SPENCER ACADEMIES TRUST

JPSA Newsletter

John Port Spencer Academy

Friday 5th June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

It has been a wonderful start to the new half term, and there is already much to celebrate across the JPSA community. Our students have returned with excellent focus and enthusiasm, fully embracing the opportunities ahead and continuing to embody our values of progress, success and acting with care, kindness, respect and integrity.
A key priority at this time of year is, of course, our examination groups. I have been incredibly impressed by the commitment and resilience shown by our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they continue to work hard towards their final examinations. Their determination, maturity and positive approach are a real credit to them, and I would like to thank our staff and families for the support you are providing during this important period.

Alongside this, we continue to celebrate a wealth of achievements across the curriculum and beyond. It has been fantastic to see our Year 12 criminology students fully immersed in their "crime scene in a box" project, demonstrating creativity, teamwork and deep thinking in their learning. Equally, our students have excelled in sport, with strong performances at district athletics and a national regatta success, as well as showing great determination in team competitions such as the Year 10 girls' basketball victory. These accomplishments reflect the breadth of talent and the spirit of participation that we value so highly.
We are also very proud of the character our students continue to show beyond the classroom. Initiatives such as the independently organised Readathon, which raised over £200 for charity, are powerful examples of students demonstrating compassion and taking action to support others.

Looking ahead, we are excited about ongoing improvements to our school environment. Over the next five weeks, we will be installing a series of solar panels across the site. This is an important step in our commitment to sustainability and reducing our environmental impact, and it will provide valuable real-world learning opportunities for our students as we continue to develop their understanding of climate responsibility.
In addition, students are already benefiting from newly installed picnic benches around the site. These have been warmly received and are enhancing social spaces, giving students more opportunities to relax, collaborate and enjoy time together during breaks and lunchtimes.

There is a great deal happening in the coming weeks, from trips and enrichment opportunities to concerts, transition events and careers activities. These experiences are an essential part of the wider education we offer, supporting students to develop confidence, independence and aspiration for the future.

Uniform Update – Important Reminder for Parents

As we approach the time of year when many families begin purchasing new uniform items, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of our academy uniform expectations.

Please note that any kind of legging-style trousers are not permitted as part of the academy uniform. All students are expected to wear appropriate, formal school trousers that meet our uniform policy standards. We kindly ask parents to ensure that any new uniform purchases comply with these guidelines to avoid any issues at the start of term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to sharing further successes with you as the term progresses.



Miss O'Leary
Principal



UNIFORM DIRECT

MADE BY PARENTS FOR PARENTS

UNIFORM DIRECT

VISIT US IN STORE

54 Babington Lane, Derby. DE1 1SX
01332 342569



LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EVENTS

MONDAY 29TH JUNE
UNTIL 8PM

THURSDAY 2ND JULY
UNTIL 8PM

- QUALITY UNIFORMS
- GREAT PRICES
- LOCAL & TRUSTED

APRIL – JUNE
✓ Best time to order!

JULY
✓ Expect delays

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER
✗ Not guaranteed for back to school!

OPENING TIMES

Open Mon to Sat (closed Weds & Sun)
9.30am to 5pm
TERM TIME

Open Mon to Sat (closed Sun)
9.30am to 5pm
DURING THE SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Key Dates

Term Dates:
Half Term 6 - 1st June 2026 - 23rd July 2026
INSET Days:
26th June 2026

June/July:

Summer Exams ~ 7th May - 17th June

School Events:

Friday 5th June	Tanzania Trip - Parent Information Meeting
Tuesday 9th June	Junior Kangaroo (Maths Challenge)
Tuesday 9th June	Mathematical Olympiad
Tuesday 16th June	Year 12 Geography Field Trip (Birmingham)
Wednesday 17th June	Sheffield Hallam Uni - Sport Conference Trip
Wednesday 17th June	Mind Charity Concert
Fri 19th - Sun 21st June	DofE Expedition
Wednesday 25th June	Nottingham Trent Uni Lectures Taster Day
Thursday 25th June	Year 7 Parental Consultation Evening (Online)
Friday 26th June	INSET DAY
Friday 26th June	Year 11 Prom
Friday 3rd July	Bletchley Park Trip
6th and 7th July	Geography Year 10 Fieldwork Trips
Thursday 9th July	Summer Concert

Save the Date:

