



Bankside School

Headteacher: Kate Jasper
The Rhydd (on B4211 Road), Hanley
Castle, Worcestershire, WR8 0AD
Telephone: 01905 388 897
Email: info@banksideschool.co.uk
Website: www.banksideschool.co.uk

Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

Newsletter: 2nd October 2026

A busy week with lots of rewarding work, achievements and instances of exceptional kindness shown by our pupils.

Pupils are constantly developing their skills across the curriculum. This week we have examples of pupils beginning to create their own music compositions, understanding spoken German, learning how to behave safely around an open fire as well as taking on challenges such as walking up the Malvern Hills.

The instances of friendship and kindness across the school also show a developing awareness by many and underpin our ethos at Bankside. Asking others to join them for lunch when they are on their own, or borrowing a book from the library for an absent friend are two acts that we have experienced this week. A credit to our young people for putting others first.

Please take your time to read the information at the bottom of the newsletter with regards to safeguarding and the challenges our young people face in relation to AI and imagery. If you have any further questions, then please get in touch with us – we are always happy to help and support.

We wish you all a lovely weekend.

Important Dates

Thursday 8th October	-	Life Beyond School event for Post 16 pupils
Wednesday/Thursday 21st/22nd October	-	Private Peaceful Malvern Theatre Trip for KS3 and the BTEC Performing Arts Students
Half Term	-	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October

Just as a reminder we are a **NO NUT** School, we have a number of pupils who have allergies, this includes for some pupils, coconut allergy, please be mindful of pupils using sprays or body lotions as they can be sensitive to this.

Star Learners: For outstanding effort and focus in lessons:

- **Sammy T and Thomas C** - They have done exceptionally well today with all their lessons, got stuck in and have produced some amazing work. Keep it up lads!
- **Jake L** – Jake has been engaged and worked hard in every PSHE lesson for the last two weeks. Great to see consistent engagement and effort.
- **Kay E** - She showed great self-awareness by being able to clearly voice how she was feeling when she needed support. She made the positive choice to take a short movement break to help regulate herself and refocus. After her break, she returned to her English lesson with a positive attitude and was able to engage with the learning. Well done for showing resilience throughout the session.
- **Jayden B** - Forest School... Experimenting with different methods of lighting a fire. Jayden was able to say how to keep safe and risks that were involved in the task.
- **Thomas C** - He follows directions and recipes precisely in the kitchen, remains focused throughout, and even stirred two pots at once- his and one for another student who needed a movement break- so the food didn't stick or burn- without being asked.
- **Jayden B** - In music today, you used a program to compose a piece of music and then shared your version of Jingle Bells with us! Well done, it was an amazing piece of work!

Kindness Champions:

For showing compassion, helping others and lifting the mood of those around you:

- **Liam O** - Last Friday he was sat in the canteen and saw someone sat on their own and asked them to join him. It was so nice to see!
- **Fynn M** - For being incredibly kind and supportive to another student who was really struggling by trying to engage and cheer her up!
- **Emily H** - She always treats her fellow students with respect and kindness and is considerate of their feelings. You truly understand what "visible kindness" means, well done!
- **Millie B** - For showing kindness and consideration for her friend who was ill and not able to attend the Hive Library last Thursday, something he was very much looking forward to. She used her own library card and selected a book for him, which is sitting in school waiting for him on his return. A real act of kindness!
- **Owen D** - Last week in particular Owen went out of his way to make me feel better. On his own he made me my own plate of food, told me medically what I needed to do to make it better and offered comfort and kind words. Which was very much appreciated and needed. You showed real kindness and care, thank you, you 101% deserve this award.
- **Jayden W and Amelia A** – They demonstrated great kindness by supporting another student and helping them to succeed. They offered encouragement, helpful advice and guidance, showing excellent teamwork and consideration for others. Well done Jayden and Amelia!
- **Bran H and Robin C** - For showing genuine empathy and kindness when a peer was upset. You were caring, supportive and understanding during a time of need, demonstrating what it means to be a thoughtful and compassionate friend.

Progress Heroes: For making visible strides in learning, behaviour and confidence:

- **Kay E** - She has worked exceptionally hard in both PSHE lessons this week. After a wobbly start, she produced some excellent work and completed her portfolio demo, showing resilience and listening affectively to feedback. Well done Kay!!
- **Lucas S** - He has consistently shown great attendance and participation in class. He has been showing maturity in his choices and relationships. We are all so proud of him and he is a key member of our class group.
- **Ola D** - For incredible progress in German. After only a few lessons, Ola is starting to understand spoken German, pick out key words and make sense of what she hears and reads. These are really key skills for learning a language and I'm very proud of her!
- **Erin B** - Erin completed an entire music lesson this week, worked on a composition independently and repeatedly told us how much fun she was having!!! Amazing progress
- **Etta M** - Etta's positivity and engagement in PE this week motivated the rest of the group to take part in a game of her choice. It was great to see everyone engaged and enjoying activities and great to see Etta having the confidence to share her ideas with us.

