

Head's Up!

Issue#12

28 November 2025

Stafford Manor
High School

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Dear Parents and Friends of Stafford Manor,

12 days of Christmas! - Attendance matters

We will be launching 12 days of Christmas next week. Any students who have 100% attendance for the last 12 days, will be placed into a prize draw for a range of Christmas gifts which will be drawn out of Santa's Sack on the last day of term. You have to be in it to win it! Vouchers, sports equipment, gifts and other goodies will all be available to draw on the final morning of this term! Please see the following pages for more information.

Attendance Success Campaign!

I am delighted to share with you that our school has one of the most improved attendance rates in the country. As a result of this amazing achievement Stafford Manor High School was chosen to be the host school for Staffordshire County Council's new attendance campaign called, ***I'm Here***.

What is the *I'm Here* campaign?

We know that many absences happen because of mild illness or anxiety. Young people have told us that the biggest factor that helps them attend school is having a trusted relationship with a teacher or member of staff—someone they feel able to turn to.

The campaign focuses on encouraging school staff to look out for the early signs of anxiety and open up conversations with students who may be finding it hard to come in. All members of staff at Stafford Manor High School are here to help and to support your child to make sure that they continue to attend school well, or work with them to improve their attendance if they feel anxious or worried about school.

Campaign videos

Working with Staffordshire students, Staffordshire County Council has co-produced two short, powerful videos that capture their voices and real experiences.

- The first shows young people sharing why attending school matters to them.
- The second focuses on mental health, reminding students that it's okay to talk and that support is available.

Both films feature Staffordshire students and were filmed at Stafford Manor High School. You will see that some of our children took part in the videos and there is even a cameo from myself as Headteacher. You can view the attendance campaign videos here: [I'm here attendance videos](#)

Please see the attached letter for more links and further information.

Thank you for continuing to support our drive to improve attendance to school!

A huge thank you to all families for continuing to support our drive on improving attendance.

The school is currently a massive 1.6% above attendance rates for this time last year. Please remember that in order to access gold and silver rewards at the end of this term, your children need to attend school well and be above 95% to 92% attendance for the year so far.

Better attendance to school is leading to huge gains for all our children and in particular Year 11 children who are focused on average to achieve nearly a whole grade more this year than last. Keep going Year 11!



Student Leadership Team

A huge thank you to the 86 children who have volunteered to be part of our student leadership team. Children met this week across five leadership teams who are focussing on teaching and learning, school environment, behaviour, attendance and rewards, student support and mental health and well being. Children will be working with senior leaders including myself to develop those areas of school. We will also be linking each area to the following themes for this year.

Student Leadership Team objectives

1. To create more pride in our school through celebrating success and sharing positive progress.
2. Creating more of a sense of belonging by creating more things for children to get involved in!
3. Helping to Improve our School Community and reach out to them to see what they need.

Children in the Student leadership team will be running a project aimed at working with our local feeder primary schools and we are going to begin to communicate our plans with them shortly.

Student leaders meet with school leaders every **Friday Red week** in tutor time. I am looking forward to sharing their plans and ideas with you next week after our next meeting.

Year 11 Mock Exams Week 2

Well done to Year 11 for completing the half of their GCSE Mock Exams this week. Students have conducted themselves exceptionally well during what is a challenging time for them, and I am sure families at home. Please see the remainder of exams

Core Curriculum Knowledge

Being here everyday also gives your child the best chance of learning the core curriculum knowledge they need to make sense of the world and to achieve well in school. A reminder please that if you want to support your child with their core knowledge, there is a link on the website and this can be found using the link here: [Core Knowledge](#). Please test them and ask them questions about the contents held within this section of the website. You could set them tests at home, ask them to do their own flashcards or get them to recall key facts for you at home. Why not even link this into a reward?

Best wishes,
Rhys Adams
Headteacher

Headteacher Rewards—24 November 2025

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Alvin Hanson	Oscar Lewis	Sam Lally	Maxley Penlington	Darcie Brooks
Lily Greaves	Harry Sutton-Moseley	Oliver Brice	Willow Brown	Andrey Georgiev
Eryn Phillips	Katy Parry	Max Heathcote	Kian Roper	Lucas Betts
Chloe Butler	Jacob Sharman	Isaac Jones	Nicolas Amarioare	Samantha James
Freya Capewell	Saihajpreet Kooner	Harry Kemsley	Adam Jones	Riley Webb

OUR Values and Behaviour Expectations

Ready	Respectful	Responsible	Resilient
Attending every day	Using good manners	Being accountable	Staying on task
Being on time	Listening to my teacher	Knowing my role	Not giving up
Wearing full uniform	Respecting myself	Meeting deadlines	Avoiding distractions
Bringing my equipment	Showing others respect	Not blaming others	Coping with setbacks
Completing homework	Allowing others to learn	Managing my behaviour	Being comfortable to FAIL
Lining up quietly	Being calm	Doing my best work	Overcoming difficulties