Thursday 25th June	Online Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening
30th June & 1st July	Year 6 Transition Days
Tuesday 7th July	Sixth Form Taster Day



Joy Progress Success Act with care, kindness, respect and integrity

JPSA Transition

Year 6 Transition Booklet

Our Year 6 Transition Booklet for students is available on our website here: https://johnportspencer.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Student-Induction-Booklet.pdf



Key Transition Dates

Year 6 Transition Days:
Tuesday 30th June 2026
Wednesday 1st July 2026

Year 12 Taster Day:
Tuesday 7th July 2026

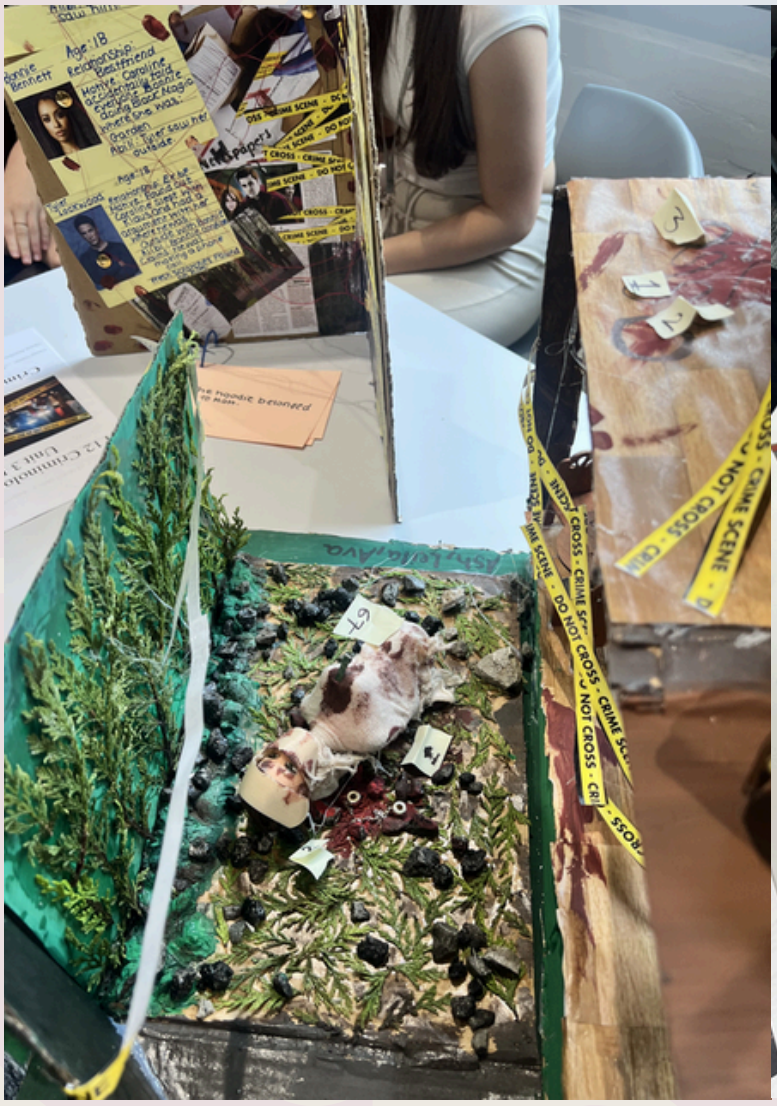
Meet the Tutor Evening:
Tuesday 30th June 2026

