



FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 639 21st October 2024

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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

7-11 October

Student of the Week	Tiffany B, 7H	29 points
Form of the Week	7N	387 points
House of the Week	Gorst	1085 points
Teacher of the Week	Mrs Lee, Maths Teacher	634 points

14-17 October

Student of the Week	Ayden M, 9P	26 points
Form of the Week	7G	362 points
House of the Week	Gorst	923 points
Teacher of the Week	Miss Mills Spanish Teacher	280 points

SOCIAL MEDIA



@FearnhillSch



@Fearnhill_School



@FearnhillSchool

UPDATING OUR IT SYSTEMS

As you will have seen in my letter last week we are updating our management information system over October Half Term. The new system is called Arbor, and once set up we will send you details on how you can access the parent app.



What is a Management Information System (MIS)?

The MIS stores all student data. The MIS allows us to monitor attendance, contact parents, manage payments, record rewards and sanctions, produce progress reports, track and analyse student data, take registers and much more. Whilst the MIS operates in the background, it has a big impact on day to day life in schools.

Why are we changing our MIS?

There are two big reasons to change. Firstly, Arbor is a cloud-based platform which means that accessing data is much more straightforward for staff. Secondly, the better functionality of Arbor means there is a significant saving in staff time, which means they can focus on supporting students. There is also a cost reduction as currently we pay for many additional services that will be able to be carried out by Arbor.

Short term pain, long term gain

In the short term changing MIS will inevitably create some disruption. We are doing everything we can behind the scenes to minimise the impact that is felt by students, staff and parents. In the long term, the reduction in costs and the timing savings will provide a significant ongoing benefit to students.

Early finish on Friday

To help smooth the process of data migration we will be closing at 12.15pm on Friday. Hopefully there will not be too much more disruption after that. I suspect some students will not be too upset with the disruption of an early finish just before half term. As the saying goes, every cloud has a silver lining. On that note I hope all students are able to enjoy a restful half term break when we get there.

Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher

RUGBY

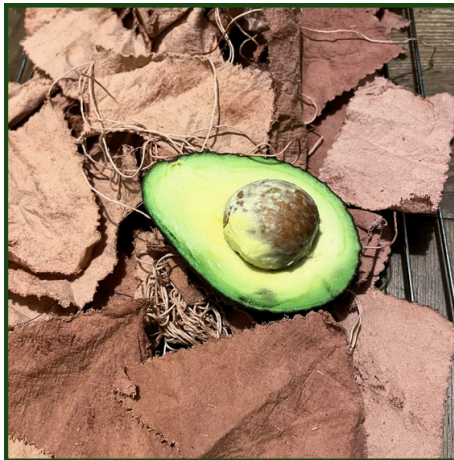
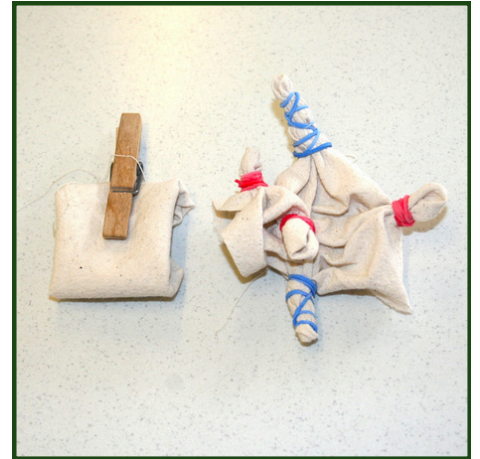
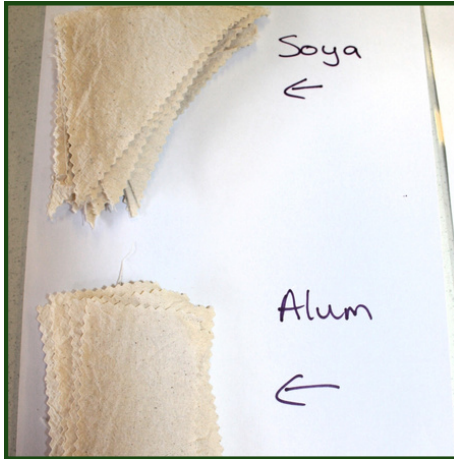


We are in the fortunate position to have a coach from top professional rugby club, The Saracens, visiting Fearnhill this term as part of Project Rugby. They have been delivering sessions to a variety of groups of students on Wednesdays, with the intention of setting up some tournaments and getting more people involved in club rugby. Special thanks to Coach Derek from Saracens for all his hard work so far.

