

Welcome to
Okehampton College

NEWSLETTER



Last night the annual Easter concert took place in the Octagon. As ever the talent on show was

magnificent and the performers showed such confidence. It is always one of the highlights of the year and always a pleasure to attend. It is also the last performance in school for some of our Year 13 students who have been the main stay in musical productions over the last few years and they will be greatly missed by the Expressive Arts Faculty. I will particularly miss Oliver Mander's Elvis impersonation!

Yesterday, I was lucky enough to present certificates of achievement to the students involved in the Forest Schools Project. These students have worked very hard over the last few

months to develop their camp craft and it was a pleasure to see how much they have developed.

As we come into the Easter break, I am aware that the Year 11 and Year 13 students are working hard to achieve the best grades they can in the summer. I hope that they will use the time away from school wisely and as well as revising hard will take the opportunity to relax. The GCSE exams will begin on the 13 May and students will have received their Statement of Entries which lists all their exams and when these will be taking place. Students will receive their Exam Timetables after the Easter break. If you have any concerns over exams, please do not hesitate to contact the College for support.

In amongst the many successful sporting activities

that have taken place over the last few weeks, a highlight has been the girls Table Tennis team consisting of the Under 16's Team, Mari Baldwin, Kerenza Downes, Megan Brogan and Emily Haskell and the Under 19's Team consisting of Zoe Bennett and Tayla Smith. These students represented the College at the National Table Tennis Championship Finals at Hinckley and achieved second place. This was an incredible performance and well done to them all.

I hope that the weather will allow everyone to have a very pleasant Easter break and we look forward to seeing everyone back for the Summer Term on Tuesday 23 April 2019.

Derrick Brett
Principal



Facebook
www.facebook.com/okehamptoncollege



Twitter account
www.twitter.com/okehamptoncc



Dear Parents and Guardians,

You may have heard from your child that we have been speaking to all students about our drive to raise standards and expectations at Okehampton College. This drive has students' needs and wishes at the core, as we are committed to providing an engaging, disruption free learning environment where everyone can achieve their full potential.

We have shared our vision to be a rewards focussed College with the students and have explained the range of ways they will be able to achieve College privileges and rewards for outstanding approach to learning, effort, contribution and progress. There will be more opportunities to praise and reward students and we will communicate this with parents and guardians.

Alongside improving our reward system, we have shared with students how we are improving our Ready2Learn system. Ready2Learn is our College behaviour system, which supports students and staff to uphold disruption free classrooms and corridors. In recent assemblies, we have shared with students that clear warnings will be given when College expectations are not being met. Students will be removed from lessons where there is persistent disruption to teaching and learning. This is to allow all students to thrive in lessons and for teachers to engage and support students in their learning.

This year we have engaged all students in the development of our College expectations and, alongside staff input, we have shared a set of reasonable requests for all staff and students to conduct themselves by. Last week we revisited with staff and students our expectations and what the consequences are when these are not met. Staff and students have been very supportive and appreciative of this communication and we hope that you will speak to your child about this within the coming weeks.

We hope you share our commitment to the continuous raising of standards and expectations within the college. There will be an opportunity for you to find out more information about our reward and behaviour systems at an Open Evening on **Wednesday 24 April at 6pm in the Octagon**. We will also communicate this information via our College newsletter and Website.

Exciting news about the launch of the Parent Account for Class Charts

Parental engagement is important to us. To support our drive in raising standards and expectations and to develop our culture of celebrating rewards and positive behaviour, we encourage you to sign up for a Class Charts Parent Account. Your login details to your parent account were included on the email that you will have received on the 4 of April. This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with your child's learning, progress and behaviour. We hope you will find this facility useful and extremely informative. The parent account will be available from Tuesday 23 April 2019 and we encourage every parent to set up a Class Charts parent account.

Thank you in advance for your support in our drive to raise standards and expectations so that students can achieve their best and we can all be proud of the College we are a part of.

