



Dear Parents & Carers,

Today our school is very festive as students and staff show off their Christmas jumpers to support fundraising for Save The Children. I know that I have said so before, but students have been fabulous since returning in September, adapting so well and displaying much resilience, whilst staff have worked tremendously hard to provide some normality and the best quality education. At this point though, I know that everyone is thoroughly looking forward to a rest and spending some time with family at home.

Although we are in the final days of term, we are also thinking about returning after Christmas, in particular with regard to the current Covid-19 Omicron variant causing such uncertainty. You will be very aware of the news headlines suggesting potential further restrictions, which could impact on school re-opening. Please rest assured that if we do have to revert to distance learning, we are well placed to do so. Indeed, year 7 pupils have had lessons yesterday to ensure they were shown how to access the work through Microsoft Teams if necessary. However, at the time of writing, we expect all pupils to return to school as usual on 5th January 2022, so let's hope that this can happen.

Finally, we have sent pupils home today with another Lateral Flow test kit for testing over the holiday period and beyond. Thank you for continuing with this important measure to reduce the risk of infection spreading.

So, best wishes to you all for a safe and enjoyable Christmas. We hope that you are all able to spend some valuable time together and look forward to welcoming all back in the New Year.

Merry Christmas!

*John Parr*  
Headteacher

## Accelerated Reader

Well done for reaching your Accelerated Reading Targets

### Year 7

Rachel Beever  
Sam Cornehl  
Edward Dunn  
Norah Hall  
William Kennaugh  
Vea Ongsit  
Vinnie Taylor  
Demie-Leigh Waterfield  
Toby Westall

### Year 8

Lauren Clark  
Charlotte Hales  
Cerys Hope  
Elsa Lovelock  
James Verrin

Congratulations to the  
newest member of our  
Millionaire's Club :-  
Sam Cornehl (1,109,044)

## Church Stretton School

### Christmas Kahoot

The School Kahoot Quiz returned for a festive edition.

Congratulations to the winners.

**Tristan Davies Yr8 won a box of chocolates.**

**Mrs Carr won a packet of sprouts!**

Well done to all who entered this time.

## 'Christmas Extravaganza'

Due to current restrictions we have been unable to invite Parents/Carers into school to enjoy our usual festivities. However, Mr Mould has been busy recording our virtual 'Christmas Extravaganza for the last couple of weeks. Please use the link below to hear some great class and solo recordings.



[Christmas Extravaganza Link](#)

# Its beginning to look a lot like Christmas!



Over the past 2 weeks the Y10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students have been getting into the Christmas spirit by baking Gingerbread houses. Last week was mixing the ingredients, cutting out the templates, rolling out and baking the dough. They learnt how amazing it is that you can get such different results from the same ingredients. Most students were successful, and they ended the lesson with all the parts of their houses baked and wrapped ready for this week. A couple of students re baked at home ready to bring in the parts in this week.

Wednesday was the assembly and decoration lesson and I have to say, I'm not sure I've ever seen so many sweets, chocolate buttons and glitter sweets. It was a busy kitchen with shouts of "Miss, its not sticking together" and "Miss, Its collapsed - AGAIN!!" but gradually the icing began to harden, and we had several standing houses that began to take shape.

Lots of lessons were learnt by the students mainly of patience, resilience, the value of listening to advice given and not to add too much water to icing sugar. I hope that families enjoy eating the Gingerbread, be it in parts or assembled. Merry Christmas!

Mrs Davis



KS3 Students have been getting their hands dirty in the DT department this year and taking advantage of the opportunity to be in the workshop - something that most students have missed out on over the past year due to COVID restrictions.

Year 7 students have been learning about Polymers by creating a design for novelty pen manufactured from 3 layers of Acrylic. They have generated a range of ideas around the theme of Nature, cut out card templates of their best 2 ideas to check the comfort of the design and then cut and shaped their Acrylic using hand tools. They have also looked at what information is required when Packaging products and have created a vacuum formed package for their finished pen. They have been fantastic in the workshop and have produced work of a very high standard.



