Summer 2 Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

As the summer term draws to a close, I want to thank you for your support and dedication throughout the academic year. It has been a year filled with growth, resilience, and countless achievements, and I am immensely proud of each and every one of our students at Educate U.

Some of our primary pupils joined the Lodge Hill residential and made the most of their time embracing outdoor learning with a healthy dose of teamwork and fun! Whether it was tackling the climbing wall or toasting marshmallows around the fire, it was wonderful for staff to see their confidence and independence grow.

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Summer Fair it was a huge success! With stalls, games, and plenty of cake, the day had a true community spirit, and the funds raised will directly support enrichment opportunities for our young people.

We were thrilled to welcome visitors as part of our *Inclusion Quality Mark* review. Their feedback was incredibly positive and a wonderful affirmation of the inclusive, nurturing environment we work so hard to create. A big well done to the whole Educate U community!

We continue to build on the positive feedback from our recent Ofsted visit and are proud to share that we're making strong progress against our action plan and remain fully committed to improvement.

I want to pay tribute the incredible efforts of our dedicated staff who have worked tirelessly to provide the highest quality education and support to our children and young people this academic year Their passion, expertise, and commitment have been instrumental in shaping the positive learning environment we have at Educate U.

As we approach the summer break, I encourage our children and our families to take this time to rest and recharge. Whether that is by spending time with each other or by simply enjoying the sunshine, I hope you can all make the most of this very well-deserved break.

Warm regards,

Sarah Paoletti

Headteacher

Staffing

Goodbye

- Charlotte Mason leaves us at the end of term. Charlotte has been a mainstay with our KS3 students as their teaching assistant and she will be missed. We wish her every success in her future career.
- Sarah Macdonald also leaves us at the end of this term. From school administrator to first aider, there is not much she hasn't done. Sarah has been a firm hit with lots of our student who find themselves in need of TLC and an icepack. I know staff and students alike will all miss her.
- Josie Spoor has also said Bon Voyage to us. Josie has been a huge success with our children in Primary and with the staff team and she leaves us for a career in the police force. We wish her well.
- Annie, our Deputy Headteacher, Forest School pioneer, P&I trainer, PE Champion , and the only person we know who can walk into any aircraft hanger on the South coast and charm a parachute out of the owners. Annie has been a guiding force for the school since her arrival and we wish her well with her promotion in her new school.

Welcome to...

- Isobel – We're excited to welcome Isobel (Izzy), who is joining us in September as a Teaching Assistant. Izzy comes to us on a year-long placement as part of her continued journey in the field of psychology, having recently graduated with a strong academic background and a particular interest in child development.

- Matthew – We're delighted to welcome Matthew to the team as a Teaching Assistant. Matthew brings with him a rich and varied background, shaped by personal experience of supporting children with Special Educational Needs.
- Zoë – We're thrilled to welcome Zoë as a Teaching Assistant! She brings hands-on experience across a range of roles, with a passion for helping children succeed.
- Millie - We're pleased to welcome Millie to the team as a Teaching Assistant. She brings strong interpersonal skills and a calm, supportive presence. Millie is passionate about inclusive education and looks forward to contributing to our nurturing environment.
- Jared - We're delighted to welcome Jared to the Educate U team as we head into the new term. Jared will be joining us as an SEN Tutor and will also be a key member of both our Safeguarding and Positive Behaviour team. With a passion for inclusive education and wellbeing, Jared will also be leading secondary PE across the school bringing fresh energy, teamwork and lots of fun to our physical education offer.
- Gemma – Welcome Gemma to the Educate U team! With over 15 years of experience in administrative roles across the education, healthcare, and corporate sectors, Gemma brings a wealth of expertise with her strong organisational, communication, and problem-solving skills - a perfect fit for our front office team.

IQM Award!



We are thrilled to announce that Educate U has been awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark's (IQM) Inclusive School Award—with Centre of Excellence status!

Here's what the IQM inspector had to say about us:

"From the moment I arrived at Educate U, I was greeted warmly by all and it was very clear to see how enthusiastic everyone was to show off their school to me. During my first meeting with SLT the head teacher described her school as 'Captain Inclusive' and this description didn't fail to disappoint throughout my day.

