



**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

## **Headteachers report of the week**

This week has been a truly inspiring one across our school, and I want to begin by celebrating how incredibly our learners have challenged themselves. Whether in the classroom, out on visits, or taking part in hands on activities, they have shown confidence, curiosity and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

A real highlight was the visit to the Telford Skills Show, where our learners engaged brilliantly with a wide range of experiences. They embraced every opportunity, trying out new challenges, meeting professionals and exploring real world equipment. It was wonderful to see them discovering genuine life skills, from practical tasks to teamwork and communication and taking away valuable knowledge about future careers and pathways. The excitement, enthusiasm and maturity they showed made us incredibly proud.

Our Primary learners also had a fantastic enrichment opportunity with their visit to Blue Planet Aquarium. This trip supported their curriculum beautifully, especially their work on habitats, animals and the wider natural world. Seeing marine life up close helped them make meaningful links between what they learn in class and the real creatures and ecosystems they study. Moments like these truly bring learning to life, helping children form deep, memorable connections that strengthen their understanding.

Overall, this week has shown the very best of our school community. Our learners continue to amaze us with their determination, resilience and eagerness to grow. Thank you to all staff who have supported these experiences and to our learners, who make every opportunity count.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes

Jules





This week, learners enjoyed trying out skateboarding as part of their Forest School session. They showed great enthusiasm and confidence as they learned to balance, move and experiment on their boards. It was fantastic to see them supporting one another, having fun outdoors, and developing new skills along the way. Well done, Acorns 1!

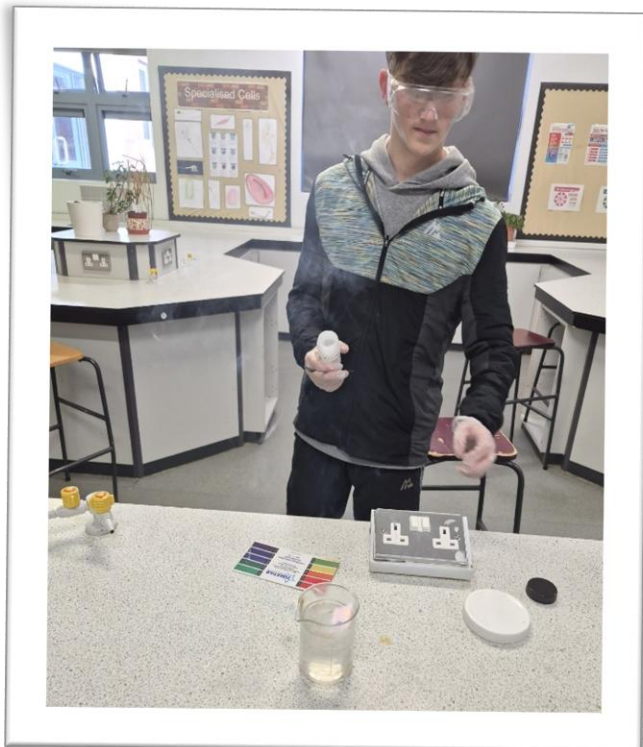




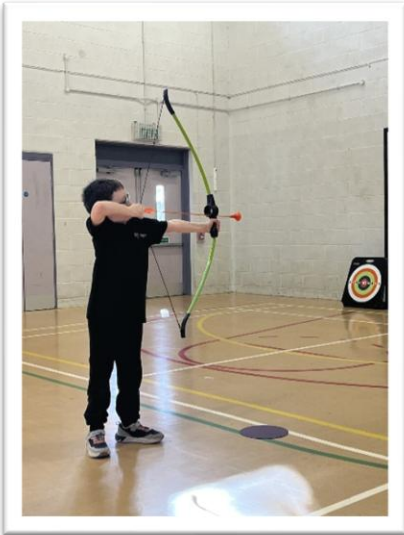
Acorns 3 have been learning how to sew this week!



They learnt new techniques and took inspiration from the coming Easter holidays to create amazing bunny themed items.