Mr M Turner, PE Teacher & Head of Key Stage 3

NATURAL DYES

Year 8 took part in a fascinating practical lesson about dyes. They learned about natural vs synthetic dyes, comparing onions skins, nettles, avocado stones and some man made dyes. Students experimented with pieces of fabric that had been treated with different fixatives (mordants), dipping them in the various dyes to examine the effects. Huge thanks to the Best Before Café for their help with the veg for the natural dyes.



Ms A Holloway, Student Teacher

YEAR 9 FOOTBALL WIN



Fearnhill's Year 9 football team secured a brilliant 3-1 win on Wednesday Oct 9 against their local rivals Highfield. The whole team played excellently together as one unit both from a defensive and attacking perspective.

Special mentions to Kian Stuart who scored 2 goals, Joel Spencer in the middle of the park and Ronnie Morgan at the back who defended resolutely. The other goal scorer was Josh Baldry. Man of the match was Kian Stuart who was a thorn in the side of the Highfield defense the entire game.

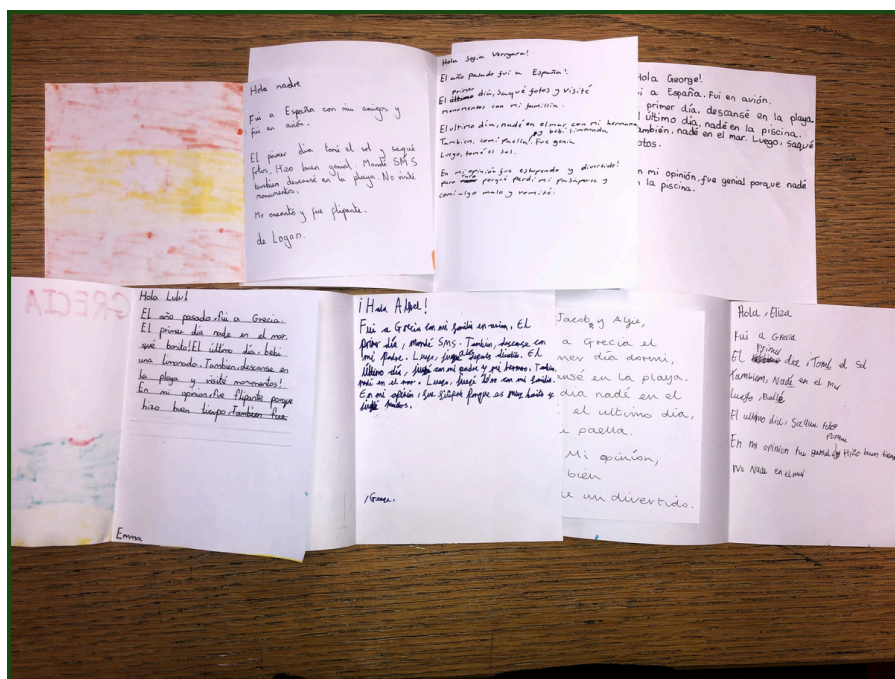
Mr S Manley, PE Teacher

HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEAD

Congratulations to Aiden M (9P), Joy S (10P) and Tegan D (11P) who were invited for a cup of hot chocolate and a chat with Mr Spencer last week as a reward for their excellent attitude to learning. Well done everyone!

SPANISH POSTCARDS

Year 8 have made some 'holiday postcards' in Spanish to show off the vocabulary that they have learnt this past half-term.



Miss J Mills, Teacher Spanish

SWIMMING MEDALS

Congratulations to Mary H in 12 JWY, who won not one but two swimming medals: a gold in 200m breaststroke and a silver in 100m breaststroke, both in the challenging over 16 category.



YEAR 10 CATERING

Year 10 students completed a high level skilled dessert: a multi layered trifle. With a whisked sponge, gelatine set fruit, homemade egg custard and retro coloured sprinkles, all students succeeded and from the empty pots and full bellies very much enjoyed their outcomes!



