



THE STONEHENGE

SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

Issue No. 13 | 12th January 2024

UPCOMING DATES JANUARY 2024

Mon 15th
Silver DofE Training (all)

Mon 15th - Fri 26th
Year 10 Milestone Exams

Wed 17th
Bronze Girls DofE training

Thurs 18th
Year 11 Parents Evening

Fri 19th
Bronze Boys DofE training

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Mon 29th - Fri 9th
Year 8 Milestone Exams

Fri 2nd - Sun 4th
Year 10 & 11 Residential
trip to Auschwitz, Poland

Fri 9th
Valentines Delivery
Service

Fri 9th
END OF TERM

12th - 16th
HALF TERM

Mon 19th
STUDENTS RETURN

A message from Dame Rachel De Souza, Children's Commissioner
for England

I hope everyone at The Stonehenge School has enjoyed the much-needed Christmas break. I just wanted to offer my final thanks for your support with my national campaign 'The Big Ambition' which will be closing on Friday 19th January.

I have been overwhelmed by the response the survey has received. Over 300,000 children, young people, parents and carers have participated, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind!

This is the final push to hear from even more children before the survey closes, it is so important that every child in England has an opportunity to tell policy makers what they want and need ahead of the General Election.

By sharing my survey with your pupils and parents or carers, you can make sure that the children and young people of Wiltshire are fairly represented in the results.

Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here:
www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

I am so very grateful for your support, and I am beyond excited to share the findings.

Very best,

Dame Rachel De Souza
Children's Commissioner for England



ILLNESS AND BEING IN SCHOOL

Being in school and having the best attendance possible underpins all the many benefits of school for your child, such as their learning, wellbeing and wider development. For some children, attending school every day will be harder than for others. This is why schools, and local councils in some cases, are committed to working together with families to solve problems and support your child's school attendance.

The Department for Education and Wiltshire Local Authority have both launched campaigns regarding school attendance. This guide for parents is a good starting point in order to understand the responsibility of the parent, how to decide if a child should go to school, as well as support that you can access.

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2022/12/aaa-guide-for-parents-on-school-attendance.pdf>

The NHS have also provided guidance on when it is okay to send your child to school with particular symptoms:

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore. Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.

Conjunctivitis

You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.

COVID-19

If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school.

Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:

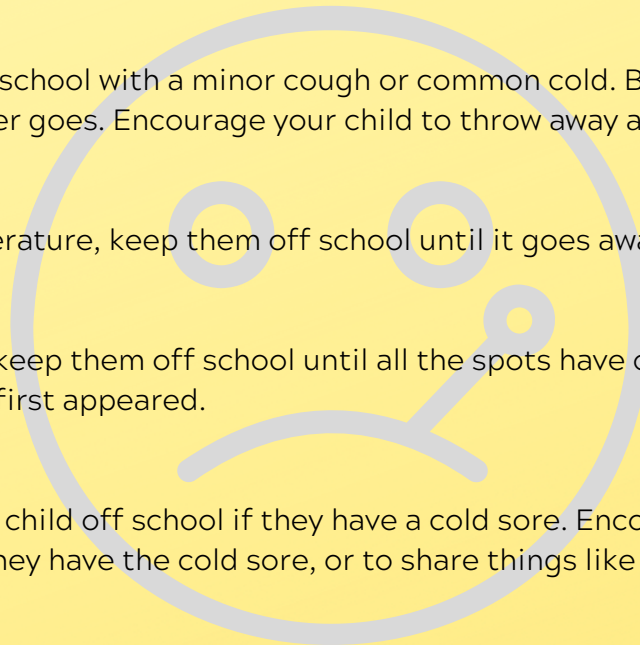
- have a high temperature
- do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities

What to do if your child has tested positive

Your child is no longer required to do a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test if they have symptoms. But if your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test.

Ear infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.



Hand, foot and mouth disease

If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.

Head lice and nits

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.

Impetigo

If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.

Ringworm

If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.

Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away. A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

Threadworms

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



SCIENCE CLUB



This week we will be cooking eggs by candle power! It is bound to be **eggciting!**

When: Wednesday 17th January 2023

Where : Room 32

Time : 3.00- 4pm

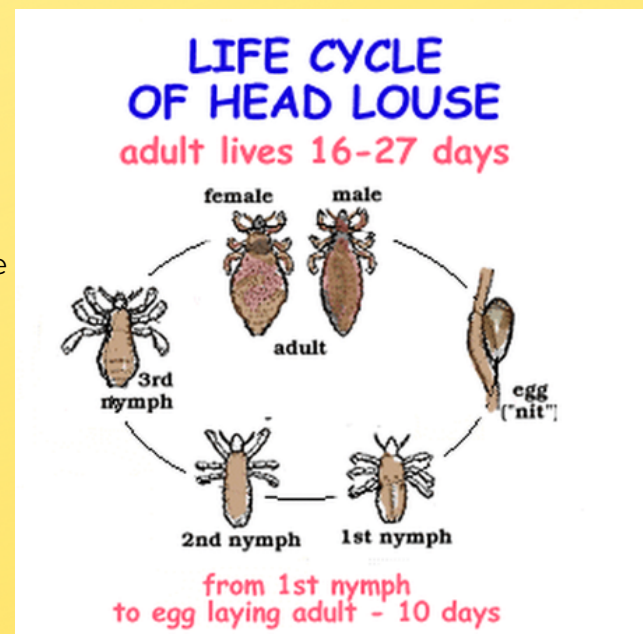


UPDATING ANTI BULLYING POLICY

We are currently working on updating our anti bullying policy. If you would like to offer your input we are looking at forming a parent working party to help inform us on the drafting of the policy. If you would like to offer your time to work on this, please contact:

stakerf@stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk

Please be aware we have been made aware of a case of headlice in a year 7 student. We would ask parents to please to be vigilant.



PUPILS AT STONEHENGE SCHOOL ARE BENEFITING FROM BETTER PE FACILITIES AT THE SCHOOL, THANKS TO SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT THE NEARBY HOLDER'S FIELD.

The school have invested in new equipment for sports, meaning they're now able to host home fixtures and have held their first sports days without major travel for 15 years.

The school started using the new block containing a new school hall, drama studio and music classrooms in September 2023, which were part of a £6m development project funded by Wiltshire Council and the Department of Education.

And the sports provision at the school will get a further boost as the old lower block has been demolished to make way for a Sport England level playing field.

Holders Field had previously been available to the school, but not used due to it's safeguarding concerns. But with Wiltshire Council investing in upgrading the security of the fence, pupils are now safer at the off-site location than before.

The school has purchased football and rugby equipment after ground staff made designs to optimise the use of the space, while a storage space has been created for other PE equipment, enabling students to explore a wider range of sports and games.

Alex Protheroe, the schools head of PE, said the improved facilities mean pupils can participate in different ways.

"We can offer a lot more for children at the school," he said, adding that pupils can be officials and coaches, as well as competing in games.

Alex also told us that the Holders Field environment is allowing the schools extra curricular sporting activities to 'thrive'.

The school are in the process of buying more equipment for Holder's Field, including 'dugouts' in order for their teams to have facilities worthy of hosting matches. Before the improvements, the school had been forced to travel for fixtures.

One of the pupils we spoke to said having home fixtures allowed players to look forward to sports more, as they got to experience home support.

The improvements have allowed the school to host it's first Sports Days at Holders Field in more than 15 years. Previously, the school had travelled to Tidworth Oval for the event.

And the viability of Holders Field as a venue means the school saves £5000, as that's what it would cost to transport the entire school to Tidworth Oval with its increased pupil capacity.

Students were able to compete in House football and rounders matches, take part in athletics events and also try their hand at activities like archery and circus skills.



Family and Community Learning have a lovely pair of new courses for the new year designed to support parents to support their teens. The teenage years can be as bewildering for parents as for teenagers and these courses can help parents with a better understanding and a little more knowledge about this period of development and offer some practical tools to help. Please have a look at our information and promotional fliers attached.

Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing (Tuesday 20 February 10am - 12pm) is a short introductory course looking at the changes happening for a teenager and ways in which parents can support teens to prioritise their wellbeing.

Supporting My Teen With Transitions To Adulthood (starting Tuesday 27 February) is a longer five session course that looks in more depth at teens' emotional wellbeing and encourages learners to consider how changes can be used beneficially. The course explores employment, study and training opportunities for post 16 year olds, how to support teens to gain financial understanding, and how to plan ahead effectively.

We also have our new Understanding The Early Stages of School Avoidance course running on Thursday 8 February. This course is suitable for parents of children who are still attending school but where attendance may be suffering a dip or causing issues. It will provide an opportunity for parents to share experiences, discover new strategies and ask questions of an educational psychologist.