Educate U is a unique nurturing and inclusive school that prioritises a supportive environment for all its students. The school fosters positive relationships and adopts a flexible approach, celebrating diversity and inclusion. Every student is well-known to all the staff, who are dedicated to addressing individual needs and overcoming challenges. A fantastic example of this is their 'Tuesday's child' initiative where all staff come together on a Tuesday to share information about a child in order for all to be able to offer support and suggestions. This provides the whole team with an overview of each child so that all are able to support most effectively.

The culture at Educate U has been firmly embedded by the work of the inspiring head teacher who is an incredibly positive influence to the entire school community. The head has created an environment where everyone feels safe, valued and respected and staff talk passionately about the genuine care and support that is provided to them all. Leaders are not afraid to think outside the box in order to do what they feel is best for the students. An inspiring example of this is the new school year at Educate U starting in May. This ensures students have formed trusting relationships with their peers and staff before the long Summer holiday, reducing the anxiety that students often feel about returning to the unknown. This is further supported by postcards that are sent to all students over the Summer holidays from their team.

Extra-curricular activities are not an add-on at Educate U, but are woven into the curriculum. Enrichment activities at the school play a pivotal role in enriching the school day, offering students meaningful, enjoyable activities in a structured and inclusive manner. The success of these activities is largely due to the enthusiasm, drive, and dedication of staff, whose passion for creating diverse and engaging opportunities supports pupil progress. An inspiring example of this during my visit was the newly developed dance lessons."

Lodge Hill




LODGE HILL
CHANGING LIVES





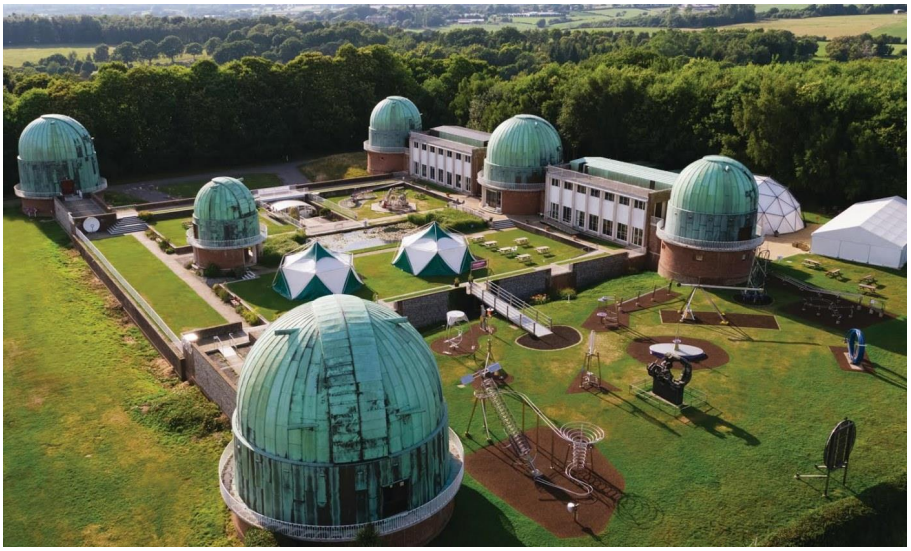
At the start of July the Primary class went on a school residential to Lodge Hill and it was one of the best adventures ever! As soon as we arrived, we were welcomed by the friendly staff. They made us feel really safe and excited about everything we were going to do. During our trip we got to do lots of activities including Low ropes, zip wire, crate stack, gladiator challenge, tunnelling, leap of faith and a night hike. We cooked lots of yummy food including homemade heart pizzas, sausage rolls and rice crispies cake. On the first night we enjoyed the Lodge Hill salon ran by Laura and Sarah where we got to use hair chalk and have glitter tattoos. The trip was a resounding success, and it was great to see how the children grew in confidence, independence and teamwork. We are looking forward to returning next year.

Upcoming Trips

Curriculum Trips: Herstmonceux Observatory Science Centre

Next term, both Primary and Secondary pupils will be heading to the Observatory Science Centre in Herstmonceux, East Sussex.

These visits are scheduled to take place on a Thursday in October or November, and will give students the chance to experience hands-on science in a historic and interactive setting in keeping with out school topics which Space for KS1/2 and Extreme Planet for KS3/4.



