



# Autumn December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Another busy term to mark the start of 2024/25. These pages always amaze me. The staff and students have such a great time!

If you are only reading the shorter version, please take the opportunity to review the full Newsletter on the website. This edition (and previous editions) can be found on [Uffculme Schools - Newsletters](#).

As always there have been some surprises this term. Our winter storms have created some challenges. Many thanks to those parents who responded regarding the School closure due to snow. It is never an easy decision to close the school. I absolutely know the impact a closure can have on the students patterns, The decisions are made as early in the morning as possible and communicated as quickly as possible. This term's closure gave us a chance to review our processes and use of School Gateway. Whilst many parents have signed up to this, we still have a number who have not. This means that communication about emergency closure didn't get to you!

Please take this opportunity to connect to School Gateway. The App can be easily downloaded to your personal devices. If you need further assistance, please contact the school office.

The next surprise was from our much awaited colleagues at Ofsted. The two day inspection was a fantastic opportunity for staff and students to show what makes Uffculme special. Everyone did us proud. It has taken a while to get this report out, but I am glad to say that we are able to include it with this Newsletter. I hope that you will share the pride that I and other school leaders/Governors feel about our school.

My key phrases are:

*Pupils enjoy their time at Uffculme School. They are happy, feel safe and are eager to learn.*

*Staff have effective skills and knowledge to meet the specific needs of pupils*

*... the school's mission of 'for all young people at Uffculme to lead meaningful and enjoyable lives' is realised.*

I cant really ask for anything else! However, we already know what we need to do to improve further and we are already on the path to getting there.

In the New Year, we will once again be asking for parents and carers to join us as School Governors. If you would like to take this opportunity to work with the school at a strategic level, please take the time to book in a visit and come to our Governors Recruitment session. More information will be shared in the New Year.

In the meantime, please take time to rest and look after yourself. I will be spending two weeks making sure the roof is on and the trees are safe in preparation for our next storm. ;)

Charlotte Stubbs  
Headteacher

Schoolgateway



## **New School Messaging App!**

We have launched a new school app called Schoolgateway. This will help with our aim of sending less paper letters home and app messages instead of text messages to parents which will save the school money and is more environmentally friendly. We are phasing out sending paper letters, next term all school letters and newsletters will be sent out via Schoolgateway. All parents will need to download this free app onto their phone/tablet to stay up to date with school communication. From February we will no longer be using our old text messaging service, therefore all messages will be sent via Schoolgateway.



### **How to register for a School Gateway account**

Preferred access via the app:

- Download the School Gateway app via App Store for Apple devices and Play Store for Android devices
- Enter the email address and mobile number that is registered with the school
- You will then receive a PIN on a text
- Enter the 4-digit PIN number received via text
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed.

If unable to access the app, you can register online via the webpage:

- Please go to: <https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>
- Ensure the NEW USER tab is selected before inputting any details
- Enter the email address and mobile number that is registered with the school
- You will then receive a PIN on a text
- Enter the 4-digit PIN number received via text
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed.

### **If you have forgotten your PIN**

- On the School Gateway login screen click on Forgotten PIN
- Enter the email address and mobile number that is registered with the school
- You will then receive a PIN on a text
- Enter the 4-digit PIN number received via text
- Once logged in the home screen will be displayed

### **My account has been locked**

- If your School Gateway account has locked for an hour: Wait the hour, on the School Gateway login screen click on Forgotten PIN
- Enter the email and mobile that you have provided the school with, you will then receive a PIN on a text to your mobile
- Input the new PIN and email on the School Gateway login screen and this will unlock your account and enable you to access

## Primary Update

As we come to the end of another successful term at Woodlands, we would like to reflect on some of the many wonderful achievements and milestones that have shaped our school community this term. From smooth transitions to exciting new experiences, we are proud of the progress our pupils have made and the support we continue to provide to foster their growth and development.

### **Positive Transitions into New Classes**

This term has seen a smooth and positive transition for many of our pupils into new classes. The change in routines and environments can be a challenging experience for some, but our dedicated staff have worked hard to ensure that every child feels welcome and supported as they settle into their new learning spaces. We have seen many pupils thrive in their new classrooms, showing enthusiasm and resilience as they embrace the new opportunities ahead.

### **Welcoming New Pupils to Uffculme School**

We are delighted to share that our new pupils have settled in wonderfully this term. Their smooth integration into the Uffculme community is a testament to the supportive and inclusive environment we are proud to foster.

