

# Newsletter

December 2015 Issue 7

Keeping you informed



*As we approach the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.*

*The College re-opens on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January and I look forward to welcoming all the students back on that day.*

**Daryll Chapman**  
Executive Principal



Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/okehamptoncollege](http://www.facebook.com/okehamptoncollege)



Twitter account  
[www.twitter.com/okehamptoncc](http://www.twitter.com/okehamptoncc)



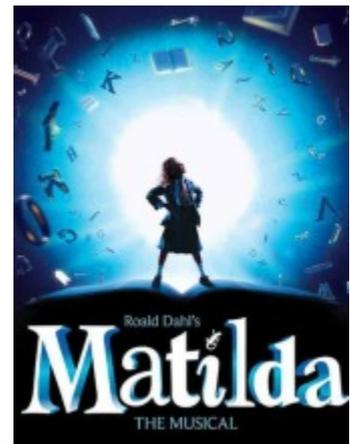
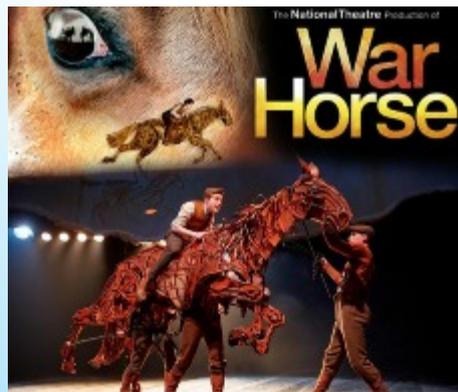
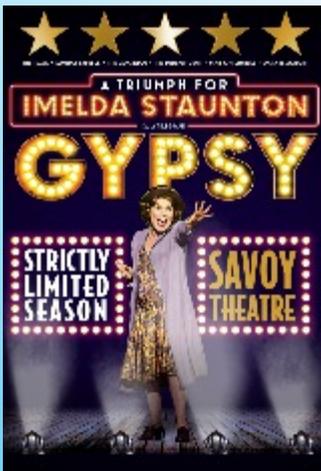
# Drama News

Years 12 and 13 recently visited London for two days of theatre with Miss Woods and Miss Parker.

"We watched the fantastic 'Gypsy', 'Warhorse' and 'Matilda' before being lucky enough to have backstage tours of both Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and The National Theatre. To finish the two days in London the students were led through a 3 hour workshop with a professional actress from The National Theatre. I am very proud to say that her exact words were, "Your students are the most talented students I have ever worked with; I wish they were all like that! What drama school are you from?"

Well to say that I was pleased is an understatement! They mistook Okehampton College Students for Drama School Ulumni - high praise indeed.

Miss Parker



## West Side Story

Rehearsals are going extremely well and the Expressive Arts Team are really excited to announce that tickets will be going on sale for West Side Story in January 2016. Performances will take place from 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. This will be the culmination of many hours of hard work and rehearsal.

There will be a matinee on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February for primary students and then 5 public performances. Tickets will initially go on sale to the cast and will be limited to 4 per family.

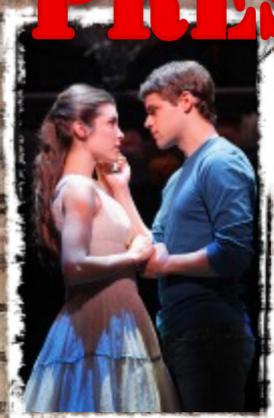
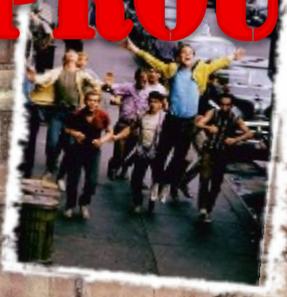
Letters will be available after Christmas from the Curriculum Support Hatch with a tear off slip to indicate how many tickets are required. The cast can get them from 4<sup>th</sup> January and the general public on 11<sup>th</sup> January. They are £8 per ticket. Once the slip has been received, an offer will be attached to your child's Squid account for payment to be made.

