

Parent, Family & Community Briefing



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.

Friday 11th September 2026

Welcome to this week's parent, family and community briefing!



A Strong Start to the New Academic Year

We have now reached the end of the first full week of term, and it has been wonderful to see our students back in school and engaged in their learning. Our new year 7 students have settled in exceptionally well and have made a positive start to life at Holsworthy Community College.

This week, we have challenged all students to start strong by attending school every day, arriving ready to learn, working hard in every lesson, and making positive choices. To recognise these efforts, students who achieve 100% attendance and receive no negative points on ClassCharts will be invited to our first rewards event of the year. We have also been asking students for their ideas about future rewards events, and we look forward to incorporating their suggestions.

Looking Ahead

Next week promises to be another busy and exciting one for our students:

- Wednesday: CPR training for year 7s and our Meet the Tutor Evening for all years
- Thursday: Individual school photographs for year 7s and new intakes

Meet the Tutor Evening is a particularly important event in our calendar. It provides families with an opportunity to meet their child's tutor, learn more about the year ahead, and ask any questions they may have. We encourage all families to attend and look forward to welcoming you.

- Wednesday 16th September from 3.45pm to 6.45pm. Please remember to book your appointment with your child's tutor via school cloud booking system. We will also have colleagues from SEND, pastoral and careers available to answer any questions. There will also be a sample of our delicious food from our canteen.

Reminder

All pupils must arrive in full school uniform each day.

- ✓ Come to school in the correct school uniform
- ✓ Change into PE kit before your PE lesson
- ✓ Change back into school uniform after PE
- ✗ Do not come to school wearing PE kit

Thank you for helping us maintain our high standards and school pride.

Parent, Family & Community Briefing



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust

...everyone in our Trust.

Free School Meals

Eligibility for free school meals has changed from September 2026.

If you have a recently approved application on the [Devon Citizens Portal](#), take a screenshot of the whole approval and send to admin@hccdevon.org. Once that has been received your child's Arbor student profile will be updated. Devon County Council will update schools but that may delay your child from getting the free school meal initially.

If you live in Cornwall but attend Holsworthy Community College the application must be made via the Devon Citizens Portal.



Cashless Catering

We are a cashless school. In order for your child to have lunch in school, they will need a cashless catering account which can be set up via the school gateway app.

For further information, please visit our website:

[Cashless Catering | Holsworthy Community College](#)

ClassCharts

ClassCharts is a powerful tool to support good communication between school and home. If you have not yet downloaded the app, we please ask that you do so. This will allow you to share in the successes when students are awarded positive points, whilst also working with us when students get it wrong.

[Class Charts Parent Guide](#)

Arbor Parent Portal

The Arbor Parent Portal is a platform where parents are able to see and update personal information. see information about your child/children and receive communications. For help in setting up your account, please visit our website.

[Abor Parent Portal _parent guide](#)

Parent, Family & Community Briefing



Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

...everyone in our Trust.







DICE Parenting Programme

DICE is a 4 week free universal support for parents/carers of pre-teens and teens who are worried about parenting in the modern world, with the risks and challenges this presents.

DICE provides families with **information, advice and support** to help them provide a **safe and protective environment** for their child or young person.

The programme is running on a **regular basis throughout the year, online and face to face**. Contact details overleaf for further information or a referral form.

01752 256339

exceed@barnardos.org.uk

[Online referral form](#)

www.barnardosexceed.org.uk



You can email us to be sent a referral form, or follow the link/scan the QR code for our online referral form.

Registered Charity Nos. 216250 and 3037605





DICE Upcoming Dates

Please note this is a 4-week course, therefore **please ensure you're able to attend all 4 dates listed**.
Online sessions are run on Teams.