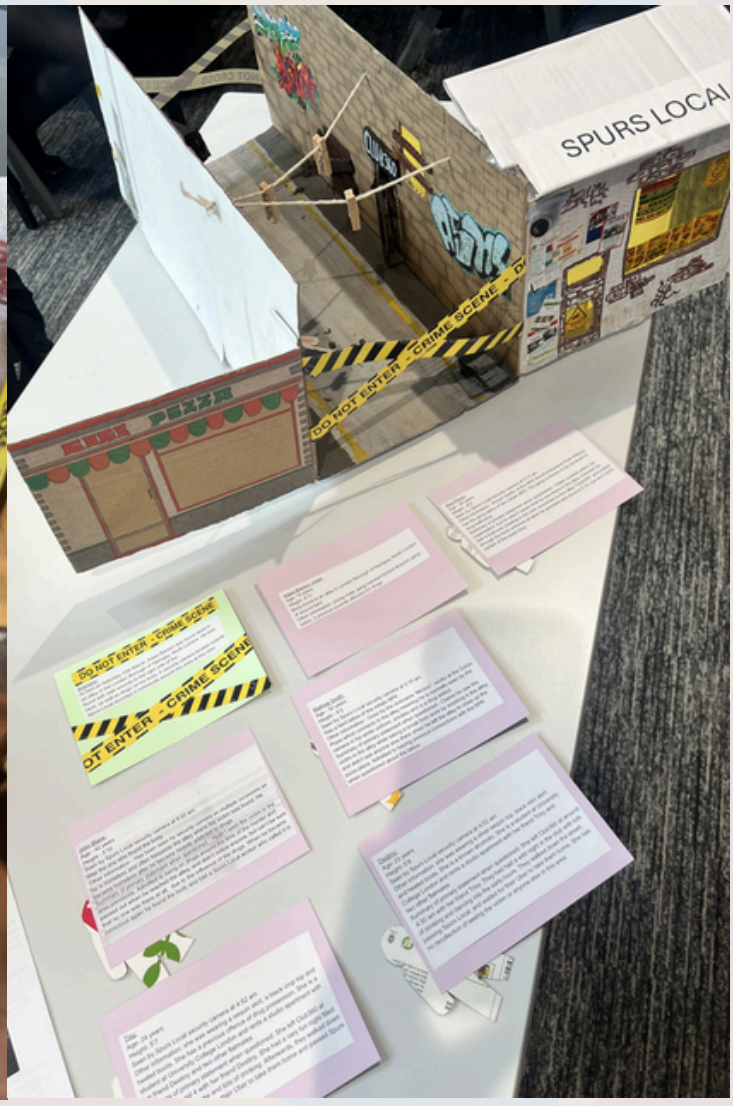


Joy

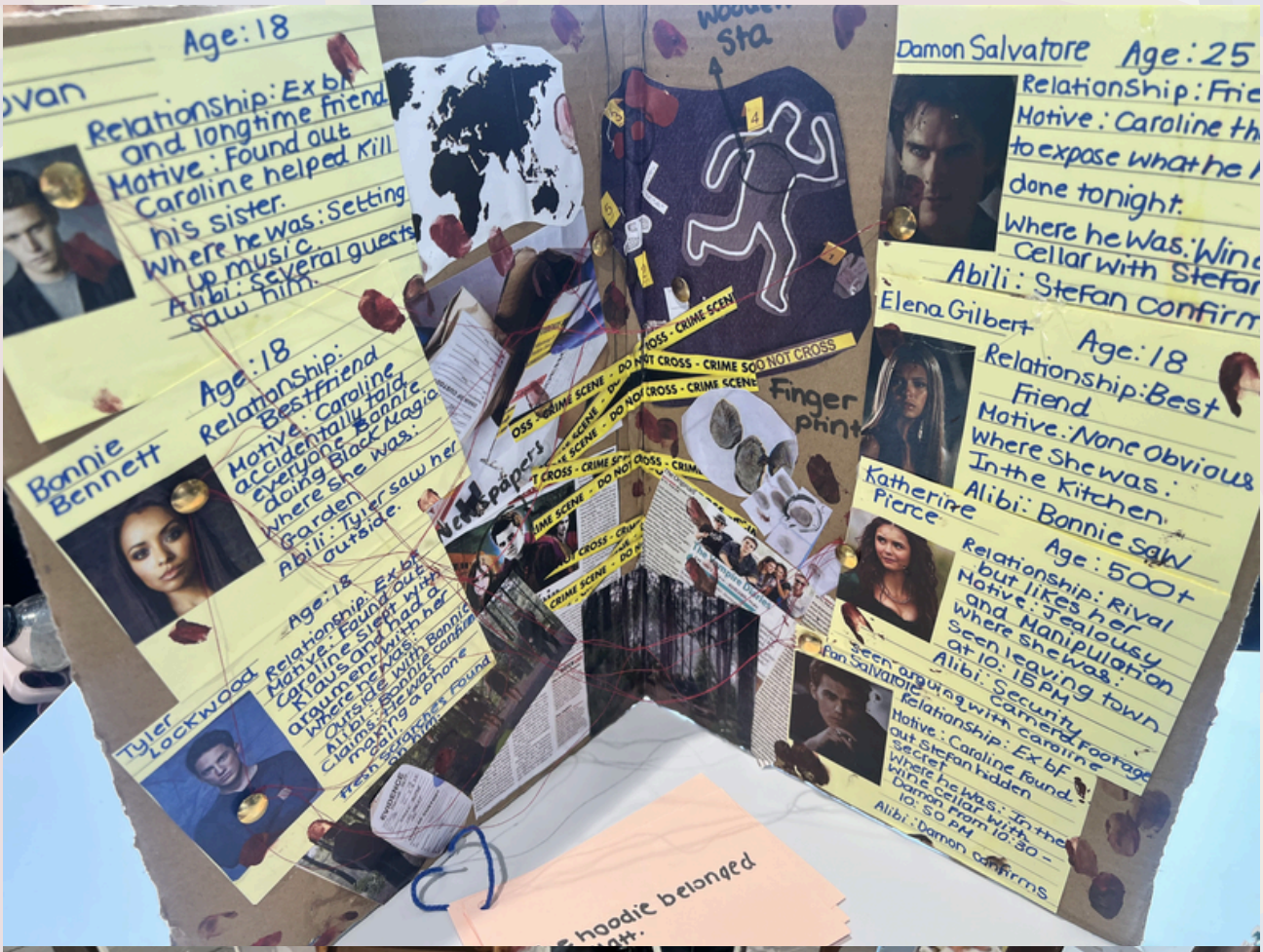
Joy in Learning - Criminology

This week our Year 12 criminology students have been using their creative skills to design and build a crime scene in a box. They were tasked to devise a story behind the crime scene with suspect cards and these were judged by staff who played detective to solve the crime! Students worked so hard and were very invested in this project! Well done year 12!