If you have a local business and would like to advertise in the programme, space is available to purchase.

Please contact Mrs Morrison in the Curriculum Support Office for more details.



# OKEHAMPTON COLLEGE PROUDLY PRESENTS....



## WEST SIDE STORY



### West Side Story

Based on a conception of Jerome Robbins

Book by Arthur Laurents: Music by Leonard Bernstein: Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Entire original production directed and choreographed by Jerome Robbins

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith & Harold Prince by arrangement with Roger L. Stevens.

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED

on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of NEW YORK.

# PTFA



A few of the lovely stalls at the Christmas Fayre.

The PTFA would like to give a big THANK YOU for supporting the Christmas Fayre at Okehampton's Edwardian evening. We raised a fantastic £1348 before expenses. A fun time was had by all and we look forward to seeing you at our future fundraising events.

*Forthcoming Fundraising Events:*  
29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016. (Fri) Ashbury Dinner/Dance/Activity Evening  
£10.00  
12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016 (Fri). Valentine Swing Evening  
£20  
*Everyone welcome!*

The PTFA plays an important part of College life and provides the extra funding the different departments in the College need to buy equipment or resources that are not supplied through the normal school budget.

Whilst we have an official committee, any parents or carers are welcome to join us for the committee meetings and we are always grateful of any help we receive. We welcome new members at any time, if you are interested in joining us or would like further information about the PTFA please email [ptfa@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk) or call the College on 01837 650910.

## Appeal:

Can you recommend for hire, or loan us, round tables for our Valentine event in February?

If you can help in anyway please let us know on the email or phone number to the left.

Thank you!



## Our New Goal:

is to raise money to purchase outdoor fitness stations and table tennis tables to be installed within College grounds for all to use.

*Please support us wherever you can.*

# Love Literacy



## Spelling strategies

Our focus this time is on using **mnemonics** to help us to spell tricky words.

**Mnemonics** are memory tricks.

big elephants cause accidents under small elephants → because



necessary → one stick of celery and two sausages



would/could/should → o u lonely duck



- Think of some tricky spellings for which you could make a mnemonic.
- You might try these: biscuit, chocolate, definite, environment (the tricky bits are in red).

## Parental/Carer Contributions Towards Design & Technology Practical Work

We respectfully remind all parents/carers to make their annual voluntary contribution towards the cost of materials as shown below.

### Year Group Contribution per Year (2015/2016)

Year 7	£10.00
Year 8	£10.00
Year 9	£10.00
Year 10	£10.00
Year 11	£10.00
Year 12	£15.00

# Polite Reminder

Parental contributions are needed so the faculty can meet the escalating cost of materials and continue delivering a range of interesting and challenging practical activities in Electronics, Resistant Materials and Textiles. They also help to cover the cost of sundry items used by students within Food Technology and Catering. **However, Food Technology and Catering students are still required to provide their own ingredients.**

To minimise administration costs, we would like your annual contribution to be made via SQUID, the College's secure and easy to use online payment system. Once it has been received, your child may take home all the practical work they produce that year.

We hope you will support the faculty with this matter.

# Year 11 Graduation: Qualifying Criteria

## Attendance:

**A minimum of 180 points needed**

The College target is 95% so this is a realistic goal for all Year 11 students.

Any holiday taken *will* count against attendance.

95%  
attendance  
or better

## Approach to Learning:

**A minimum of 120 points needed**

A mean score of 120 points for all subjects.

- mean score of 2 = 80
- mean score of 3 = 120
- mean score of 4 = 160

Entry to  
2 Exams  
or more

## Progress:

**A minimum of 180 points needed**

A mean score of 180 points for all subjects.