### **Relocation of Complex Needs Pupils**

In a significant step forward, we successfully relocated our complex needs pupils to new spaces that better meet their needs and provide more opportunities for creative learning. The new classroom setups offer a spacious and supportive environment that encourages exploration and creativity.

### **Successful Implementation of Interventions**

This term, we have continued to implement a range of interventions to support the development of our pupils. Music therapy, speech and language sessions, social and friendship groups have all been successfully integrated into our curriculum. These interventions are designed to help our pupils develop important skills and build confidence in social situations.

### **Engaging Trips Out in the Community**

Our pupils have enjoyed some fantastic trips out into the local community this term. Swimming sessions have provided opportunities for physical activity and water confidence, while trips to local parks have allowed our pupils to enjoy the outdoors, socialise with peers, and engage in physical play. These trips not only enhance our pupils' learning experiences but also help them to build vital life skills.

### **Bears Class Hosts Open Theatre Teachers**

A very exciting event this term was when Bears class hosted Open Theatre teachers for a special training day. The pupils had the opportunity to work alongside these skilled professionals, learning more about creative performance and theatre. We hope to see more such collaborative events in the future.

### **Cooking Lessons at Chamberlain**

Some KS2 pupils have also had the chance to participate in cooking lessons at Chamberlain, and the experience was a huge success! Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on learning process of preparing and cooking food.

### **Hosting Associate Teachers from BCU**

Woodlands class was excited to host two Associate Teachers from Birmingham City University (BCU) this term, Maddie and Maria. Both have made a positive impact on their classes, bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm to the classroom environment. We are grateful for their hard work and contributions and wish them every success as they continue their journey into the teaching profession.

### **Work Experience with Brandon**

Woodlands also had the pleasure of hosting a 6th form student, Brandon, for a work experience placement this term. Brandon has worked closely with our pupils, offering valuable support and guidance, and it has been wonderful to see our pupils responding so positively. We extend a huge thank you to Brandon for his dedication and hard work, and we wish him all the best as he continues to pursue his career aspirations.

### **10. Saying Goodbye to Staff Members**

As the term comes to a close, we also bid farewell to a few members of staff. While we are sad to see them go, we want to express our heartfelt thanks for their hard work and commitment to our pupils. We wish each of them the very best in their future careers and thank them for their invaluable contributions to our school community.

### **Looking Ahead**

As we reflect on this busy and successful term, we are filled with pride for the progress our pupils have made and the positive impact of our staff. We look forward to another exciting term ahead, filled with new opportunities for growth, learning, and discovery. Thank you to everyone who continues to make Uffculme School such a special place. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a restful break!

Amanda Hodges, Assistant Headteacher

Emma Harper, Assistant Headteacher & SENCO

# Woodlands News



In Barn owls we have had 'Success' taking turns on the swing and exploring new experiences.



As part of our maths lessons, students stacked objects using construction materials.



In Barn Owls we have been working on using our communication boards to express our wants and needs.



In our phonics lesson, students are learning about the sounds associated with the family home. Students interacted with the real-life resources.

# Woodlands News



 In  Squirrels  class  this  term  we  have been  engaging  in  lots of  fun  sensory  activities  linking

 to  our  learning,  forest  school,  developing  our  love  for  reading  and  have  started  to  work

 alongside  our  peers.  Some  of  us  have  had  the  opportunity  to  have  intervention  sessions.



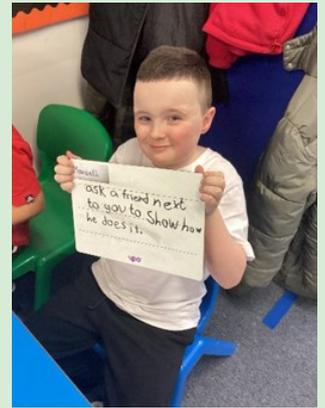
In **Otters**, we have been learning about colours and colour mixing. We loved learning about the different colours.



In **Otters**, we have had lots of fun with the rockets. We could make it go up and down too.

