



Davenant Newsletter

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****Return to School after Half Term on Monday 30th October—Week 1****

Key Dates

Saturday 4th November

Fireworks Evening

Tuesday 7th November

6.30pm Assessment Information and
Revision Revolution Evening

Wednesday 8th November

2.30pm Early Close (due to Sixth Form
Open Evening)

6pm Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 9th November

9.40am Late Start

Tuesday 14th November

2.30pm Early Close (miss P3)

Wednesday 15th November

3.40pm - 5.40pm

Y12 Tutor Evening

Dates cont.

W/C Mon 20th Nov to Fri 1st Dec

Y11 GCSE Mock Exams

Tuesday 21st November

5pm KS3/KS4/KS5 Recital Evening

Friday 24th November

Wellbeing Day (school closed)

Friday 1st December

Non Uniform Day (in support of
Christmas Fair)

Saturday 2nd December

Christmas Fair

Thursday 7th December

Y13 Parents Evening

Weds 13th and Thurs 14th December

Christmas Concerts

Thurs 21st Dec 12.20pm Early Close

Message from the Headteacher

Sometimes I wonder how we get everything done in the weeks we have. Eight weeks into the new year and so much has happened. The new Year 7 students and Year 12 students have settled well and have impressed the staff with their work ethic. Clubs have been up and running and be it music, acting, sports or technology, there are lots of opportunities for students to get involved.

Nearly every adult who does not play an instrument wishes they had. We are one of the few schools who have our own in-house music tuition service and I highly recommend seeing what is on offer. We have just hired a brand new Pop Vocal Coach who sang in a number of famous bands in the 90s and early 2000s and brings a wealth of experience that will benefit our students.

House competitions are well underway with the cross-country taking place in recent weeks. Our aim is for every student to represent their house in some form of competition, this could be sport, music, poetry, spelling bee or cake baking, the message is there.....get involved!

One area I have been managing this year is our exciting new Sixth Form block that will be built in 2024. This brand new purpose built Sixth Form block, which will open next year, will be of huge benefit to our Outstanding Sixth Form. A big congratulations must go to staff and students of Year 13 last year as once again we broke all previous records and were the highest achieving A level comprehensive school in Essex.

We are also putting in a large bid for funding to modernise our toilets for staff and students. I look forward to updating you on how that progresses. Even though we have a 1960s building, we are very blessed not to have any RAAC and our thoughts are still with those schools affected.

The summer is now over and today we have closed the field which means we are now heading towards Christmas. There are many exciting events coming up such as the Christmas Fair and our now annual Fireworks display. Our excellent Parents Association raise much needed funds for the school so please get involved and help our community. Every penny raised goes to helping give our students more opportunities either in the classrooms or in an extra-curricular sense.

The cost of living crisis has hit many and the public sector, including schools, have been very hard hit. We will continue to do the best we can with less and your support makes a big difference.

Have a great half term, take care and we will see you at a school event soon.



**God bless,
Mr Thorne**



Davenant Sport and Health

Welcome back to another exciting year of sport at Davenant and a huge welcome to the new Year 7 pupils who we hope will find their sporting experience challenging but thoroughly enjoyable. As normal the Autumn term is dominated by football fixtures as we play in three competitions English Schools, Essex Schools Cups/Trophies and WESSA District and the U19s play in the College and Secondary school league and Cup. Added to this, there has been District Netball League, Cross Country and Indoor athletics..... As expected it has been a whirlwind of activity from the start of the term, but unexpectedly the first match of this year was a cricket cup final!

For the latest information
please visit:

Sports and Health on the
Davenant Website



Cricket

The U14 Boys made it through to the final of their competition at the end of last year but due to insufficient time the match had to be carried over and played before the 16th September. Unfortunately, the lack of time to train and prepare thoroughly for the fixture took its toll on the lads and we missed out on our first trophy of the year being beaten by Brampton Academy.



*Well done boys— it was an achievement in itself to make the final,
hopefully you can do one better this year.*

Football

Football started for Year 7 students with an Inter House Football competition, and this event was used to identify potential candidates for the Year 7 competitive football team. It was a well-attended and strongly-contested event with the eventual winners in both the boy's and girl's competition being Salisbury.

Congratulations to the winning teams and a huge well done to all the boys and girls that took part.