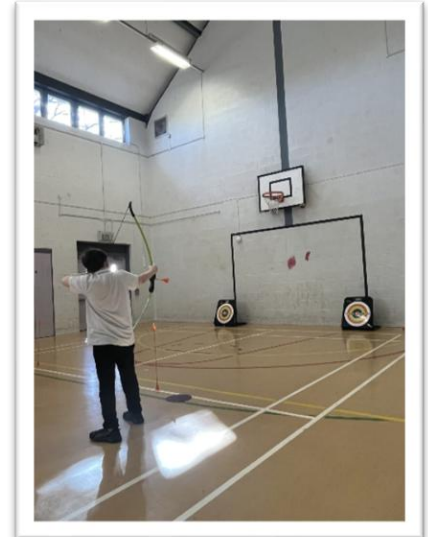


Morgan took part in a science lesson this week where he explored how different metals react with water. He particularly enjoyed observing the most reactive metals and seeing the exciting reactions they produced.



## KS2 archery competition

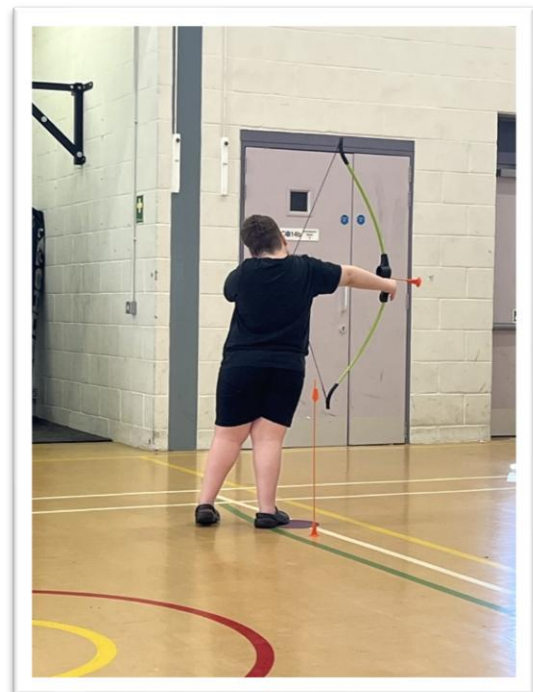
was full of focus, fun, and friendly rivalry! Pupils showed great aim and determination



as they took their shots, cheering each other on throughout. It was a fantastic event that built confidence and teamwork, with plenty of proud moments!