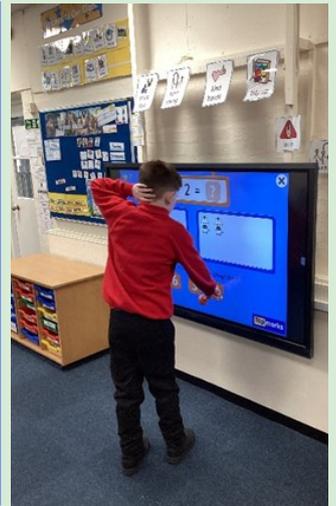


Bears class have been exploring the concept of growth mindset this half term. We have looked at the difference between a fixed and growth mindset and discussed how we can incorporate this into our lives to help us have a more positive outlook when we are finding things challenging. All of Bears class have been using this approach during lessons to challenge themselves to persist when things are a bit tricky, ask for help when it is needed and in turn lead to success.



This term **Foxes** have all settled in well into their new class meeting new staff and children!

They have been learning to share and turn take with their friends. They all participated in morning and afternoon circle and taking turns to demonstrate their learning in counting and addition using the interactive whiteboard. They have worked hard to be helpful in class, tidying up, good listening and good looking at teacher/board when it is learning time and getting our special rewards in our class marble jar! We have celebrated each child's success in our star of the week assembly showcasing our fantastic progress.



What a successful Autumn Term for **Woodpeckers!** We have been exploring colourful celebrations throughout our whole curriculum. Making patterns in Maths linked to our class story Elmer; creating a variety of firework paintings using different techniques and practicing our pencil control skills too!



## Forest School

This term the children have investigated the changes in the forest with the beautiful array of autumnal colours that have been fluttering around the forest. We have colour matched leaves, we have looked, in detail, at what trees that we have in our woodland and used the natural resources to create our own trees.

We are in the process of planting our own trees so we will enjoy looking after them and watching them grow.

We had the wonderful event of snow in the forest, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They wrapped up warm and explored the brief winter wonderland. They crunched their way around exploring the environment with gusto!

As we head towards the festive season, the children have made some reindeer food and built their own Christmas tree using wooden disks and wooden building blocks.

## Secondary Update

As we come to the end of a vibrant and productive autumn term I am delighted to reflect on the incredible achievements and experiences we have shared. This term has been filled with numerous highlights that showcase the dedication and enthusiasm of our students and staff.

One of the standout moments was our football team's first tournament at Aston Villa, where our players demonstrated remarkable teamwork and sportsmanship. Additionally, our complex classes successfully navigated trips on public transport, fostering independence and confidence among our students.

We have been fortunate to benefit from the expertise of Diego, our mentor from Birmingham City Football Club, whose interventions have been truly transformative. David, our Music Therapist from Changing Tunes, has also made a significant impact, enriching our students' lives through the power of music. Some students have also enjoyed golf sessions at Shirley Golf Centre, adding a new dimension to their physical education and outdoor learning experiences. I know many of our students are looking forward to this next year.

Our Open Theatre sessions have brought drama and creativity to all groups, while the sensory stories sessions run by Fantastic Journeys have captivated and engaged our students in unique ways. We are also proud to have opened our new Intervention Room and Library area, providing enhanced resources and spaces for learning and development. We also had our first Chamberlain Exhibition by Boulton class that looked at the changes in the local area

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the students and staff for making me feel so welcome in my first term at Chamberlain. Your warmth and support have been truly appreciated. As we look forward to the festive season, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am excited to see what the next term will bring and to continue our journey together.

David Davies—Assistant Headteacher

### Uffculme Football Club

Students from Chamberlain have recently been taking part in local football tournaments where they play against students from other schools, this has been a really successful and enjoyable experience for all students and staff involved. One of the students, Cyrus has created a badge for the Uffculme Football Club and we think it looks amazing.



### Outdoor Learning

It has been a busy term in outdoor learning, we have some groups completing sections for Duke of Edinburgh, other groups working towards the JAS award and a couple of groups accessing the woodlands site to do Forest Schools.

Boulton class have been visiting Waseley Hills Country Park to carry out volunteering activities (see photo). These activities have included making the car park and footpaths safe by removing leaves and other debris, digging a draining trench and repairing some steps. The rangers at the park have been very impressed with the effort, one of them said 'I have never seen a group work so hard'. We have also been attending Cotteridge Park to support the work they do there, a link up with Four Seasons Garden Project has also been established.

In forest schools the classes have been learning how to use a range of tools safely, including a bow saw, loppers and a palm drill. The pupils have also enjoyed the fires we have been having and cooking 'Smores'.

Every child in the school will have the opportunity to plant a tree on the school site, this will be a lasting legacy which will part of the school for many years to come. This has started for some pupils and will continue in the new year.





