



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



Fearnfile Issue 642 9th December 2024

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## MR SPENCER'S UPDATE

### THE 12 DAYS OF FEARNHILL CHRISTMAS

We believe there are times when school should be fun, just for the sake of it. Childhood should be filled with moments of fun, laughter and silliness. To that end we are currently counting down to the end of term with the 12 days of Fearnhill Christmas.

#### So far

On Day 1 we had a one-day reward point challenge, 7P came out on top with the most reward points in the day. In total over 1500 reward points were given out in one day. On Day 2 each form group made their Christmas top-10 playlist and on Day 3 Mr Phillips (aka 'DJ Grinch') played the students' ten favourite Christmas songs outside during lunch time. Day 4 was the Christmas cracker joke competition: the serious process of judging the best one took place this morning, with 11P winning the coveted prize.

# MR SPENCER'S UPDATE (continued)

## THE 12 DAYS OF FEARNHILL CHRISTMAS

### Still to come

This week we have:

- Christmas Karaoke
- Form Room decoration competition
- Christmas crystal growing competition
- Hitchin, Letchworth & Baldock Foodbank collection
- Christmas Bake-off



Everything is building towards Fearnhill Christmas on the last day of term.

### Follow the fun

You can see more of how students are getting involved on our social media channels:

**Instagram:** [@fearnhill\\_school](#)

**Facebook:** [Fearnhill School](#)

**X:** [@FearnhillSchool](#)

Further down in Fearnfile you can see the students' Christmas playlist, the winning joke and the list of foods the foodbank are collecting, if you would like to contribute.

### The learning continues

Having fun and prioritising learning are not mutually exclusive. The Christmas fun takes place during form time and lunch, but lessons continue as normal. As the end of term approaches there is lots of important curriculum content to cover and good attendance is as important as ever.

I really hope the students continue to enjoy coming to school and embrace the Christmas fun as the end of term approaches. I will send out a letter regarding end of term arrangements later this week.

*Mr Tim Spencer, Headteacher*

# THE TWELVE DAYS OF FEARNHILL CHRISTMAS



## Students' Choice Christmas Playlist

All I Want For Christmas Is You - Mariah Carey  
Fairytale of New York - The Pogues  
Last Christmas - Wham  
Underneath the Tree - Kelly Clarkson  
Santa Tell Me - Ariana Grande  
Stay Another Day - East 17  
I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day - Wizard  
Feliz Navidad - José Feliciano  
Driving Home for Christmas - Chris Rea  
Rocking Around the Christmas Tree - Brenda Lee



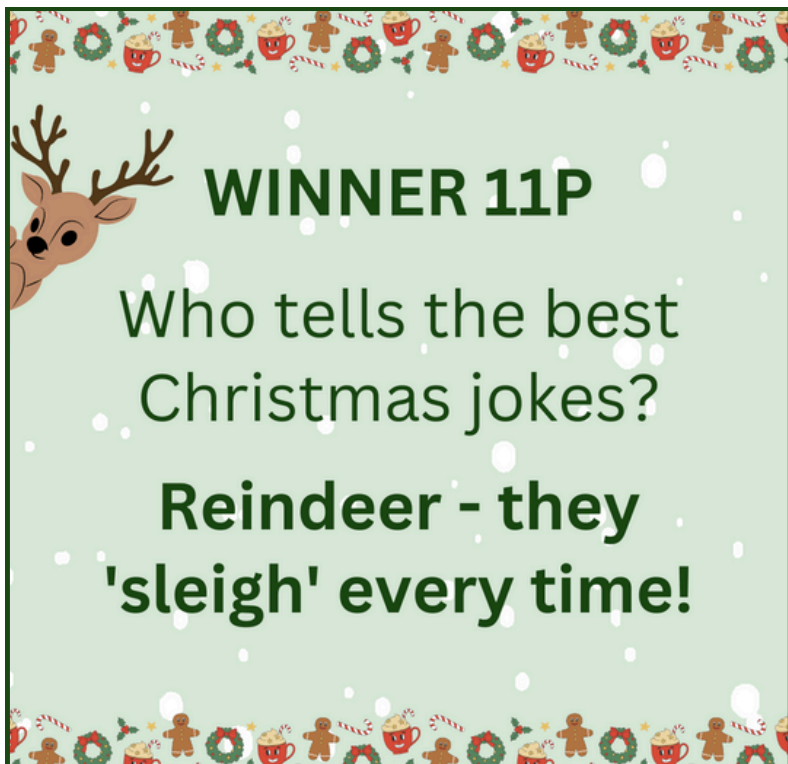
## LETCHWORTH FOOD BANK

### Christmas Items

Box of chocolates for adults  
Selection packs/ chocolate bars for children  
Festive biscuits for families  
Festive biscuits for a single person  
Pringles (not crisps)  
Cream crackers  
Mince pies