- Sian





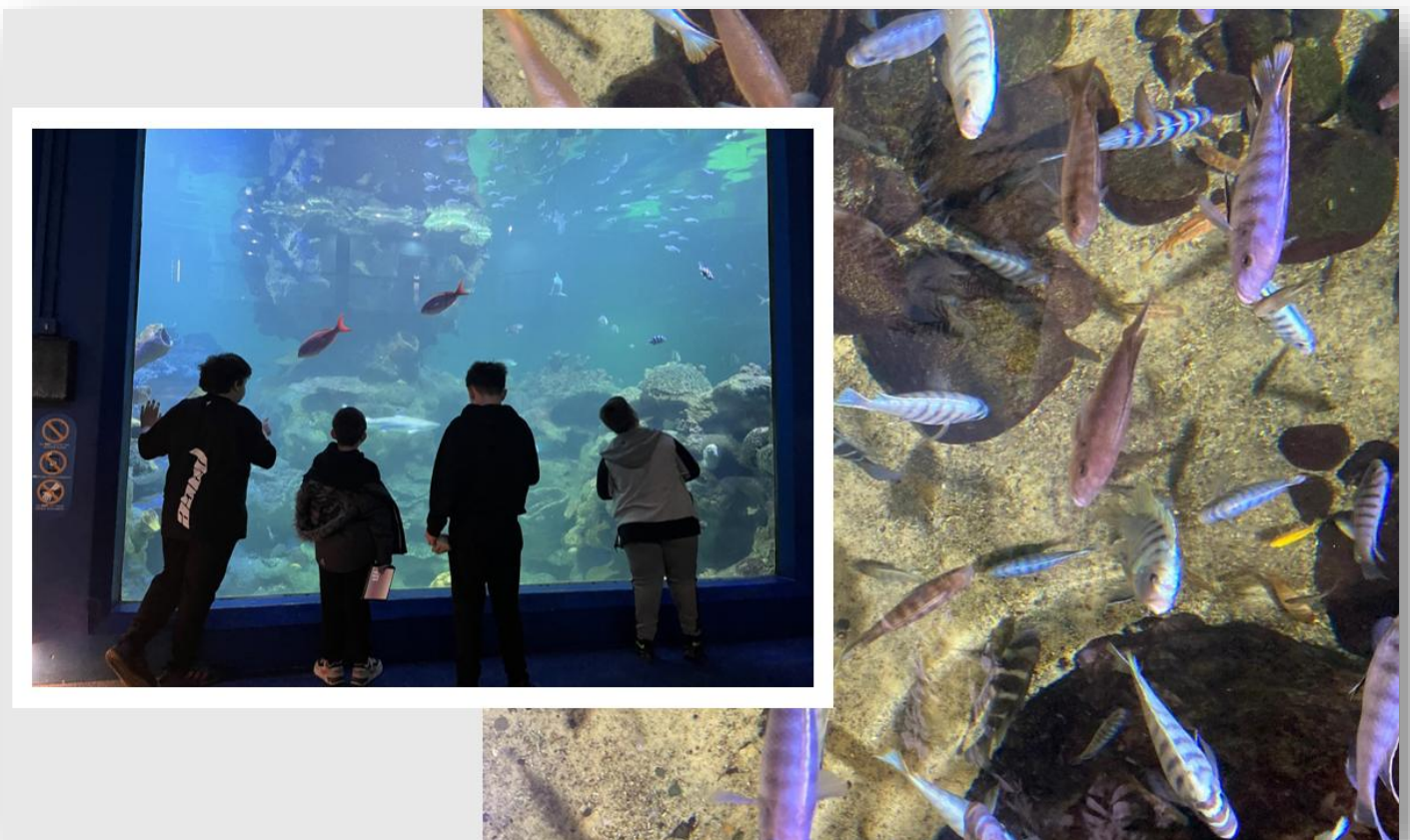
Our Forest School sessions have been full of outdoor fun and teamwork! Pupils worked hard to clean up the orchard area, enjoyed climbing trees safely, and got creative building dens together. Bobby was excited to find a ladybird. We even had time for a friendly game of football, making it a fantastic mix of activity, cooperation, and fresh air!

- Sian

## **Our Primary learners had a fantastic day at Blue Planet Aquarium this week!**

They were amazed by the incredible range of sea life, from colourful tropical fish to majestic sharks gliding overhead in the underwater tunnel.