- Above target = 300
- On target = 200
- Below target = 140

Approach  
to learning  
mean score  
of 3 or  
above

## Final Total:

**a minimum of 500 points needed.**  
Any points lost will be deducted from your total score.

Be on  
target for  
most  
subjects

**We want you all to succeed -**



**You can do it!**

### How Points Are Lost

Reason	Points Lost
Behaviour Memos	-1
Late to Tutor Time	-2.5
Tutor Report (2 weeks)	-50
SPL Report (2 weeks)	-100
Isolation (per day)	-75
Exclusion (per day)	-150



## Child Protection Update!

While Mrs Charlie Edwards is on maternity leave the College Child Protection Officers will be:

Mrs Nick Stoneman (Full time Child Protection Officer) [01837 650914](tel:01837650914)

Mr Sean Freeman - [01837 650910](tel:01837650910)

Mrs Kelly Hoggins - [01837 650910](tel:01837650910)

Child Protection and Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Please contact a Child Protection Officer if you have any concerns about a young person's safety or well-being.



Click Here for a link to all  
Okehampton College  
Newsletters



# A fond farewell...

A huge thank you to students, guardians and all staff for their help, support and wonderful memories in the Food and D & T department I have received over the years at Okehampton College. I wish students and staff best wishes in the future.

MRS MARTIN



## Triple A Challenge Congratulations!

The following students have achieved their first challenge certificate, on the Triple A Challenge programme:

Philippa Marshall, Jonathon Brett, Ollie Harris, Louise Noyes, Lucy Palmer, Bethany Branson. Dharma Barnes, Katie Hopkins, Katherine Curtis, Lucy Mudge, Chloe Branson, Courtenay Bolt, Georgia Ley and Lauren Clarke.

And these students have completed the first level of the programme and received their red badges;

Ben Bowles, Sam Drew, Kestrel Read.

Well Done - we look forward to seeing you progress through the other levels!

MRS OFFER

# 'Triple A' Challenge Programme Aspiration, Achievement, Ability

Welcome to the 'Triple A Challenge Programme' at Okehampton College!

The Triple A Challenge Programme is a Dartmoor Federation Award scheme designed to inspire young people, like you, to aspire, achieve and celebrate your ability, throughout your school career.

The Triple A programme comprises of a series of challenges which aim to stretch, challenge, engage and motivate you in a wide range of skills and subjects. There is no limit to the number of challenges you can achieve.

Number of Challenges completed	Pin Badge awarded
2 Challenges	Red
4 Challenges	Blue
6 Challenges	Bronze
8 Challenges	Silver
10 Challenges	Gold

The challenges can be completed in any order and once completed earns you a coloured pin badge to wear on your College jumper.

Most importantly, the challenges encourage you to **learn new skills, aspire to go beyond your comfort zone, seek high levels of achievement, make positive contributions to society and better yourselves academically, socially and emotionally.**

The series of challenges can be found in tutor folders and on posters around the school, along with information on what has to be produced and which teacher to find in order to get a challenge signed off for completion. You simply take a 'Challenge Completion Card' (also in your tutor folder) to the designated member of staff and once enough challenges have been completed, you will be awarded with your pin badge and certificate.