WINNING BOYS TEAM - YEAR 7 SALISBURY



WINNING GIRLS TEAM – YEAR 7 SALISBURY

Davenant Sport and Health

Football *cont..*



Year 7 girls football team still smiling after losing to Brentwood Ursuline in the Emma Burden U12s Girls Cup (Essex FA).



For the latest information please visit:

Sports and Health on the Davenant Website



Davenant's very shy U14 girls team, managed by Mr Everitt on 18th October, who were not so shy on the pitch beating a well organised team from Riverside progressing to Round 2 of the U14s George Cash Trophy (Essex FA).

Cross Country

The Cross country season kicked off with an inter schools Lee Valley Cup where both our Year 7 Boys and Girls teams were very good both finishing in 4th place on the day. D Arnold was our highest achiever finishing in 2nd place overall in the Year 8/9 combined boys event.



YEAR 7 GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM - LVAC



YEAR 7 BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM - LVAC

Davenant Sport and Health

Cross Country *cont....*

English Schools (ESAA) - The intermediate boys represented Davenant very well in the event finishing in 2nd place and gaining automatic entry into the finals mid-November. We are still awaiting the results for the junior, girls intermediate and senior teams. Mr Humphries reported that Davenant did not look out of place competing alongside a significant number of selective schools.



Davenant participants in the English Schools Cross Country Year 7 through to Year 12

The Inter-House Cross Country was as usual a very hotly contested event, and we saw some very close individual competitions with some excellent running throughout the day. We had 160 runners competing in total across all the years and the top performers will now be selected to represent Davenant at the District Cross Country in December. The top three from each race were:

Year 7 Boys

1. Coyne, J Gillingham
2. Marx, D Salisbury
3. Duma, A Gillingham

Year 8 Boys

1. Loe, H Gillingham
2. Brown, I Salisbury
3. Adetona, T Gillingham

Year 9 Boys

1. Arnold, D Whitechapel
2. Gould, N Whitechapel
3. Barker, J Whitechapel

Year 10/11 Boys

1. Muffett, W Salisbury
2. Apostel, A Whitechapel
3. Buckley, A Gillingham

Year 7 Girls

1. O'Neal, A Gillingham
2. Muffett, R Gillingham
3. Harmsworth, B Gillingham

Year 8 Girls

1. Gray, P Salisbury
2. Harragan, L Gillingham
3. Togara, J Whitechapel

Year 9 Girls

1. Owers, F Salisbury
2. Oliwa, A Whitechapel
3. Buter-Davis, I Whitechapel

Year 10/11 Girls

1. Mosanya, E Salisbury
2. Knapmann, L Whitechapel
3. Frith, T Salisbury

The overall winners were Gillingham beating Salisbury by just 5 points.

Netball



The Wessa District netball league started at the beginning of October and having only played one fixture against Braeside so far the teams have had mixed results. Our U16 girls comfortably won while our Year 8 team were slow to start which cost them their fixture. The four teams (Y7, 8, 9 and U16) are looking forward to future fixtures against Debden Park, West Hatch, Roding Valley, Epping St John.

Everyone is looking forward to the start of the Rugby and basketball in the second half of the Autumn term as well as the District Cross Country in December.

Schools Football Association (ESFA) & Essex Schools Cup

Teams in all age groups Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Boys and U13, U14 and U16 Girls played in both competitions from early in September and we have seen improvement across the board.

Full fixture list with results detailed below.

