

Edition 27 : 16/05/25



-
- *Headteacher Comments*
 - *Calendar and Trips*
 - *Author Visit Inspires Young Writers*
 - *Commemorating Victory in Europe Day*
 - *VE Day Celebrations with the Military*
 - *Race the World*
 - *Exploring Democracy at the Heart of Government*
 - *Don't Forget .. Free Exam Breakfast*
 - *Lost Property*
 - *VE Day Activities*
 - *Session 6*
 - *Year 13 Have Left The Building*
 - *Year 8 HPV Vaccinations*

- *VE Day*
- *Help With Exam Stress*
 - *AMHIE*
- *A Level of the Week*
 - *EAL Club*
- *Sports Updates*

– *Football*

- *Athletics Session Six*
- *Trip Updates*

– *Battlefields Trip*

- *Safeguarding*
- *Whats On In The Local Area*

– *Taekwon-Do New Beginners Programme*

– *Family Hubs*

– *Shifnal Senior Youth Club*

– *Shifnal Cricket Club*

- *Session Six Guitar (Private Sessions)*
 - *Session Six Karate (Private Sessions)*
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-

- *Contact Information*
-

Michelle King - Headteacher



What a fantastic week it's been—especially for our Year 8 students who have been enjoying the sunshine at Boreatton Park!

From camping under the stars to taking part in a wide range of exciting activities, they've had an unforgettable time filled with fun and adventure.

Meanwhile, our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been hard at work tackling their exams. It's been a strong start, with lots of focused revision and determination on display—well done to all of you and keep up the great effort!

This week also saw important assemblies on the upcoming changes to our uniform policy. If you missed the announcement, don't worry—you can find all the updated information on our website at www.idsall.org.

Calendar and Trips



- Mon 2nd & Tue 3rd June : Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
- Thu 5th June : Year 7 Parents Evening
- Mon 9th to Fri 20th June : Year 10 End of Year Exams
- Wed 11th to Fri 20th June : Year 12 End of Year Exams
- Mon 23rd to Fri 27th June : Year 10 Work Experience
- Wed 25th Jun : Year 11 Prom
- Mon 30th June : Year 13 Leavers Brunch & Assembly
- Mon 30th Jun : Year 13 Prom

TRIPS

We are presently putting together potential / already in process trips for :

- Year 8 - PGL (May 2025)
- Year 9 - France and Belgium Battlefields Trip (May 2025)
- Year 8 & 9 - Las Vegas Geography Trip (see Mrs Green in G3 for more information) (October 2026) <https://www.idsallschool.org/las-vegas-trip-presentation/>

- Year 10, 11 & 12 - Kenya Expedition (see Mr Pittam in G2 for more information) (Summer 2026)

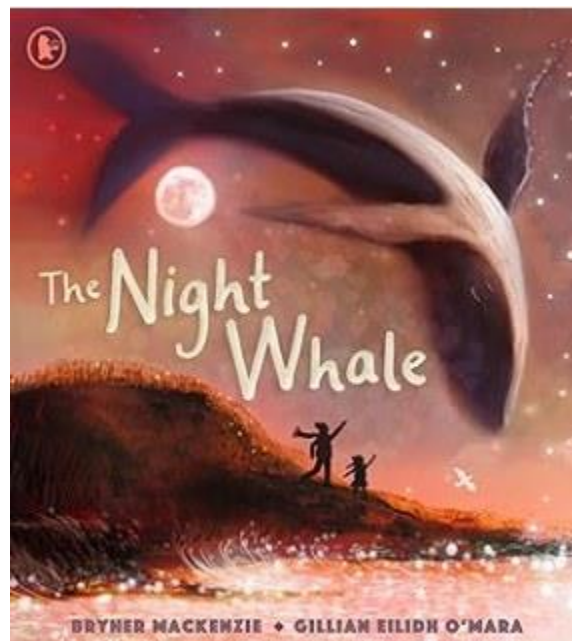
Author Visit Inspires Young Writers

We were delighted to welcome Bryher MacKenzie, a published children's author and former Idsall pupil, back to school for a special visit.

