



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## *Message from the Principal*

With the start of December, and snow in the air, it is starting to feel more festive. Even though our students are looking forward to the holiday season, we still have two weeks of school before we close at 12 pm on Friday 17 December. We are so pleased to see the positive attitudes to learning in evidence by so many of our students and we appreciate the resilience so many of them are showing at this point of a long and busy term.

Guidance for schools is constantly updated regarding Covid and the new Omicron variant. We want to stay operational for the rest of term and for this reason, we appreciate the support you have given us by ensuring that your children have a mask to wear in school. We do not wish for cases (of any variant) to rise as they are in many schools across the country, and for this reason we will continue with the well-established mitigation measures that have served us well throughout most of the pandemic. Unfortunately, this has necessitated the cancellation of the live Christmas concert performance. Instead, we will record all of the performances and make these available at the end of term through a link on our website. We will seek permission before including your child in the videoed performance.

We hope that our measures will be sufficient to ensure that cases stay low as is currently the case, but we are always aware that schools reflect the communities they serve. Should cases in any particular year group rise to a level that causes concern, or if school staffing levels drop below a safe level, we will enact our Outbreak Management Plan. Over the next week, we will be reminding students how to access GoogleMeet lessons and online resources in the unlikely event of us having to switch to remote learning for any reason.

In the meantime, we are planning for an enjoyable end of term. Highlights will include Christmas lunch on Thursday 16 December, the launch of our new College system on Friday 17 December and various reward events.

**Siobhan Evans**

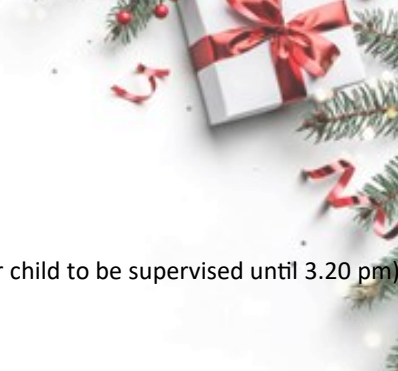
## *Christmas Lunch*



We will be celebrating Christmas Lunch with students on Thursday 16 December. We hope that your child will wish to participate in this lovely event. If you would like to order Christmas lunch for your child, please order through Parent Pay. There will be a vegetarian and non-vegetarian option for Christmas dinner. The cost will be £3.50. Students in receipt of Free School Meals will not need to pay extra if they order the Christmas dinner option.

Please note that the only options available for students on Thursday 16 December will be Christmas lunch or sandwiches. There will be normal break time service in the canteen.

## *Upcoming Dates*

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>6 December</b>  | Year 7 Assessment Week<br>Year 11 Mock Exams continue   |
| <b>8 December</b>  | Christmas Concert (Live performance cancelled)  |
| <b>13 December</b> | Celebration and recognition week  |
| <b>16 December</b> | Christmas Lunch   |
| <b>17 December</b> | School closes to students at 12 pm (please notify school if you wish for your child to be supervised until 3.20 pm) |
| <b>4 January</b>   | Lateral Flow testing  |
| <b>5 January</b>   | School re-opens to students   |
- 



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## Lateral Flow testing in January

The DFE has indicated that schools may stagger the start of term in January to enable each student to have a lateral flow test before returning to school. We do not wish to lose any more teaching days so are planning to offer tests to students on Tuesday 4 January, a teacher training day.

In order to manage this process, we ask you to please complete the "January 2022 Mass Testing form" on the website [www.ashlawn.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk/coronavirus) by Friday 10 December to indicate your choice from the following options:

1. I will bring my child to school for a lateral flow test on Tuesday 4 January at the time indicated for their year group. (This will be determined once we have received your responses.)
2. I will test my child at home on Tuesday 4 January and will use the link provided to report the result/s by 5 pm on that day.
3. I do not give consent for my child to have a LFD test before returning to school.

Please note that we do urge everyone to (please) give permission and choose either option one or option two to ensure we do not have an outbreak in school.

## Sporting Achievements

Congratulations to the Year 7 Badminton squad who beat everyone in the qualifying round of the district championships. They have qualified for the finals which will be played before Christmas.



Congratulations to Jack McDowell in Year 11. Jack has been selected for the Aston Villa academy full time as of next year. A very special achievement and we wish Jack all the very best of luck in his football career.

## Sign your way to Christmas

We will be learning a new sign every day at school using the Makaton Advent Calendar. Please join in at home

[https://busybeestraining.co.uk/storage/makaton/story\\_html5.html](https://busybeestraining.co.uk/storage/makaton/story_html5.html)



## Candy Canes

Over the next two weeks students will have the opportunity to buy Candy Canes for their friends which will be delivered on the last day of term.



The Candy Canes will cost 20p and can be bought from their Form Tutors or Sixth Form Reception at break time. Students can buy as many Candy Canes as they like and for any year group.