Yours sincerely

Derrick Brett
Principal





Dear Parents and Guardians

CRB Cunninghams, the company who provide the cashless catering hardware to the college, are upgrading our biostore (the platform which retains the biometric fingerprints) and one consequence of this is that we will require any student who uses a biometric fingerprint to have their finger re-scanned.

The College's IT Lead has persuaded Cunninghams that we need to be able to run the two systems alongside each other so that students will be able to continue using the cashless catering system while we collect the new biometric data, meaning that no student will be adversely impacted by the upgrade.

Over the first 5 weeks of the Summer term we will be re-scanning students for whom we already have biometric permissions. Students who use pin numbers will not be required to do anything as we will transfer that information automatically.

If you have any questions or comments about this process then please email them to

datacheck@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Many thanks

Phillip Tyler

Systems & Applications Officer

Okehampton College



Okehampton College is "Outstanding" – Ofsted 2014



Dear Parents and Guardians

Re: Measles, Chicken Pox and Shingles

Please may we ask for your cooperation in a vitally important matter? One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment for cancer. This puts the pupil at serious risk if exposed to measles, chicken pox or shingles.

The best way to protect a pupil from measles is for all pupils to be immunised against measles. Please discuss measles immunisation with your GP if your child is not already vaccinated. If you suspect your child has measles you should let the school know immediately.

Our pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given an injection within three days of contact. Please let us know immediately if you suspect that your child has chicken pox.

It is also very important that you let us know if anyone in your household has shingles.

Your own child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and wellbeing of our pupil with cancer may be at serious risk. We depend on the co-operation of all parents and know we can rely on your help.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Principal



Okehampton College is "Outstanding" – Ofsted 2014

Under 15 Girls Cricket Team Indoor County Champions 2019!



Huge congratulations to our Under 15 Girls Cricket Team pictured above. They have recently been crowned the Devon Under 15 Girls Indoor Cricket Champions. On Tuesday 12 March they went to Exeter University to compete in the County Finals Day. They played 5 matches and won all 5, beating St Peters, South Dartmoor, St James, Churston Ferrers and Cullompton along the way.

They were incredibly consistent throughout the day and were thoroughly worthy winners. They played with great confidence and aggression in all games, batting, bowling and fielding with outstanding skill at times. All girls played key roles in victories during the day and individually all contributed to the success of the team

As Devon winners, they now have a trip to the Ageas Bowl in Southampton in May for the West of England Finals. This is an incredible achievement and something to really look forward to.

Well done to all involved and thank you for your outstanding effort and enthusiasm. Good luck in May in the Regional Finals.

Mr Harris

Have You Lost Kit?



The PE Dept has a large selection of PE kit which has been left in the changing rooms over the past few weeks/months. None of these items are named so it is impossible for us to return it to its rightful owners. If your son/daughter has lost their kit at any point and you would like to replace it at no cost then please ask them to come to the PE Office and collect whatever they are missing. It is a shame to have it all sitting here when we know that there are students in college who are short of various items.

Please ensure to name all items of kit so that mislaid items can be returned.

Thank you.



SIMS Parent App

Follow your child's progress

Have You Checked Your Data?

Please remember that the easier way to check the data we hold on you and your child is by using SIMS Parent Lite. Please take the time to log in and check your addresses, emails telephone numbers and parental consents are up to date. If you have not already registered with SIMS Parent please email datacheck@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk to resend the invitation to join.

Once you have logged in, click on the logo above to go direct to a guide which lists the steps to take to complete the registration.

Marketing Seminar for KS5 BTEC Business students

Year 12 and 13 Business students welcomed Tunde Awe, Vice Chair from the Chartered Institute for Marketing (CIM) this week. Tunde ran an informative marketing session with the students, giving real life and first hand examples of marketing, from his career at Procter and Gamble and Coca Cola in Africa. He also inspired pupils with examples of marketing from his more recent marketing career since moving to the UK. Well done to the students for their impeccable manners, great participation and attentive listening!