Year 8 students have been looking at and working with Metal and learning about the computer software package 2D Design. This project was all about accuracy and simplicity of design to create a small metal figure with flashing LED lights. They had to generate both a male and female shape with straight lines, apply the chosen design to their metal then accurately cut and file the design. Lots of concentration and resilience was required to get the metal shapes symmetrical, smooth, and bent into the chosen position. The students have done a great job working with a difficult material.

Year 9 students were given a problem-solving task that required lots of brain power and imagination with their finished product being manufacture predominantly from 2 pieces of manufactured timber. The idea was to create a 2 piece sculpture that fitted together in some way. They were given the title of Pet/Son and told to investigate human figures and animals. Lots of practice templates were required, with developments and modifications made to their work as it progressed. To make the product more Aesthetically pleasing the students laminated the MDF with different materials. The products were then packaged with an artistic background. The students should feel proud of themselves and their problem-solving skills.



# Distance learning: Plan B... Prepared!



The Autumn term is always a productive, hardworking period for all members of the school community, and we are all looking forward to a well-earned holiday. We have everything crossed that you all get to enjoy a family centered holiday. The number of COVID cases amongst the students and staff are currently much lower than the national and local situation, which we are all very grateful for and we wish those members of the school community who are suffering with COVID a speedy recovery in time for Christmas day. When we return to school after the holiday, plan A is to welcome all students back into school on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January, with those students who have parental consent to undertake lateral flow testing. You may have read about [the preparations schools are making for next term](#) should the COVID situation require them. We have a plan B in place should the number of COVID infections require it, which is to return to online learning using MS Teams.

If we are forced to put plan B in place, we will contact the parents and carers of those students who have previously borrowed devices and will make a loan device available if it is still required. If your child requires a loan device and has not previously borrowed one, then please contact the school in the event of a year group or full school closure and we will do all that we can to make one available for short term loans, thanks to the generous donations we have previously received. This includes two new devices donated to the school only this week by Rich Morley from the Shropshire Youth Forum, who raised money by approaching local businesses to help the students at Church Stretton school access online learning. Many thanks to Rich and the businesses that have donated money. All loan devices would be subject to the signing of an acceptable use agreement and would need to be returned as soon as students return to face to face lessons in school.

We have been working with Year 7 to develop their ability to access lessons and work through MS Teams throughout the term and this week all classes have used the school Chromebooks to access a Teams meeting to introduce them to the important features. There are lots of help guides and how to videos to assist parents and students with accessing online learning [here](#) and we will be emailing links to the guides and videos to parents and students just in case they are needed in the future. We will, as ever, do all that we can to support you and your children with online learning. Please contact [admin@csschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@csschool.co.uk) or call us on 01694 722209 if you require support and we will help as soon as we can.

We hope that we do not need to action plan B and we are looking forward to welcoming back students after the Christmas holidays, as per the government's advice, but rest assured that we are ready for all eventualities!



# BeeU Children's & Family Mental Health Services

**NHS**  
Midlands Partnership  
NHS Foundation Trust  
A Keele University Teaching Trust

Bee U is the emotional health and wellbeing service for people, up to the age of 25, living in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Previously known as CAMHS the service offers a range of support depending on the needs of the child or young person. The services you may be offered are described briefly here or you can find out more about what help is available at <https://camhs.mpft.nhs.uk/beeU>

## Beam – phone or face to face

Beam is an emotional well-being service for children and young people under 25 years old who are registered with a GP in Shropshire or Telford & Wrekin.

Beam are currently offering support via:

- Phone
- Virtual face to face (via MS Teams)

You can request support from Beam via our website:  
<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk//beamshropshire>

Young people aged 14 years+ can register themselves.

Young people aged 13 and under will need a parent/carer to register on their behalf.