Christmas is a time of joy, reflection, and celebration, and no other tradition evokes the spirit of the season more than Christmas music. The sweet sound of jingling bells have been heard as music lessons dive into the magic of Christmas music. Highlights included Ishfaq singing all the words of The Twelve Days of Christmas to Jeanette's guitar and **Armatrading** playing Jingle Bells on chime bars by following coloured music notation. Playing percussion to A little Night Music by Mozart and songs from The Nutcracker have been magical.

## Fantastic Journeys Sensory Stories with **Priestly** and **Darby** Classes

Over the past ten weeks, pupils from Darby and **Priestly** Classes have participated in sensory story exploration run by Fantastic Journeys. They have been successful in exploring different instruments and engaged well each other to tell a story.



Our students in **Harewood** have been deeply engaged in studying the countries of the UK and discovering the unique features and attractions each one has to offer. Each group worked diligently to produce a vibrant and informative poster, showcasing the rich culture, history, and landmarks of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. The creativity and effort put into these posters were truly impressive, and it was wonderful to see the students' enthusiasm and pride in their work. This project not only enhanced their knowledge of the UK but also fostered

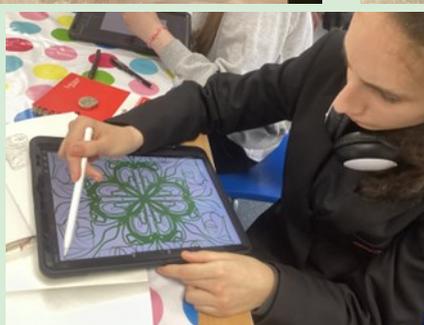


teamwork and presentation skills. Well done to all the students in **Harewood** for their fantastic contributions!



Inspire Project with **Zephaniah** Class in association with The MAC and The Southbank Centre London.

Pupils in **Zephaniah** class have been fortunate enough to work in collaboration with The MAC and The Southbank Centre London to create a Zine. Here they have discussed successes, their own likes, interests and what makes them individual. With the help from two resident artists, pupils have either worked on their own, or in small groups to create a song (writing their own lyrics) and created imagery to accompany their song. Their final Zine will be presented to other Birmingham schools in and showcased in March, so watch this space for the final piece.



Students have been introduced to a range of activities during lunchtime such as dodgeball, cricket, badminton, hockey, table tennis just to name a few. With football being a favourite, students have really improved their sportsmanship and teamwork and begun to develop an ethos that is to take accountability for organising their games and to uplift one another so that everybody is having fun. Overall, there is an improved sense of cohesion to the playground atmosphere.



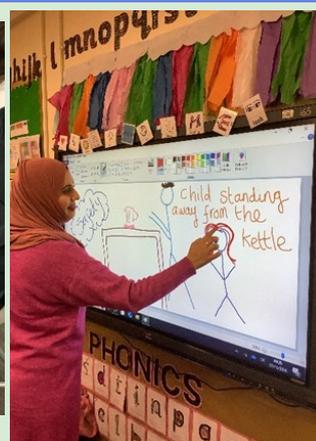
# Chamberlain News

This term, **Campbell** class has been buzzing with excitement and hands-on learning experiences! The students have particularly loved their cooking lessons, where they enjoyed every step of making delicious pizzas, pasta, and cookies—from mixing ingredients to savouring their tasty creations. These sessions have been a fantastic way for them to build life skills while having fun.

Outdoor learning has also been a highlight, with the students enthusiastically participating in forest school activities. These carefully planned sessions included engaging tasks in nature, allowing the students to connect with the environment and develop teamwork skills. Another memorable experience was their seasonal walk to the park, where they observed the changes in nature and deepened their appreciation for the world around them.

This term's theme, "Keeping Safe," inspired the students to explore a range of books related to safety. They thoroughly enjoyed the stories and engaged in meaningful discussions about how to apply these lessons in their lives. In computing, the students reinforced these ideas by creating drawings of safe scenarios, such as children standing a safe distance from hot kettles. This activity not only boosted their understanding of safety but also helped refine their drawing and fine motor skills. Maths has been another area of excitement, as the students embraced activities like estimating objects, which encouraged their problem-solving and reasoning skills in a fun and interactive way. A touch of creativity and sensory exploration was added to the term with the making of Pudsey face masks for Children in Need. Using materials like tissue paper, glitter, tinsel, buttons, and wool, the students crafted beautiful masks while enjoying the sensory experience.