Mrs Gunn-Hawking



Mayoral Award For Edward!

Edward Selwood was nominated for a Mayoral Award by his tutor. Mrs Wheeleker writes: Edward does so many activities both in and out of school and has a real sense of community.

He was nominated for the following reasons:

Edward is heavily involved in the local community. He has recently become a member of the National Youth Folklore Troop of England, after an audition day held recently in Tockington.

- He is a member of 'Zeal' a dance troop in South Zeal.
- He is Dartmoor Broom Dance Champion.
- He does Morris dancing.
- He was second in Dartmoor Step dance
- He performs at the Folk Festival in South Zeal.
- He attend 1st scouts in South Zeal.
- He races cycle speedway in South Wales/South England and also competes in Cylocross.

Edward was chosen by the Mayor and won a Merit Award in the Under 18 category of this year's Mayoral Awards. Edward and his family attended an Award Ceremony on Tuesday 26 March at West Devon Borough Council in Tavistock where he received his award from the mayor.

Congratulations Edward!



Rugby Success!



Pictured: Whole Squad Photo from the last festival in Cheltenham on 24 March

Congratulations to Holly Keast and Lauren Pike who both had highly successful seasons playing for the Devon U15 county rugby squad. Holly in her second season and Lauren in her first took part in a gruelling trial process and were selected from 120+ girls to a squad of 37 and partook in three festivals against Cornwall, Somerset and Gloucestershire both home and away. The girls were undefeated in the 15-a-side format winning an impressive 9 out of 9 games over the season to become South West Champions! Holly captaining the side at home against Somerset and Lauren scoring an important try Vs Gloucestershire are just two of the highlights from the season!



Pictured: Mr Kerswill (Devon Head Coach), Holly Keast, Lauren Pike

Well Done Girls.

Mr Kerswill

Vaccination Consent Deadline is Fast approaching!



The Deadline to return consent for Year 9 Vaccinations is 14 April 2019. Please click on the vaccination symbol to go direct to the Virgin Care Link to give consent.



Class 8Y1 have been busy creating an amazing new display based on their recent topic 'Population' and their current area of study 'Development'. Using the website

www.ifitweremyhome.com

students compared life in the UK with other countries around the world. They looked at development indicators including life expectancy, birth rate, literacy levels and access to resources. 8Y1 created the world map and then added the information to the board using string to pinpoint each country's location on the map. There is still some space on the board if anyone is feeling artistic and would like to produce some famous landmarks from around the world. Well done to 8Y1 who worked so well together to create a bright, engaging, educational and fun display, thank you.

Mrs Wheelker



Year 8 Beliefs & Values

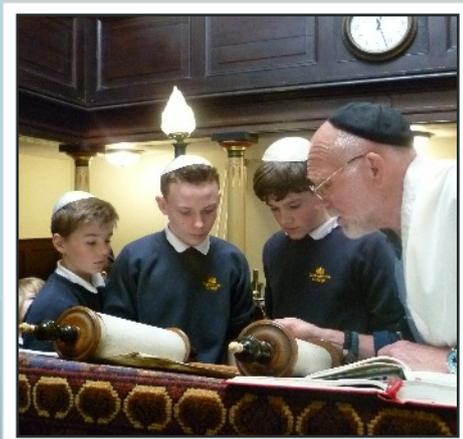
Students Visit a Mosque



On Thursday 28 March Miss Cookson and Mrs White took 50 year 8's into Exeter for the day to explore a range of places of worship and belief systems. All pupils and staff had a fantastic day with beautiful weather exploring some of the churches in the High Street. Additionally all pupils visited Exeter Synagogue and Exeter Mosque. In the synagogue pupils listened to Stuart, a member of the Jewish community talk briefly about the history of Judaism and some of the key practices. Pupils were able to discuss and ask questions about Judaism, further developing the work that they did in class on food laws as well as look around and learn about the features of a Synagogue.