Joy in Learning - Criminology

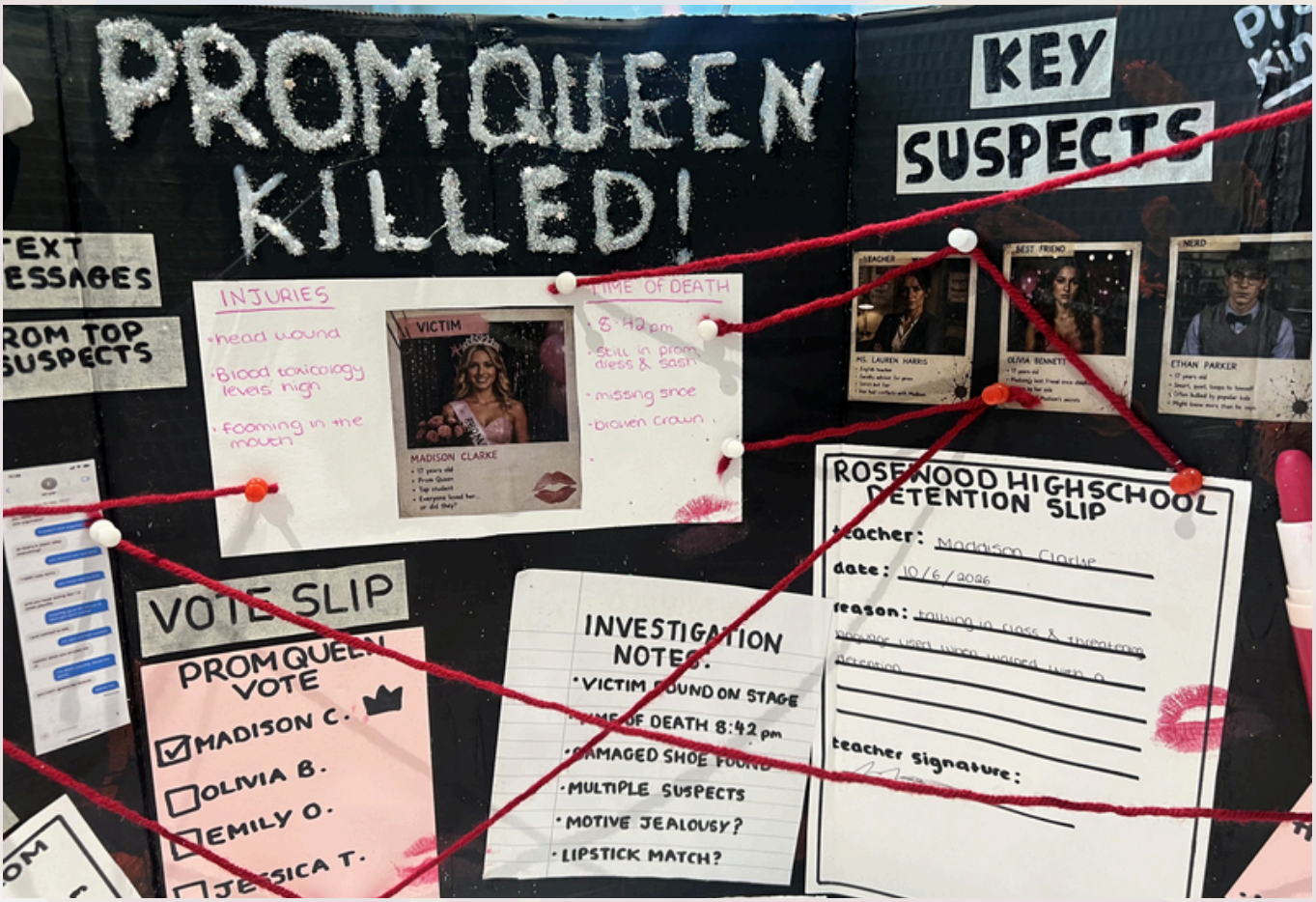




Joy in Learning - Criminology







Progress



SPARX LEADERBOARDS

Well done to our current leaders!



Success

National Schools' Regatta Win

On Friday 22nd May, Jacob C raced in the Junior 15 Coxed Quad at the National Schools Regatta.
After a tough timed trial in a strong headwind, Jacob and his team made the B Final, which they went on to win along with earning the 6th fastest time across the finals!



Shobnall Results

Well done to all our athletes who competed against Burton district schools at Shobnall Athletics track on Tuesday 12th May. Over 40 students in Year 7-10 from John Port competed and some stand out results are listed below. Superb work- congratulations all!

Year 7 Boys 4x100m Relay- 2nd
Year 8/9 Boys 1500m- Jacob D - 1st
Year 10 Boys 200m- Sam H - 2nd
Year 10 Boys 800m- Noah B - 3rd
Year 10 Boys 1500m- Sam H - 2nd
Year 10 Boys Javelin- Thor T - 2nd
Year 7 Girls Discus- Isobel P - 2nd
Year 8/9 Girls 200m- Ava H - 2nd
Year 8/9 Girls 800m- Isla B - 2nd
Year 8/9 Girls 800m- Annabelle M - 3rd
Year 8/9 Girls Discus- Evie L - 3rd
Year 8/9 Girls Long Jump- Ava H - 1st
Year 10 Girls 800m- Lucy D - 1st
Year 10 Girls Shot- Esther-Marie A-S- 2nd
Year 10 Girls Discus- Esther-Marie A-S - 3rd
Year 10 Girls Long Jump- Lucy D - 2nd



Success

Year 10 Girls Basketball vs West Park



Well done to the Year 10 girls basketball team who played West Park on Wednesday this week.