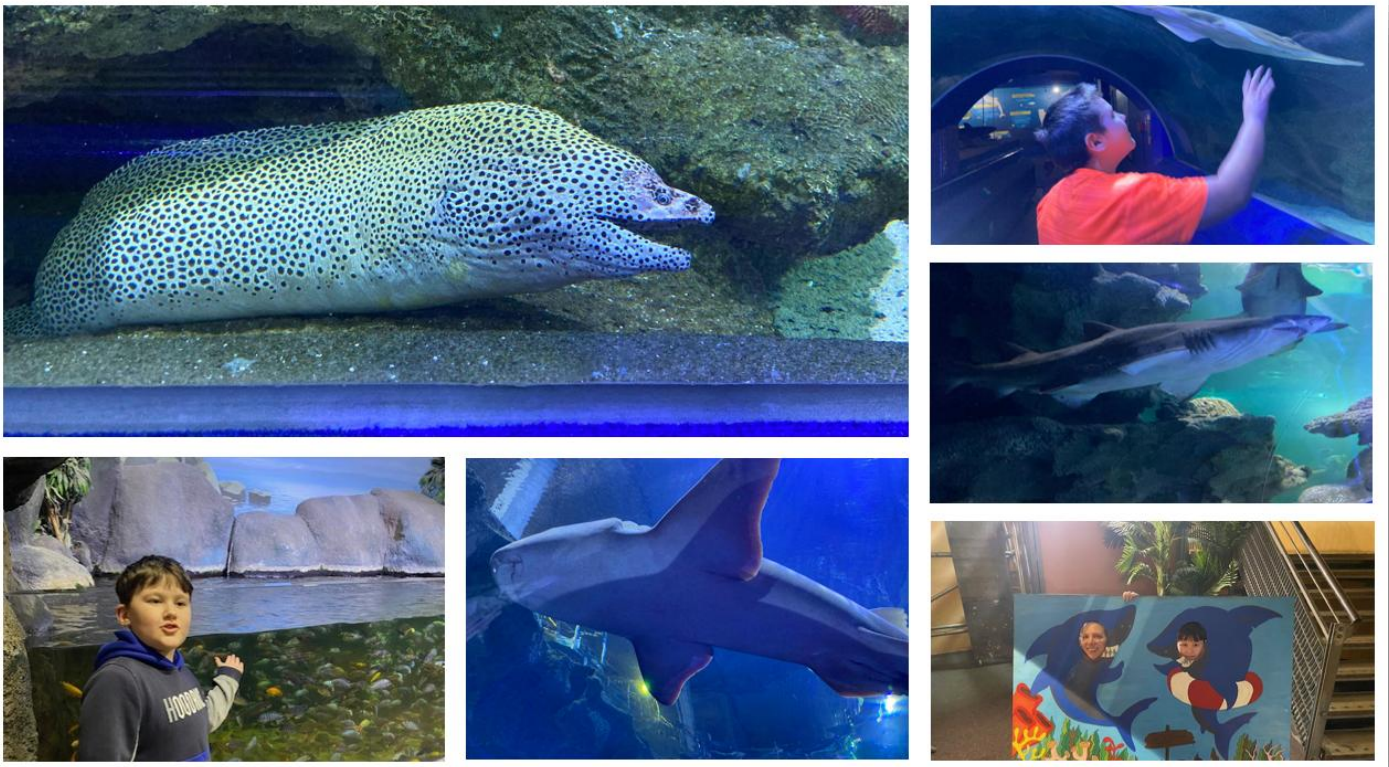
Learners enjoyed interactive talks, watched feeding demonstrations, and asked lots of great questions about ocean habitats and conservation. Their excitement and curiosity made the whole trip a wonderful learning experience, a day full of wonder, wide eyes, and waves of enthusiasm!





This visit linked to the work Primary are doing in science, Learners were able to observe real marine creatures up close, helping them deepen their understanding of adaptations, food chains and habitats.





Exploring the underwater tunnel brought their learning to life, showing how different species survive in their environments and interact with one another.





Taylor worked brilliantly in his vocational session this week, helping Andy to build a new window for the polytunnel. Taylor measured, positioned and secured each part, taking real pride in contributing to an ongoing project.

- Great work Taylor!

# Telford Skills Show

Some of our learners had the opportunity to visit the Telford Skills Show this week. They explored a



range of hands-on activities,

discovered different career pathways and engaged with local employers and training providers. It was a fantastic chance for them to broaden their aspirations and learn more about future opportunities.





Learners discovered different career pathways across sectors such as engineering,

construction, public services, digital technology, agriculture and the armed forces. They were able to try practical and interactive demonstrations designed



to showcase real world skills, meet employers, and gain insights into apprenticeships and future training opportunities.





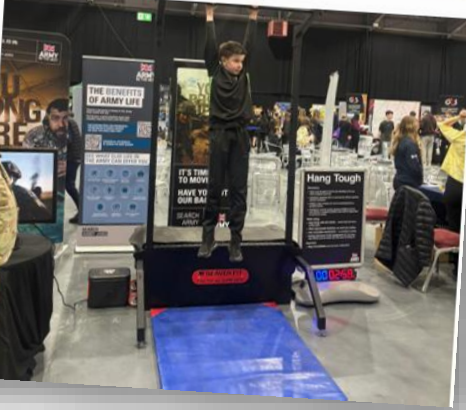
Policeman **Aaron** and Firewoman **Eliza** enjoyed exploring the emergency-services activities, learning about the

important roles these professionals play in keeping people safe and getting a chance to try out some of the equipment.