Bryher spoke with Year 7 students about her journey into writing and the many career paths available within the literary world.

She then led a creative writing workshop for Key Stage 3 students, offering valuable tips and encouragement to our budding young authors. Her visit left students inspired and eager to explore their own storytelling talents.

Books by Bryher



The Night Whale is Bryher's debut picture book.

- *A grandmother and grandchild look out for the Night Whale, a magical sky creature last seen when Nana was a child herself. The story transports the reader off to a world of wonder and beauty, as they soar over cities and landscapes on the back of the Night Whale, far away from home and back again.*



Great Aunt Margot and Me

- *On Mondays after school, Great-Aunt Margot always has a good story to tell her great-niece... or a dance to dance, or a game to enjoy together. But lately she's been forgetting things, and she doesn't always feel quite the way she used to. Her great-niece sees rich and vibrant memories all around Margot's apartment, and comes up with a plan to help bring back the twinkle in her eye...*

Both these fabulous books are available on Amazon!

Commemorating Victory in Europe Day

Fifty Idsall students took part in a commemorative service at St Andrew's Church to mark Victory in Europe (VE) Day. The event paid tribute to the courage and sacrifice of those who fought for our freedom. Meanwhile, students in school observed a two-minute silence and took part in assemblies created by their peers in the History Department, reflecting on the significance of VE Day and its lasting impact on modern Britain.

VE Day Celebrations with the Military

On Friday 5th May, Idsall welcomed members of the military as part of our VE Day celebrations. Students were treated to exciting displays, including tanks, archery activities, and a range of

historical weapons. Pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 also took part in a virtual sponsored row in collaboration with the Shrewsbury Group, raising awareness and support for veterans.

Any donations to the Army Veteran Benevolent Fund are greatly appreciated and can be made via the following link:

[Army Careers Centre Shrewsbury is fundraising for Army Benevolent Fund](#)









Race The World



[Army Careers Centre Shrewsbury is fundraising for Army Benevolent Fund - JustGiving](#)

Help Army Careers Centre Shrewsbury raise money to support Army Benevolent Fund

www.justgiving.com

Exploring Democracy at the Heart of Government

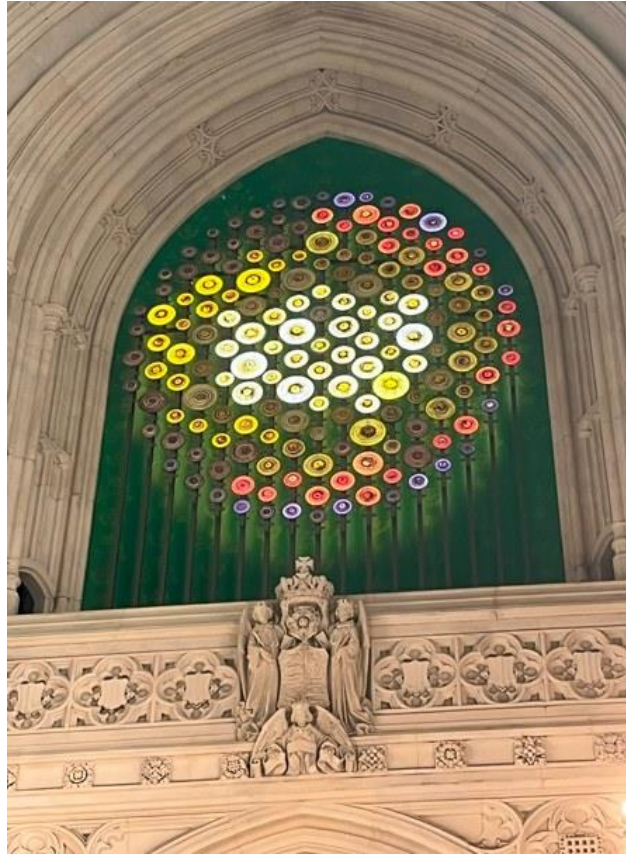
Ninety students from Idsall recently travelled to London for an enriching visit to the Houses of Parliament. As well as touring this iconic centre of British democracy, students witnessed live debates in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords, offering real insight into how our country is governed.