At the Mosque pupils were shown around and spoken to by Naomi, a volunteer and member of the Muslim community. Pupils were able to observe the prayer hall being used and then explore it themselves after the afternoon prayer. Additionally pupils were shown the Wudu room where the practice of ritualistic washing was explained to the class. Inside pupils could ask questions about any areas of Islam they wished to and many of the students took part in asking insightful questions. On arrival at the mosque pupils saw members of the public stood outside with signs expressing solidarity to Muslims in light of the recent Christchurch attacks. Some of these people were invited into the Mosque by Naomi and explained that they wanted to show fellowship with Muslims, one of these ladies was a Jew and one a Hindu. This was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to reflect on tolerance





Job Vacancies

TEACHER OF SCIENCE - TPS

- Job term: Temporary / Full Time
For 1 Year to cover maternity
- Start Date: September 2019
- Location: Okehampton College
- Organisation: The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
- Closing date: Monday 22 April 2019

TEACHER OF FRENCH WITH GERMAN/SPANISH - TPS

- Job term: Permanent / Full Time
- Start Date: September 2019
- Location: Okehampton College
- Organisation: The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
- Closing date: Monday 22 April 2019

TEACHER OF ART - TPS

- Job term: Permanent / Full Time
- Start Date: September 2019
- Location: Okehampton College
- Organisation: The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

Closing date: Wednesday 24 April 2019

TEACHER OF PE - TPS

- Job term: Permanent / Full Time
- Start Date: September 2019
- Location: Okehampton College
- Organisation: The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
- Closing date: Wednesday 24 April 2019

Post 1: CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER Post 2: INCLUSION AND INTERVENTION ASSISTANT Post 3: EARLY HELP COORDINATOR

- Job term: Permanent
- Start Date: As soon as possible
- Location: Okehampton College
- Organisation: The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust
- Salary / Grade: Grade D £15,700 actual full time salary per annum
- Hours / Work Pattern: 35 hours per week
Term Time plus non-pupil days 8.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday (1 hour for breaks)
- Closing date: 24 April 2019

All schools in The Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment..

The successful candidate will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure via the Disclosure Barring Service (DBS).

For further details and to download an application pack please visit our website

www.okehamtoncollege.devon.sch.uk or email recruitment@okehamtoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Secondary Geography School Direct Teacher Training vacancies

Are you interested in pursuing a career in teaching?

We have an exciting opportunity for you to join a cohort of trainee geography teachers through Dartmoor Teaching School Alliance (DTSA). We have 25 secondary schools within our alliance offering excellent opportunities to train as a geography teacher.

Although this is a non-salaried programme, there is a bursary available of up to £26,000 for successful applicants onto our school direct programme, depending on your level of qualifications. A scholarship is available through the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) which includes £28,000 tax-free funding as well as a wide range of additional benefits including training events, access to resources, membership of the Geographical Association as well as networking opportunities.

Your training will lead to the award of a PGCE by the University of Exeter as well as Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) by the Department for Education (DfE).

Please see the attached flyer for information regarding the content of our teacher training programme as well as a structure of the course.

The programme is being co-delivered through DTSA and Teach South West by two leading practitioners in geography teaching.

To apply for our programme through UCAS, please go to <https://find-postgraduate-teacher-training.education.gov.uk/course/2BT/3DM6>

Should you require further information or have any questions regarding the Geography School Direct programme, please contact the programme leader Jo Payne via email jpayne@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk or Martin Smith (Director of DTSA) on msmith@dartmoortsa.org.uk



Secondary Geography PGCE with QTS | 2019-2020

Why train with us?

Course is designed and led by outstanding geography teachers with backgrounds in teacher training and senior leadership. Programme is hosted by two outstanding geography departments in Devon. Gain practical experience in the classroom from the beginning of the programme. Through our bespoke programme, learn from experienced teachers and nationally recognised leaders in the geography education. Develop in a supportive environment with access to personalised coaching and mentoring. Engage with contemporary and innovative approaches to teaching geography in the classroom. Explore current research and academic literature to enhance your classroom practice. Enjoy regular opportunities to expand geographical subject knowledge to meet the needs of the new exam board specification and to reflect current geographical events and issues. Learn how to take learning beyond the classroom, exploring opportunities for field work in the diverse Devon landscape. Superb school placement options across the greater Devon area.