They tried on the gear worn to keep police officers and firefighters safe and learnt why emergency workers need to be easily seen.





Taylor impressed everyone with his determination, managing to hang onto the pole for an incredible

**2 minutes and 7 seconds!**

Well done, Taylor!

Learners were delighted to pick up **lots of information leaflets and fun freebies**, giving them plenty to explore afterwards and helping

them learn more about the wide range of careers and training opportunities available.



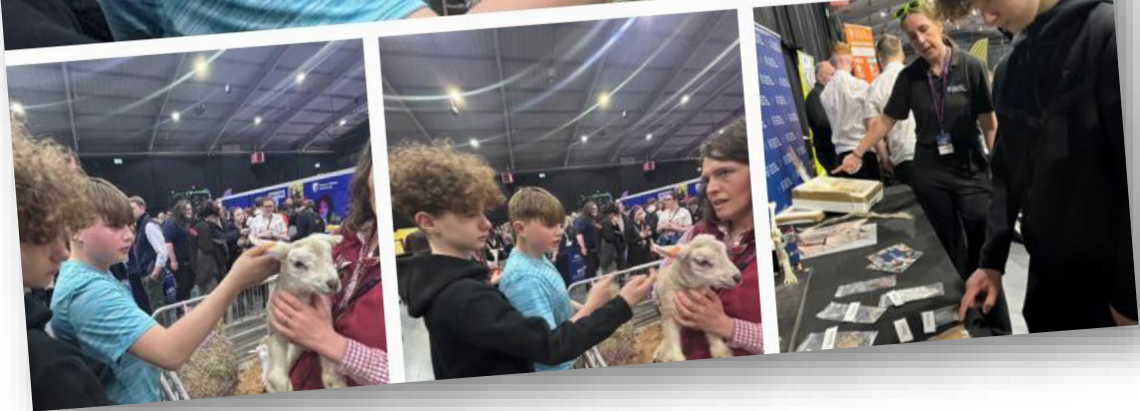


Learners had a fantastic time trying to conquer the climbing wall, changing a wheel on a racing car and even building a brick wall with guidance from skilled instructors.



Learners also enjoyed taking part in practical activities such as practising basic CPR skills and exploring virtual-reality simulations, which gave them an exciting, hands-on experience of real-world training environments.





Learners had the chance to explore a real tractor, learning about how agricultural machinery works

and enjoying a close-up look at the equipment used in modern farming.





The learners were amazed by the interactive board activity, where they were able to step into the scene and become part of the movie. This immersive experience had everyone laughing, joining in and fully engaging with the digital adventure.



**Acorns 2 and 3 had an action-packed visit to Laser Quest this week!**

The learners loved working together in teams, navigating the arena, and taking part in exciting, fast-paced missions. They showed great teamwork, enthusiasm and energy throughout the session, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.





# Easter Bingo



**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at  
1:30pm**

Woodlands School

Fun for all the family and excellent  
prizes are to be won!



Glimmers



Shout out to all the learners who went to the Telford Skills Show –  
Amazing day for all of you!  
- Well done!

Shout out to learners who learnt so much from their trip to the blue planet! – You were all Sensible and Safe, very proud of you with such a long journey as well.

Great work Taylor making the window for the poly tunnel, brilliant engagement, well done!

Shout out to Rhys for engaging with Orchard and asking to go!  
- Super proud of you Rhys.

Well done to Angel for being very mature in a restorative with staff, great listening and engagement and taking responsibility. We're all really proud of you Angel and looking forward to seeing you next week.

Shout out to all learners who have tried something new this week! There have been lots of exciting but challenging activities for you. Well done to you all!