*Don't limit your challenges, challenge your limits.*

*Good luck!*

## 20 “Triple A” Challenges

Challenge	What students have to produce	Lead teacher for signing off achievement
Complete two reading passports	Reading passports	Miss Sum/ Ms Griffiths
Learn to spell the top 50 most challenging words	Spelling test carried out in school	Mrs Sizmur
Visit at least one University	Visitor's report and diary	Mr Brett
Be part of a team or group over a one year period or more	Signature from team/group leader	Mrs Offer
Enter a National Art competition	Art work for entry	Miss Le Couilliard
Learn an instrument to Grade Six (with Grade Five Theory)	Certificate	Mrs Berry
Raise £500 for charity independently	Proof of collected sums of money	Mrs Offer
Attend a Trust Course	Attendance Certificate	Mr Henderson
Achieve a high level of performance in Art, Drama, Music or Sport	Recommendation from subject specific staff, coach, teacher or leader. Competition winner or county representation.	Mr Sweeney
Complete Ten Tors and/or a Duke of Edinburgh Award	Ten Tors Certificate and/or D of E Certificate	Mr Speyer/Mr Bailey
Complete Maths Challenge to silver or gold level	Maths Challenge Certificate	Mrs Carter
Make a positive contribution to the environment or impact on sustainability	Report on action made and evidence of impact	Mr Webber
Win a Design and Technology competition (including the British Nutrition Foundation Healthy week entry)	Competition Certificate	Mr Henderson
Complete the Language Leaders course and/or Enter the "Routes into Languages" competition	Competition Certificate	Miss Welsh
Compete in the Rotary Club's 'Youth Speaks' competition	Qualify through the first round in the competition	Dr Fear
Taking a lead in three Debating club sessions	Successful leadership in three sessions	Dr Fear
Complete a Science Olympiad	Certificate	Miss Dean
Complete an ecological sampling survey and monitor their populations over time	Sampling survey	Mr Every
The Royal Society Science Challenge	Scientific Report	Mrs Fernandez
Take a lead role in an enterprise challenge and raise £50 profit	Evidence of sums raised	Mr Coton



# YR 11 News..



Just keeping you updated with what we have got planned in the immediate future for the Year group.

Following the initial Parents' Evening in early December, the second round of data showing your child's progress should now be with you. Accompanying this will also be a copy of the Year 11 Exam results. These exams formed part of the initial build-up to their GCSEs and provided a useful early indication of final outcomes. As part of our ongoing support for students, all students should have met with their mentor to discuss their next steps and set targets to work on in the coming months.

Next term we have booked an outside company to focus on revision skills (Exam Busters) which will be focusing on giving students practical advice on how to revise, and prepare for their GCSEs. This will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January during school time but we are pleased to announce that the company will also be providing a session for parents and carers which will be at 5 o'clock on the same day in the Octagon. Following this session will be a presentation from a counsellor on stress relieving techniques for the students (which I think we all need!) You should have received a letter either at Parents' Evening or from your child about attending this interesting and informative evening. If not, then please contact the school to indicate that you would like to attend.

The other date for your diaries is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January which is our Curriculum Open Evening when there will be presentations in the Octagon and all subject staff will be available to discuss options for your child Post-16. All students were given a copy of our Post-16 Syllabus this week which they will hopefully share and discuss with you.

As always, any questions or queries that you may have, please don't hesitate to get in touch with either myself or your child's tutor.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a restful Christmas and, hopefully, a prosperous and successful New Year for all our Year 11s.





Met Office

## Science Camp



Is your child interested in Science, Technology, Maths or Engineering? Are they currently in **Year 7**? Yes? Excellent! In that case we'd like to invite them to enter a competition to win a place at an exciting science adventure at the Met Office HQ building in Exeter.

The Camp out at the Met Office HQ building in Exeter will be from 5:30pm on **Friday 20 May 2016**. Groups will take part in a variety of engaging and interesting activities that will allow participants to learn about our weather and climate and how we go about forecasting the weather. We don't want to give too much away, but there will be a mixture of practical experiments and informal talks that will help the students to better understand the fundamental concepts behind weather and climate Science at the Met Office. The Met Office Science Camp is expected to end at 12:00pm (midday) on **Saturday 21 May 2016**, when your child will hopefully leave us informed, inspired and a little bit tired!

You will be expected to arrange transport to and from the Met Office and the camp out is free to students. You will be met by Okehampton College Science teachers and we will accompany you at all times during the camp out.

To win one of only 18 places on this exciting adventure you need to explain why predicting the weather is important. Your entry must be handed to Mrs Webber (401) on paper (no more than one side of A3 or A4) by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016**.

Any questions or for more information please contact Mrs Webber (401) [mwebber@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk](mailto:mwebber@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk)

GOOD LUCK ☺



# Okehampton Library Resources Centre

As a school we like to recommend that all students, parents and staff belong to the Public Library Service. This service compliments the school's own library provision and provides access to so many more quality research and reference materials than the school alone could provide. So, if your son or daughter is not already a member, they may be missing out on resources that could help support them with their studies – and they are completely free of charge.