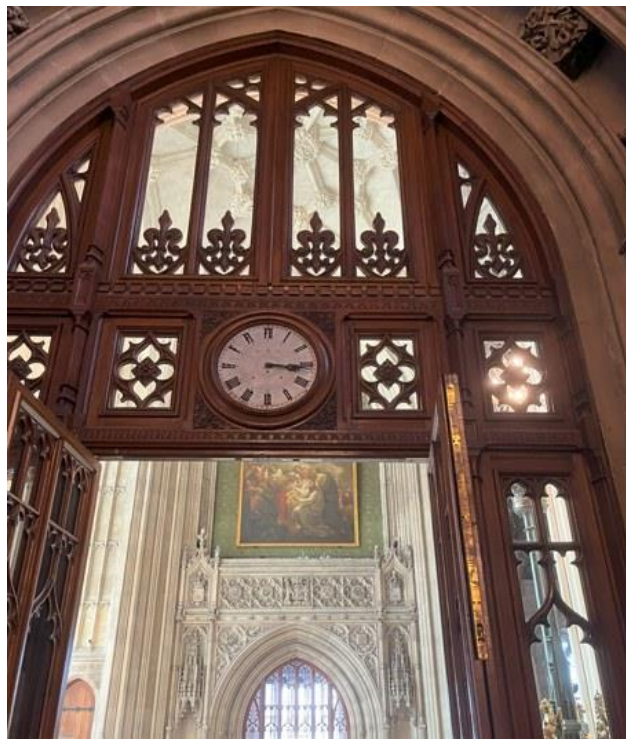
A hands-on workshop followed, where students explored how they can influence political change through petitions and policy-making.

This experience not only broadened their understanding of citizenship but also introduced them to potential careers in politics, law, and public service.



















Don't Forget - Free Exam Breakfast



During the exam period, if your child has an exam at 9.00am, they are invited to come to the canteen for some free breakfast between 8.00am and 8.45am, where members of the teaching staff will be available for any last minute queries and help.

For afternoon exams :

- The canteen will be open for early lunch break only for students that are on an exam that starts at 1.00 pm. The canteen will be open to those students from 12.30 pm.
- If your child is on study leave, they are expected to sign in at front reception no later than 12.50 pm and make their way to their exam venue where they should 'line up' with other students ready to be invited into the exam venue.

Lost Property



Lost property

Has your student come home without their PE kit, school bag, pencil case, blazer or anything else?

There is a chance it is at our reception where they keep the lost property.

We understand that uniform, PE kit etc is expensive but we can only keep lost property for a short time and at the end of every half term it is binned or put in the uniform bank.

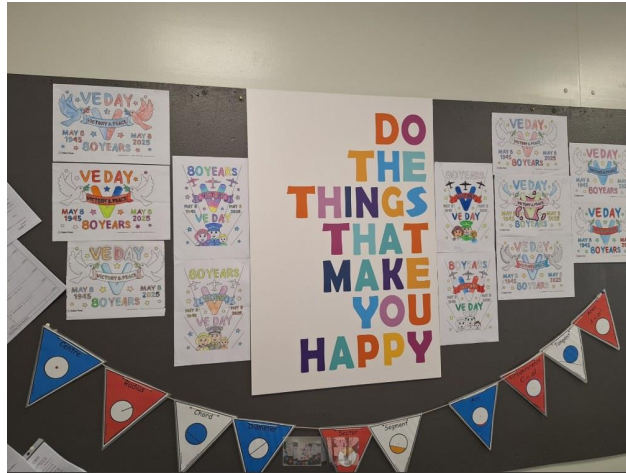
Therefore, if your student has lost something over the half term, please ring, pop in or get the student to go along to reception and check if it is there.

VE Day Activities

Tutor group 7CHA have been doing their own activities to celebrate VE Day.