School Vision and Values



'Every child reaching their full potential'



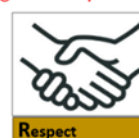
Community

- Safe and welcoming
- Proud of our school
- Inclusive and Equitable
- Focussed on People
- Celebrate Success



Aspiration

- High Expectations
- Ambitious for all
- Take the initiative
- Pursue Excellence
- Positive Destinations



Respect

- Excellent Behaviour
- Manners and honesty
- Listen and appreciate
- Show up every day on time
- Be kind, be learning



Endeavour

- Be determined
- Be resilient and bounce back
- Challenge yourself and others
- Work hard and don't give up
- The Struggle helps us develop



Class Charts – Behaviour and Achievement system

Parental Info

01/08/2025 - 27/11/2025

Name ↓	Positive
Year 7	24077
Year 8	22148
Year 9	18393
Year 10	13654
Year 11	11955

Over 88,000 achievement points so far this academic year! Over 34,000 achievement points to this time last year! A fantastic start to term 1.



🎄 12 Days of Christmas Challenge 🎄

Starting **Monday, 1st December**, we'll be launching a **12 Days of Christmas Challenge** for all students!

For 12 days, we'll be tracking **Attendance** and **Behaviour**.
If you finish the challenge with:

- ✓ 95% attendance AND
- ✓ 0–10 behaviour points,

you'll earn a festive reward: **non-school uniform on Thursday 18th December and**

Friday 19th December 2025!

and entered into a draw to win advent calendars and other Amazing Christmas Prizes!

Students who do not meet the criteria will need to wear **full school uniform** on Thursday 18th December.

Good news: For these 12 days, your attendance and behaviour points will reset—so everyone has a fresh start and a chance to succeed!

“Make Every Day Count – Your Festive Reward Awaits!”

Assembly FOCUS this week

Mental Health Awareness Month and Also Staffordshire County Council's Attendance Matters




Careers Focus: Benchmark 4

Over the next 12 months, we will be working with all students at SMHS to explore careers and develop the essential skills and knowledge needed for life beyond Year 11. One of our key priorities this year is to embed careers education within the curriculum, ensuring every student understands the opportunities available and how to prepare for them.

Careers Curriculum Overview

2025-2026 Stafford Manor High School



Vision Statement
All Stafford Manor High School, we believe every student deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential and to realise their ambitions, and therefore embed careers education within the curriculum to ensure the opportunity to explore various options to take careers knowledge with them into the future. Careers Education is noted in the school's high-quality (EPR), and world-leading, curriculum and is a key priority for the school. We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to explore their options and to prepare for the world of work.

Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Key Events and Experiences

Year 11

Commitment

Finalising post-16 choices and understanding career impact

Year 10

Work experience Preparation

Developing CV writing, networking, and workplace skills.

Year 9

Decision Making

Making informed choices about subjects and careers

Year 8

Explorations

Investigating local growth sectors and employability skills.

Year 7

DISCOVERY

Beginning to understand career pathways and job trends

Essential Skills

Year 11

Higher Horizons

Revision skills, exam techniques, post 16 options, employability and why go to University?

National Careers Week

3rd March – 8th March 2026

Year 10

Higher Horizons

Y10 University of Staffordshire Campus Visit Y10 Enable Programme Wednesday 4th May

National Careers Week

3rd March – 8th March 2026

Year 9

Higher Horizons

Y9 Informed Choices Thursday 12th February 9:15-12:30

National Careers Week

2nd March – 8th March 2026

Year 8

Higher Horizons

Y8 University of Staffordshire Campus Thursday 23rd March

National Careers Week

3rd March – 8th March 2026

Year 7


Higher Horizons

Y7 ~~Staffordshire~~ **Staffordshire** Y7 Intro to Higher Education **SMHS**

Settling in Evening 0th November

National Careers Week

2nd March – 8th March 2026



Inspiring and preparing young people for the world of work.

Badminton Results

On Tuesday this week our KS3 and KS4 badminton teams took part in the schools district tournament.

Both teams performed very well and showed excellent teamwork and determination throughout the competition.

The KS4 team finished in an impressive 3rd position as they won many doubles games.

The KS3 team performed exceptionally well and made it through to the finals as they were undisputed in their group stages matches. Unfortunately, they came up against an extremely strong team in the final and finished second place.

Well done to all the girls that took part and represented our school.



Christmas Pantomime

Ava and Ruby Jones have both auditioned for the Christmas pantomime and have been successful in getting a place this year. We would like to wish them lots of luck.



Year 7 Advent Workshop

Maddy from Youth Net delivered a session on Christmas this week. The session included some time to think about traditions around Advent, and the myths around the Christmas story.



