



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: 9th October 2026

One of the major events this week was when our Post 16 cohort and some of our Year 11s attended the 'Life beyond School' event at Sixways in Worcester.

The Life Beyond School event offers students across Worcestershire the opportunity to explore their next steps after school. Our pupils were able to speak with a wide range of education providers, employers, day centres, and more. With over 50 exhibitors under one roof, the event brings together opportunities in education, employment, and community support.

The pupils returned with a variety of freebies and commented that it had been a useful and enjoyable event.

In relation to the KS4 and 5 qualification pathways that pupils are following at school, we have taken the time to allow pupils to settle into school life again after the Summer break, experience their Option subjects and given them time to make sure they are happy with their choices.

We are now at the stage of registering them for their qualifications and, in this respect, will be expecting pupils to pursue their selected Options.

Moving forward, if a pupil wishes to change their Options, they will be required to give us formal notice of this decision and allow us time to adjust their qualification pathway.

Enjoy reading about all the certificates awarded below and the wonderful achievements of our pupils this last week. Congratulations to you all and keep up the positive work and attitudes.

Important Dates

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:

- **Scarlet L, Annabelle S and Becca C** - Excellent team work at forest school. You all worked together to carry out a set of tasks. Your communication skills as a great with each other was excellent, all having a role within the group.
- **Jake J** - He has been so fantastic and worked hard in all lessons. We are so proud of your achievements this term!
- **Oliver V** - BTEC Music this week. Oliver completed an independent composition task, sticking to the brief and coming up with an amazing piece of music, fantastic work!!!
- **Sylvie U** - Sylvie showed great enthusiasm and creativity throughout the task in her BTEC Art lesson, taking her time to carefully design an impressive Greek mood board on PowerPoint. She thoughtfully incorporated a range of Greek symbols, statues and colour swatches, demonstrating excellent attention to detail and a strong understanding of the task. Her work was visually engaging, well-presented and reflected both pride and dedication in her learning. Well done, Sylvie! Keep up the great work!
- **Erin B** - In her 1 2 1 cooking sessions she can work pretty independently on a lot of recipes, especially baking, and is thoughtful regarding wanting to sometimes make gluten free cakes to take home.
- **Millie B** - For reading aloud to the group in English sessions, voluntarily taking on multiple roles when reading our play 'An Inspector Calls'. Her confidence in her reading ability has increased SO much! Well done, Millie.
- **Clare M** - Clare showed great creativity when designing her own basketball relay race course, coming up with some fantastic ideas and demonstrating excellent initiative. She carefully explained and demonstrated her ideas to her classmates and supported them to complete the activity. Well done Clare, keep up the good work!
- **Jake L and Harrison S** - Both have worked incredibly hard this week in computing and have produced some excellent animations using new software. They demonstrated creativity, made effective use of different tools available, and worked independently using their checklists to guide them. Fantastic work both!

Kindness Champions:

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

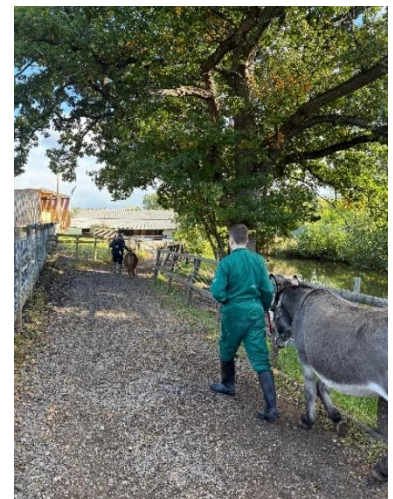
- **Erin B** - She is so sensitive to other students' needs and often checks in to find out if they are ok and offers them things to help cheer them up.

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

- **Oliver V** - Ollie has made fantastic progress in his attitude towards English this term. Although Ollie has been open about English not being his preferred subject, he has shown a real commitment to attending and engaging with lessons, and has consistently pushed himself to complete tasks even when he doesn't feel like doing them. His ability to "lock in" and gives his best effort regardless of how he feels about the subject is a fantastic example of resilience, maturity and dedication to his learning.
- **Harley M** - Harley has been showing excellent engagement and focus during lessons. Harley has been able to follow a multi-step task board to create aspects and develop his artwork in class. Well done Harley!
- **Elsa S** - Elsa, your determination and perseverance at Forest School this week was a joy to see. You chose a challenge and saw it through to the end, we are all proud of the progress you are making!
- **Becca C** - She attended PSHE this week and worked consistently throughout the lesson and engaged fantastically with the work. Absolutely great to see, well done.
- **Catalina B** - She has completed three excellent lessons worth of work this week and shown real patience and resilience to keep coming and working on maths even when she didn't always feel like it. I am so impressed Cat - well done.