Structure of the Course

You would spend three days a week in your placement school, one day per week working from home on the distance learning component through the University of Exeter and one day per week receiving subject specialist input with experienced geography teachers and other experts through the teaching school. You will also complete a shorter second placement in a contrasting school during the Spring Term.



School-based work experience

At the time of interview, we will discuss your placement requirements and using our knowledge of the geography departments in among our member schools and your preferences, identify the best school placement combination.

University-based: Distance Learning

The distance learning course is provided by the University of Exeter through their online learning portal. Trainees study a series of core weekly topics, with varied input via audio lectures and PowerPoints, interactive tasks and independent reading. The Masters level input is linked to school practice through a series of 'framework' tasks: these prompt trainees to relate the theoretical principles encountered through the core materials to their experiences in school. The online materials also support the completion of two Masters assignments (30 credits each). Support is provided through a dedicated university tutor who provides three face to face tutorials across the year.

Subject-based

Subject-specific training will include many aspects of being a geography teacher, including:

- Subject knowledge updates from geography lecturers
- Geography's places on the curriculum
- Planning for progression at KS3
- Understanding the KS4 and KS5 geography curriculum and exam boards
- Exploring the impact of current educational research on the geography classroom
- Use of current publications and what this means for teaching geography (e.g. Hans Rosing 'Factfulness')
- The contribution of fieldwork to geography education
- The role of GIS and technology
- Exploring sustainability
- Using photos for enquiry-based learning
- Non-examined assessment at A Level
- Subject knowledge audits and peer teaching



Course Leaders

Jo Payne | Okehampton College

Jo has 14 years of experience teaching geography. Her department at Okehampton College has achieved excellent results, placing them second for progress across over 40 DTSA and SWTSA schools. She has co-authored two GCSE Geography textbooks and two revision guides for Hodder Education and is an A Level examiner for Edexcel.

Sarah Broom | Ivybridge College

Sarah is a highly experienced and passionate teacher of Geography and Associate Assistant Principal for Teaching and Learning at Ivybridge Community College

PGCE with QTS full time

Accredited body
University of Exeter

Financial support

£26,000 Bursary available and £28,000 Scholarship. Find out more [HERE](#)

Qualification

PGCE with QTS

Course length

1 year

Date course starts

September 2019

To find out more

<https://find-postgraduate-teacher-training.education.gov.uk/course/2BT/3DM6>

Placement School Options

We have 25 secondary schools in the Devon, Plymouth and Cornwall, offering placement options for applicants. To view a map of our member schools [click HERE](#)

Find out more

If you would like to find out more about our course, arrange a visit or arrange work experience, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Jo Payne | jpayne@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Martin Smith | msmith@dartmoortsa.org.uk | 07786523276

Course Partners – Teach South West

We are delighted to be leading this programme in partnership with Teach South West – the School Direct programme for South West Teaching School Alliance.



National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership

info@dartmoortsa.org.uk | 01837 850910

Okehampton College, Mill Rd, Okehampton EX20 1PW

 www.dartmoortsa.org.uk

National Teaching School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership

info@dartmoortsa.org.uk | 01837 850910

Okehampton College, Mill Rd, Okehampton EX20 1PW

 www.dartmoortsa.org.uk

Child Protection

Our Child Protection Officers are:



Mrs Charlie Edwards
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Tel: 01837 5650914



Mr Sean Freeman
Deputy Designated Lead
Tel: 07791 683523
(work hours only)

If you have any concerns regarding the safety and well-being of any student, please feel free to contact Mrs Edwards or Mr Freeman. During holidays anyone can contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 55 1071 if they have a concern about a child or young person.