YEAR 11 CHILD DEVELOPMENT

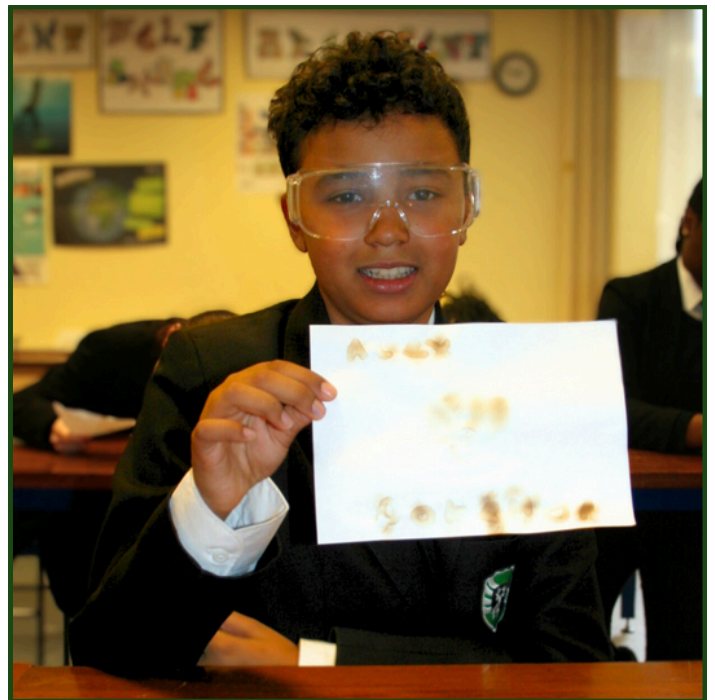
The students in Child Development have started their 2nd piece of coursework. This one focusing on stages of development and types of play. Today they went round in pairs trying a variety of activities, having productive peer discussion about the games development points, health and safety issues and play potential. So lovely to watch the girls interacting and applying knowledge in such a fun way (especially on a Friday).



Ms L Rouse, Subject Lead Design & Technology

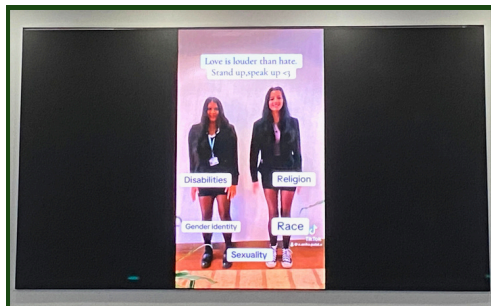
SCIENCE CLUB

Students have been having lots of fun at Science club, with them recently creating secret messages using fire writing! They used lemon juice to write words and design patterns on pieces of paper, which, when heated with a tealight candle allowed their message to show through. Science Club takes place every Wednesday lunchtime in S10 for any students who would like to give it a try.



Ms D Carroll, 2nd in Science

YEAR 12 & 13 CRIMINOLOGY TRIP



Our criminology students had a fantastic day learning about hate crime with Hertfordshire police and the University of Hertfordshire law department.

In the morning they listened to talks from Jonathan Ash-Edwards - Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire and Chris Derrick - Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor, Thames and Chiltern CPS, which detailed the acts which constitute hate crime as well as the impact it can have. After this students made Tik Tok videos to raise awareness of hate crime, which will be shared by Hertfordshire Police.

Next students worked in groups with students from other schools to develop arguments to prosecute a person accused of public order aggravated by hostility. They took on this role in a mock trial against a defense team.

After a delicious lunch our students returned to the conference room to watch a video of university students acting out the same case and they could see how the points they had identified could be developed into comprehensive legal arguments.

The students left with merch and a better understanding of many aspects of legal processes - the day was a resounding success. We received an email from the centre praising our students' excellent conduct throughout the day.

Mx A Bettinson, Teacher Psychology & Criminology

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Fearnhill School would like to congratulate everyone who was elected by their form groups to represent them on the school council. Being a school council member is a serious responsibility, as well as a great opportunity to learn leadership skills for the future. Last year the school council put forward a proposal for a summer uniform policy on behalf of the students, and successfully persuaded the School Leadership to implement some changes. This would not have happened without the professionalism displayed by our school council members. We are excited to see what the council will accomplish this year.