Mrs Haynes said "We had an amazing time talking about elderly relatives that the students remembered had been involved in the Second World War."

Pictures are of the wonderful display and bookmark some of the tutor group made.










Session 6

Here are this terms session 6 activities. They say alongside each one which years they are open to. All these session 6 activities are free to attend and there is a late bus that students can book onto.

Session Six Activities – Summer Term 2025

Monday's Session Six Activities			
Studyzone	3.15 – 4pm	All Years	LRC
Footloose Run Through		All Years	D1/Main Hall
Maths Revision	Week A	Year 11	Rooms BA5/6/9/10 EN2/3/4/6/8
A Level Geography Revision		Year 13	G2 
A Level English Language Revision	Week B	Year 13	Bay 1
Year 11 Revision Sessions			
	Week A		Week B
	Maths (See above)		

Tuesday's Session Six Activities			
Studyzone	3.15 – 4pm	All Years	LRC
Cricket		All Years	Grass Pitches
Rounders		All Years	Grass Pitches
Tennis		All Years	Blue Courts
Athletics		All Years	Grass /All Weather
A Level History - Russia 1894-1924		Year 12 & 13	H4
A Level Chemistry Revision		Year 12 & 13	S3
Computer Science Paper 1	Week A	Year 10 & 11	B4
Science Revision	Week A	Year 11	Invited Group S1 Open Revision S6
Footloose Run Through		All Years	D1/Main Hall
Eco Club	Week B	Year 7 & 8	S8
Computer Science Coding Club	Week B	Year 10 & 11	B1
Year 11 Revision Sessions			
	Week A		Week B
	Science (See above)	RE (R2)	Geography (G1 & G2) RE (R2)

Wednesday's Session Six Activities			
Studyzone	3.15 – 4pm	All Years	LRC
A Level Maths Revision		Sixth Form	EN2
A Level Biology Revision		Sixth Form	S8
Exploring the Christian Faith	with Mark Williams	All Years	R1
Kaleidoscope Orchestra		All Years	ST A
Athletic Fixtures	Teachers will give details as they arise		
Year 11 Revision Sessions			
Week A		Week B	

Thursday's Session Six Activities			
Studyzone	3.15 – 4pm	All Years	LRC



Friday's Session Six Activities			
Studyzone	3.15 – 4pm	All Years	LRC
Handball		Year 7	Sports Hall
Year 11 Revision Sessions			
Week A		Week B	
French (L1)			



Lunchtime Sessions 1.40 – 2.10pm			
Tuesday	Drum Club	All Years	ST A
Tuesday	RE Revision	Year 11	R2
Wednesday	School of Rock	All Years	ST A
Wednesday	RE – 'Asking Questions' with Mark Williams		R1
Wednesday	RE Revision	Year 11	R2
Thursday	Young Voices	All Years	ST A
Friday	Footloose Singing Rehearsals	All Years	ST A
Friday	RE Revision	Year 11	R2

Please note that Session Six and Lunchtime activities may be cancelled at short notice.
For Session Six cancellations - you will be able to remain in school until the agreed time if needed.

Year 13 Have Left The Building

On Friday 9th May we said goodbye to Year 13. This year, we will celebrate them reaching the end of their time with us with a farewell brunch on 30th June once all exams are complete.

However, to mark the occasion they had a picnic and games on the field, culminating with challenging the year 12's to a final 'tug of war'.





Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

We have been asked to pass on the following letter to all year 8 students regarding the HPV Vaccination. This has also been emailed out to all parents. If you need any further information please email the school.

Dear Idsall School,

Human Papillomavirus (Universal HPV Gardasil 9)

Date Of Visit: 2 & 3 June 2025

Attached to this email is a letter for the 2024 Human Papillomavirus vaccination (HPV), please can you distribute this to the parents of all Year 8 pupils.