# Dates for the Diary

- PCP Parents Evening
  - Online, by phone or in person
    - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 3.30 – 5.30
    - Online, by phone or in person
  
- Easter Bingo – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 1:30
  
- Easter Holidays
  - 30/3/26 – 10/04/26



# Headteacher Awards



- Aaron for exceptional behaviour at the Telford Skills Fayre and having wonderful manners
- Kieran for his fantastic engagement this week
- Noah for exemplary behaviour all day at the careers trip
- Emilia for completing task 1 English speaking and listening assessment
- Arthur for exemplary behaviour all day in the careers trip
- Ryan for completing task 1 of their English speaking and listening assessment
- Morgan for completing a practice English reading paper
- Tyler for completing his English writing paper

Shropshire

**Family Info Service**

Hello and welcome to the latest Family Information Service newsletter. Our job is to give you the info and resources you need to help your family life run a little smoother. We can help with:

- Childcare - finding it and advice on paying for it
- Local baby and toddler groups
- Events, clubs, activities, and fun things to do in the school holidays, for all ages
- Getting parenting and family support
- Finding health and wellbeing support

We cover everything and anything to do with family life, so if you have a question, chances are we'll be able to help, or if we can't, we'll point you in the direction of someone who can.

Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [X](#). Call 01743 254400 or email [ShropshireFIS@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ShropshireFIS@shropshire.gov.uk)



## Things to do this Easter

### **School holidays incoming!**

With the end of the school term almost here, we have been researching what's on across the county this Easter. Our Family Info Directory is full of activities, events and fun things to do. Follow the link below to find out what is happening in your area.

[Things to do this Easter Holidays](#)

We've also put together information on Easter egg hunts around Shropshire – because who doesn't like hunting for eggs! Our egg hunt list is here - [Easter egg hunts](#)



## Understanding your child - from toddler to teen

### Understanding your child, including those with SEND – from toddler to teen

Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. Our Parenting Team offer workshops and groups for parents which provide easy to implement, proven parenting solutions.

There are also specific groups for parents/carers of children who might have special educational needs and disabilities, (no formal diagnosis is needed to attend).

You will explore issues like:

- Having Fun Together
- Behaviour Difficulties
- Sleep
- Communication
- Development Needs
- Parenting Styles

All groups are free for Shropshire residents. To book a place please contact the Parenting Team on 01743 250950 or email [Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)

The next set of groups will be running after the Easter holidays, there are face-to-face groups and virtual groups on offer. [You can find full details here.](#)



## Does your child struggle with their sleep?

### Sleep Tight

This 5 week workshop aims to support parents and parent carers to make positive changes to their child's sleep patterns. Life can be difficult when children have sleep issues. Our aim is to support families to get a better night's sleep by using a behavioural approach to sleep and work in partnership with families, as we know that they are the expert on their children. Workshops provide parents and carers with the opportunity to meet other families in similar situations and to gain tips on how to support a better night's sleep for them and their child.

Quotes from parents who have been on the course

"Absolutely fabulous workshop. Should be offered to first time parents when their babies are old enough for the skills learned to be applied. I have a disabled daughter and naively thought that the workshop wouldn't apply to her needs, well I was wrong, I believe it applies to most children and every parent can take massive positives away from this workshop! Awesome!"

"I have learnt a lot! I was interested to learn about the science behind sleep, melatonin production, sleepy foods. It has been good to know that I'm not alone and to learn things from some of the other Mum's who were on the course. It was helpful to hear their suggestions!"

The next set of groups will be running in June 2026. [You can find full details here.](#)

To book a place please contact the Parenting Team on 01743 250950 or email [Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)



## You and Me, Mum Course

### You and me, Mum - understanding the impact of domestic abuse

You and me, Mum is an 8 week course to help you as a mum understand the impact domestic abuse can have on you and your children. The course aims to empower, support and develop further your understanding of your role as a mother in addressing the needs of your child or young person.

The You and Me Mum group will run from Wednesday 15th April 2026 – Wednesday 11th June 2026 at 09:30-11:30am. (It will not run during half term on 27th May 2026) Venue in SY1.

If you're interested in attending the groups, or want to find out more, please call 01743 250400



## SEND Meet and Chat

### Let's talk about the SEND support available

Our Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) Meet and Chat drop-ins are back for the Summer term.

SEND Meet and Chat sessions are open to anyone in Shropshire supporting a child with SEND — whether you're a parent carer, family member, or professional.

Come along to ask questions, get practical advice, and connect with professionals who understand your journey. You do not need to have an official diagnosis to access this service.