Players were: L. Vincent, A. Howes, L. Houlgrave, L. Runcie, L. Dursley and E. Hadfield

After regulation time, the game was tied at 14-14.

In overtime, A. Howes scored the winning basket as John Port managed to win 16-14.

The girls showed excellent team spirit and determination in hot conditions!

Politics Project



Well done to Max S in Year 12 who has been invited to Burton Radio - The Politics Show.
He's one of the UK's 22 youth steering group members for The Politics Project.
The Politics Project is funded and supported by the UK parliament.

Listen on Tuesday 16th June at 7pm, Burton Radio

Act

Readathon Fundraising Update

Over half term, Poppy G had independently organised a Readathon, where she spent two days reading non-stop for 12 hours each day.

She raised over £200 for charity supporting a family friend with a chromosome disorder.

This is an amazing achievement! Well done Poppy!





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Attendance Matters



WHY YOUR ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!!

Students with GREEN attendance rating (97% or higher) achieved 1 ½ grades higher in each of their GCSEs than students with a RED attendance rating (below 90%). The results are similar at A Level.

Unlock Rewards

Red	< 90%
Red Amber	90 - 93%
Amber	94 - 95.9%
Amber Green	96 - 96.9%
Green	97+ %



Attendance postcard rewarded every half term

Feel Good Friday

Weekly mentions as part of Feel Good Friday

DID YOU KNOW?