The eConsent link will close at 9am on 28 May 2025

We would be very grateful if you could use your communication platforms for the duration the link is open to remind parents to complete a consent form.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Human Papillomavirus (Universal HPV) Gardasil 9 - 1 Dose Vaccination

The School Aged Immunisation Service will shortly be offering the Human Papilloma Vaccination (HPV) for all students in **Year 8**. The vaccination is **free, safe and effective**.

<p>Human Papillomavirus (HPV):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the name of a very common group of viruses.➤ HPV affects the skin. There are more than 100 different types.➤ They do not cause any problems in most people, but some types can cause genital warts or cancer.➤ HPV can also cause genital warts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ HPV has no symptoms, so you may not know if you have it.➤ This virus increases the risk of developing some cancers later in life, such as: cervical cancer, some mouth and throat cancers and some cancers of the anus and genital areas.➤ The HPV vaccine does not protect against other sexually transmitted infections
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To find out more information about the Human Papillomavirus vaccine, visit the link below or scan the QR code:



[HPV vaccine - NHS](#)

The team will be visiting **Idsall School** on **2 & 3 June**

Once you have read through the information, please complete the electronic consent form

The link below will close at 9am on 28 May 2025

[Please click here or scan the QR code to complete your child's HPV vaccination](#)



How to give consent or decline for your child to get the vaccination

The virtual assistant will ask you for your child's NHS number. If you don't have this you can still complete the form either by using the search option to find your child's NHS number or by inputting their details.

Once your child has been identified, the virtual assistant will ask you questions in relation to the vaccine. Your child's details will be sent to the team and your child will be vaccinated in school.

If you **do not wish** for your child to receive this vaccination, please select 'No Consent' on the question that asks which vaccination you are consenting to.

If you have an issue with accessing the site or it appears blank this is likely due to you attempting to access the form whilst connected to the internet or via a device that has security settings that prevent you being able to see the form (for example, a work phone or computer).

Please try again whilst using your own phone/computer connected to your internet at home.

Please note, if you are accessing on a mobile it can take a few minutes for the virtual assistant to appear.

If you have consented to your child receiving the vaccination and then change your mind, please **do not** submit a new consent form, please telephone the team on 01743 730028 or email shropcom.immunisationteam@nhs.net to let us know.

When you have completed a successful consent form you will be issued with a unique reference number. Please make a note of this number as it can be used should you need to contact us.

If you are unable to complete the form online or have any questions, please contact the team on 01743 730028 or email shropcom.immunisationteam@nhs.net.

Yours sincerely,



Debbie Jones,
SAIS
Clinical Team Lead

How did we do?

The NHS Friends and Family Test (FFT) is a quick and anonymous way to share your feedback after receiving treatment or care from us.



[Please scan the QR code or click here to complete our Friends and Family Test](#)

Help With Exam Stress

exams

Tips to help parents support their child with exam stress

Tests and exams can be a challenging part of school life for children and young people and their parents or carers, but there are ways to ease the stress.

The NHS.UK website gives lots of really helpful information on helping everyone deal with exam stress. Headings like

- Watch for signs of stress
- Make sure your child eats well
- Help your child get enough sleep

- Be flexible during exams
- Help them study
- Talk about exam nerves
- Encourage exercise during exams
- Do not add to the pressure
- Make time for treats
- When to get help

It really is a very useful read. The link is below.

[Help your child beat exam stress - NHS](#)

AMHIE

amhie | Association of Mental Health in Education

Supporting, nurturing and growing the mental health in education community.



Free Educational membership to AMHIE

- Free evidence-based resources
- Regular policy updates, blogs and latest research
- Advice line and Live Support sessions
- Support and networking
- Sector news updates
- Links to Partners and Providers services
- Working parties
- Newsletter









Additional access to our community portal can be added with our paid for Membership Options:

[READ MORE >>](#)

- Individual: £69+VAT
- Small School/Provision: £89+VAT
- School/Provision: £279+VAT

Join as a free member:

[SIGN UP](#) 

Contact our team:
info@rootofit.com
02381 120010

A Level of the Week

what our current pupils think about their post 16 subjects

Courses In Construction

The skills centre at Idsall Sixth Form offers a variety of level 2 practical courses. Pupils can pick between, Brickwork, Carpentry, Plastering and Maintenance Operations.