Lodge Hill

In October there will be a residential for Secondary Students to Lodge Hill. This will be for students who want adventure but prefer being closer to home and therefore did not attend the PGL trip last year. We will be trying out a few new activities including axe throwing and leap of faith.

2025 Year 11 Leavers







Our Year 11 leavers had a wonderful day on Friday. The class had a 6 person game of Magic: The Gathering, featuring the Headteacher as a special guest. One of our students had baked a magnificent chocolate cake with the help of Vic, which we all enjoyed as a break time treat. The leavers then headed to Futures where they sat and made a memory plushie each, Build a Bear style. They also made a plushie to keep at school as a memory for us. The students and staff from class 8 arrived at Futures for a party style lunch and pizza. They watched the film The Labyrinth which provided singing and laughter among the staff and students. As the day ended a "chauffeur" (Hayley) arrived to drive one of our leavers home in style in a convertible! Friday was a lovely day to remember for our Leavers and for Class 8.

We’re incredibly proud of our four Year 11 leavers this year. It’s been a joy to watch you grow, learn, and become the amazing individuals you are today. As you move on to the next chapter of your journey, we wish you all the very best for the future!

Summer Fair



The sun really did shine for us.

It was an absolute delight to see the children bursting with excitement and laughter especially as they 'soaked the teacher'! It was wonderful to see so many happy faces with

prize, teddy bears, sweets, and cakes in their hands. The creativity on display was fantastic. The face painting was a hit,, while those who had their hair braided or adorned with vibrant extensions looked like they'd just stepped out of a salon! The raffle was a tremendous success, with every ticket holder walking away a winner. A huge thank you to everyone who supported it!

We also introduced some exciting new games this year, including *Spin the Wheel* and *Guess the Weight of the Giant Bear*, both of which were met with great enthusiasm. But of course, nothing quite matches the timeless joy of *Hook-a-Duck*—a classic favourite, and as always, a treasure trove of prizes!

Thank you to everyone that took part, and helped on the day - especially to the events team.

We managed to raise £186.67 which is amazing and will go towards making the Christmas Fair a success.

Futures at Educate U





This half term at Educate U, our Futures Careers events have provided valuable opportunities for our students to explore their next steps. Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a trip to Worthing College, where they received a guided tour of the campus. They had the chance to learn about the wide range of courses on offer, explore the classrooms, visit the canteen (including the on-site Starbucks!) and see the impressive Art and Design department. We were particularly proud of our students for asking thoughtful questions about courses they were interested in and engaging enthusiastically throughout the visit.

In addition, we held productive careers conversations with our Year 11 students, helping them reflect on their personal skills and consider the full range of post-16 options available in the local area.

Next term, we hope to have a tour of Northbrook college. We will also be continuing our 1:1 careers conversations and welcoming guest speakers in to discuss careers in a variety of industries.

SENCO NEWS

I cannot believe another academic year has come to an end.

I would like to thank again, all the parents/carers who have attended the Annual Reviews this year. It has been a real privilege to see how far your children have come and the life skills they continue to develop.

This term, I am delighted to share some exciting news: we have been assessed for the Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) Award. Inclusion lies at the heart of everything we do at Educate U, and the IQM is a formal recognition of the outstanding contributions made by our students, parents, and staff in supporting an inclusive environment.

At Educate U, we are committed to enabling each member of our school community to live life in all its fullness. We take pride in celebrating each individual and supporting them on their unique journey.

We are pursuing this award because the IQM provides schools with a nationally recognised framework for assessing and guiding their inclusion practices. The IQM team offers valuable support in evaluating and measuring our performance, empowering us to continue improving and developing.

On Wednesday, 9th July, we were visited by an IQM assessor, who came to evaluate whether we meet the standards required for this prestigious award. During the visit, Melissa met with staff, including our Therapy Team at Therapy House and Priya, our Educational Psychologist. The assessor also visited Forest School and was impressed to see that it was, indeed, an actual forest! Additionally, she spoke with several parents who shared their perspectives on how the school supports inclusivity for their children. Most importantly, Melissa met with students to gather their insights on the inclusive environment at Educate U.