## Hanukkah

Jewish children and adults all over the world are now celebrating Hanukkah.

It lasts for eight days and reminds Jews of a time over 2,000 years ago when a group, known as the Maccabees won a battle against the Greeks to practise their religion freely.

As part of the festival Jews light a Hanukkah, a special type of eight branch candelabra to celebrate the miracle of the light.

Each candle represents a day.

One candle is lit for each day of the festival.







**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

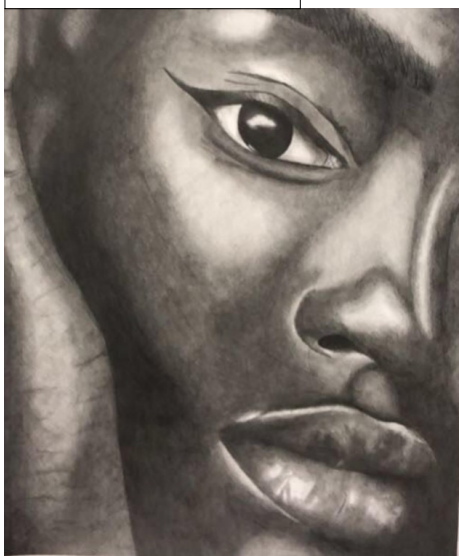
Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

*By Clara Year 13*



*By Surita Year 13*

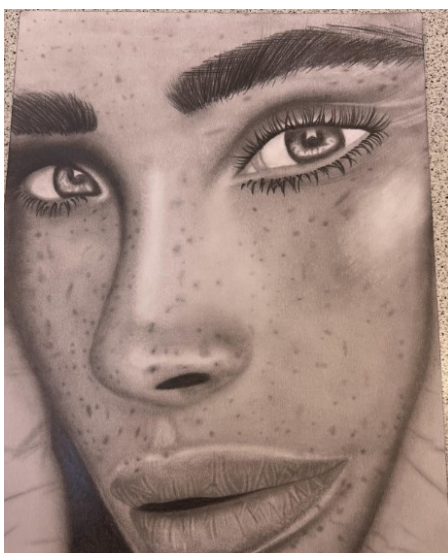


*By Lauren Year 13*

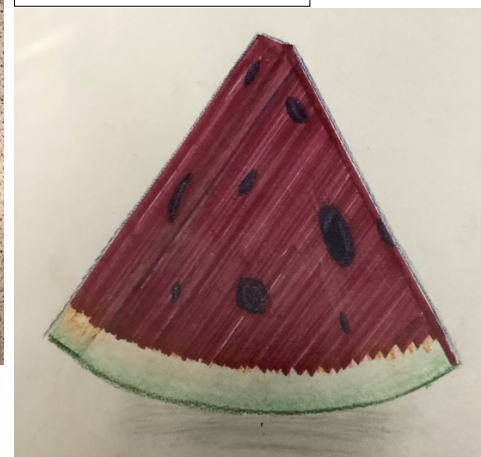


*By Faith Year 8*

*By Liv Year 10*



*By Natalie Year 13*



*By Adam Year 10*

## Art of the week



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

# JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

School Production

**Lyrics– Tim Rice    Music– Andrew Lloyd Webber**

Ashlawn School East hall

February 9, 10 & 11 2022

7 pm

Tickets available on parent pay

Expressive Arts Box Office

£6 Concessions, £8 adults



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

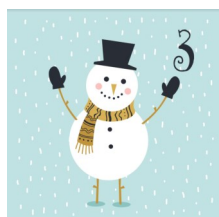
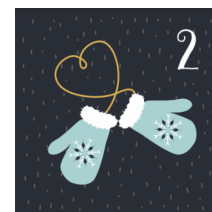
## ***Calm at Christmas – Tips for helping young people stay regulated at Christmas***

Christmas is a strange time of year in many ways. We are expected to be feeling happy and festive and so are our children/ young people. But it's not always that simple. Here are some top tips to get through the month of December!



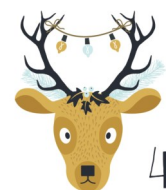
**1. Look after yourself and manage your own stress...** *Christmas is often a difficult and busy time of year for parents and this year it comes at the end of some truly challenging times for everyone. You can't pour from an empty cup and young people will often pick up on and mirror the stress felt by their parents. Take some time for self-care. It might be an early night, a bath or if you're like me, a run but make sure you do the things that help you stay calm and happy.*

**2. Focus on positives...** *Much like the tip above, if your young people hear you constantly complaining about how stressful Christmas is or indeed how hard this year has been then they will mirror those feelings too. Of course, we are all allowed to feel stressed or down but finding things to be grateful for will really help lift everyone's mood.*



