

DARTMOUTH ACADEMY

Secondary Newsletter

June 2025

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Best Self

COURAGE · COMPASSION · AMBITION





As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy and exciting June across the school community.

First and foremost, a huge congratulations to our fantastic Year 11 pupils, who have now completed their GCSE exams. They approached the exam period with real maturity, determination, and resilience. We couldn't be prouder of the way they conducted themselves throughout. As a well-earned reward, they celebrated in style at their Prom – a wonderful evening filled with laughter, dancing, and plenty of memorable moments. It was truly a fitting send-off to mark the end of their time with us.

Our Year 6 pupils have also reached a major milestone, completing their SATs with great focus and positivity. They followed this achievement with a fun-filled and adventurous residential trip to Kingswood in North Devon. The visit provided a perfect opportunity for team-building, outdoor exploration, and lots of laughter – a brilliant way to round off a significant chapter of their primary journey.

We would also like to shine a spotlight on our exceptional Sports Leaders, whose continued support for local primary schools has been both inspiring and invaluable. Their commitment to encouraging younger pupils and promoting physical activity within the wider community is something we are incredibly proud of. They are role models in every sense of the word.

Looking ahead, the final few weeks of term promise to be just as exciting. This week, a lucky group of pupils is off exploring the sights and culture of Paris – a fantastic opportunity to bring their language learning to life. Later in the week, another group will be embarking on a once-in-a-lifetime expedition to Borneo, where they'll take part in service projects and gain unforgettable global experiences.

Back at home, we are eagerly anticipating our annual Sports Day, set to take place in just over a week. It's always a highlight of the school calendar – a celebration of effort, sportsmanship, and team spirit. We look forward to welcoming many of you to cheer on the pupils as they give their best on the field.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to ending the term on a high together.

Warm regards,

Paul Girardot and

The Dartmouth team

Dates for the diary

June 2025

30th until 1st July – Paris Trip

July

4th – Borneo Expedition leave

**7th – Secondary Open Morning
@ 9.30am**

9th & 10th – YPAG trip to London

14th – Whole school Sports Day

15th – Y9 Sailing

16th

Y8 Sailing

Y7 Paignton Zoo

Y9 Blackpool Sands Walk

Y8 Blackpool Sands Walk

17th

Y7 Sailing

Y7 Dartmouth Castle Walk

Y8 Plymouth Aquarium

Y9 Go Ape

18th – School closing at

1pm – Primary

1.15pm Secondary

Our future successes are built on the work we do today,

Attendance Matters

This year's attendance by Year Group:

Reception – 83.8%

Year 1 – 91%

Year 2 – 94.5%

Year 3 – 93.8%

Year 4 – 92.1%

Year 5 – 95.2%

Year 6 – 91.8%

Year 7 – 94.7%

Year 8 – 91.7%

Year 9 – 89.5%

Year 10 – 89.3%

Year 11 – 90.2%

School attendance for the year so far is currently

91.8 %

Thank you for supporting our target of 96%



What have we been up to:

Young Voices, Big Impact: Dartmouth Academy Pupils to Form Youth Council

Pupils at Dartmouth Academy have taken an active role in shaping the future of their town, following a recent invitation to speak at a Dartmouth Town Council meeting.

This exciting opportunity came as a result of Councillor Dawn Shepherd's visit to the school earlier this term, where she met with pupil representatives to hear their views.

During the meeting, Year 9 pupils shared powerful, well-prepared speeches outlining what young people in Dartmouth feel would improve life for them in the community. Topics ranged from access to youth activities and safe spaces, to environmental improvements and transport concerns.

The students, supported in their preparation by Assistant Principal Nicola Perrott, gathered feedback from across the school community to ensure their speeches reflected the voices of their peers. Their mature and thoughtful contributions were praised by councillors and local community representatives alike.

The school plans to continue building on this relationship with the Town Council, ensuring young voices remain a key part of community decision-making and are looking to establish a formal youth council going forward.