[Information to help families in Shropshire - Shropshire Together Community Directory](#)



## New Child & Aolescent Mental Health Service

### New service supporting children and young people's mental health

A brand-new NHS service is launching on 1 April for children and young people (aged 0-25) in Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin who may need support for mental health, emotional wellbeing, or neurodevelopmental concerns.

This new service is designed to make it easier for families to access help, offering earlier support and bringing together different services so your child can get the right help at the right time, when they need it most.

Find out more here [Emotional wellbeing and mental health - new service | Shropshire Council](#)



# NHS Food Scanner App

## Make Healthier Food Choices with the NHS Food Scanner App

Have you seen the NHS food scanner app? It's a quick and fun way to make healthier food choices.

The app lets you scan the barcodes of your usual foods, swipe to explore healthier alternatives, and swap them into your next shop. It's a simple tool that can help you feel more confident about what's going into lunchboxes and onto dinner plates.

Key features to love:

- "Good Choice" badges highlight healthier picks instantly, both in the app and in many shops.
- Living Labels bring products to life, helping children understand sugar, salt and fat content in a fun, engaging way.
- Traffic light ratings clearly show if a food is high, medium or low in sugar, salt or fat.
- Scan history keeps a record of everything you have scanned, making healthy swaps easier over time.

It's a great way to support healthier eating in everyday life!

Download the free NHS Food Scanner app

With a speedy scan of your family's favourite foods, you can find healthier swaps for next time you shop. [NHS Food Scanner App - App Store](#) or [NHS Food Scanner – Apps on Google Play](#)



## Follow us on social media



[@ShropshireFamilyInfo](#)



[@ShropshireFamilyInfo](#)

- [Website](#)
- [Email](#)
- FIS telephone helpline - 01743 254400.

If you would like to find out about further help and support the Parenting Team offer please email

[Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk)

or call us on 01743 250950

All our services are free of charge to Shropshire Council residents.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



S O L I H U L L   A P P R O A C H

## **PARENTING HELP AND SUPPORT LINE**

available

**Monday to Thursday from 9.30am to 4.30pm**

and

**Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm**

**You can contact the Parenting Help and Support Line by calling**

**01743 250950**

*Parenthood can be extremely rewarding and enjoyable. It can also be demanding, frustrating and exhausting. The Parenting Team is here to help and support parents and carers to raise healthy, well-rounded children in a loving and stable environment.*

*Do you have any questions around your child's development and parenting?*

Why not call our Parenting Help and Support Line where one of our trained Parenting Practitioners will be ready to listen.

(Please note the Parenting Help and Support Line will not operate on Bank Holidays)

If you have concerns about a child's safety or well-being, please call

**First Point of Contact 0345 678 9021**



## **Sending an Email to the Safeguarding Team**

**[safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@wdl.mmat.co.uk)**

- If you have any worries Parents/Carers or Students, please email the above address.
- Students, you can use your school accounts or personal email addresses.

## **Why not follow us on Facebook**

**<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsShropshire/>**

**Or**

**Take a look at our website!**

**[www.woodlands.school](http://www.woodlands.school)**

**Or**

**Join the conversation - We love hearing from you! Share your thoughts, questions, and suggestions with us.**

**[rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk](mailto:rachel.bates@wdl.mmat.co.uk)**

**If you need to contact us out of normal school hours, please either email on the above address**

## SEND Sleep Workshop

We invite you to join us for a sleep workshop. This will be held by trained Sleep Practitioners offering support, advice and guidance for your child/young persons sleep issues.



Friday 8th May - 9.30am – 11.30am

Online – free to attend

What is the workshop about?

- Science of sleep
- Potential Triggers causing sleep issues
- Strategies and bedtime routines
- Natural production of melatonin
- Physical and Emotional wellbeing

For more information or to book a place email [shrophire@kids.org.uk](mailto:shrophire@kids.org.uk)

## INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

Qualify as a Primary or Secondary Teacher in as little as 10 months!