**3. Stick to some kind of routine...** *(both during the holidays and on the day itself.) This applies even if you have teenagers. Young people feel safer with routines and boundaries. There can be some flexibility of course but keeping things like mealtimes regular can make huge difference.*

**4. Bedtime!...** *This is part of the tip above really but it's significant enough to deserve its own section. It's important for all young people but even more so if they are a little younger. Letting bedtimes slip later and later during the holidays will result in an over tired child. The thing about an over tired child that really takes the biscuit is that the more tired they get the worse they sleep! Find other ways to make the holidays feel more relaxed like longer in their PJ's in the morning or fun breakfasts like pancakes but keep bedtimes consistent. Trust me, you will thank me if you do!*



**5. Allow them (and you) some downtime...** *Screen time battles are common in households today and Christmas is indeed a time to spend together as a family. However, allow some quiet time during the day where young people can do their own thing. It might be everyone wants to watch a film together and if so, great! However, older young people may want to be alone for a while or younger children might want to watch TV or play some games on a tablet. This will avoid resentment from teenagers who want to be in contact with their friends and will give everyone some rest time.*

**6. Include older young people in the planning...** *How do they want the day to look? What time would be a good compromise for everyone to get up? By including them, young people will feel valued and have ownership over their day. Is there a special job you can give them? Perhaps they could be in charge of videos and pictures, especially if they are always glued to their phone.*



A final thought is that for older young people, Christmas can sometimes start to lose its magic and they may find they don't enjoy it like they used to. Following some of the tips above may help but it's also important to look out for signs that they may be struggling with their mental health. If you or your young people find it hard to cope this Christmas, please do reach out for help. I've included some links below.



# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)



## 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](http://kooth.com)



[@Kooth\\_UK](https://www.instagram.com/Kooth_UK)



[Kooth\\_UK & Kooth Podcast](#)



[Kooth-Podcast](#)



# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## What's on Kooth in December



December 3	December 10	December 10	December 15
Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Podcast	Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Live Forum
<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>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>Helping Hands - Kindness &amp; Volunteering:</b> Join us to chat about all ways we can bring kindness and volunteering into our communities.	<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>
December 20	December 24	December 29	December 31
Kooth Live Forum	Kooth Discussion Board	Kooth Live Forum	Kooth Discussion Board
<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>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>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>New Year, Not New You:</b> Do New Years' Resolutions stress you out? Join our conversation about setting positive intentions for the year ahead that feel right for you.

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

You can still access support over the holiday period



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

Sign up for free at [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)





**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## ***Kindness Advent Calendar***

Year 7 have been taking part in a kindness advent calendar challenge that started this Wednesday 1 December. They will have one challenge a school day to try to complete up until 17 December. The aim of this month of challenges is to encourage the students to carry out small acts of kindness and focus on being generous with their time and attention. As we all know kindness is contagious !

There are lots of prizes to be won for the students who have gone above and beyond in their kindness over this month.



## **Term Dates**

### ***Nasal Flu Immunisation Years 7-11***

The date for the Nasal Flu Immunisation has now changed to Tuesday 18 January 2022. Consent letters have been sent via Edulink this week to Years 7-11.



## ***Reporting Home Lateral Flow Device Results***

We would like to remind and encourage all students to test twice weekly so we can keep our community safe. If your child tests positive follow the link to log the positive home test result: <https://ashlawn.org.uk/coronavirus-notification/>

## ***Important Visitor Information***

All visitors **must** report to Main Reception via the pedestrian gate so that they can sign in.

Please **DO NOT** enter the school via other open gates as this will activate an intruder alert.

## ***Free Sanitary Items***

Students can collect free sanitary wear at school. They are available from Reception, Student Services and the PE changing rooms. Tampons and sanitary towels are available.

**Mrs Pountney**  
Assistant Principal



## ***Food Bank***

If you are struggling financially and would like a food parcel or food bank voucher, please contact Mrs Pountney or Mrs Lavery as we have a few food parcels left and we are happy to deliver.





**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## Careers News

**Wednesday 8 December: Level up with Law** – Support your child on their journey to become a top lawyer.

[https://investin.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?](https://investin.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?u=42ef3d3a89e86b8375cadb9aa&id=9d07558ac8&e=be6481cd6f)

[u=42ef3d3a89e86b8375cadb9aa&id=9d07558ac8&e=be6481cd6f](https://investin.us6.list-manage.com/track/click?u=42ef3d3a89e86b8375cadb9aa&id=9d07558ac8&e=be6481cd6f)



### Meet the Employer: Chris Pitts

Chris will be delivering a short talk on Finance, Marketing and Working Software.

**Tuesday 7 December** we are running a Working Lunch where Chris will be giving an informal conversation / talk to provide an insight into the careers and pathways surrounding finance, marketing and working software.