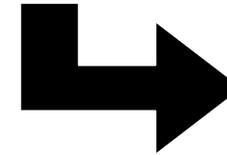
Child Protection and Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Telephone our Safeguarding Direct line number:

01837 650914 Or via college switchboard:

01837 650910

Take a moment to read these tips



NHS

Building your child's resilience

#WMHD2018

-  1. Spend one-on-one time with them
-  2. Encourage and support them to try new things outside their comfort zone
-  3. Resist the urge to fix their problems – help and support them to find their own solutions
-  4. Acknowledge their emotions and reassure them that it's okay to feel that way
-  5. Remind them that feelings are temporary and will soon pass
-  6. Let them know everyone makes mistakes and that's fine
-  7. Help them to see the bright side in situations
-  8. Support them to make and maintain friendships
-  9. Encourage them to help others
-  10. Maintain a daily routine but factor in time for unorganised fun and relaxation
-  11. Have a healthy lifestyle
-  12. Keep expectations reasonable (theirs and yours)
-  13. Nurture a positive self-image
-  14. Teach them that change can be positive
-  15. Set an example – show them that you are resilient.



Dates for your diary & forthcoming events

March 2019	Thurs 21 March	Year 11 Photo
	Friday 5 April	Last Day of Term
April 2019	Mon 8 April - Mon 22 April	Easter Holidays
Summer Term 2019		
	Tues 23 April	All Pupils Return
	Mon 6 May	Bank Holiday
May 2019	Mon 27 May - Fri 31 May	Half Term
	Monday 3 June	All Pupils Return
June 2019	Weds 26 June	Year 11 Graduation
	Fri 28 June	Year 11 Ball
	Friday 19 July	Last day of Term
	Mon 22 July	Non Pupil Day
July 2019	Tues 23 July	Non Pupil Day
	Weds 24 July	Non Pupil Day
	Thurs 25 July	Non Pupil Day
	Mon 2 September	Non Pupil Day
September 2019	Tues 3 September	Non Pupil Day
	Weds 4 September	All Pupils Return

"Our school values a good partnership between school, parents and pupils to ensure the best outcomes for your children. As part of our commitment to do this, our weekly newsletter provides an important link to news and events happening in the school which may affect you or your child. By sending our newsletter electronically, we can communicate with you efficiently, and meet our obligation to safely and effectively run our school for the benefit of pupils and parents alike. We will always manage your data responsibly and will never sell your data. If you would like to find out more about how we use data, please read our Privacy Notice at www.dartmoor.nhs.uk/policies-and-documents



Click on the icons above to go direct to our Enrichment programme listing the Extra Curricular activities.



Click on the newsletters above to go to the College Newsletters Archive

Learning Support



SENDCO – Miss Karen Moore
TA Team Leader – Mrs Linda Harding

The Learning Support Faculty provides support for students with additional needs and those pupils identified as needing different or alternative educational provision who may be at SEN Support or have an EHCP.

If your child is having difficulties with their learning and you would like some help, advice and support, please contact us on 01837 650910.

Why Good Attendance Is Important.....

90% Attendance = 1/2 a day missed EVERY week

90% over 5 years = 1/2 school YEAR missed!

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole WEEKS of missed lessons!

Research shows that 17 missed school days in one year will result in a GRADE DROP in Achievement! Remember this when booking Holidays!

The Greater the Attendance The Greater the Achievement

If you have any concerns regarding your attendance please contact Mrs Casbolt - Attendance Officer



Okehampton College

Principal:
Mr Derrick Brett

Assistant Principals:

Mrs Charlie Edwards

Mrs Berni Hachipuka

Vice Principals:

Mrs Tracey Nethercott

Mr Craig Griffiths

Mr Neil Sproats

Mrs Nichola Offer

Mrs Charlotte Wates

Executive Business Manager:
Mr Alan King

www.okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk

Tel: 01837 650910

Email: admin@okehamptoncollege.devon.sch.uk



Okehampton College, Mill Road, Okehampton, Devon, EX20 1PW