It's been a vibrant and rewarding term for Class Campbell, filled with creativity, exploration, learning, and skill-building!



Class **Zephaniah** are all very proud of Sian who through dedication and hard work achieved her blue belt in karate this term. Amazing Sian!



# Chamberlain News

During the Autumn terms **Darby** class have made huge strides with their independence out in the community. We have visited numerous local supermarkets, parks and built a good connection with Four Season Garden Project linking with our theme 'Employability'. The pupils have shown excellent adaptable skills from the classroom to new environments including building social skills, developing self-awareness, improving safety, recognising money and budgeting. This has been a great success since September and we will continue to build on this going into the new year.



**Cadbury** class had a very successful first-time visit to Birmingham city centre to see the sights and to chase a few reindeer! The students enjoyed exploring the festive Birmingham Reindeer Trail, discovering beautifully decorated reindeer statues scattered throughout the city. They also had the opportunity to learn about the city's landmarks and history, making it an educational and fun-filled day for everyone involved.



KS3 **Mead** went on a class trip to Safe Side on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Throughout the term we have been learning about how to keep safe in the community, crossing the road, fire safety and stranger danger. On this trip we were able to put into practice everything we have learnt in an interactive setting. All students enjoyed their visit, behaved well and asked lots of interesting questions.



**Osbourne** Class have successfully achieved their fabulous finish! We had planned a trip to Cannon Hill Park, allowing us opportunities to practice being safe in an outdoor venue. We practiced some road safety around the carpark area after enjoying the play area and a nice walk.



# Russell Road News

Our Post 16 class, **Caro**, recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to Twycross Zoo! The students had a wonderful time exploring the zoo, where they were delighted by the festive lights and had the opportunity to meet a variety of animals, including flamingos, penguins, and monkeys. The trip was a great success, providing both educational and sensory experiences that the students thoroughly enjoyed. It was a memorable day filled with learning and fun, and we are proud of how well the students represented our school.



The penguins did not mind the rain or **Hepworth**. These charming little flightless birds were more concerned about their next meal. One of the students did get a very curious look – was he, their lunch?



When the sun came out, the animals came out. This zebra was a sight to behold – all those lines. It gave the students a funny look and one of the students gave a funny look right back.



In the warmth of their chamber, the tortoise basked. It was so different to the cold and damp conditions outside – not sure if the students were looking at the tortoises, or wishing and trying to get in.



This half-term, the theme of success has been at the heart of KS5 **Moore's** learning activities. Students have excelled during their work placements as teaching assistants across Uffculme Primary and Secondary, gaining valuable experience and building key skills. They've also enjoyed a visit to Twycross Zoo, reflecting on the dedication it takes to care for animals, and begun their travel training programme to develop confidence and independence. Well done to all our students for making this a truly successful term!

## Outreach Work with Local ITT providers

This term Uffculme School has been working with 3 different Initial Teacher Training providers across the city. This has given us an opportunity to train future teachers and to redefine what success looks like for students with Autism and SEND in whatever classroom they teach in. Across the 3 providers we have trained over 50 future teachers. All of which have had the opportunity to come to Uffculme to experience what it is like to work in a special school. We always ask for 3 words to describe their experience across the 2 days. These are a few words that were used regularly:

Heartwarming, Energetic, Interesting  
 Eye-opening, Inspiring, Engaging  
 Charismatic, Joyful, Energising  
 Interesting, Unique, Fun  
 Care, Love, Amazing  
 Happy, Positive, Love  
 Happiness, Understanding, Unity  
 Imaginative, Fun, Insightful  
 Inspiring, Curious, Positive  
 Happy, Warm, Family  
 Fun, Free, Engaging  
 Eye-opening, Inclusive, Rewarding  
 Creative, Happy, Thought Provoking



We will continue to work with future teachers, with the goal to try to increase the positive experiences students have with Autism across the city, in any school.

**Merry Xmas**

**Congratulations to our Festive card designers!**

Prizes this year are a set of 5 professionally printed cards and a £10 gift card

Mr Rainbow Year 8

Felix Hennessy Year 9

Daksh Lakhbhai Year 5



Do you do any shopping online? Want an easy way to help Uffculme School raise money? easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

Follow the link below or scan the QR code to sign up. An easy way to help us on our mission to fundraise for additional resources for our Uffculme School students.