The feedback we received from the assessor was overwhelmingly positive, and we anticipate hearing the outcome of our application during the summer holidays. We will keep you informed as soon as we receive the official results.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support throughout the year. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Georgina

News from: Therapy House

A Summer Reflection from Therapy House

As the school year draws to a close, we find ourselves in a natural moment of pause and a time where endings and beginnings quietly coexist. For many of our young people, this season brings transition: time away from the familiar routine of school and for our wonderful year 11's, the start of a whole new chapter.



At Therapy House, we recognise that change, even when welcomed, can highlight vulnerability. That is why we offer a space not only for reflection but also to offer a calm and grounded presence to help children make sense of what they are feeling, even when they might not have the words.

In every session, whether through quiet conversation or playful creativity, puppets, movement, music, paint, or stillness—we honour each child's unique way of connecting with what feels true for them.



We're Being Considered for a Trauma and Mental Health Informed School Award!

We're thrilled to announce that Educate U has been selected for a visit from Trauma Informed Schools UK and The Centre for Child Mental Health, as part of our application for the Trauma and Mental Health Informed School Award.

This award recognises schools that prioritise the emotional wellbeing of children and adults, embedding trauma-informed, relational, and mental health-aware approaches into every layer of school life.

If successful, we will:

- Be nationally recognised as a Trauma and Mental Health Informed School
- Receive a plaque to proudly display in our setting
- Be invited to a national awards ceremony
- Be listed as an example of best practice on the Trauma Informed Schools UK website

This visit is not an inspection—it's a chance to celebrate everything we're already doing. It recognises how we prioritise safety, connection, and emotional regulation, ensuring that every child and adult feels valued, supported, and understood.

We are proud of this opportunity and can't wait to share our ethos and passion with Siobhan when she visits in September.



Summer Wishes

So as summer arrives, we send with it a wish:

May this break bring moments of peace, rest, and playfulness.

May you find joy in the little things and feel deeply the quiet strength within you.

Each of your children, each of your families, is utterly unique and we are grateful to walk part of your journey alongside you.

To our incredible Year 11s your future is yours to shape, and we believe in all that you are becoming.

To all our families thank you for your trust, your presence, and your care.

May September greet you with possibility.

Forest School



This term at Educate U, our Forest School has been buzzing, quite literally, with the exciting theme of Minibeasts, Small Worlds, and Habitats. Set in our beloved Arundel woodland site, students have once again immersed themselves fully in the nature and nurture that this beautiful space so generously offers.

Each child has continued to embrace the outdoors with curiosity and care, learning about the lives of insects, the homes of woodland creatures, and the fascinating natural history of the area. With Tom's expert knowledge, students explored not only the wildlife around them but also the stories rooted in the landscape, connecting the past with their present-day discoveries.

Our lovely yoga and reflexology practioiner Vicki has continued to bring calm and grounding to the woods through her gentle reflexology and yoga sessions. These therapeutic moments have been a vital part of each child's journey as it offers them space to unwind, reset, and reconnect with themselves and nature.

Despite some group changes this term, our students have shown adaptability. Each group, with its unique dynamic, has found ways to bond, support one another, and share their learning. It's been a joy to witness the way friendships have formed, challenges have been faced together, and laughter has echoed through the trees.

Activities this term have been fun and varied, from tool skills and woodland crafts to team-building games and habitat building. Every session has ended with a heart-warming

tradition: gathering around the campfire for a shared lunch, where the group socialises together as a whole.

As we reflect on the past year in the woods, through sun, wind, and rain, we feel incredibly proud of how far our students have come. Forest School has been more than a lesson; it's been a journey of growth, therapy, and discovery.

Here's to another wonderful term of connection, creativity, and learning at Educate U Forest School.

Exams

Celebrating Exam Success 2024–2025

This year, we are incredibly proud of the progress and achievements our students have made in their exams. For many, even stepping into a formal exam setting is a significant milestone and our students have met the challenge with determination and resilience.

We've seen success across all levels, particularly in Functional Skills English and Maths. These qualifications support real-world skills and offer our learners the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge in a practical, meaningful way.