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE UP TO £31,000

Email [claire.jones@leadinglearning.co.uk](mailto:claire.jones@leadinglearning.co.uk) for more information

Applications  
are  
NOW OPEN!



## PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Discover the joy of teaching!

Do you know someone in the final 2 years of their degree or completing a masters?

Do they want to earn £1365 in 3 weeks this summer with the Marches Academy Trust?

Email [claire.jones@leadinglearning.co.uk](mailto:claire.jones@leadinglearning.co.uk) for more information

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## GUIDING YOUNG VOICES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bullying impacts the lives of many young people. In the UK, one in five pupils aged 10 to 15 report being bullied. The effects can be long lasting, affecting mental health, school attendance and self-esteem, and can impact long-term development into adult life. Adults play a key role in building young people's confidence to speak out, support one another, and stand up to unkind behaviour. This guide offers ways to help youngsters make a positive difference.

### 1 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

Help young people value diversity by showing that what makes us different is also what makes us strong. Encourage them to learn about different cultures, identities, and abilities through books, films, and conversations. By appreciating uniqueness in themselves and others, children can grow into open-minded individuals who build inclusive and welcoming environments.

### 2 MODEL RESPECT

Children watch and learn from how adults behave. Use respectful language, show patience in disagreements, and treat others with fairness – especially in front of children. By modelling inclusive behaviour and challenging unkindness, adults set a lasting example that respect should be part of every interaction, whether online, at school, or at home. Be the change you want to make.

### 3 SPOT THE SIGNS

Adults and young people should learn how to recognise signs that someone may be experiencing bullying. This might include withdrawal from friends, hobbies or interests, changes in mood, reluctance to go to school, or unusual injuries. Helping young people recognise these clues ensures that support can be offered sooner and problems do not go unnoticed.

### 4 VALIDATE FEELINGS

When a child shares something that worries them, it's important to listen carefully and validate how they feel. Respond with empathy – not judgement – and let them know it's okay to feel upset or confused. Offering reassurance and understanding helps young people feel safe about opening up, and builds the trust needed to talk again in future.

### 5 TEACH ALLYSHIP

Show children how to stand up for others in safe, respectful ways. Allyship might look like sitting next to someone who's been excluded, reporting hurtful behaviour, or speaking up when they witness bullying. By practising these responses together, you're helping children develop the courage to be kind and to take action when it really counts.

### 6 PROMOTE REPORTING

Ensure young people know how to report bullying and feel confident that they'll be taken seriously. Talk to them about who they can speak to and what to expect when they do, such as reporting school incidents to teachers, and out-of-school bullying to parents or teachers. Reassure them that reporting is a brave and helpful choice – not tattling – and that it plays a vital role in keeping everyone safe.

### 7 ENCOURAGE KINDNESS

Everyday acts of kindness can make a big difference in creating safer, happier spaces. Encourage children to look out for one another by being helpful, saying kind words, or including someone who feels left out. These small actions set a strong example that kindness matters, and that it can be a powerful response to bullying.

### 8 USE YOUR VOICE

Encourage young people to speak up for themselves and others. Whether through storytelling, school campaigns, or peer-led projects, children can learn that their voice has power. Support them to express themselves confidently and safely, helping them understand that sharing experiences can challenge injustice and inspire real change in their communities.

### 9 BUILD COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

Children thrive when they feel supported. Help them build strong friendships, join clubs or teams, and connect with trusted adults who care. These networks offer comfort, encouragement, and protection – particularly during challenging times. Remind children that they don't have to face difficulties alone and that support is always within reach.

### 10 SUSTAIN THE CONVERSATION

Bullying awareness shouldn't be limited to one week each year. Create regular opportunities to talk about kindness, respect, and inclusion. Use books, news stories, and personal experiences as conversation starters. Embed anti-bullying initiatives into the school, and make tackling bullying a shared, ongoing commitment.

## Meet Our Expert

Robert Allsop is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding practitioner, specialising in tutorials, behaviour interventions, and attendance management. A recipient of the Diana Award for Anti-Bullying, he has helped raise standards and improve Ofsted outcomes in some of the country's most challenging schools and colleges.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

See full reference list on our website.