The first council meeting was held on the 10th of October in the Library. The council heard from Mr Spencer about his thoughts on a new school behaviour policy. Council then had their chance to express their opinions on the current policy, as well as their suggestions for a new one. It was a very valuable exercise and lots of great ideas were expressed.

Council members were then given the task of taking what they had heard to their form groups and canvassing their opinions on the school behaviour policy, before reporting back at the next meeting. Next half term school council will have the job of pulling together the opinions of the student body into a report to be presented to Mr Spencer and the school leadership. This is very important to make sure the voices of everyone in our community are heard when it comes to behaviour in school.

Mr T Cordwell, Subject Lead in History

VACANCIES

Would you like to make a real difference in young people's lives? We are currently looking for two people to join our friendly team: a **Teaching Assistant/Inclusion Leader** and a **Cover Supervisor**. For more details or to apply, please see the 'Staff Vacancies' page on our website under 'Join Us', or follow this link <https://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/staff-vacancies/>. The closing date for both roles is Friday 25th October at 10.00am.



Are you looking to make a real difference to young people's lives? Fearnhill is the place for you. We have the following staff vacancies:

- Teaching Assistant**
- Cover Supervisor**

Visit our website for details:
fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/staff-vacancies

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH
OCTOBER 2024

“The time is
always right to
do what is right.”

- Reverend Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr., activist



LIBRARY

Layla-Jade in 7H has helped create a shelf display for *You Must Be Layla* a book she would recommend to others.



Library Lumps Library Lectio Lapis

The library has been infested with Library Lectio Lapis also known as Library Lumps.

These nocturnal creatures live in libraries where they spend the day feeding telepathically, feasting on the thoughts of readers reading in the library.

At night Library Lumps use their gentle glow to navigate the complete darkness of the night time library in order to find an interesting book of which they will then nibble on the corner.

If you are lucky enough to find a lump in our library you are welcome to adopt it as long as you follow the rules for adoption

Rules for adoption

Keep out of reach of young children.

Home near to books

Feed them everyday by reading for at least 5 minutes, the more you read, the better they glow and you never know it may even grow!



LIBRARY

The Library is open before school from 8am and after school until 4pm. You can also visit the library during break and lunch times to read a book, do some homework on the computer or play a card or board game (sorry, no computer games!)

Mrs Thurlby, Library & Literacy Assistant



READ A BOOK YOU WOULD RECOMMEND?

HELP THE LIBRARY BY
CREATING A MINI DISPLAY TO
ADVERTISE IT TO OTHER
STUDENTS

SPEAK TO MRS THURLBY FOR MORE INFORMATION



THE BIG BOOK RETURN CHALLENGE



PARENTS WE NEED YOUR HELP!

PLEASE HAVE A LOOK
AROUND AT HOME FOR
MISSING LIBRARY BOOKS



MUSIC LESSONS

Please see the below information regarding music lessons that are provided by Hertfordshire Music Service at Fearnhill. Visit their website at www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk for more information.



Hertfordshire Music Service

Start your musical journey today →

Making Music Improving Lives

Registration now open for music lessons

Instrumental and vocal lessons

- ▶ Music lessons are available during the school day at hundreds of schools in Hertfordshire.
- ▶ We also provide lessons in the afternoon, evening and on the weekends at our 12 music centres across the county.
- ▶ We offer various lesson types and durations. Please visit our website for more information.
- ▶ Financial support is available to pupils receiving certain benefits, to help with the cost of lessons.
- ▶ As your child progresses on their musical journey, they will be invited to join ensembles or music groups that perform regularly.



