence Avenue. I cannot tell you how excited we were as a school, to see it finally in place. Huge thanks to Miss Gannaway and to Mr Beasley for their relentless support in getting to this stage and for being relentlessly optimistic. The crossing will benefit many of our students and also our local community. WSSC still have to add the flashing beacons, but wanted to congratulate our students for using it so responsibly. Please continue to encourage your child to use the crossing, after we have worked so hard with WSSC to have it built.

Finally, I have some bittersweet news to share. Mr Cook, our amazing Headteacher, will be leaving us this July to take up a new Headship post at Oakwood School in Surrey.

Whilst we are delighted for him, as he embarks on this exciting new chapter in his career, we will be incredibly sorry to see him leave Worthing High School.

Mr Cook has been a cornerstone of our school since joining as Deputy Head in 2019. From his time as Head of School in 2022 to his appointment as Headteacher in 2025, he has shown unwavering dedication to our students and staff. He has been a truly

exceptional leader, and he will be greatly missed. He leaves a legacy of excellence that we are proud to carry forward.

As his new school is keen to have him in post as soon as possible, the Governors, Trustees, have agreed (sadly) for an early release date; his final week with us will be the first week of July.

With that in mind, Mr Simpson, Deputy Headteacher, I am delighted to say, has been appointed as Acting Headteacher, subject to Governing Body ratification, from when Mr Cook leaves WHS in July. Mr Simpson has also been a vital part of Worthing High School since 2019, when he joined as Assistant Headteacher before stepping into the Deputy Headteacher role in 2025. His deep understanding of our school, in particular curriculum and inclusion, will ensure a smooth transition as we move into the new academic year.

I am sure you will join me in thanking Mr Cook for his years of dedicated service, and in wishing Mr Simpson every success as he steps into his new role. We look forward to an exciting future ahead for Worthing High school.

Pan Panayiotou  
CEO South Downs Education Trust

### **Change to financial support for families (FSM holiday vouchers)**

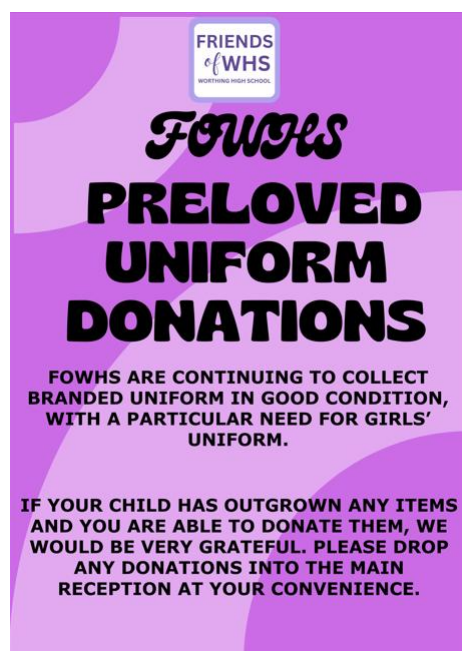
The Household Support Fund ended on 31 March 2026 and has been replaced by the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF), run locally by West Sussex County Council. Support is still available for families facing financial hardship, but it is now needs-based rather than universal and includes help with emergency pressures and longer-term advice.

Universal Free School Meal holiday vouchers have now ended. Families experiencing financial difficulty can still seek support.

For help, contact the West Sussex Community Hub: ☎ 0330 222 7980 | 🌐 [Online](#)  
Open 9am–5pm, 7 days a week (reduced hours on Bank Holidays)

### **FOWHS**

#### **Pre-Loved Uniform Donations**



### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

### **Physical Education and Dance Clubs**

Please see the attached updated posters for Summer Term. Click the link to view the updated [Summer Term 1 Clubs and Fixtures 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.

Drama club will run on the following dates this term (They may be some Tuesday sessions for pupils who arrange this with Mrs Batchelor)

Wednesday 22 April

Wednesday 29 April

Wednesday 20 May

3 June – End of term - Every Wednesday except Wednesday 10 June

### **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**

[Leader of Music/Teacher of Music](#)

#### **Non-Teaching**

*No current vacancies*

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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

#### **Instagram**

Whole School: [worthinghighschool](#)

IT: [worthinghigh\\_it](#)

PE: [worthinghigh\\_pe](#)

FOWHS: [friendsofworthinghighschool](#)

#### **X**

Whole School: [@WorthingHigh](#)

Headteacher: [@WorthingHigh\\_ht](#)

South Downs Education Trust: [@sdetrust](#)

Trips: [@worthinghighout](#)

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: [@WorthingHighCar](#)