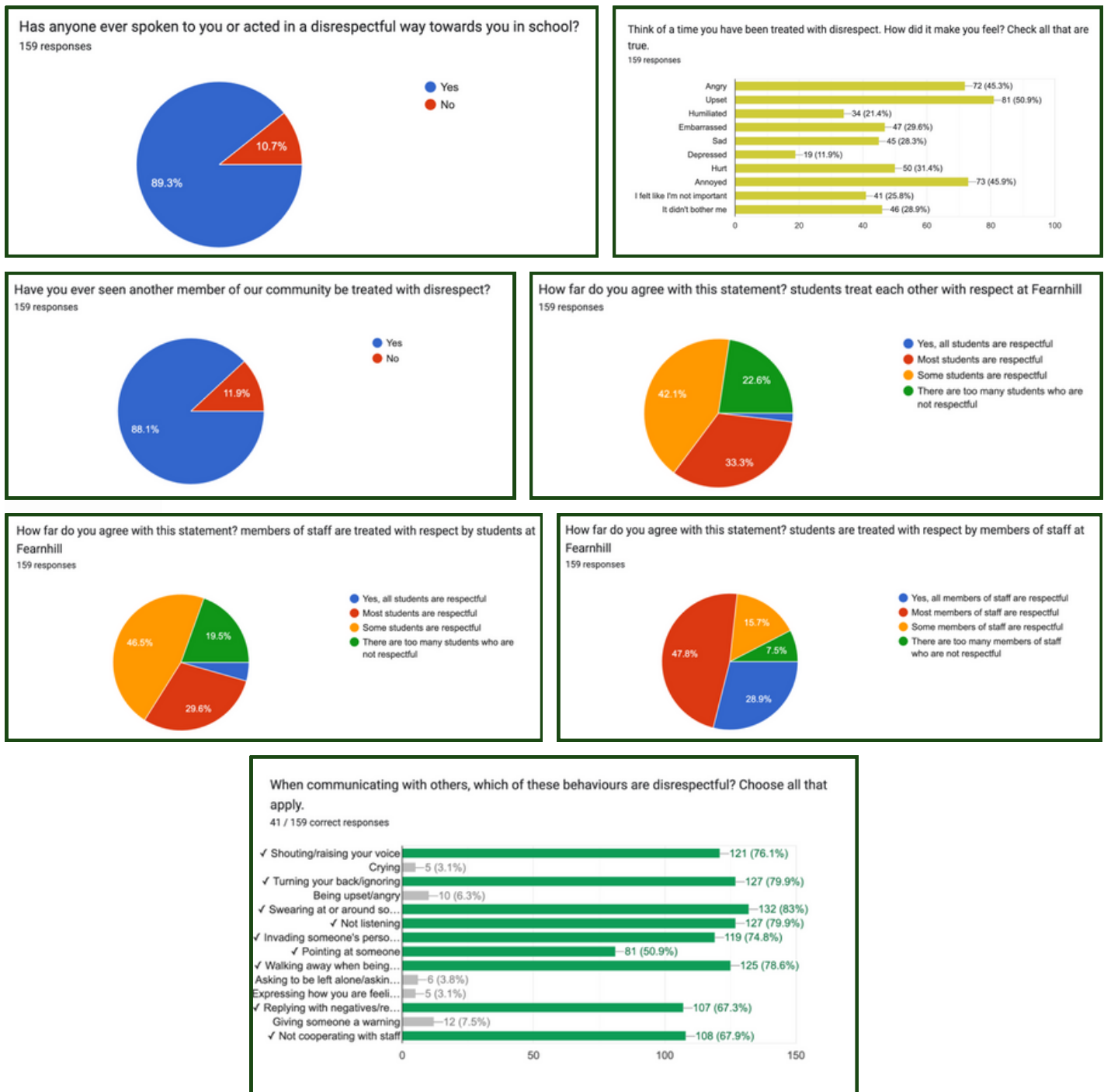
### Non Christmas items

Coffee (100gms)  
UHT fruit juice  
Dried milk (300gm)  
Tinned Potatoes  
Tea 40/80 bags  
Squash 1 ltr



# RESPECT AGENDA

Last week, students watched a virtual assembly where the results from the student respect survey were shared. You can see the results here:



All of the hard work from students in the extended form time was reflected in the new Fearnhill Respect Agenda, posters of which will be seen around school. A huge 'well done' to all of our students for their engagement and participation in this new agenda that will be used within the school community to ensure that we are all respected and valued.