Acton Mill Care Farm

We visited Acton Mill Care Farm, where we saw donkeys and sheep. The trip was a great experience, and they set a really good example of how to care for animals. We had the opportunity to walk the donkeys and feed the rabbits and guinea pigs, which everyone really enjoyed.



Beyond School Event at Worcester Sixways

Today, students attended the Life Beyond School Event at Worcester Sixways, where they had the opportunity to explore a wide range of progression pathways. The event brought together local education providers, training organisations, apprenticeship providers and supported internship programmes.

Throughout the event, students visited information stalls and spoke with representatives about educational courses, apprenticeships, supported learning programmes and employment-related opportunities. This provided valuable insight into the different routes they may wish to pursue in the future and encouraged them to begin thinking about their own aspirations and future career options. The event also featured a variety of engaging, hands-on activities designed to promote learning and career awareness. Students particularly enjoyed taking part in an interactive activity led by Specsavers, where they learned more about eye care by identifying and labelling parts of the eye and different types of glasses. Another popular activity challenged students to match everyday objects with related occupations, helping them develop their understanding of the skills, tools and equipment associated with different job roles.

One of the highlights of the day was the opportunity to meet Lottie, a friendly therapy dog, who was a great source of enjoyment and engagement for many of our students.

In addition to gathering information and participating in activities, students were able to take home a variety of souvenirs and resources from the event. These included personalised badges featuring inspirational messages, created using a badge making machine, as well as making keyrings.

Overall, the event was an enjoyable and informative experience that helped students gain a greater understanding of the opportunities available to them beyond school. It provided valuable experience for the students to think positively about their future aspirations and next steps



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 Academy
Stockwell Ave,
Quarry Bank,
Brierley Hill
DY5 2NU

DUDLEY SEND HUB

Term Time Only
WEDNESDAY 5-6PM

Dudley 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

7-Minute Briefing for Parents and Carers

Domestic abuse, coercive control and the impact on children

Understanding domestic abuse

It is estimated that around 26% of people aged 16+ have experienced domestic abuse since age 16, with police reporting 1.35 million domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes in England and Wales in the year end of March 2025.

Domestic abuse can happen in any family. It includes threatening, controlling or violent behaviour between partners, former partners or family members. It can affect people of any gender and can continue after a relationship has ended.

Abuse may involve physical violence, sexual pressure, humiliation, threats, restricting access to money or stopping someone seeing friends and family. Monitoring a phone, messages or someone's movements can also form part of abuse. Coercive control is a pattern of behaviour that makes someone feel frightened, dependent or unable to make their own choices.

Children can be harmed even when they are not in the room. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 recognises a child under 18 as a victim in their own right when they see, hear or experience the effects of abuse involving a parent, someone with parental responsibility or another relative. Abuse is never the fault of the person experiencing it or their child.

What might you notice?

Children respond in different ways. Experiencing domestic abuse is an adverse childhood experience, even when the abuse is not directed at the child or young person.

You may notice:

- Increased worry or anxiety, low mood, depression or withdrawal.
- Anger, distress or changes in behaviour, including difficulties with emotional regulation.
- Hypervigilance, such as appearing constantly alert or on edge.
- Nightmares, difficulty sleeping or symptoms of post-traumatic stress.
- Headaches or other physical complaints.
- Changes in eating.
- Difficulties concentrating, learning or attending school.
- Difficulties forming or maintaining trusting relationships, including with peers or safe adults.
- Comments about self-harm or not wanting to live.

A child may feel responsible for keeping a parent safe or try to protect younger brothers and sisters.

These signs can have other causes. They are a reason to listen and seek advice, rather than proof that abuse is happening. Some children show few outward signs.

If your child tells you something

Try to stay calm and give them time to talk. You could say:

"Thank you for telling me. This is not your fault. We will get some help together."