If you have any questions about the Beam service, please contact us email [shropshirebeam@childrensociety.org.uk](mailto:shropshirebeam@childrensociety.org.uk)



## Healios

We also work with Healios, an online provider of mental health services  
[www.healios.org.uk](http://www.healios.org.uk)

## Core Team

The core team work with children and young people who have been assessed as having more serious and ongoing mental health needs. Access to this team is usually via a professional who knows what BeeU offers, and knows the young person. Care is provided by a multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, family therapists, mental health nurses, social workers and occupational therapists who can offer different skills and approaches depending on the young person's needs.

## Kooth – online

Kooth provides an anonymous 24-hour online service offering peer support, self-help and have trained counsellors to talk to.

Anyone aged 11-25, living in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin, can register to access this service and you don't need to be referred or have an appointment

Whilst the website is available 24 hours, there will be someone to talk to online at the following times:

- 12:00 to 22:00 (Monday to Friday)
- 18:00 to 22:00 (Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays)

For more information visit Kooth:  
[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)



## Ageless 24/7 Urgent Helpline

0808 196 4501

(option 1 – under 18's; option 2 – over 18's)

This is for help and advice for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis.

In a health emergency you should still call 999 or visit your local A&E department



## ONLINE course FOR PARENTS

FREE across Shropshire and Telford

Written by Psychologists,  
Psychotherapists, Health Visitors  
& NHS professionals

Part of the Solihull Approach series  
11 Modules, lifetime access  
Available 24/7

Go to  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

Apply this 'Access Code' to  
get access for FREE

**DARWIN18**

For technical support contact  
[solihull.approach-parenting@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihull.approach-parenting@heartofengland.nhs.uk)  
or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm



# Understanding Your Child

For everyone around the child:  
Mums, Dads,  
Grandparents,  
friends and relations...



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FREE across Shropshire and Telford

Written by Psychologists,  
Psychotherapists, Health Visitors  
& NHS professionals

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or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm



# Understanding Your Teen

For everyone around the child:  
Mums, Dads,  
Grandparents,  
friends and relations...



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD  
SOLIHULL APPROACH

## ONLINE ANTENATAL course

FREE across Shropshire and Telford

Written by Registered Midwives  
& NHS professionals

Part of the Solihull Approach series  
9 Modules, lifetime access  
Available 24/7

Go to  
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or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm



## Understanding Pregnancy, Labour, Birth and Your Baby

For everyone around the baby:  
Mums, Dads,  
Grandparents,  
friends and relations...



UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD  
SOLIHULL APPROACH

## ONLINE POSTNATAL course

FREE across Shropshire and Telford

Written by Psychologists,  
Psychotherapists, Health Visitors  
& NHS professionals

Part of the Solihull Approach series  
9 Modules, lifetime access  
Available 24/7

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or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm



## Understanding Your Baby

For everyone around the baby:  
supporting you and  
the new arrival

(0-12 months)

Online course for teenagers

## 'Understanding your brain' (for teenagers only!)

- Have you noticed changes in your behaviour?
- Do you sleep more than you used to?
- Want to know why teenagers are more open-minded?



Your brain is changing!  
Find out more!



For technical support contact:  
[solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk)  
or call 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

9 Modules



and

Visit:  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

apply the code  
**Darwin18**  
to get free and  
unlimited access

## ONLINE course for residents of SHROPSHIRE

### Register Online and gain FREE (prepaid) access\*

\*where eligible

Part of the Solihull Approach series  
14 Modules  
Available 24/7

Go to:  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)  
and enter the 'access code'

**DARWIN18**

To return to the course(s), go to  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk) and sign in

For technical support contact  
[solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk)  
or 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm



## Understanding your child with additional needs

For everyone around the child:  
Mums, Dads, Grandparents,  
friends and relations

SolihullApproach  
[www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

@SolihullApproach (NB: 1 'p')  
[www.solihullapproachparenting.com](http://www.solihullapproachparenting.com)



## Your free, safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing community

Whether you are looking for advice or simply aren't feeling your best, Kooth offers a range of features and tools to support you.

### Magazine

Helpful articles, personal experiences and tips from young people and our Kooth team.

### Chat with the team

Chat to our helpful team about anything that's on your mind. Message us or have a live chat.