Scan me

01438 844851
hertsmusicservice.org.uk

Follow @hertsmusic



HOMEWORK CLUB



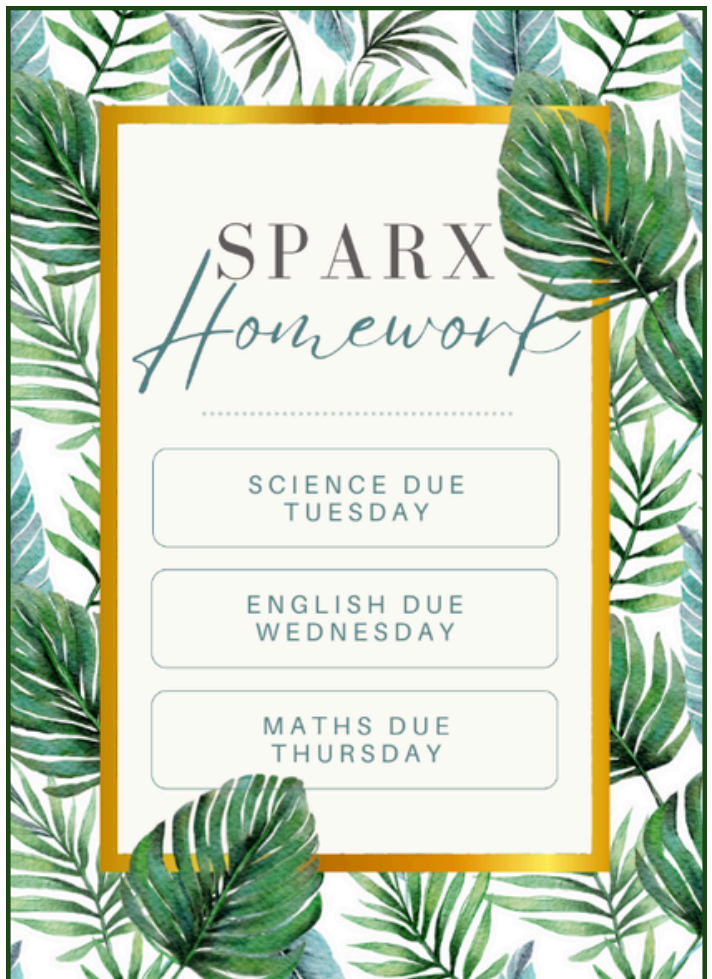
Homework
CLUB
IN 13

MONDAY- FRIDAY
LUNCHTIMES

1.25- 1.55PM

MONDAY- THURSDAY
AFTERSCHOOL

3.00- 4.00PM



SPARX
Homework

SCIENCE DUE
TUESDAY

ENGLISH DUE
WEDNESDAY

MATHS DUE
THURSDAY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Autumn Term 2024

Tuesday 22nd October	Year 9 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
Wednesday 23rd October	Year 11 Reports Issued
Mon 28th October – Fri 1st November	Half term
Monday 4th - Wednesday 6th November	Yr 12 and 13 FSC Residential Field Trip
Wednesday 6th November	Year 12 Reports Issued
Monday 11th November	Year 11 Mock Exams Start
Wednesday 8th November	Year 8 Reports Issued
Tuesday 19th November	Year 8 Parents' Evening (Times TBC)
Wednesday 20th November	Year 9 Reports Issued
Wednesday 27th November	Year 10 Reports Issued
Wednesday 27th November	Sixth Form Opening Evening
Friday 29th November	Occasional Day (school closed)
Monday 2nd December	Disaggregated (school closed)
Thursday 12th December	Year 13 Parents' Evening (Times TBC)
Tuesday 17th December	Year 11 Mock Results and Reports Issued
Friday 20th December	Term ends

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6th January	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Tuesday 7th January	Term starts for students
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	Half term
Friday 4th April	Term ends

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April	Terms starts
Monday 26th – Friday 30th May	Half term
Friday 4th July	INSET DAY - School closed to students
Wednesday 23rd July	End of Term

CONTACT US

Phone: 01462 621200

Email: admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Website: www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

Address: Fearnhill School, Icknield Way, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire SG6 4BA

Please ensure that we have your current address, mobile phone number and email address.

Any updates can be sent to the school office on the email address above.

EXTERNAL INFORMATION



DSPL (Delivering Special Provision Locally)

DSPL offer a range of useful tools for parents and carers, including:

- The Toolbox - courses for young people - understanding my Autism and/or ADHD (ages 7-16)
- Wellbeing Support for Parent Carers
- Coping with school when you are autistic

More information can be found here:

<https://nhdspl.org.uk/262-north-herts-dspl-1-weekly-a-roundup-of-training-information-and-events-in-our-area-15.html>

A poster for 'Pitch Up and Play Rugby'. The background is a green field with a white and red rugby ball in the foreground. The text 'PITCH UP AND PLAY RUGBY' is in large, bold, yellow and white letters. In the top right corner is the Letchworth Garden City Rugby Union Football Club logo, which is a circular emblem with a stag's head and the text 'LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB EST 1924'. A black speech bubble with white text says 'Join us! Meet new friends, have fun and learn new skills, no experience necessary and all abilities welcome.' Below the ball, it says 'GET INTO RUGBY'. At the bottom, it says 'OPEN TO SCHOOL YEAR 10', 'WHEN: WEDNESDAY'S 6.30-7.30PM', and 'WHERE: LETCWORTH RUGBY CLUB, LEGENDS LANE, BALDOCK ROAD SG6 2EN'. A section titled 'INTERESTED?' provides contact information: 'New or experienced players welcome, just turn up or for any questions or further information email us on letcworthrugby@hotmail.com or Admin on 07741276516'.