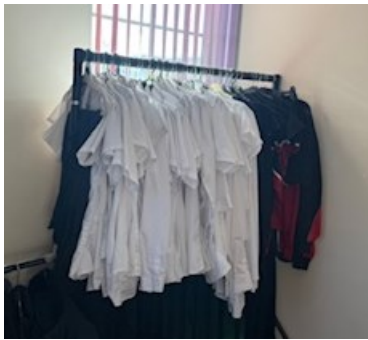
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Break	Time : 11.15 - 11.30 am Room : Canteen Staff: Duty Staff Club : Toast Available	Time : 11.15 - 11.30 am Room : Canteen Staff: Duty Staff Club : Toast Available	Time : 11.15 - 11.30 am Room : Canteen Staff: Duty Staff Club : Toast Available	Time : 11.15 - 11.30 am Room : Canteen Staff: Duty Staff Club : Toast Available	Time : 11.15 - 11.30 am Room : Canteen Staff: Duty Staff Club : Toast Available
Lunchtime	Time : 1.30 - 2.15 pm Room : Art room Staff: Mrs Nesirky Club : GCSE Y10 & 11 Art Catch up	Time : 1.30 - 2.00 pm Room : Gym Staff: Mr Chadwick Club : Table Tennis	Time : 1.45 - 2.15 pm Room : Performing Arts Staff: Mr Farr Club : Drama Club	Time : 1.30 - 2.15 pm (Red and Blue Week) Room : J17 Staff: Miss Burns Club : Yarn Club	Time : 1.30 - 2.15 pm Room : Art room Staff: Mrs Nesirky Club : GCSE Y10 & 11 Art Catch up
	Time : 1.30 - 2.15 pm Room : Gym Staff: Mrs Adams Club : Table Tennis (All Years)	Time : 1.45 - 2.15 pm Room : Library Staff: Mr Farr Club : Year 7 & 8 Quiz	Time : 1.30 - 2.00 pm Room : Gym Staff: Mr Morris Club : Table Tennis	Time : 1.30 - 2.00 pm Room : S1 Staff: Mrs Adams Club : Just Dance (All students)	Time : 1.45 - 2.15 pm Room : Library Staff: Mr Farr Club : Year 9 & 10 Quiz
After school	Time : 3.15 - 4.15 pm (Blue and Red Week) Room : Field Staff: Mr Chadwick Club : Boys Football (All years)	Time : 3.30 - 4.30 pm Room : Tennis Centre Staff: Tennis Coach Club : Y9/10 Tennis Club	Time : 3.15 - 4.15 pm (Blue and Red Week) Room : Sports Hall Staff: Mrs Thorley Club : Girls Netball (All years)	Time : 3.20 - 4.00 pm Room : A20 Staff: Mr Freeman Club : Y11 Physics revision	Time : 3.20 - 3.35 pm Room : J17 Staff: Miss Burns Club : Friday's Fast and Furious (15 Mins Maths revision)
	Time : 3.15 - 4.15 pm (Blue and Red Week) Room : Sports Hall Staff: Mrs Adams Club : Girls Football (All years)	Time : 3.15 - 4.00 pm Room : Performing Arts Staff: Mr Farr Club : Drama Club	Time : 3.20 - 4.00 pm Room : J12 Staff: Maths Teachers Club : Y11 Maths Revision	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : Room : Staff : Club :
	Time : 3.20 - 4.00 pm Room : A24 Staff: Mr Barnes Club : Chemistry	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : 3.15 - 4.00 pm Room : J17 Staff: Miss Burns Club : Y11 Maths Revision	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : Room : Staff : Club :
	Time : 3.15 - 4.15 pm Room : J10 Staff: Miss Mee Club : Y11 H&SC Support Session	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : 3.15 - 4.15 pm Room : J5 Staff: Miss Mee Club : Y11 H&SC Support Session	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : Room : Staff : Club :
	Time : 3.30 - 4.30 pm Room : Tennis Centre Staff: Tennis Coach Club : Y7/8 Tennis Club	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : 3.30 - 4.30 pm Room : Tennis Centre Staff: Mrs Adams Club : Y11 GCSE Badminton	Time : Room : Staff : Club :	Time : Room : Staff : Club :

Breakfast

The breakfast provision will be available for all students at 8.25 am on their way into school. Students will be able to grab a piece of toast before line up. This provision is being moved from breaktime.



SMHS Community Support Hub And SMHS Food Hub



Our SMHS Community Support Hub and Food Hub is run by two of SMHS Governors and you are always guaranteed a warm welcome. The Hub is open every Wednesday and Friday for all our parents. You can pop along and have a coffee and a chat.

We also receive regular deliveries of food from a charity to support any parent that needs it. We are now able to offer fresh bread and bagels.

We also have a Uniform Exchange Hub which enables parents to donate any good condition uniform, and exchange for a larger size as your child grows. Or you are welcome to see if there is anything that would be of use.

There is also a Prom Dress bank that helps to support our Year 11 girls attend the Prom in the Summer at the Moat House. We have dresses, shoes, handbags etc that your child can borrow.

All this is located in our Community Room and during the cold weather you will always have a warm room to sit in.

Open to all– please come along

Wednesday—2.00 —4.00 pm

Friday—11.00 am—1.00 pm