Cricket Club Foundation

We are delighted to introduce our Disability Cricket Pathway and invite new players to attend our upcoming Talent Identification Day! All sessions/fixtures are FREE.

The Worcestershire Disability Cricket Pathway provides individuals with disabilities/impairments the opportunity to develop their cricket, represent Worcestershire, and compete against other counties. I have attached our Disability Pathway from Schools/Colleges all the way to the top! I have also attached our Super 1s All Hubs Flyer which sits below the pathway.

Talent Identification Day

Date: Sunday 22 November 2026

Venue: University of Worcester, St John's Campus, Sports Centre, WR2 6AJ

Super 9s | 10:00am–11:30am

Our entry-level softball squad provides an inclusive introduction to competitive cricket. The team will have regular winter pre-season training before competing in the ECB Super 9s Challenge League during the summer.

D40 | 11:30am–1:00pm

Our high-performance hardball squad provides an opportunity for players to develop their skills in a competitive environment. The team will have regular winter pre-season training and play competitive fixtures against neighbouring counties.

How to get involved

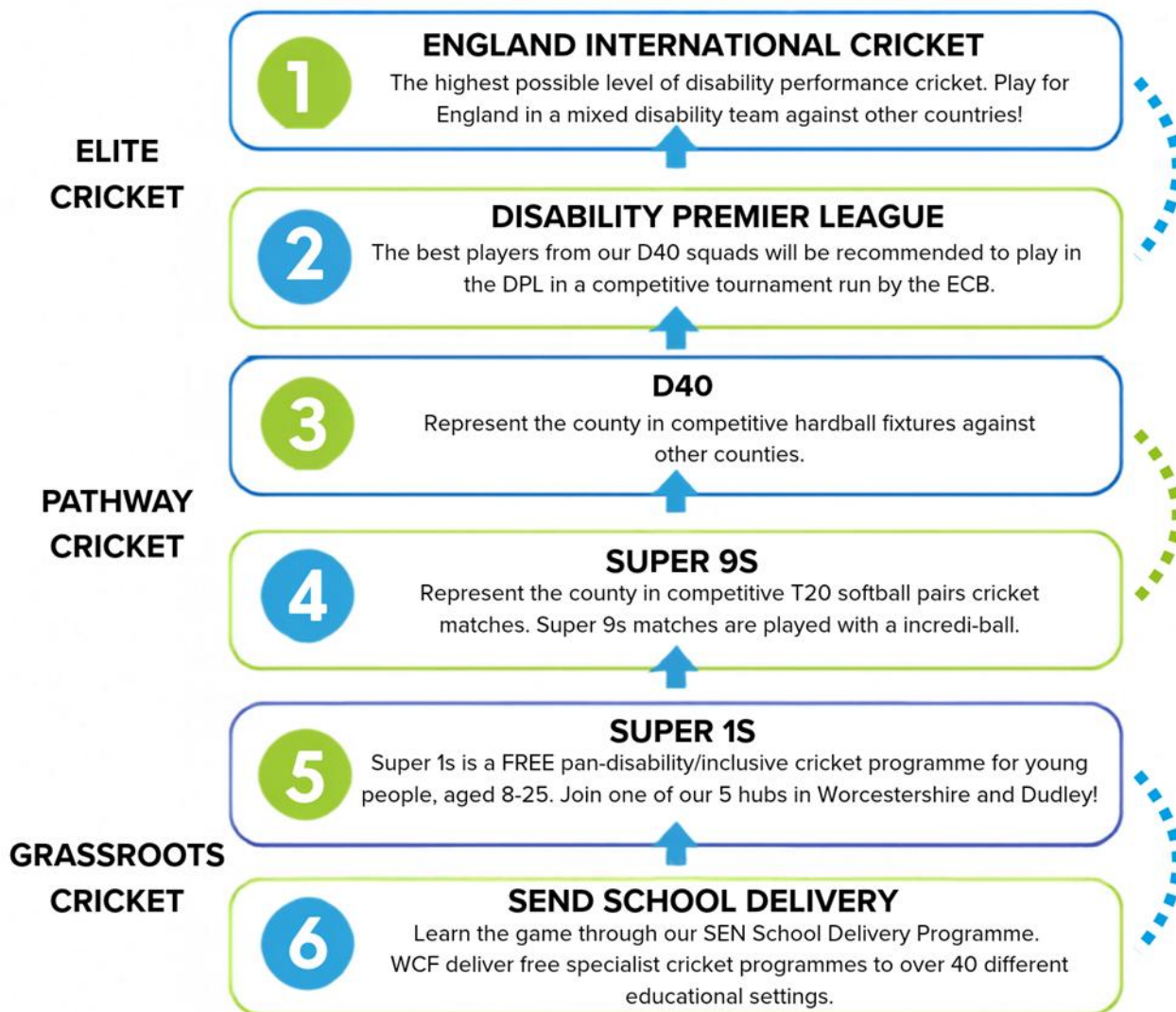
To register for our Talent Identification Day and become part of the Worcestershire Disability Cricket Pathway, please complete the sign-up form -