The skills centre courses are run over three full days a week, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, allowing pupils the flexibility to find their own relevant work experience on the remaining weekdays.

For pupils who do not get their GCSE grades in English and Maths at a level 4 or higher, they will have timetabled lessons to allow them to resit these important subjects. Obtaining GCSEs in English and Maths will enable a wider choice of employment or apprenticeship providers in the field of construction.









Sports Update

Monday afternoon saw an outstanding victory over Holy Trinity finishing the game 2-1. Idsall lifted the trophy!

The girls were absolutely brilliant and played fantastically even with an hour wait at HT due to thunder and lightning !!

Goals coming from Emmie and Elicia.

Well done to all those involved and a well deserved victory!



Athletics Session Six

Each week a different activity will be put on for students wanting to improve their athletic ability. There is only one option per week so please make sure you attend the week you want to improve in that area. There wont be an option to change the activity (unless the weather is really poor)

This will also be printed off and put up on the athletics notice board outside of the PE office. Any questions, please see Miss Broughton

- Tuesday 20th May: Jumps (long/Triple)

HALF TERM

- Tuesday 3rd June: High jump (weather pending)
- Tuesday 10th June: Relay
- Tuesday 17th June: hurdles

Trip Updates

Battlefields Trip

WW1 Battlefields Trip 22-24 May

From Tuesday 6 May, please deposit Passports and GHIC cards with **Mrs Strachan in room H4**.

Further documentation will follow shortly. Any queries, please contact ruth.strachan@ids.mmat.co.uk

Safeguarding



This week's safeguarding focus for parents and pupils is on Understanding Self-Harm in Young People

Understanding Self-Harm in Young People - A Guide for Parents

This week's safeguarding focus is on the topic of self harm – which is a sign of emotional distress. With the right support, and early intervention, we can reduce the likelihood and ideally stop it from occurring.

Key Statistics

- **1 in 5** UK young people report having self-harmed [\[1\]](#).
- Rates are **higher among girls** and **gender-diverse youth** [\[2\]](#).

- Self-harm often begins between **ages 11–15**.
- Only **20%** of those who self-harm receive help from health services [\[1\]](#).

Why Do Young People Self-Harm?

- To cope with **emotional pain, stress, or trauma**.
- As a response to **bullying, academic pressure, or family issues**.
- To feel a sense of **control or relief**.

Warning Signs to Watch For

- Unexplained cuts, bruises, or burns.
- Wearing long sleeves in warm weather.
- Withdrawal from friends and activities.
- Mood swings, irritability, or low self-esteem.

How to Support Your Child

- **Stay calm** and avoid judgment.
- **Listen** without trying to immediately fix things.
- **Encourage open conversation** about feelings.
- **Seek professional help** early – either via the GP or contacting school. We can offer support, intervention and signposting to appropriate services including in school via RAISE, the school nurse and BEE-U. Please contact school and ask for Mrs Griffiths if you would like support for your child.

Helpful Resources

- **YoungMinds:** youngminds.org.uk
- **Kooth:** kooth.com
- **Anna Freud Centre:** mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk

What's On In The Local Area

Taekwon-Do Classes

New Beginners Programme Starting



Mr Morris is starting up a new beginners programme in Taekwon-do on a Wednesday evening at Idsall School.

So if you are looking at trying something new why not go along - you get **two free trial classes!**

- *Offering Idsall pupils a 10% discount on monthly fees.*
- *Classes every Wednesday 6-7pm in the main hall at Idsall.*
- *Offering two free trial classes.*

INTERESTED ... contact Mr. Morris on 07969 996055 to book and for more information.

Family Hubs



Telford & Wrekin
Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough



ARLESTON DROP IN



Drop in at Arleston Community Centre, St Giles Close, Wellington,
TF1 2AB, Thursday's term time 10am-12noon
Join us for advice, guidance and themed discussions with our
Family Hubs Team.