Functional Skills – English

- Entry Level One: 2 passes
- Entry Level Two: 2 passes
- Entry Level Three: 1 pass
- Level Two: 1 pass

Functional Skills – Maths

- Entry Level One: 4 passes
- Entry Level Two: 2 passes
- Entry Level Three: 4 passes
- Level One: 3 passes

ASDAN Awards

We also celebrate the hard work and achievement of our students who have taken part in ASDAN, where success is measured not just in academic ability but in life skills, independence and personal growth.

- Bronze: 7 passes

- Gold: 2 passes

A huge well done to all of our learners for their efforts and accomplishments this year — and thank you to the staff and families who support them every step of the way.

Student Council



It's been another busy half term for the student council. We've welcomed four new students to the student council and Millie has also joined as part of the student council team! This influx of new faces has brought fresh ideas and ambition and there is no doubt these new members will help the student council thrive in this next academic year.

As a new team this term, we have spent time discussing and setting a mission statement focussing on values that are important to us as a council. The student council has helped advertise this year's summer fayre and is currently in the planning stages of a student focused event later this year.

Clubs Spotlight: Dance Club



Hello, my name is Hope and I run dance club at Educate U every Friday. I have over 20 years of experience in dance and with performing various different dance styles. I completed my bachelor's degree in dance for university and also completed a dance teaching and leading course. I also have experience with teaching dance to students aged 3-18 in my previous job roles. I decided to start a dance club for the pupils as part of their ASDAN course and to also bring something new to the school. Each week, the students will learn new pieces of choreography that will be put into a full dance piece and also have the technique of the movement explained to them for them to fully understand how each move should be performed. I also give the students a say in what they would like to do in the following weeks, so that they can have their voices heard in regard to their learning. Dance for me has always been a passion and gave me skills that I use to this day and that I could pass on to others. These skills include technique, movement memory and being able to incorporate different dance styles to music. Other skills that the students can benefit from dance club are an increase in social and communication skills by working alongside others and confidence in themselves to try something new.

Intervention Spotlight: Youth Worker



Hi, I'm Will – the Youth Worker at Educate U, part of the 3D Youth team. My role is to support our students by being a consistent, positive role model and building strong, trusting relationships through one-on-one sessions. These sessions are designed to help students grow in confidence and independence across a range of key life skills. Some of the areas we focus on include:

· Travel Training – learning how to use public transport safely and confidently

· Money Management – practicing how to budget, shop wisely, and pay for items in local stores

· Physical Fitness & Leisure – encouraging a healthy lifestyle through sports and physical activities

· Animal Care – developing responsibility and empathy through working with animals

Each session is personalised to align with the student's IEP and EHCP targets, ensuring we meet their individual needs and goals. Where appropriate, sessions are also linked to ASDAN qualifications, helping students work towards recognised achievements. Above all, the aim is to empower our young people to become more confident, capable, and prepared for adult life.

Attendance

As we move through this final term of the year, we want to take a moment to reflect on the importance of school attendance and how it connects to the emotional, social, and academic progress of our incredible students.

At Educate U, we understand deeply that the journey to regular attendance can look very different for each child. Many of our young people face complex barriers emotional, physical, or situational that can make coming into school feel overwhelming at times. These challenges are real, and as a trauma-informed setting, we do not take them lightly. That's why we continue to work closely with families to meet students exactly where they are, especially during this time of year when transitions and change can feel particularly challenging.

Still, we also know that consistent attendance however that may look for each individual is key to helping our students grow. Being in school regularly helps build a healthy routine, creates stability, and allows young people to develop vital learning and social skills. Every missed day is a missed opportunity to connect, to make progress, and to feel part of our special community.

How We Support and Celebrate Attendance at Educate U:

We are proud of the steps our students and families take toward improved attendance no matter how small. We celebrate progress regularly, whether it's through verbal praise, certificates, or rewards for those showing commitment and resilience. What matters most to us is effort, engagement, and ongoing communication.

For families and carers, establishing calm and consistent morning routines can make a huge difference. Preparing clothes, bags, and meals the night before, and creating a calm start to the day can help ease anxiety and build predictability.

Our Flexible, Individualised Approach:

We recognise that for some students, a traditional full-time timetable isn't always possible. We offer flexible, part-time, and phased reintegration plans for those who need it always shaped around the individual's needs and voice. These plans are developed collaboratively with families and reviewed regularly.