There are over 8,000 brands signed up... check out the website to see more.



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/uffculme-school>

## Post-16 Updates

### **Russell Road site**

Since September, we have been re-organising rooms and their use to support our students in their learning and developing life skills. We've made a new sensory room, moved our main class into a larger space downstairs and are working on developing other rooms including a music suite.

### **Transport**

We recognise that this has been a difficult term for parents with the change of provision regarding transport. We appreciate the efforts that parents have made in getting their child to school.

### **Trip to Twycross**

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, all four of our sixth form classes jumped on a very long coach to take a trip to Twycross Zoo in Leicestershire. Whilst the weather could have been kinder, our sixth formers enjoyed being out in the countryside and meeting a variety of animals, large and small.

### **Community visits**

Our students continue to enjoy regular visits to local community venues. These include cafes, shops and parks. These visits provide opportunities to socialise, interact with members of the public and practise their shopping skills.

### **Work Experience**

KS5 Moore students have been participating in work placements at our Chamberlain and Woodland sites towards the end of this term. Many thanks to Sarah and the class team for organising these placements, and to the staff at Chamberlain and Woodlands for hosting the students.

We are planning further work experience opportunities for the new year including roles on an urban farm.

### **New arrival**

We are saying a temporary goodbye to Sinead Sale-Harding as she has gone on maternity leave and has had her baby boy, Leo. Staff organised a baby shower for Sinead recently and we wish her all the best in the new year. Will Varney will be covering Sinead next term. He has plenty of experience working at Uffculme School across all phases.

### **Ofsted and Thank You**

We were pleased that Ofsted recognised the work being done by the sixth form staff in preparing our young people in their journey towards adulthood.

We would also like to thank all the sixth form staff for their hard work this term, and to the parents for working with us to make this a successful term.

Philippa Hunt and Matthew Scarrott, Assistant Headteachers

## Parent Workshops 2025

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming **Parent Workshops** at Uffculme School. These workshops aim to provide valuable insights and practical tools that will help you support your child's development and success at school.



Date	Workshop
16.01.25 9:30-10:30	What is Autism?
23.01.25 9:30-10:30	Communication (Universal Offer)
04.02.25 9:30-10:30	Communication (Targeted support)
27.02.25 09:30-10:30	Behaviour
13.03.25 9:30-10:30	Behaviour
27.03.25 9:30-10:30	Phonics and Reading
07.04.25 9:30-10:30	EYFS/KS1 Curriculum
08.04.25 9:30-10:30	Curriculum (Complex Pathway)
09.04.25 9:30-10:30	Curriculum (Main Pathway)
10.04.25 9:30-10:30	Curriculum (Transition Pathway)
01.05.25 9:30-10:30	Open Theatre
15.05.25 9:30-10:30	Mental Health Awareness
05.06.25 9:30-10:30	RSE Curriculum
17.06.25 9:30-10:30	Toileting
19.06.25 9:30-10:30	E-Safety
03.07.25 9:30-10:30	Early Help Support



All workshops will be hosted at our Woodlands Campus. Please contact the Office via email to [enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk) to book your place at any of the above Workshops.

As we head towards the end of the year, and the two weeks break from school, here are some numbers that may be of use:

**All Saints Youth Project – [www.allsaintsyouthproject.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsyouthproject.org.uk)**

All Saints Youth Project is a charity which offers valuable support for disadvantaged young people families offering support including Family Support, youth activities, inclusion support as well as one to one counselling. Contact number - 0121 443 1842 · [info@asyp.org.uk](mailto:info@asyp.org.uk)

**Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub - [www.birminghammentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.birminghammentalhealth.org.uk)**

The Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health & Wellbeing Hubs is a service delivered in partnership by Birmingham Mind and Creative Support. The service supports adults over the age of 18, under secondary mental health services in Birmingham or Solihull, on GP SMI list or having long term/severe mental health problems.

**Birmingham Children's Trust - [www.birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk](http://www.birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk)**

Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT) can offer support for children, young people, family and care leavers. If you want to report a concern or request some support, either go online or call 0121 303 1888 Monday -Friday 9-5pm or on the Emergency out of hours number 0121 675 4806.

**Cerebra Charity - [www.cerebra.org.uk](http://www.cerebra.org.uk)**

The sleep charity dedicated to helping families with brain conditions, offering advice and support helping children get a good nights sleep.