Most online facilities can be accessed from your home computer/laptop/tablet/mobile phone – you just need to log in with a library membership number and 4-digit pin.

Also, a comprehensive network of library branches throughout the County offers the traditional book lending facility (60,000 books, CDs and DVDs in Exeter Central Library alone), alongside computing facilities and free Wi-Fi.

Here are some examples of materials available to you and your child/ren:

1. **Online Reference Materials:**

<http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/info/onlinereference.htm>

You would normally take out an annual subscription to access these, but log in with your library card and pin and they are free to use from home:

**British Film Institute (BFI) online encyclopaedia; NAXOS Music Library; Newsbank – all UK Newspapers; Oxford Dictionary of National Biography; Oxford Reference Online; Times Digital Archive (newspapers from 1785-1985); Which?**

You can only access this using a computer within a library branch: **Access to Research** - a world of published academic research with over 1.5 million articles

2. **eMAGAZINES:**

[https://www.rbdigital.com/devon/service/zinio/landing?q=%2F%2F&p\\_num=1](https://www.rbdigital.com/devon/service/zinio/landing?q=%2F%2F&p_num=1)

Access free magazines such as **New Scientist, BBC Music, National Geographic** and many more leisure and hobby titles

3. **eBOOKS:** <http://devon.lib.overdrive.com/45765178-D8BD-4EEC-B507-5AB136B3FD90/10/50/en/Default.htm>

Download **eBooks** & Audiobooks

4. **Enrol online:** <http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/cultureheritage/libraries/jointoday.htm>

Anyone may join the Devon Library Service, regardless of their county of domicile. If you need assistance with collecting your membership card and pin from a Devon Library branch, please contact Phillipa Griffiths in the school library who will be happy to help.

# Merry Christmas!



# Triple A Programme ROYAL SOCIETY CHALLENGE



physicsworld.com

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News archive

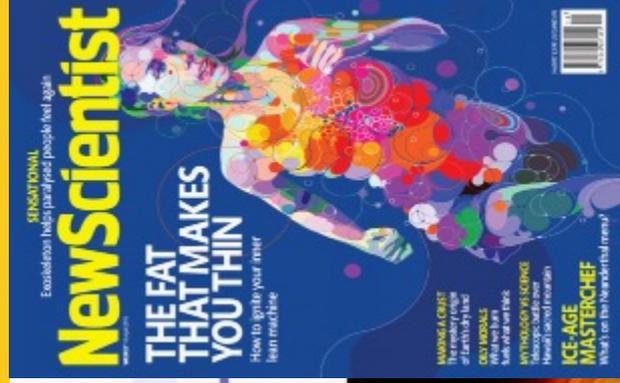
- December 2015
- November 2015
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- June 2015
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- March 2015
- February 2015
- January 2015
- 2014
- 2013

Magnetic fields near the Milky Way's black hole seen for the first time

Dec 4, 2015 45 comments



<http://physicsworld.com>



Read about a topic you find interesting and produce an article summarising it. You can use newspaper articles, magazines such as NewScientist or other scientific websites to find the articles. Ask Mrs Fernandez (416) or a Science teacher if you would like a hard copy of an article and get writing! Submit an article and it will count towards the Triple A programme!

Royal Society of Biology  
A unified voice for biology

<http://blog.rsb.org.uk>

Homeopathy – What is it and does it work?

Posted by [Janella Durr](#) on November 6, 2015

Opinion piece by [Professor Nigel Brown FRSB](#), President of the [Microbiology Society](#).