<https://forms.monday.com/forms/a4201ac4912114adf3063a01fb55a30a?r=euc1>

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact
nicolas.buckle@worcestershirecricketfoundation.co.uk.



WCF DISABILITY CRICKET PATHWAY



For more information about any of our Disability Programmes, please contact:

nicolas.buckle@worcestershirecricketfoundation.co.uk

Visit our website to find out more:



Super 1s

**ALL DISABILITIES
WELCOME**

AGES 8-25

**FREE INCLUSIVE CRICKET
SESSIONS**

**ALL EQUIPMENT
PROVIDED**

**GET ACTIVE AND MAKE
NEW FRIENDS!**



**WORCESTERSHIRE
CRICKET FOUNDATION**

WORCESTER SEND HUB

Term Time Only
MONDAYS
5 - 6PM

Perdiswell leisure Center
Bilford Rd,
Worcester
WR3 8DX

MALVERN SEND HUB

Term Time Only
TUESDAYS
5 - 6PM

Sport Dyson Perrins school
Yates Hay Rd,
Malvern
WR14 1WD

OLDSWINFORD SEND HUB

FRIDAYS
6 - 7PM

Thorns Collegiate Acadamy
Stockwell Ave,
Quarry Bank,
Brierley Hill
DY5 2NU

DUDLEY SEND HUB

Term Time Only
WEDNESDAY 5-6PM

Dudly College
The Broadway,
Dudley
DY1 4AS

KIDDERMINSTER SEND HUB

Term Time Only
THURSDAYS 5 - 6PM

Silverwoods Way
Stourport Rd,
Kidderminster
DY11 7DT



CONTACT:



NIC BUCKLE



07741 272502



nicolas.buckle@worcestershirecricketfoundation.co.uk

**Scan Here For Full
Session Information**



LORD'S TAVERNERS

Empowering young people through cricket

www.lordstaverners.org/super1s

Registered Charity No. 306054 | OSCR No. SCO46238



Clinical Team

This week we would like to share an update regarding some all-staff training delivered by our school psychologist that was undertaken before the summer holiday.

This training was on Emotion Coaching, a communication strategy developed by American psychologist John Gottman that helps children and young people understand, label, and manage their feelings during moments of high stress or intense behaviour. This is a widely used, evidence-based technique that some parents may recognise from their child's EHCP, as Emotion Coaching is often recommended as a helpful approach for staff to take when trying to build trusted relationships and develop children's emotional literacy.

The core principles of emotion coaching are that relationships come first, that all emotions are acceptable and understandable, but not all behaviours are safe and acceptable. The technique of Emotion Coaching is split into 4 steps:

Noticing physical or verbal signs of distress and show that you understand how the child feels.

Labelling and Validating the emotions observed which helps the child put a name to their feeling, helping to calm their nervous system and leave them feeling understood.

Setting Limits by remind the child of appropriate behavioural expectations and boundaries.

Problem-Solving but talking through alternative choices or solutions for the future when the child is completely calm and able to engage.

Emotion Coaching can be used anytime by anyone. If you are interested, please check out the Emotion Coaching UK website for helpful video demonstrations and scripts to try out.

<https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.emotioncoachinguk.com%2Fresources-for-professionals-parents->

Emotion Coaching Resources for Professionals

D of E Trip

The D of E Group for their Active hours went on a walk to the Beacon on the Malvern hills. They showed great positivity and determination.



7-Minute Safeguarding Briefing for Parents and Carers

Nudes, semi-nudes, AI-generated imagery and online sexual harm

Understanding the harm

Children and young people increasingly communicate through social media, messaging services, gaming platforms and group chats. Although these spaces can provide friendship and a sense of belonging, they can also expose children to pressure, grooming, sexual harassment, blackmail and the sharing of nude or sexual imagery.

Artificial intelligence can now be used to alter an ordinary photograph or create a convincing sexual image of a child. These may be described as AI-generated images, deepfakes or "nudified" images. The image may be fake, but the embarrassment, distress and safeguarding harm experienced by the child are very real.