Paul Girardot, Principal at Dartmouth Academy, said:

"We are incredibly proud of our pupils for speaking so confidently and passionately about the issues that matter to them. Engaging with the Town Council in this way is a brilliant example of youth leadership and civic responsibility in action."

Matthew Shanks, CEO at Education South West, said:

"This kind of experience is invaluable for our young people. It empowers them to become active citizens who understand that their voice matters. Dartmouth Academy is doing excellent work to connect students to their wider community and prepare them for the future."





Careers trip,
Year 10 at South
Devon College
Marine
Academy



It was a great send off for our Year 11 pupils at Dartmouth Golf & Country Club on Friday for their Prom.
Everyone looked so smart and grown up!



Our future successes are built on the work we do today.

We are pleased to announce the Summer HAF Programme for 2025 is now Live.

HAF Holiday Activities are free for children who receive Benefit Related Free School Meals. Each child can book up to 16 sessions this Summer. There are also some paid activities for children who are not eligible. We look forward to welcoming your child.

We are now using the EEUQ booking system, so we no longer use unique HAF codes.

Here is a link to the new booking system [Eegu · After school. In place of school. Beyond school.](#)

Here is a link to the parent pages of the HAF website for further information [Information for parents and carers - Children, families and education](#)

Kind regards

The HAF Team



It was so lovely to meet you in person and to come and speak with your Key Stage 3 pupils; I was so impressed with the engagement of the group – thanks very much for having me in!

Jenny Rusk

ASK Apprenticeship Devon Team and Trainee Careers Adviser

Information and support for parents / carers



For post 16 progression and Careers guidance please visit our website by clicking on these links:

[Careers - Dartmouth Academy](#)

Particularly useful for parents/carers: [Parents-resources](#)

Our future successes are built on the work we do today.



Lost property can be located at reception, any items not collected will be disposed of at the end of each term.

OPEN EVENTS

Secondary Open Mornings 2025

Monday 9th June
Monday 7th July

9.30am to 10.30am

Tel: 01803 839700
Email: admissions@dartmouthacademy.org.uk
www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk - Milton Lane, Dartmouth TQ6 9HW



School Support & Snacks



Where: Dartmouth Academy, Milton Lane, TQ6 9HW

When: Monday 7th July 11.30am – 1.00pm

Who: ALL parents/carers/families of children at Dartmouth Academy or those who will be joining us

What: A coffee morning (with snacks)!



We will be joined by the **Mental Health Support Team** who will be providing a short input on **transition related anxiety**. We will also be joined by the founders of **The Fidget Project** who will be giving a short presentation on **supporting sensory needs**.

Followed by time to informally chat with professionals and services who all support the Academy



We may be joined by:

- Social Emotional Mental Health Team
- Educational Psychologist (EP)
- Communication & Interaction Team
- Dartmouth Caring
- The Police
- Dartmouth GP Representative
- Action for Children
- Mental Health Support Team
- Early Help
- Dartmouth Food Bank
- Neurodiversity Navigator



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Food Bank

& Friday Hub Cafe

We are open Friday's
11am to 12:45pm

Pop in to see what we can do to help you
Free refreshments for all

Donate



We are based HERE at
Townstal Community Hall, TQ6 9LJ
(Part of Dartmouth Food Bank)

<https://www.facebook.com/DartmouthFoodBank>
<https://dartmouthanddistrictfoodbank.org.uk/>

Website



Dartmouth Youth Group

Tuesday's & Friday's
Age 11 - 18
FREE






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ADAM SHEARER 07967 124844



TOTNES

DARTMOUTH

NEWTON ABBOT



DARTMOOR OUTDOOR FESTIVAL

29th August - 5th September 2025

**WALKS | YOGA | CLIMBING | GORGE
SCRAMBLING | MUSIC | BBQ | TAI CHI | RUNNING
| WORKSHOPS | STORYTELLING |
PHOTOGRAPHY | PLEIN AIR | ORIENTEERING |
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