The Herts Parent Carer Involvement 2024 Survey is open until 3rd November

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HPCISurvey2024

We want to hear from Hertfordshire parent carers of children and young people (age 0-25) with any Special Educational Need and/or Disability. Your child doesn't need to have a diagnosis or EHCP for you to take part.

Share your thoughts and make a difference



www.surveymonkey.com/r/HPCISurvey2024

EXTERNAL INFORMATION



For information on how the Uniform Bank can support you with second hand uniform, and for news of their forthcoming events, please visit their [Facebook page](#).

Learn about ADHD and autism on your phone!

If you are 14 or above, live in Hertfordshire and:

- Have ADHD (or think you do)
- Are autistic (or think you are)
- Or both

You can now access the Cogs app for free!

The app helps you understand more about ADHD and autism and how to manage them to your advantage.

To find out more and get your free access, search:

<https://thetoolbox.minder.co.uk/hertfordshire>

Then scroll to the Cogs offer!

www.thetoolbox.minder.co.uk/hertfordshire



Herts Mental Health, Learning Disability & Autism Health and Care Partnership's monthly newsletter is [available here](#).

Families In Focus CIC
LOOKING FORWARD TOGETHER

Hertfordshire
Funded by HCC
Targeted Parenting Fund

A complete guide to parenting children with Autism & ADHD

FREE, award-winning course is for parents living in Hertfordshire and parenting children with Autism or ADHD (inclusive of those with a diagnosis or awaiting assessment) aged two to 11 years.

Facilitated by founders, Lesley and Francine, our course will help parents:

- Meet other parents living in similar families and share experiences
- Gain a greater understanding of, 'Why does my child do that?'
- Learn a range of strategies to better manage behaviours that challenge
- Understand children's sensory world
- Increase understanding of children's common sleep issues
- Learn how to support siblings living with a neurodiverse sister/brother
- Communicate effectively to increase children's emotional regulation
- Learn techniques to manage stress, conflict and so much more....

Tuesday mornings 9.30am to 11.30am
or
Tuesday evenings 6.30pm to 8.30pm
January 7th 14th 21st 28th & February 4th 11th 25th & March 4th 11th

Email us: bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk or visit our website to see all course information: www.familiesinfocus.co.uk

www.familiesinfocus.co.uk

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

1 DAY CHAMPION COURSE FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF 8 TO 18-YEAR-OLDS
FREE TRAINING
09:30AM - 16:00PM



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- AN UNDERSTANDING OF COMMON MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES AND HOW THEY CAN AFFECT YOUNG PEOPLE
- ABILITY TO SPOT SIGNS OF MENTAL ILL HEALTH IN YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUIDE THEM TO A PLACE OF SUPPORT
- KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE TO ADVOCATE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS
- SKILLS TO SUPPORT POSITIVE WELLBEING

COURSE STRUCTURE

SESSION 1- ABOUT, WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL ILL HEALTH, STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION, DEPRESSION AND SUICIDE.
SESSION 2 MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS: ANXIETY, SELF-HARM, EATING DISORDERS, PSYCHOSIS, RECOVERY, RESILIENCE

For further information please contact:
hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net



FOREVER YOUNG PEOPLE

LETCHWORTH youth HUB

STARTING THURSDAY 18TH JULY!

FREE THURSDAY 6-8PM
12-18YRS OLD

GAMES | MULTI-SPORTS | ARTS | TEAMBUILDING

JACKMANS CREAMERY
LETCHWORTH
SG6 2SB

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
ADAM.NNOCHIRI@AITC.ORG.UK



Mental Health First Aid Training Dates:

22nd January 2025 (Dacorum) - [Book here](#)

26th February 2025 (Bushey) - [Book here](#)