The principle of homeopathy is that 'like is treated with

chemistryworld

HOME NEWS OPINIONS FEATURES REGULARS JOBS PODCASTS MEDICINES

<http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/news>

Sharing Best Practice in Pharmaceutical QM/QC  
20th January 2016

From chip fat to biofuel

6 July 2015 Abigail Holloway

Researchers from Singapore and China have developed a cheap and green catalytic system for turning fatty acids into fuel that doesn't require hydrogen or a solvent.  
Hydrocarbon biofuels made from waste fats and oils, such as left-over cooking oil, could help reduce

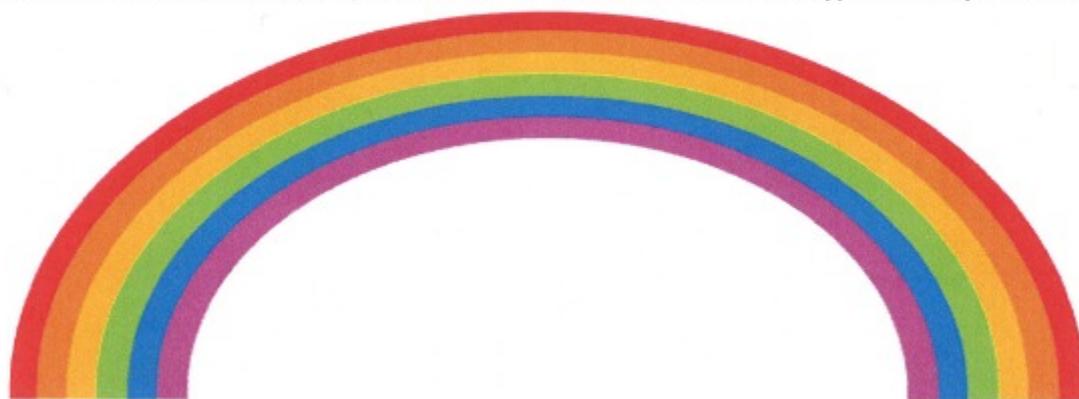


Empower 3  
CHROMATOGRAPHY SOFTWARE THAT WORKS THE WAY YOU DO.  
BE EMPOWERED  
Waters



## ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER and AUTISTIC SPECTRUM CONDITION

We are a friendly support group for parents and carers of school aged children, who are either on the Autistic Spectrum or have Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder



(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE) We meet once a month at The Ockment Centre  
Okehampton from 10am to 11:30am

### Group Meeting Dates are:

- 1 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- 2 Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016
- 3 Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016
- 4 Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016
- 5 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016
- 6 Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- 7 Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016



Come along and join us for a chat. Please make contact with us:  
Heather Parks [info@communitylinks-sw.co.uk](mailto:info@communitylinks-sw.co.uk)  
or Hayley [h.hardy211@btinternet.com](mailto:h.hardy211@btinternet.com)



# Dates for your diary & forthcoming events



Month	Date	Event
<b>Autumn Term 2015</b>		
December 2015	Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Last Day of Term
	Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec - Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2016	Christmas Break
<b>Spring Term 2016</b>		
January 2016	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	All Pupils Return
February 2016	Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb - Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term
	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	All Pupils Return
March 2016	Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Last Day of Term
	Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar - Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Break
<b>Summer Term 2016</b>		
April 2016	Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	All Pupils Return
May 2016	Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> May - Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half Term
June 2016	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> June	All Pupils Return
July 2016	Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of Term
	Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Non-Pupil Day
	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Non-Pupil Day

## Important Information for Parents/Carers:

**Please be aware of new safeguarding guidance, 'Keeping Children Safe'**

Paragraph 117 - *Parents/Carers using Facebook, Twitter and other social media to make derogatory remarks about staff is not acceptable under the prohibition on reporting and publishing allegations about teachers in section 141F of the Education Act 2002. Schools across the country are reporting issues relating to the misuse of social media sites. If any such abuse of these sites regarding Okehampton College takes place, appropriate action will be taken.*





**Executive Principal:**

Mr Daryll Chapman

**Head of Secondary Education:**

Mr Derrick Brett

**Assistant Principals:**

Mrs Jackie Whitehorn

Mr Andrew Sweeney

Ms Joanne Gibson

Mrs Nichola Offer

**Federation Business Manager:**

Mr Alan King



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