DATE	VENUE	COMPETITION	RESULT	OPPOSITION
19 TH SEPT	AWAY	YR 8 BOYS ESFA	W1-4	EMERSON PARK
25 TH SEPT	AWAY	YR 8 BOYS ESSEX	W3-4	SAFFRON WALDEN SCH
26 TH SEPT	HOME	YR 9 BOYS ESFA	L1-2	WEST HATCH HS
29 TH SEPT	AWAY	YEAR 7 BOYS ESFA	W2-4	GABLE HALL
03 RD OCT	HOME	U13 GIRLS ESFA	W5-0	STOKE NEWINGTON
03 RD OCT	AWAY	YR 8 BOYS ESFA R2	W0-11	SANDERS SCHOOL
04 TH OCT	HOME	U19 ESSEX CUP	0-0 FT W4-3 PEN	BECKET KEYS
05 TH OCT	HOME	YR7 BOYS ESFA R2	W11-0	MARSHALL PARK
05 TH OCT	HOME	YR 11 ESFA	L0-1	REDDEN COURT
09 TH OCT	AWAY	U14 GIRLS ESFA	L5-2	SANDERS SCHOOL
10 TH OCT	HOME	YR 8 ESSEX R2	1-1FT L1-2 AET	NEW RICKSTONES AC
10 TH OCT	AWAY	YR 10 ESFA	L6-1	QUEENS SCHOOL
10 TH OCT	AWAY	YR 11 ESSEX CUP	W2-3	EMERSON PARK
11 TH OCT	HOME	U19 COLLEGE LG	W2-1	APPLETON
11 TH OCT	HOME	U15 ESFA	W2-1	ST ALBANS HS
12 TH OCT	HOME	YR 7 ESSEX CUP	L0-4	FOREST SCHOOL
16 TH OCT	AWAY	YR 9 ESSEX CUP	W0-7	CHADWELL HEATH
17 TH OCT	HOME	U12 GIRLS ESSEX	L0-2	BRENTWOOD URSULINE
17 TH OCT	HOME	U14 GIRLS ESSEX	W1-0	RIVERSIDE
18 TH OCT	AWAY	U19 COLLEGE LG	L0-1	UPS 2
18 TH OCT	HOME	U13 GIRLS ESSEX	L0-5	SYDNEY RUSSELL

There is still an abundance of fixtures to get through before the Christmas break and we are working hard to ensure all the teams have the best opportunity to fulfil their potential.

For the latest information please visit:

Sports and Health on the Davenport Website



Prayer Meeting

In light of the atrocities that took place in Israel on 7th October, we held a multi-faith prayer meeting in the Arter Library. We came together to support each other during this sad time; to light candles, say prayers and take a moment of reflection for the innocent victims of these tragic terror attacks. We prayed for the safety of the hostages, innocent civilians caught up in the conflict and the soldiers.

Please continue to pray and join with many people around the world lighting candles as a symbol of hope and light at this dark time in Middle East.



Lunch and Learn—JSOC

On Monday 2nd October we were privileged to be joined by Rabbi Yanky from Loughton Synagogue who delivered a session on the festival of Sukkot. Everyone who came took a turn to shake the Lulav and Etrog and say the Bracha. This was a very special and meaningful moment as many of the students said they had not had the opportunity to shake the Lulav since being at Primary school.



MORNING WORSHIP, PRAISE AND PRAYER:

IT WOULD BE GREAT TO SEE STUDENTS FROM ALL YEAR GROUPS

MORNING WORSHIP, PRAISE AND PRAYER TAKES PLACE ON FRIDAY MORNINGS

VENUE: ROOM 113

TIME: 8:00 AM - 8:20AM



The Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge



ABOUT THE BEBRAS CHALLENGE

The **Bebras** Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students. It is organized in over 50 countries and designed to get students all over the world excited about computing. Each participant answer questions that focus on computational and logical thinking. All Key Stage 3 students at Davenant take part in the challenge during their Computing lesson. Computer Scientists at Key Stage 4 and 5 also take part.

HOW TO PREPARE

The UK Bebras Challenge exposes students to a new way of thinking so there is no need to prepare for the contest. However, you can get a feel for the style of the problems by viewing previous challenges. We have created quizzes from previous years which may be accessed by students from the students homepage or by this direct link <https://tinyurl.com/davbebras21>

Key stage 3 students will have the opportunity to practise in Computing lessons.

2023 CHALLENGE DATES

The challenge will take place during Computing lessons from 6th to 17th November. It is 40 minutes long.

To find out more about BEBRAS please visit the link above or

<https://www.bebbras.uk/>

Creative Studies



**Monday after
school 3.30pm -
4.30pm
Room 36**

This term the theme has been **Alice in Wonderland**. So far, we have explored figure drawing; playing around with making things look larger or smaller from different perspectives. We have embarked on 3D modelling, building a world our creations can inhabit. Inspired by the White Rabbit from the Alice in Wonderland story, we also made paper fans.

What's to come?... Painting, Peg Dolls and Perspective drawing.