### Early Help

Early Help means taking action to support a child, young person or their family early in the life of a problem, as soon as it emerges. It can be required at any stage in a child's life from pre-birth to adulthood and applies to any problem or need that the family cannot deal with or meet on their own. It also applies to all children and young people, with any form of need. To complete a family connect form click on and complete at this link [www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50224/birmingham\\_childrens\\_partnership/2156/birmingham\\_childrens\\_partnership\\_-\\_resources](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/50224/birmingham_childrens_partnership/2156/birmingham_childrens_partnership_-_resources) Referrals will then be screened by your local Early Help Team.

**Foodbanks – [https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20152/financial\\_employment\\_and\\_benefits\\_help/2289/foodbanks](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20152/financial_employment_and_benefits_help/2289/foodbanks)**

Find your local food bank by clicking on the link above if you need support with food, not just over the festive period, but any time of the year.

**Forward Thinking Birmingham (FTB) - <https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk>**

FTB is the city's mental health partnership for 0 – 25 year olds. A modern mental health service offers support, care and treatment through one organisation, making it easier for you to access the right support at the right time. Open Monday – Friday, 9-5pm. Contact number 0300 300 0099.

**Hub of Hope** - [hubofhope.co.uk](http://hubofhope.co.uk)

A UK-wide database of mental health charities and organisations offering advice and support.

**Kooth** - [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

An online mental wellbeing community. Access free, safe and anonymously for 11-25 year olds.

**My Family Coach** – [www.myfamilycoach.com](http://www.myfamilycoach.com)

Free positive behaviour support for parents and carers.

**My Local Food Pantry** - [www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk](http://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk)

My Local Pantries are all about dignity, choice and hope, bringing people together around food. Members can choose to join and pay a small weekly membership, choosing at least 10 items from a wide selection of groceries.

**Local Minds** - [mind.org.uk/about-us/local-minds](http://mind.org.uk/about-us/local-minds)

Local mental health services across England and Wales. Offers talking therapies, peer support and advocacy. Check to see if there is a [Local Mind near you](#) and what it can offer young people.

**Mencap** - [mencap.org.uk](http://mencap.org.uk)

[0808 808 1111](tel:08088081111) (Learning Disability Helpline)

Information and advice for people with a learning disability, their families and carers. Services include an online community.

Information and workshops for children and young people whose parents or carers experience mental health problems.

**SANEline**

If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call SANEline on [0300 304 7000](tel:03003047000) (4.30pm–10pm every day).

**Samaritans** - [samaritans.org](http://samaritans.org)

Textline [116 123](tel:116123)

[0808 164 0123](tel:08081640123) (Welsh Language Line)

[jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)

Samaritans are open 24/7 for people to talk about any concerns, worries and troubles they're going through. You can visit some [Samaritans branches in person](#).

**Shout** - [giveusashout.org](http://giveusashout.org)

[85258](tel:85258) (textline)

Shout is a confidential and anonymous 24/7 text support service for anyone struggling to cope. It is free to text Shout from all major mobile networks in the UK. To speak to a trained volunteer, text SHOUT to [85258](tel:85258). This service is offered to anyone under the age of 35 years old.

**The Waiting Room** – <https://the-waitingroom.org>

The Waiting Room directory for health and wellbeing support in Birmingham and Solihull.

## School Uniform

### **Primary**

Grey or Black Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore  
 White shirt or t-shirt  
 Red sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan or fleece  
 Black, grey or white socks  
 Black shoes  
 PE Kit – A white or red T-shirt, black shorts and black pumps  
 School bag – Own choice of appropriate bag/satchel.

### **Secondary**

Grey or Black Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore  
 White shirt or t-shirt  
 Grey sweatshirt, jumper, cardigan  
 Black blazer (optional)  
 Black, grey or white socks  
 Black shoes  
 PE Kit – A white T-shirt, black shorts, Black joggers, Unbranded Grey or Black hoodie for the cold weather and black pumps/trainers.  
 School bag – Own choice of appropriate bag/satchel.

If you would like to order uniform for a primary school pupil with the Uffculme school logo, please visit the school website [Uffculme School \(yourschooluniform.com\)](http://yourschooluniform.com), select the 'Parents & Carers' tab and choose the Uniform option. You will find a link to our direct supplier. Plain items can also be purchased through the website for pupils of any age or you can purchase plain items at any chain or department store.