Poor attendance could lead to you earning around **£10,000** less by the time you're 28 compared to someone who shows up to school almost every day.

The John Port Experience



The John Port Community



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Careers



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Listen to this newsletter



ERIC App are launching National Freelancer Week! From 8-14 June 2026, this week-long campaign will focus on helping young people understand and succeed in freelance careers and the creator economy across the creative industries. Register your interest here.



Students, apprentices and young people will soon be able to study and work across Europe, as the UK and EU sign the legal text in Brussels today to formally bring the UK into Erasmus+ in 2027.



Welcome to Skill City - your arena for the careers of the future. Navigate an immersive world where your passions become professional power-ups. Engage with Expert Citizens to master AI, build a scroll-stopping brand, and unlock the "insider" secrets of the modern workforce. Whether you're starting out or levelling up, step into the spotlight and lead the way.



"UK University Search is dedicated to helping students make the right choices about their future. We aim give young people the best possible start by providing our free higher education and apprenticeships fairs and website, so that students are informed and empowered to make the right choices." UK University Search ran several webinars in April 2026 covering topics such as Introduction to Russell Groups, Considering Clinical and Health Professions and Researching Univrsity Options are now available here.



Apprenticeships in the Creative Sector webinar takes place on 16th June at 5pm. Dreaming of a career in the creative industries? This is your chance to learn how apprenticeships can open doors to exciting opportunities! Join this webinar to explore the range of creative-sector apprenticeships available, hear from leading employers about current and upcoming vacancies, get application top tips to help you stand out and listen to apprentices share their real experiences.



From online selling and tutoring, to delivery work and dog walking, there are lots of ways you might make money outside your main job. But did you realise there are tax rules for side hustles that everyone has to follow? Here's what you need to know.

JOB OF THE WEEK

Railway Signaller

A train signaller is a safety-critical role responsible for controlling the movement of trains by operating signals, points, and level crossings from a signal box or control centre. They ensure safe spacing between trains, manage routing, and handle emergencies. The role requires calm decision-making, high concentration, and shift work.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The most popular areas for Degree Apprenticeship industries are health (27.5%), construction (22.3%) and digital technology (16.9%). Regional take-yup of degree apprenticeships varies, with London (19.1%) and the North West (15.1) topping the table, while the North East (3.0%) seeing lowest take-up. Source

If you have any questions or need support, please email RLowndes@johnportspencer.org.uk

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



Would you want to be the Prime Minister? What if all the world's leaders were teenagers? That's the premise of bestselling author Soman Chainani's new YA political thriller Young World. Join this talk on 8th June at 2pm to find out why Soman wanted to inspire young voters and would-be voters with this book. Hear about what its like to be an author, from first coming up with an idea to launching the book in stores, get a chance you hear about creating worlds and characters and why the stories we write matter.



Join Dr Llŷr ap Cenydd as he introduces you to the fundamentals of creating lifelike creatures in gaming. He explores and evaluates the applications of Artificial Intelligence, different animation methods, and Virtual Reality in gaming, showing live examples of creature development in his own games.



Use the UniTasterDays "university event discounts and rewards" tool to see if there are any travel incentives to help you when booking in university open days. Examples include Arts University Plymouth offering travel expenses of up to £80 for eligible students attending their undergraduate open days and campus tours or De Montfort University offering a £5 voucher for Uber or Uber Eats for those booked to attend their open days.



WhatUni have a new tool to help you get real about your uni living costs - "Avoid the guesswork of university living costs with our new calculator. From accommodation to bills, it breaks down all the costs to help you plan your budget with confidence."



Check out the Southampton Solent 52 things to do website. They provide weekly activities, challenges, and guides to help you get ready for university, from now until freshers' week. Upcoming topics include responding to your offers, where to find discounts for freshers' week and a guide to clearing.



UCAS are running a series of Instagram lives between now and the end of August, covering key topics such as tackling exam stress and preparing for results day. Follow their Instagram page to keep up to date with upcoming dates. If you are signed up to the UCAS hub, you will also receive emails with all the information.