Join us for Creative fun in Room 36, after school, every Monday.

It was the White Rabbit returning, splendidly dressed, with a pair of white kid gloves in one hand and a large fan in the other: he came trotting along in a great hurry



Performing Arts

Music events this term:

Tuesday 21st November, 5pm in the Hall

Lower School Recital for Years 7, 8 & 9. Students will be invited to sign up to perform via Google Classroom. Ask at the music office if an invite has not been received.

Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th December, 7pm in the Hall

CHRISTMAS Concerts. All YEAR 7 students and Music Groups perform

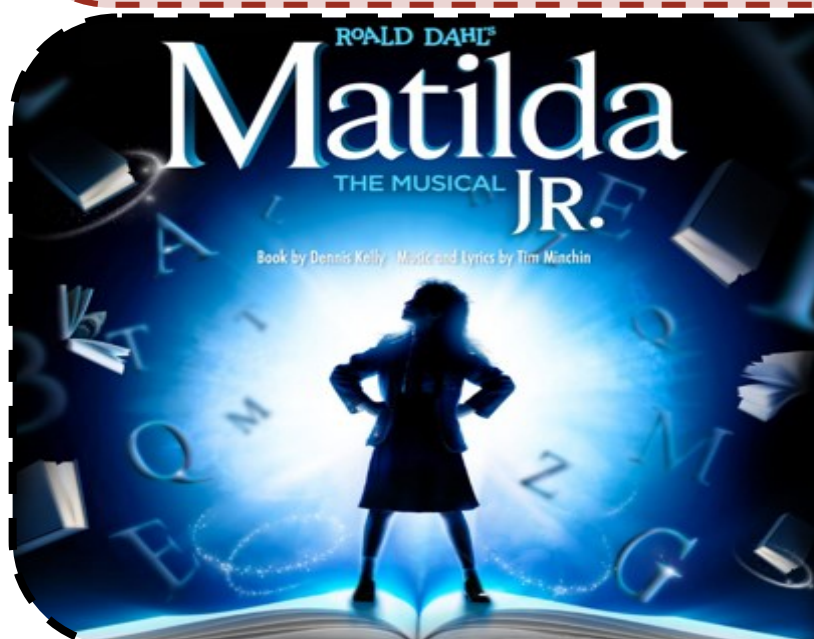


Music Tuition

Sign up for SPRING TERM January— March 2024

December 2023—Look out for emails with Parent Pay information and Google Sign Up forms to sign up

Closing Date for signing up: Friday 5th January 2024



**March
5, 6 & 7th
2024**

Performing Arts

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements:

ABRSM Exams

M Malam

Flute Grade 3 Pass

E Knapman

Flute Grade 4 Pass

R Goodchild

Violin Grade 4 Pass

Z Douglass

Piano Grade 2 Pass

E Lea

Violin Grade 4 Pass

Grade 3 Distinction

S Butcher

Violin Grade 3 Merit

A Hallouma

Piano Grade 2 Pass

T Escott

Flute Grade 5 Pass

A Law

Violin Grade 3 Merit

Piano Grade 3 Merit

A Beckford

Violin Grade 1 Pass

LAMDA Exams

Grade 1

L Leonce Distinction

H Ansah Distinction

A Duffett Distinction

A Rumbelow Distinction

Grade 2

C Clayfield Distinction

ROCKSCHOOL

L Stokes

Grade 1 Guitar Distinction



March
5, 6 & 7th
2024

The Safeguarding Team – Who we are!

Davenant Foundation School's Safeguarding Team have been trained to an advanced level on all aspects of safeguarding. The team is available to any student, parent/carer or staff to discuss and report any safeguarding concerns:

Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mental Health Lead: Miss A Cooper

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead : Mrs D Lake

Safeguarding ITT: Mr D Parker

Safeguarding Sixth Form: Mrs K Fisher

Safeguarding Administrator: Mrs K Davies

The Safeguarding team work closely with Heads of Years and Form Tutors to ensure the emotional wellbeing of our students. They manage and facilitate the mentors and counsellors who come into the school and who work so closely with our students.

Shoe Box Appeal

Last year we collected 294 boxes—our target this year is 300! Please encourage your child to find a shoe box, amazon box or similar, and arrange with some friends to fill it.