AI-generated child sexual abuse imagery is illegal. It can be a criminal offence to make, possess or share an indecent image of anyone under 18, including imagery created or altered using AI. However, the law exists to protect children. A child who asks for help needs reassurance and support, rather than blame or punishment.

What might parents notice?

There may be no obvious signs. However, changes could include:

- becoming distressed, secretive or panicked after using a phone
- receiving repeated messages from an unknown person or account
- suddenly deleting an account or creating new accounts
- being asked for money, gift cards or further images
- worrying that an image will be shared with friends or family
- withdrawing from usual activities or refusing to attend school
- changes in sleep, mood or emotional wellbeing
- sexualised bullying, rumours or comments from peers
- self-harm or comments about not wanting to live

One sign does not necessarily mean that something has happened, but a change in behaviour may provide an opportunity for a calm conversation.

If your child tells you something

Try to remain calm, even if you feel shocked or worried. Children may delay telling an adult because they fear getting into trouble, losing access to their phone or disappointing their family.

You could say:

"Thank you for telling me. You are not in trouble, and this is not your fault. We will get some help and work through this together."

Ask only what you need to understand their immediate safety:

- Are you safe now?
- Is anyone threatening you?
- Has anyone asked you for money or more images?
- Do you feel that you might hurt yourself?
- Is there an immediate risk of someone coming to meet you?

A calm response helps a child keep talking

Avoid repeatedly questioning your child or asking why they sent an image. Pressure, grooming, manipulation and fear can all affect a child's choices.

Listen carefully and take what they say seriously. Avoid blame, shame or showing shock. If your child needs more time, reassure them that you are ready to listen when they feel able to continue.

If there is an immediate danger, an offender is nearby, there are threats to life, or there is a serious risk of suicide or self-harm, call 999. Please do not wait for an email response in an emergency.

Do not handle the imagery

If you become aware of a nude or sexual image involving a child:

- do not ask your child to send or show it to you
- do not copy, screenshot, save, print or forward it
- do not send it to the school as evidence
- do not contact or confront the person suspected of creating or sharing it
- do not immediately delete the image, account or messages, as information may be needed by the police or another safeguarding agency

If the image appears unexpectedly, stop viewing it and seek advice. Make a note of information your child has already provided, such as the platform, account name, profile link, threats or requests for money. Do not undertake your own investigation.

If someone is using an image to demand money, gift cards or further sexual content, this is blackmail. Do not pay or meet any further demands. Seek support immediately.

Report the concern

Please contact Bankside School and ask to speak with the Designated Safeguarding Lead or a Deputy DSL. The school can help assess the concern and advise on referrals to the police, Children's Social Care, CEOP or specialist image-removal services.

For sensitive or confidential safeguarding information, email dsl@banksideschool.co.uk. This mailbox goes directly to the DSL and Deputy DSLs so concerns can be picked up promptly.

For non-sensitive matters or general questions, contact Paul Childs, Lead DSL, at paul.childs@banksideschool.co.uk.

Call 999 if a child is in immediate danger, an offender is nearby, there are threats to life, or there is a serious risk of suicide or self-harm. For non-emergency police advice, call 101.

Bankside School contacts

Telephone
01905 388 897

Sensitive or confidential safeguarding concerns or information: Sent directly to the DSL and Deputy DSLs

dsl@banksideschool.co.uk

Non-sensitive matters and general queries:

Paul Childs, Lead DSL
paul.childs@banksideschool.co.uk

Website
www.banksideschool.co.uk

Worcestershire Family Front Door

Parents and carers can contact the **Family Front Door** directly if they are worried about a child's safety or welfare. Call 01905 822 666 during office hours: Monday to Thursday, 9.00am to 5.00pm, and Friday, 9.00am to 4.30pm. Out of hours, call the Emergency Duty Team on 01905 768 020.

Support for children and families

- **Childline:** 0800 1111 or childline.org.uk
- **Report Remove:** childline.org.uk/remove
Helps young people report nude or sexual images of themselves that may have been shared online.
- **CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) Safety Centre:** ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
Reports concerning online sexual abuse, grooming or blackmail.
- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000
- **Immediate danger:** 999
- **Police non-emergency:** 101

A helpful conversation to have at home

Remind your child:

"If anyone pressures, threatens or tricks you online, you can tell me. You will not be blamed, and we will ask for help together."

When talking to your child or young person, use clear and concrete language. Explain that someone online may not be who they claim to be, consent can be withdrawn at any time, and a request from a friend does not have to be followed. Allow time for processing and avoid relying on hints or euphemisms.