See below for upcoming dates and further information
Please call 01952 385465 for any enquires

15 th May	Family Hubs advice drop in
22 nd May	Family Hubs advice drop in
5 th June	Challenging Behaviours and Emotional Regulation
12 th June	Talking tots, Child development and School readiness
19 th June	Family Hubs Advice drop in
26 th June	Keeping safe online & mobile phone safety
3 rd July	Apologies - Family Hubs drop in, not open this week
10 th July	Family Hubs Advice drop in
17 th July	What's on over the Summer – Find out what is on in your community



Telford & Wrekin
Cooperative Council

Protect, care and invest
to create a better borough



DAWLEY DROP IN



Drop in at Dawley Town Hall, New Street, Dawley TF4 3JR
Monday's term time 10am-12noon

Join us for advice, guidance and themed discussions with our
Family Hubs Team.

See below for upcoming dates and further information
Please call 01952 385465 for any enquires

12th May	Family Hubs advice drop in
19th May	Family Hubs advice drop in - MIND Telford & TACT -Branches attending
2nd June	Challenging Behaviours and Emotional Regulation
9th June	Talking tots, Child development and School readiness - Home Start, School nurse and health visiting team attending
16th June	Family Hubs Advice drop in - PODS, Autism Hub & Send IASS attending
23rd June	Keeping safe online & mobile phone safety
30th June	Family Hubs advice drop in
7th July	Apologies - Family Hubs drop in, not open this week
14th July	What's on over the Summer – Find our what is on in your

Shifnal Senior Youth Club

SHIFNAL SENIOR YOUTH CLUB
WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM - 8.00PM
@ TRINITY CENTRE, 12B VICTORIA RD, SHIFNAL,
TF11 8AE

APRIL & MAY 2025

30th April - Diamond Art, Archery & Fruit Kebabs

7th May - Photo Frame Design, Table Tennis Tournament & DIY Cheese Straws

14th May - Mental Health Awareness Week, Wellbeing Mini Workshop, Photo Booth Fun & Sweet Potato Fries & Dips

21st May - Trip to The Park & Rounders

Year 9+

ENTRY FEE £1.00 PER WEEK

SYA
ALL ABOUT YOUTH

SHIFNAL
SHROPSHIRE

Scan this QR code to complete our membership & consent form

For more info please contact Becca Lewis:
07741 885017 or email
becca@sya.org.uk

Shifnal Cricket Club Junior programme 2025



BUMPER SUMMER OF JUNIOR CRICKET

- Hard ball 9-13 (plus invited All Stars and Dynamo players based on progress) from Friday, April 25, 6.15-7.45pm
- Under 15 each Tuesday from April 29, 6.15-7.45pm
- We've also entered a team in the Cricket Shropshire U10 Incrediball league for 2025 for our All Stars and Dynamos
- Cost £50 - (sibling discount available for squad members)
- Look out for further details of a Junior Signing On night or look out for updates on the club website [HERE](#).

The All Stars and Dynamos booking windows are now open for the 2025 programmes for everyone! Use the QR codes below or click [HERE](#) and search for Shifnal. Cost is £55 for all sessions



All Stars - Ages 5-8
Starting Friday, May 9, for
10 weeks 6.15-7.15pm



Dynamos - Ages 8-11,
Starting Friday, 9 May, for
10 weeks 6.15-7.15pm



Shifnal CC - Encouraging participation, nurturing talent

Session Six Guitar (Private Sessions)



Session Six Karate (Private Sessions)



Contact us



Coppice Green Lane, Shifnal, Shropshire. TF11 8PD



01952 468400



admin@ids.mmat.co.uk



Idsallschool.org

Michelle King BA MA NPQH NPQEL

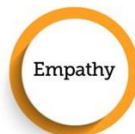
Our values :



Excellence: striving always for mastery and personal success



Integrity: consistently acting with honesty, compassion and respect



Empathy: embracing and supporting the uniqueness of every individual



Creativity: inspiring and challenging through invention, experimentation and exploration



Equality: ensuring fair opportunity for all