Communication is at the heart of this process. We encourage parents and carers to speak openly with staff about any concerns or barriers so we can work together to find solutions. Whether it's through emotional support, therapeutic interventions, or learning adjustments, our goal is always to help each student feel safe, seen, and supported.

Accessing Further Help:

Where needed, we can connect families with additional services such as educational psychologists, therapists, or family support workers to provide more targeted support. Our aim is always to look at the whole child and offer wraparound care that helps them take steps forward in their own time and way.

Let's continue working together to help every student at Educate U attend, engage, and thrive. We are so proud of the progress made so far and remain committed to supporting our families every step of the way.

Important: Parent and Carer Voice Survey

We greatly value your thoughts and we're always looking for ways to improve our school community and our processes. We would be very grateful if you could take a few moments to complete the Microsoft Form linked below.

https://forms.office.com/e/c7Nh3AKRdt

Your feedback plays a vital role in helping us reflect on what's working well and where we can make things even better. Whether it's a quick comment or a more detailed suggestion, your voice really matters to us. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Important notice regarding: Stay and Play

Over the past two summers, we've enjoyed welcoming families to our Stay and Play. These sessions have provided a lovely opportunity for children and parents to connect and play together in a relaxed setting. However, we have made the decision not to run Stay and Play over the summer due to a number of factors including staffing ratios needed and reduced attendance.

Thank you for your understanding.

Local SEN Events/News

Inclusive Football
Come and join the fun!



Worthing United Youth FC are looking to recruit inclusive SEND footballers aged 5-16 years for next season starting in September 2025.

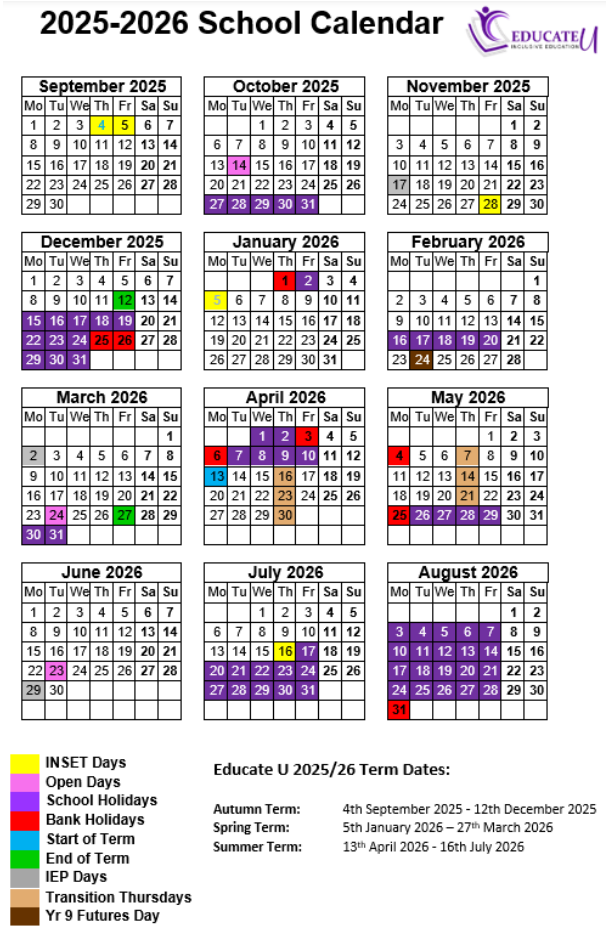
Taster Sessions
9.30-10.30am at Davisons School Worthing

June 21st
July 5th
July 19th
August 2nd
August 16th

(please note this will be played on 3g pitch and due to the nature of the pitch the sessions are not suitable for wheelchair users)

visit wuyfc.co.uk for more info and to register your interest please email;
wuyfcsecretary23@gmail.com

2025-26 School Calendar



Date for the diary:

18th July - 3rd September - Summer Holidays

4th & 5th September - INSET Days

8th September - First Day Back for Students

14th - October - Open Day

16th - 17th October - Lodge Hill for some secondary

27th - 31st October - Half-term