Face to face <i>Four Woods Family Hub, Plymouth</i>	Tues 15 th Sept Tues 22 nd Sept Tues 29 th Sept Tues 6 th Oct	
10am-12pm		
Online daytime <i>Microsoft Teams</i>	Weds 16 th Sept Weds 23 rd Sept Weds 30 th Sept Weds 7 th Oct	Weds 11 th Nov Weds 18 th Nov Weds 25 th Nov Weds 2 nd Nov
10am-12pm		
Online evening <i>Microsoft Teams</i>	Mon 14 th Sept Mon 21 st Sept Mon 28 th Sept Mon 5 th Oct	Mon 9 th Nov Mon 16 th Nov Mon 23 rd Nov Mon 30 th Nov
5pm-7pm		





Session 01: Introduction and the life of a teenager

The teenage brain, why teenagers might take risks and the pressures they face in the modern world.

Session 02: The exploitation of children and young people

Grooming - what is it, how does it happen, where and by whom? How can we spot the signs?

Session 03: Digital dangers

Social media, nudes and the complexities of the online world. How can we be better digital parents/carers?

Session 04: A safe place to share ideas about parenting

Parenting top tips - practical advice and information about communicating effectively, support networks and working together.

The Barnardo's Exceed service is open 9am - 5pm Mondays to Fridays (not including bank holidays). We aim to get in contact with you within 1 working day after receiving your enquiry.
For all enquiries, further information or a referral form please contact - exceed@barnardos.org.uk

What's On At HOLSWORTHY LIBRARY September 2026

Summer Book Quest ends this month. Call in to finish before the 19th - deadline extended because of closure w/c 7th Sep!

Please note that the library will be closed from the 7th-11th September. This is so that we can install OpenPlus which will allow for extended opening hours in the near future.

- **Bounce & Rhyme**, Thursday 3rd, 17th & 24th - 2:15pm-2:45pm. Songs and stories for children 0-4 years old.
- **Devon Family Hub Drop In Advice Session**, Thursday 3rd - 2pm-4pm. Free family advice & guidance to anyone with a child aged 0-19 (up to 25 with SEND). Call 0800 5385458 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm for advice & guidance if you can't make the sessions.
- Speak to a **Healthwatch Devon** champion for support and guidance on local health and social care and to share your experiences with them, Monday 14th - 2pm-4pm.
- **Gardening Cuppa and Chat**, Wednesday 16th - 2pm-3pm. A monthly meeting to talk all things gardening. Everyone welcome.
- **Sew Together**, Monday 21st - 3:30pm-4:30pm. Bring your own hand sewing project (or knitting etc). An informal and supportive group rather than a class or lesson!
- Learn Devon - **Thinking About Self-Employment** session, Thursday 24th, - 10am-12pm. Limited spaces, book directly with Learn Devon (online, by email or phone)
- **Lloyds Bank Community Banking**, every other Monday 2-4. By appointment only - call 02077143681 to book direct with Lloyds.
- **Self Service Baby Weigh**. Every Thursday - 1pm-4pm.
- **Lego and games** for children. Every Saturday - 10am-12pm

01409 253514 holsworthy.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk
Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092.
To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk



Supported by



TORBAY COUNCIL

Parent, Family & Community Briefing



Dartmoor
Multi Academy
Trust
...everyone in our Trust.



Cornwall Council Catch the Bus Month

Catch the Bus Month is running throughout September.

As part of the national initiative, Transport for Cornwall are running two competitions;

- Design a graphic/ vinyl for your local bus stop or shelter,
- A design to feature on the exterior of a double deck bus.

The full details can be found at [Design Your Bus Stop and Bus Wrap Competition | Let's Talk Cornwall](#) or on the Transport for Cornwall Facebook Page and website.

Key Dates

- **Wednesday 16th September** - Year 7 CPR training
- **Wednesday 16th September** - Meet the tutor evening, all years
- **Thursday 17th September** - Tempest photography, year 7 and new students
- **Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd September** - Year 7 residential
- **Thursday 24th September** - Year 5 and 6 open evening



ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

Holsworthy Community College is an allergy aware school. We have a number of students and staff who can suffer with serious allergic reactions.

Please support our community by leaving all nuts and nut products at home.