If you have any questions or need support, please email RLowndes@johnportspencer.org.uk

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"We believe that everyone has the potential to achieve great things, no matter where they start from. That's why we offer a range of early careers opportunities designed to make an exciting career happen for you. Whether you're still studying or have just graduated, there are plenty of ways to start your journey with Bupa. "

Find out more about Careers at Bupa here.

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"We are a global community of ideas and people, dedicated to life-changing education and research. Through our world-class research and innovation, we are positively impacting society and shaping future digital economy through agile collaboration with businesses, governments and communities."

You can learn more about University of Surrey here.

Careers

LEARNING SUPPORT @DCG

DCG
DERBY COLLEGE GROUP

PARENTS AND CARERS
TRANSITION EVENT

TUESDAY 16TH JUNE 2026 4:00PM

DERBY COLLEGE GROUP - ROUNDHOUSE CAMPUS

This event is aimed at Parents and Carers of supported children and young people (CYP) who are exploring the potential of starting their studies at DCG for September 2026.

Join us for an informative event that will explore the support available to your CYP. You will learn more about the resources, guidance, and assistance on offer to ensure a smooth transition into College life.





SCAN TO REGISTER YOUR PLACE AT THIS EVENT

If you require any further information please contact:

Sophie Sanderson
Head of SEND and Learning Support

Email:
sophie.sanderson@derby-college.ac.uk

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SPENCER ACADEMIES TRUST

UK Electronics Skills Foundation



Girls into Electronics

Aston University Birmingham

3 July 2026

Discover Electronics on a one day course at a leading university.

A unique opportunity for girls aged 14-17.

- Hear from women who are working in the Electronics industry
- Attend a sample lecture, a department tour and meet current students
- Get hands-on with Electronics activities
- Find out about rewarding careers in the Electronics industry (green energy – artificial intelligence – healthcare – consumer electronics – autonomous & electrical vehicles)
- Invitation to apply for the Apple Mentoring Program

"This event was genuinely career altering... I can truly see myself having a career in Electronics/ Engineering."
Girls into Electronics Participant 2025

To sign up or find out more information:
ukesf.org/girls-into-electronics

SCAN ME!

Online Safety



What's On in the Local Area

Removing Barriers to Education: Understanding Anxiety and Emotionally-Based School Avoidance

DERBYSHIRE PARENT CARER VOICE

Are you supporting a child who is anxious about school or struggling to attend? Join us for a friendly and informative session designed especially for parent carers.

Thursday 9th June 2026
1:30pm - 2:30pm
Online session
Facilitated by: Jennie Turner, Educational Psychologist (DCC)

What we'll cover:

- What anxiety is and how it may present in your child
- The impact anxiety can have on you as a parent/carer
- An introduction to Emotionally-Based School Avoidance (EBSA), including insights from Derbyshire research
- Practical strategies to support your child and reduce barriers to education

For more information and to book your place please visit https://derbyshireparentforums.co.uk/

Safeguarding



Our latest Safeguarding Parent Newsletter is available here:

JPSA Parent/Carer Safeguarding Newsletter



Who to Contact

General Enquiries - info@johnportspencer.org.uk
Sixth Form Enquiries/Attendance - Sixthform@johnportspencer.org.uk
Reporting Absences - Attendance@johnportspencer.org.uk
Arbor Enquiries - arbor@johnportspencer.org.uk
Safeguarding - safeguarding@johnportspencer.org.uk



Principal:
Miss O'Leary - HT@johnportspencer.org.uk
Leadership Team - Please see our website



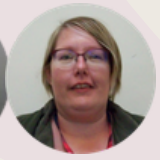
Year 7:
Mr Collier - NCollier@johnportspencer.org.uk
Miss Spray - TSpray@johnportspencer.org.uk




Year 8:
Miss Perry - HPerry@johnportspencer.org.uk
Mr Gaynor - CGaynor@johnportspencer.org.uk




Year 9:
Mr Bray - LBray@johnportspencer.org.uk
Mrs Dare - TDare@johnportspencer.org.uk

Year 10:
Miss Woodward - DWoodward@johnportspencer.org.uk
Ms Askin - LAskin@johnportspencer.org.uk




Year 11:
Mrs Orr - LOrr@johnportspencer.org.uk
Mrs Humphrey - SHumphrey@johnportspencer.org.uk




Sixth Form:
Mr Barker - GBarker@johnportspencer.org.uk
Mrs Lowndes - RLowndes@johnportspencer.org.uk

SPENCER
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