If any students interested and would like to come along please come see **Mrs Cooke** or **Miss Martin** at the Careers Hub to receive more details and an invite slip.

RECRUITMENT  
IS OPEN NOW!

## INTERESTED IN POLICING?

KEEN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY?  
LOOKING FOR A NEW OPPORTUNITY?



### Warwickshire Police Cadet Recruitment

Opens 1st Jan to 28th Feb 2022

You need to live or go to

School in Warwickshire

You need to be aged 13 -16 years old

on or before 1st September 2022

Download the application form at

Warwickshire Police Website/Careers/Police Cadets

Visit Facebook/twitter or our website for more information about the cadets



@WarksCadets



Warwickshire Police Cadet Email: [cadets@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cadets@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)



Warwickshire Police Cadets is a volunteer scheme for young people who wish to be part of a programme that offers an opportunity to gain a practical understanding of policing and develop their spirit of adventure and good citizenship.

Recruitment is open from 1st January to 28th February 2022, the application form can be downloaded from Warwickshire Police website from 1st Jan 2022. To download the application go to Warwickshire Police website, press the career tab and then the cadet tab to download the application form.

To be eligible to become a Warwickshire Police Cadet you must live or go to school in Warwickshire and be aged 13 to 16 years old on or before September 1st 2022.

The aim of the scheme is to support Warwickshire Police's strategy of engagement with young people throughout the force area.

Cadets support local policing priorities through volunteering, working with partner agencies and positive participation in their communities.

They take part in a variety of activities including self-defence training, law inputs, marching, fitness, team building, role playing and Outdoor events.

Cadets can gain an insight into police life through talks by guest speakers from different departments and agencies and by taking part in local community policing events.

Police cadets are a family where discipline, friendship and team work are all important.

If you become a police cadet, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that as a young person you are making a difference to your community and developing yourself for any future career.

In return we ask you to commit to attend the weekly meetings and commit to voluntary hours per quarter.

We have two units in Warwickshire, one in Nuneaton that covers North Warwickshire and one in Leamington Spa which covers South Warwickshire

The junior cadet scheme is for young people aged 13 to 16 years still at secondary school and a senior cadet scheme is for young people aged 16 to 18 years. To apply to become senior cadets you must currently be a year 11 student when applying and would be a cadet for 2 years, whilst you continue in further education.

Seniors Cadets aged between 16 to 18 years old meet every Thursday evenings in Nuneaton between 6.15 pm and 8.30 pm, we also ask that you do 3 hours volunteering per month as part of the scheme.

Junior Cadets aged between 13 to 16 years old meet every Tuesday evening in Nuneaton between 6.15pm – 8.30pm.



**TL** Proud to be part of the  
Transforming Lives Educational Trust

# ASHLAWN SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue Date:  
Friday 3 December 2021

Principal:  
Mrs S Evans

Tel: 01788 573425

Email: [info@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:info@ashlawn.org.uk)

Website: [www.ashlawn.org.uk](http://www.ashlawn.org.uk)

## **Safeguarding Advice**

What to do if you are worried about your, or someone else's safety.

Tell a trusted adult at school.

We are here to help, and our team of Designated Safeguarding Leads will provide support.

You can also call on the following number: 01788 573425.

If you are in immediate danger then phone 101 or 999.

Here are some other ways things you can get the help you need:

- Tell a trustworthy family member or safe adult who may be able to help you
- Call Childline on 0800 1111 and talk through how you are feeling and your concerns
- Email the Designated Safeguarding Leads at school at [safeguarding@ashlawn.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ashlawn.org.uk)
- Speak to Young Carers if you are looking after someone at home. Tel: 02476 217740
- Look online for support from the Family Information Service at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)
- If you feel unsafe or in danger call the council helpline on 01926 414144

If you are struggling with your mental health and want some reassurance and advice, then contact your form tutor or Head of Year. They would love to hear from you and they will help alleviate your worries.

**Mrs Pountney**

**Assistant Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead**

**Safeguarding is  
Everyone's  
Responsibility**

The Family Information Service can provide a wide range of information/support/ referrals for families in Warwickshire either via our helpline or on a face to face basis.

FIS Brokerage Service is a 1:1 early intervention service which can be used to support families with children age 0 to 25 living in Warwickshire to access services where there are barriers and/or complex needs.

To access this service please contact them using the methods below:

[fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk)

- [Twitter – @WarksFIS](https://twitter.com/WarksFIS)
- [Facebook – Warwickshire Family Information Service](https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireFamilyInformationService)
- <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families>

01926 742 274.

The Family Intervention Service can help you with topics such as:

- family relationships
- finance
- housing
- parenting support
- special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- childcare
- health and wellbeing

Please don't hesitate to get in touch. They are there to help!

**Mrs Pountney**

**Assistant Principal**