**Mrs S Nunneley, Deputy Head**

## THE FEARNHILL SCHOOL RESPECT AGENDA



### In our school community we expect:



1. To be treated with kindness and consideration of our feelings
2. To be able to learn and our lessons to be free of disruption
3. To speak to each other in a calm tone and respectful body language
4. To listen to each other with an open mind
5. To be accepted and valued regardless of our gender, race, sexuality, age, disability or religious beliefs
6. Understanding that we can make mistakes and be given chances to improve our behaviour
7. Individuals to take responsibility for their conduct and reflect on their actions
8. The school rules to be respected and understand that they are there to keep us all safe and happy
9. Everyone to care for the school environment
10. Disrespectful behaviour to be called out

### In our school community we don't expect:



1. Unkindness, humiliation, bullying or abuse
2. Disruptive behaviour to affect our learning
3. To be spoken to rudely or ignored
4. To be talked over or have our opinions disregarded
5. Any discrimination
6. To be prejudged and not given a chance to improve
7. Vandalism to school and personal property or littering
8. A disregard for others' feelings



# CHOIR

Last Wednesday we took some of our school choir to perform at St Thomas Church for their Compassionate Neighbour Wellbeing Hub. Our students sang with children from Wilbury Junior School and everyone gave a wonderful performance. The concert was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.



# BROADWAY GALLERY



Following on from the lessons our Year 7s have had with local artists, Hannah Kelly and Chantelle Stephenson, earlier this term, we were delighted that the artwork they completed as part of this Art-Geography collaboration was exhibited in the Broadway Gallery on Tuesday 26th November. Well done to everyone who took part and a big thank you to the Broadway Gallery for including us in this wonderful project.

*Art & Geography Teams & The Broadway Gallery*

## JOB VACANCY

We are currently looking for a School Administrator /Receptionist to join our wonderful office team. The role will provide general admin support and be a welcoming and efficient first point of contact for all visitors, parents and students that come into contact with the school office. Applicants must have experience of working in a busy office and be proficient in using Word and Excel. A high standard of literacy and numeracy is required for this role.

For more information, or to apply, please [visit our website](#).

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

### **School Administrator/Receptionist**

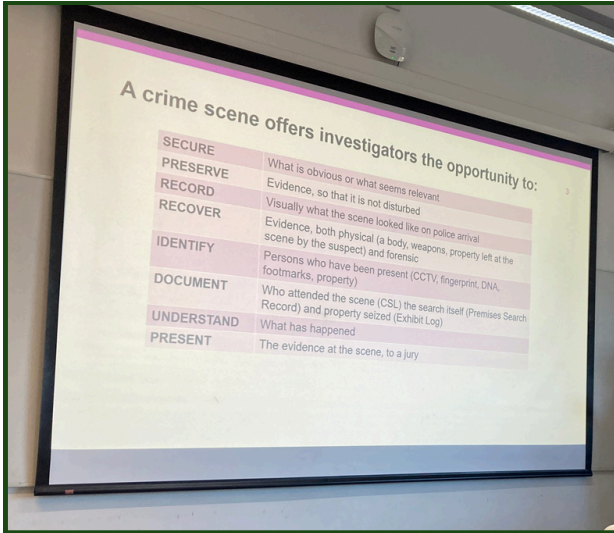
37 hours per week term time plus 5 inset days

Visit our website for details:

[fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/staff-vacancies](http://fearnhill.herts.sch.uk/staff-vacancies)



# CRIMINOLOGY TRIP - UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE



Year 12 and 13 criminology students spent the day at the University of Hertfordshire learning about the collection and processing of evidence for a murder case.

Nicola Coleman, a criminology lecturer, explained the process involved in evidence collection and students contributed in working out what personnel, such as forensic scientists and family liaison officers, would be needed and at what stage.

Following this, students went to examine a mock crime scene in a flat in the students' accommodation. From this evidence they began to piece together and understanding of what might have happened, and who they would want to question.

After lunch our students took roles of witnesses, defendant, police officers, etc in a mock trial in a purpose built mock courtroom in the law building. The jury found the defendant guilty, and the sentence was handed down by judge Her Honourable Lilly May-Jones .

It was an excellent day which linked perfectly to unit 3 of the Criminology Diploma, as well as being valuable in signposting possible career and higher education options for our students.



*Mx Bettinson & Ms Balchin*





# MOCK TRIAL AT ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY

This month, a small group of sixth form students have been working on a mock trial. They had to prepare their case as the defense. This involved having weekly zoom meetings with a law lecturer and two law students from Anglia Ruskin University. Our students were directed week by week how to build their opening statement, cross examination of witnesses, defense arguments and closing statement.

After each zoom meeting students met again to go through witness statements and discuss how to best use the advice they were given in the context of a specific crime. Students worked like this for 6 weeks, then traveled to Cambridge to participate in the trial at the University. They went up against another school who took the role of the prosecution - and their work served them well, as they won the case!

This was excellent opportunity to learn how courts operate, how legal arguments are made, how evidence is used, as well as developing analytical and critical thinking skills - along with team work.