All our courses are free and take place in small groups in a safe, friendly (often virtual) space with our approachable, highly experienced tutors. Participants are encouraged to share ideas and participate in discussions. Our courses often boost confidence and general wellbeing leaving learners feeling empowered and returning for further courses.

A phone call or an email can initiate a booking. New learners need to complete an enrolment form and attend an induction, links for which we provide. Booking closes one week before the start of a course.



Family and Community Learning

UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY STAGES OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE



Two hour,
online course

Taught by a friendly
tutor, plus Q & A with an
assistant psychologist

Free for eligible
learners

Free online course for parents and carers

Upcoming course date

Thursday 8 February 10am - 12pm

Joining our course:

Enrolment closes one week before the course start date.
For more information or to request a place, please contact:
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
or call the team on 01225 770478. Please see our website for who can join our free
courses: <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/important-information/>

This course covers:

- What is emotional based school avoidance, and its impact.
- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry.
- Advice on reasonable adjustments school can make to support good attendance.



Wiltshire Council

STAFF VACANCIES

We are currently looking to fill a number of vacancies in the coming months. Further details can be found on the website via <https://www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk/vacancies/>

LEAD CAREERS PROFESSIONAL

Required from 15th April 2024 (After Easter holidays) 37 hours per week;

9.00am - 5.00pm Mon - Thurs

9.00 am - 4.30pm -Friday

Term time only job to include TD days plus one week to be agreed during school holiday time.

Grade H points 15 - 17, £25,820 - £27,669 (actual salary)

Closing date - Monday 19th February 2024

Interviews - w/c 26th February 2024

HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY & BUSINESS

Start Date: Easter 2024

Salary: MPS/UPS plus TLR £7, 847

Contract: Permanent Contract

Closing Date: Monday 29th January 2024, 9am

HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY

Start Date: Easter 2024

Salary: MPS/UPS plus TLR 2b £5, 348

Contract: Permanent Contract

Closing Date: Monday 29th January 2024, 9.00 am

TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY

Start Date: Easter 2024

Salary: MPS/UPS

Contract: Permanent Contract

Closing Date: Monday 29th January, 9am

TEACHER OF BIOLOGY

Start Date: September 2024

Salary: MPS/UPS

Contract - Permanent Contract

Closing Date: Thursday 29th February 2024, 9am

EVENING SITE OPERATIVE

Required to start as soon as possible

Permanent Contract

Hours are to be discussed further and can be flexible, however we are looking for shifts to be covered from either 3pm - 8.30 pm, or 5pm - 8.30pm

Term time only including TD Days

Wiltshire Council pay grade D or E dependent on experience

Salary £12,315-£12,763 (£10.98-11.39 /hour)

STAFF VACANCIES

Cover Supervisor

Required as soon as possible

32.50 hours per week/39 working weeks per year (this includes TD Days)

Permanent Contract

Monday - Friday 8.15m -3.15pm

Wiltshire Council pay grade F Point 9 - 11, (£12.02- £12.70 per hour)
actual FTE salary £17,523 - 18,507 per annum

We are looking for a motivated and enthusiastic Cover Supervisor to join our dedicated team. You will be working to support young people and to cover for absent colleagues, and ensuring that they carry out the work tasks set by the teacher with designated responsibility.

The role will include being a Tutor for which training will be provided. You should be a good classroom practitioner with a genuine enthusiasm for teaching and learning. You should be able to work with pupils covering the full range of age and abilities at our school.

The position would be a beneficial experience for anyone who was considering following a teaching career. We have an incredibly strong record of 'growing our own' teaching staff, from roles with extensive support given in terms of professional and career development, in a collegiate and supportive environment. A comprehensive training programme will be provided to support and develop the successful candidate.

There are a variety of hours/working patterns available up to a maximum of 35 per week. Applications from part time candidates are welcomed as job shares will be considered.

**EXAMS INVIGILATORS - PART TIME VACANCIES, TO START AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (WOULD SOMEONE WHO HAS RETIRED OR LOOKING FOR VARIED HOURS)
SCALE B POINT 1, £10.50 PER HOUR (PAY AWARD PENDING)**

We are looking for people to join our team of invigilators. You would need to work varied hours during the school day, mainly during GCSE exam periods but also covering internal and modular exams throughout the year. Must be available to work from 8.30 am to cover morning exams.

Full details on all the above vacancies can be found on our website at
<https://www.stonehenge.wilts.sch.uk/vacancies/>