### Discussion boards

Start or join a conversation with our friendly Kooth community. Lots of topics to choose from!

### Daily journal and goal setting

Write in your own daily journal to track your feelings or emotions and reflect on how you're doing.

### Mini activity hub

Select from a growing menu of fun, therapeutic and useful activities.



## How to sign up

- 1 Head to **Kooth.com**
- 2 Click on the **'Join Kooth'** button on the homepage.
- 3 Choose your **area** and **location** from the drop down menu.
- 4 Select the **year** and **month** you were born.
- 5 Click on the **gender, ethnicity** and **background** that most closely describes you.
- 6 Create an **anonymous username** and secure **password**.
- 7 Let us know how you found out about Kooth from the drop down menu.
- 8 Select **Next Step** to complete your registration!

## Where to find us



[kooth.com](https://kooth.com)



[@kooth\\_uk](https://www.instagram.com/kooth_uk)



[Kooth UK & Kooth Podcast](#)



[Kooth-Podcast](#)

# What's on Kooth in December



<b>December 3</b> <b>Kooth Discussion Board</b> <b>Not All Disabilities Are Visible:</b> Come and celebrate International Day of the Disabled Person with us by sharing your thoughts, stories and experiences about those disabilities that aren't always so easy to see.	<b>December 10</b> <b>Kooth Podcast</b> <b>History of the Holidays:</b> Join us as we chat about some of our festive facts and celebrate all the different holidays that fall at the end of the year.	<b>December 10</b> <b>Kooth Discussion Board</b> <b>Helping Hands - Kindness &amp; Volunteering:</b> Join us to chat about all ways we can bring kindness and volunteering into our communities.	<b>December 15</b> <b>Kooth Live Forum</b> <b>Looking After Your Wellbeing:</b> Come share in all the ways we can look after ourselves and our wellbeing throughout winter. If you can't make this one join us earlier in the week on our discussion boards instead! <b>7.30pm to 9pm</b>
<b>December 20</b> <b>Kooth Live Forum</b> <b>Let's Talk About: LGBTQIA+ &amp; Religion:</b> Join our safe space to chat about experiences of religion within the LGBTQIA+ community. <b>7.30pm to 9pm</b>	<b>December 24</b> <b>Kooth Discussion Board</b> <b>Give Yourself a Gift:</b> With so much focus on spending and buying gifts for others at this time of year, let's share some ideas on something special we can do just for ourselves.	<b>December 29</b> <b>Kooth Live Forum</b> <b>Let's Party:</b> Stop by our final live forum of the year for a fun, chatty space to celebrate our whole community. <b>7.30pm to 9pm</b>	<b>December 31</b> <b>Kooth Discussion Board</b> <b>New Year, Not New You:</b> Do New Year's Resolutions stress you out? Join our conversation about setting positive intentions for the year ahead that feel right for you.



Find all of this & much more on **Kooth.com**

**You can still access support over the holiday period**



We're online every day including **Christmas Day**

Sign up for free at **Kooth.com**

**Our team is still here to provide mental wellbeing support over the holiday period.**

## Chat Availability Dates and Times

<b>Thursday 23/12/21</b> 12pm - 10:00pm	<b>Monday 27/12/21</b> 4pm - 8:00pm	<b>Friday 31/12/21</b> 12pm - 6:00pm
<b>Friday 24/12/21</b> 12pm - 8:00pm	<b>Tuesday 28/12/21</b> 4pm - 8:00pm	<b>Saturday 1/01/22</b> 4pm - 8:00pm
<b>Saturday 25/12/21</b> 4pm - 8:00pm	<b>Wednesday 29/12/21</b> 12pm - 10:00pm	<b>Sunday 2/01/22</b> 6pm - 10:00pm
<b>Sunday 26/12/21</b> 6pm - 10:00pm	<b>Thursday 30/12/21</b> 12pm - 10:00pm	<b>Monday 3/01/22</b> 4pm - 8:00pm



Find support today by visiting **kooth.com**