Listen carefully, take them seriously and explain what you will do next. Ask only what you need to understand their immediate safety, such as "Are you safe now?" or "Is anyone hurt?"

Avoid repeated or leading questions. Do not confront the person they have named, as this may increase the risk. A child should never have to step in to stop abuse or protect an adult.

Please share concerns promptly with the school safeguarding team or Family Front Door. You do not need to be certain before asking for help.

Supporting your child at home

Reassure your child that adults are responsible for finding help. Familiar routines, time with a trusted adult and a calm space can help them feel more secure. Support may still be needed after the abuse has stopped or a relationship has ended.

For children with autism, ADHD or communication needs, use clear, concrete language and allow time to process what you say. Ask one question at a time and use their usual communication aids if helpful. Tell school about changes you have noticed so we can consider support together. A quiet or calm appearance does not always show how a child is feeling.

If anyone is in immediate danger, call 999. Please do not wait for an email response in an emergency.

Cranstoun: alcohol and drug support for adults and children

Cranstoun provides adult alcohol and drug treatment. Its Family Support Service helps adults and children affected by someone else's drinking or drug use. **Here4YOUth** supports children and young people with their own alcohol or drug use.

Call 0300 303 8200. Phone lines open 9.30am-5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays.

Adults and family support: cranstoun.org/help-and-advice/alcohol-other-drugs/worcestershire/

Children and young people: cranstoun.org/help-and-advice/young-people/here4youth-worcestershire/

If you are worried about yourself or someone close to you

You can ask for specialist advice even if you are unsure whether what is happening is abuse. You deserve support, and you do not have to manage this alone. A domestic abuse service can help you think through safety and the options available to you and your children.

If you are supporting someone else, listen without blame or pressure. Avoid confronting the person causing harm. Agree a safe way to keep in touch. If a phone or device may be monitored, use a safer device to seek advice where possible.

Alcohol or drug use does not excuse abuse. Where a parent's substance use affects supervision, care or safety, the whole family may need help. Substance use alone does not establish neglect. Seek support from your GP, the school or Family Front Door if you are worried about its impact on a child.

How Bankside School can help

Please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or a Deputy DSL. We can listen, consider support for your child and help you access the right services. Let us know when and how it is safe to contact you.

We will treat concerns sensitively. We cannot promise to keep a safeguarding concern secret. Where needed to protect a child, we will share relevant information with the appropriate services and explain our next steps where it is safe to do so.

Through **Operation Encompass**, police have a duty to notify the school's trained safeguarding key adult when the criteria apply following a domestic abuse incident. This helps us offer timely, discreet support.

Bankside School contacts

Telephone: 01905 388 897

Sensitive or confidential safeguarding concerns:
dsl@banksideschool.co.uk
 This mailbox reaches the DSL and Deputy DSLs.

Non-sensitive matters and general queries:
 Paul Childs, Lead DSL
paul.childs@banksideschool.co.uk

Worcestershire Family Front Door

Parents and carers can contact **Family Front Door** directly about a child's safety or welfare.
 01905 822 666: Monday to Thursday, 9am-5pm, and Friday, 9am-4.30pm.

For safeguarding emergencies outside these hours: 01905 768 020.
 Immediate danger: 999. Non-emergency police enquiries: 101.

Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (DASS)

DASS provides a local route to support for people and children affected by domestic abuse, including male survivors. Support includes refuge accommodation, recovery work and help for children and young people. Referrals go through **West Mercia Women's Aid**.

Worcestershire helpline: 0800 980 3331

Open 7am-10pm weekdays and 9am-5pm weekends and bank holidays.

www.westmerciawomensaid.org

Find the DASS information page under "Domestic abuse support" at www.worcestershire.gov.uk.

Other support

National Domestic Abuse Helpline:
 0808 2000 247, free, 24 hours a day.
www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk
Childline: 0800 1111, free, 24 hours a day.
www.childline.org.uk
NSPCC advice on domestic abuse:
www.nspcc.org.uk

Worcester Community Trust / DAWN

Free domestic abuse support in Worcester City, Wychavon and Malvern Hills, with a men's service across Worcestershire. General referrals are temporarily paused. The men's service remains open. Check current availability or contact West Mercia Women's Aid.
www.worcestercommunitytrust.org.uk/domestic-abuse-support/