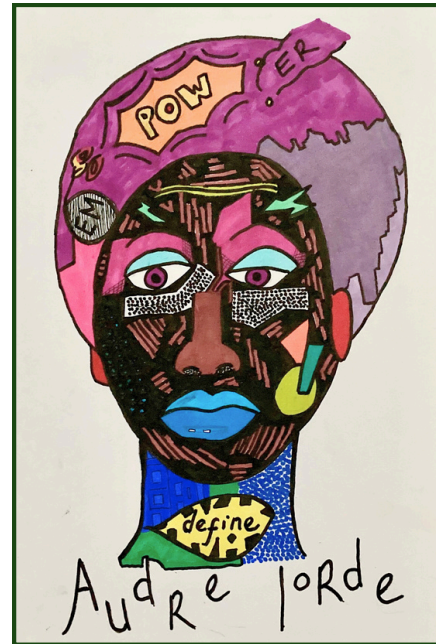
As Miss Corden said ' they did us proud'.



*Mx Bettinson & Miss Corden*

# FEMINIST CLUB

Here at Fearnhill we offer a great selection of after school and lunch time clubs for students to attend. Last week at Feminist Club, students discussed the essay 'The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House' by Audre Lorde. Students debated the meaning of the essay, looking into its relevance to the patriarchy, capitalism, racism, homophobia and feminism. They explored what could be used instead of the Master's Tools and developed their critical thinking skills throughout the session. If students would like to learn more, Feminist Club runs every Thursday lunchtime in H5 for years 12 and 13, but if younger students are interested in attending they can contact Mx Bettinson.



*Mx Bettinson, Teacher Psychology & Criminology*

# CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our school Christmas lunch this year will run throughout the whole of the last week of term - Monday 16th - Thursday 19th December. Students can come to the school canteen for a festive feast - no need to book, just turn up!





FEARNHILL  
SCHOOL

# Christmas Concert & Market

**Wednesday 18th December**

*Market open at 6.30pm*  
*Concert starts at 7pm*

Join us for a magical evening of music, drama and dance. You will also have a chance to purchase a variety of gifts in our Christmas market in the canteen!

Tickets available on School Gateway  
£6 Adults £4 Concession  
£16 Family ticket

# 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*



## Fearnhill School Library Advent Reading Challenge

Join Google classroom 5t7capz



Starting 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Read or listen to the first  
chapter of a Christmas book  
everyday until Christmas.

(all books are available to borrow from the library)

Print out and complete the  
question sheet to win a prize in  
January!

## 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](http://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](http://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

Wednesday 11th December	Historic England Visit (Y12&13 History Students + History Club)
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
Tuesday 7th January	Year 13 Mock Exams Start
Tuesday 21st January	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Monday 27th January	Year 9 Assessment Week Starts
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	Term ends

# CONTACT US

**Phone:** 01462 621200

**Email:** [admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.fearnhill.herts.sch.uk](http://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.**

# SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us on social media for more frequent information, updates and news!



[@FearnhillSch](https://www.facebook.com/@FearnhillSch)



[@Fearnhill\\_School](https://www.instagram.com/@Fearnhill_School)



[@FearnhillSchool](https://www.twitter.com/@FearnhillSchool)

# 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 rugby ball in the foreground. The ball has "GET INTO RUGBY" written on it. 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 EST 1924 RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB". 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 field, a yellow banner contains the following text: "OPEN TO SCHOOL YEAR 10", "WHEN: WEDNESDAY'S 6.30-7.30PM", "WHERE: LETCWORTH RUGBY CLUB, LEGENDS LANE, BALDOCK ROAD SG6 2EN". At the bottom, another yellow banner says "INTERESTED?" followed by "New or experienced players welcome, just turn up or for any questions or further information email us on [letchworthrugby@hotmail.com](mailto:letchworthrugby@hotmail.com) or Admin on 07741276516".



# 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](https://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](mailto:bookings@familiesinfocus.co.uk) or visit our website to see all course information: [www.familiesinfocus.co.uk](http://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk)


[www.familiesinfocus.co.uk](http://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk)



## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

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



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**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

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**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](mailto:hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net)





## 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](#)





**Young People's Health & Wellbeing Survey**





In November Hertfordshire County Council and partners are running a **20 minute anonymous online** survey across secondary school aged pupils in the county to help us plan services and support for young people. This is the fifth year of running the survey with more than 16,000 responses recorded last year.

The link to the survey can be found below. The survey will go 'live' at 9am Monday 4th November, and close on Friday 20th December. A reminder will be sent to schools.

For more information please contact [yphws@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:yphws@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

wellbeing  
lifestyle  
mental health  
safety  
education









[www.hertshealththevidence.org/vphws](http://www.hertshealththevidence.org/vphws)