## School Contact Details

Phone: 0121 464 9634

E-mail: [enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk)

### **Woodlands**

Primary Site

Queensbridge  
 Road

Moseley

Birmingham

B13 8QB

### **Chamberlain**

Secondary Site

2 Yew Tree Road

Moseley

Birmingham

B13 8QG

### **Russell Road**

Post 16 Site

40 Russell Road

Moseley

Birmingham

B13 8RE

## Home to School Transport

### Applications

Please note that Uffculme School does not manage the Home to School Transport agreements. This is done by the Local Authority. It may be that your request for Transport may not be approved by the Local Authority. If this is the case, you will need to raise your concerns to them through appeal.

Home to School Transport applications are now completed online:

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/xfp/form/902> (link on school website)

### Queries, Issues or Complaints

If you have any queries with regard to your child's transport these should be directed to Travel Assist using either of the following contact methods:

Tel: 0121 303 4955, Option 3 then Option 2

Email: [travelassist@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:travelassist@birmingham.gov.uk)

If a bus is late to pick up or drop off your child please contact your transport contractor:

National Express Accessible Transport (NEAT) on 0333 241 2745.

Green Destinations on 0121 553 3369, 07737 024 090 or by WhatsApp on 07534 927837

Please note that if the school is made aware of any delays to transport a text message will be sent to parents/carers.

### Transport Updates

Updates from Birmingham City Council regarding transport can be found here: <https://www.localofferbirmingham.co.uk/home-to-school-transport/home-to-school-transport-news/> (link on school website).



## School Meals

When your child first starts at Uffculme School, we ask what their meal booking pattern will be. Over time, your child's requirements may change. If you would like to change your child's meal booking pattern please email [enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@uffculme.bham.sch.uk) and include the following information:

Your child's name

The new meal booking pattern for each day of the week

The date you would like this to start from (please allow 24 hours' notice for any changes)

All payments for school meals must be made on ParentPay in advance. If you require any support with ParentPay or require your activation details, please contact the school office.

If your child may be eligible for free school meals you can complete an online check: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims/> (link on school website). You will receive an instant decision and the school will also be notified of the outcome by email. You only need to apply once, if your eligibility changes since the initial application school will be notified automatically.

Children in reception class that are of compulsory school age, until the end of year 2 are currently entitled to universal free school meals. When your child moves into year 3 you will be charged for school meals unless your child is eligible for free school meals or you make any changes to your child's meal booking pattern before then.

If you have any queries regarding school meals, please contact the school office.

### **Helpful numbers/information**

Forward Thinking Birmingham Crisis Team - If someone's mental health deteriorates significantly, they may not be able to wait for an appointment with a GP or community team. Sometimes more urgent support is needed to ensure your safety or the safety of others - and this is where our Crisis team comes in. Contact number is 0300 300 0099 and select option 1.

Pause Hubs – <https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause/> drop in centers where you can find out about mental health and wellbeing (always check opening times on their website before visiting).

Kooth – [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) – an online mental health wellbeing site which can be accessed free, safe and anonymously, where you can access help and support. Aimed at 11-25 year olds.

Waiting room – <https://the-waitingroom.org> a directory of support services for Birmingham and Solihull with all information from health, to debts, to addiction to welfare support, all at your finger tips.

## Term Dates 2024/2025

**Inset Days**      Monday 2nd September 2024  
Tuesday 3rd September 2024  
Wednesday 4th September 2024  
Thursday 17th July 2025  
Friday 18th July 2025  
Monday 21st July 2025

### Autumn Term 2024

**Autumn 1:** Starts Monday 2nd September 2024

**Autumn 1:** Ends Friday 25th October 2024

**Half Term:** Monday 28th October 2024 – Friday 1st November 2024

**Autumn 2:** Starts Monday 4th November 2024

**Autumn 2:** Ends Friday 20th December 2024

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### Spring Term 2025

**Spring 1:** Starts Monday 6th January 2025

**Spring 1:** Ends Friday 14th February 2025

**Half Term:** Monday 17th February 2025 – Friday 21st February 2025

**Spring 2:** Starts Monday 24th February 2025

**Spring 2:** Ends Friday 11th April 2025

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### Summer Term 2025

**Summer 1:** Starts Monday 28th April 2025

**Summer 1:** Ends Friday 23rd May 2025

**Half Term:** Monday 26th May 2025 – Friday 30th May 2025

**Summer 2:** Starts Monday 2nd June 2025

**Summer 2:** Ends Monday 21st July 2025