Examples of suitable items would be toothbrushes from Home Bargains, Soaps from Poundland, woolly hats from the market.

For more ideas please click on the link below.

<https://teams4u.com/shoebox-guide/>

Deadline for shoe boxes to be brought into school is Friday 17th November as we need to deliver them to Loughton Methodist Church for checking before they are sent.

Thank you for helping sending these gifts of love.



Parents' Association

The Parents' Association would like to say a **HUGE THANK YOU** for all your support.

A LITTLE UPDATE

- We raised almost £900 from the Year 7 Quiz! Thank you!
- We have had a huge increase in numbers of active members and welcome you!
- We have moved to a separate booking system Bookwhen and all PA events will be organised through this system (and not Parentpay).
- We have Year 7 class parent reps for PA communications which seems to be working extremely well. We hope to roll this system out across the years.
- Please join our Facebook and Instagram pages for a list of upcoming events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We have two of our biggest fundraising events of the year coming up!

Fireworks Spectacular – Saturday 4 November!

The PA are working hard behind the scenes to make it a truly excellent evening for all! Please support us by joining us for this event.

Tickets are available on Bookwhen – details are on Talaxy, on our social media pages and WhatsApp groups as well as the booking site.



Christmas Fair – Saturday 2 December!

Preparations are already underway for this year's Christmas Fair.

We have lots of festive stalls at the ready, new games, a plushie/squishimal raffle, a chocolate tombola, a wine tombola, a cake and refreshments stall and much more!

CAN YOU HELP? -

- If you are able to sponsor or donate a gift for the luxury Christmas hamper raffle, please contact us. Thank you to those who have already kindly donated!
- Please help support us by having a Churchill Estate Agents board outside your house to promote the Christmas Fair. The PA will receive £500 for 50 boards. If anyone can match fund this through their business the PA will receive £1000!

If you are able to help, please contact us via a class rep or email

davenantpa@hotmail.com

Thank you again for your continued support.

Your PA



Lost Property



Uniting lost property with owners is important to us. There is a small group of dedicated parent/carers volunteers who regularly give their time on a Wednesday lunchtime to help students find their lost items and these volunteers are located in the “Lost Property Cupboard” next to the swimming pool and students looking for items should go to this area on a Wednesday lunchtime.

However, as we are sure our parents/carers appreciate, this is a large school site and students leave their items in many places. The Lost Property Team can only reunite students with items if the item has been taken to the lost property cupboard or Reception. To that end, **it is essential that all clothing/accessories are properly labelled** with the full name of the student to ease the return process. If the item is labelled, Reception will contact the Form Tutor and/or the parent to let them know the item has been found. Any glasses, jewellery, watches etc. found will be kept in Reception for safe keeping so please encourage your child/ren to visit Student Reception to check. It is the responsibility of the students to keep their items safe and we strongly encourage that they retrace all steps when they have lost belongings.

Any good condition pieces of clothing that are unnamed, after they have been kept for a lengthy period of time, will be included in our “Second Hand Uniform” sales and parents/carers will be advised beforehand when these sales are taking place.



We are continually looking for Parent/Carer Lost Property Volunteers to help on a Wednesday lunchtime.

Please email reception@davenant.org if you would be interested in helping. Thank you.

Got a **degree** you're not really using? Looking for a challenging **new career**? Time to think about becoming a **teacher**...



Robert, former trainee

Train to teach at Davenant or at another local school. Gain qualified teacher status (QTS), and an optional **post-graduate certificate in education** (PGCE) through the **Essex Schools ITT** initial teacher-training programme.

Join the next Essex Schools ITT online information
Tuesday 28th November, from 7.30pm

Scan the QR code to view our events and register for the latest one via Eventbrite, or visit our website:

<https://www.essexschoolsitt.com/events/>



Our school is part of the Essex Schools ITT programme, which allows you to train with us or in a partnership school, local to you. You'll work as a member of the school team and learn your skills from **experienced professionals**, supplemented by high quality, **online learning sessions**.

Get tailored, one-to-one advice today:

Call: 020 8498 6718

Email: teach@essexschoolsitt.com

Visit: <https://www.essexschoolsitt.com>

Essex Schools ITT in partnership with



Davenant Foundation School

Prayer Letter: September-October 2023

The Bible refers to *hag ha-sukkot* ("Feast of Booths," Leviticus 23:34), recalling the days when the Israelites lived in huts (*sukkot*) during their years of wandering in the wilderness. For us as Christians it refers to the day of atonement. At the start of this year let us join together and pray for purification and restoration over our community so that we start the year from a place of peace in God.

Based on Psalm 51^[a]

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Let's come before God with thanks for His unfailing love towards us. Thank Him for the summer break we have had and for the full cohort of students and staff that have returned this academic year.

² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Ask God for His forgiveness particularly during this period of Sukkot the feast of atonement. Ask Him to draw us into a closer and pure relationship with Him. Thank Him for His grace and mercy towards us.

³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

Thank God that even when we as a community make mistakes that he is there to gently correct us and lead us into righteousness. Ask that He establish our children in the right and pure ways of faith and life and learn to follow God's directions and commandments. May he teach them faithful discipline.

⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Thank God that He is our restorer and healer. Pray that our children will be surrounded with God's protection and presence as they grow up in a complex world. Ask that they are kept pure and they learn to rely and rest in God's love.

⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Thank God that His presence brings joy and peace even in the face of adversity. Pray for our families who are facing a challenging time that they may know the peace of God that passes all understanding. Where there is illness pray for healing, where there are relationship issues pray that there will be reconciliation, where there is financial difficulty ask that he provides and releases others to provide.

¹⁴ Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Saviour,
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

¹⁵ Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare your praise.

Pray that our community will speak about and know God in our everyday lives. That His presence and guidance will be natural aspects of our experience and expressions.

¹⁶ You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

¹⁷ My sacrifice, O God, is^[a] a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.

Ask God that He will teach us to be countercultural and that we may learn to bring God praise and pleasure in our life choices.

Amen



In the Community



Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

FLU VACCINE CATCH UP CLINICS

Has your child missed their school vaccinations?

We are running catch up clinics in west Essex for flu.

Your nearest catch up clinics this winter:

- **Epping:**
26 October, 15 November & 18 December
- **Loughton:**
23 October, 2 November, 19 December & 9 January
- **Harlow:**
25 October, 22 November & 21 December

**It's easy to catch up.
Book your nearest clinic NOW
on 0300 790 0597 or for
more information on
missed vaccinations.**

#DOYOURBITESSEX



In the Community

 mind in West Essex

Mental Health Support Teams in Schools

West Essex



Online Parent Groups



Supporting Teenagers Emotional Wellbeing

Suitable for parents of children aged 12-19 years. This course is run over 3 weeks, with an optional fourth session.

This will look at ways to help your teenager manage their emotional wellbeing.

Monday 6th November 2023

Monday 13th November 2023

Monday 20th November 2023

Monday 27th November 2023 (optional)

5:30-7pm via Zoom

Challenging Behaviour (at home)

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 6 weeks.

This will focus on an issue you are experiencing with your child and will work on strategies and ways to help deal with the issue/behaviour.

Tuesday 7th November 2023

Tuesday 14th November 2023

Tuesday 21st November 2023

Tuesday 28th November 2023

Tuesday 5th December 2023

Tuesday 12th December 2023

7-8:30pm via Zoom



Helping your Child Manage their Fears and Worries

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 4 weeks.

This will help parents work on a focussed issue they are experiencing with their child and work out strategies to help.

Thursday 9th November 2023

Thursday 16th November 2023

Thursday 23rd November 2023

Thursday 30th November 2023

1-2:30pm via Zoom



To access this FREE service you must:

- Have a child attending an school that our Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are currently working with in Harlow, Epping Forest District and Uttlesford.
- Have access to Zoom
- Able to attend ALL pre-planned sessions

If you are interested, please complete the application form by scanning the QR code →



If the course you are interested in is not showing, this is because it has reached full capacity of attendees.

We will send you an email to confirm a place on the course along with joining instructions approx. 1 week prior to the course start date. Please check your mailbox regularly including your Junk/Spam folders.

If you have any queries, please contact your area admin:

Harlow - mhstharlow@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Epping Forest - mhsteppingforest@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Uttlesford - mhstuttlesford@mindinwestessex.org.uk

There are limited places available so please book your place as soon as possible.