Autumn Term 2 Newsletter 2025/26



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, I've found myself taking a quiet moment here and there to think about just how much our young people have achieved this half term.

Our Christmas Fair was a roaring success, full of laughter, festive cheer, and real community spirit. We had our first ever Educate U dance performance, and the girls who took to the floor were so confident and proud. It was a magical moment to finish a fantastic event.

We also had our Ofsted monitoring visit this term. Staff showcased their commitment with such calm professionalism, and our pupils spoke about their school experiences with confidence, pride and real of sense of belonging. The final report can be found on our website.

A real personal highlight this term was watching the passing out parade with the Blaze team. As I watched the pupils' confidence grow in ways that will follow them far beyond school life I'm reminded of the transformative power opportunities such as Blaze has for our young people and I am thankful to our incredible staff team who go above and beyond to find outreach programmes to support our young people.

We marked Anti-Bullying Week this half term and pupils took part in a variety of activities and discussions about what bullying is, how to recognise bullying and what young people

should do If they are being bullied. We had our virtual whole school assembly so that the entire school community can access even if they cant manage an assembly in the hall and this led to conversations about kindness, understanding, and looking out for each other. Our young people embraced the sessions with real maturity.

Of course, I can't end without celebrating our academic successes. We've had a huge number of Functional Skills exams since September, with so many passes, including at Level 2 level (GCSE Grade 4 equivalent). In ASDAN we have nine students folders heading for moderation. The effort, resilience, and quiet determination behind those achievements shouldn't be underestimated. For some of our pupils, simply sitting an exam is an act of courage. The assessments will help set our young people up for life opening pathways beyond Educate U.

As always, I want to offer my heartfelt thanks to our staff team, who go above and beyond often in ways that families and our young people never get to see. To our parents and carers, thank you for your support and for your partnership with Educate U. Finally, thank you to every child and young person who has given their best this term; we're proud of each and every one of you.

Wishing you all a peaceful, joyful, and very well-deserved Christmas break.

Sarah Paoletti

Headteacher

Ofsted Monitoring Visit

Ofsted Monitoring Visit

We're pleased to share that following Ofsted's no-notice monitoring visit on 4 November 2025, Educate U meets all the independent school standards inspected.

Key Highlights:

Quality of Education

• "The school has a carefully designed curriculum with appropriate schemes of work."

• "Pupils benefit from knowledgeable staff and well-informed teaching."

• "Pupils' work demonstrates that they are learning well."

• "Teachers and other support staff show a strong understanding of pupils' individual needs."

Safeguarding & Welfare

• "Pupils benefit from a positive culture of vigilance."

• "The school is tenacious about taking swift action to protect pupils from harm."

• “Strong, secure relationships between staff and pupils permeate the school.”

• “Pupils state that they feel valued and safe in school.”

Staff Expertise

• “Staff are adept at identifying the knowledge and skills pupils need to learn to meet their targets on their EHC plans.”

• “The school has a comprehensive programme of regular training and briefings to update staff about safeguarding matters.”

• “Leaders make sure that staff have access to relevant external accredited training.”

Leadership & Management

• “The school has taken swift and appropriate actions to strengthen leadership following the previous inspection.”

• “Leaders and the proprietor ensure that the school’s premises are maintained to a high standard.”

• “The proprietor has established effective systems to ensure the standards continue to be met.”

Complaints & Communication

• “The school has a comprehensive and up-to-date complaints policy.”

• Written records show that the school follows its policy rigorously.

• “Records seen during this inspection show that the school resolves most concerns informally.”

We’re incredibly proud of the progress made since the March 2025 inspection and grateful for the commitment of our staff and the positive feedback from our pupils.

The full report can be read: Educate U - Ofsted & School Performance

Staffing

Welcome to...

Dom – Caretaker

We are delighted to welcome Dominic (Dom) who has joined us as our new Caretaker. Dom is a highly skilled tradesman and brings a warm, practical approach to keeping our school environment safe, tidy, and running smoothly.

Eloise – School Administrator

A big welcome to Eloise, our new School Administrator. She will be supporting the front office and ensuring everything runs like clockwork.

Lauren – Teaching Assistant

We are pleased to welcome Lauren, who joins us as a Teaching Assistant supporting both Martha's class and Elle's class. Lauren brings a nurturing approach and we are thrilled to have her working across the two groups.

Kayleigh – Teacher (February)

We are excited to announce that Kayleigh will be joining us from February as a Teacher in Kalee's current class. We look forward to welcoming her to the Educate U community and supporting her as she transitions into her new role. There will be ample opportunity for the students to transition to Kayleigh.



1 - Dom



2 - Eloise



3 - Lauren

Whole School Events



Anti-Bullying Week - This term our whole school interactive assembly was on Anti-Bullying. We talked through and explained what Bullying is, what our students can do if they witness bullying take place or if they are experiencing bullying themselves. Students took part in a range of activities across the school to aid their understanding of what Bullying is.

Christmas Jumper Day - Our school hall was filled with festive spirit as students and staff came together for our Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas lunch. Many were dressed in their best Christmas jumpers and it was wonderful to see so many students taking part, whether they chose to eat together in the hall or enjoy their meals within their own classrooms. Thank you to both Educate U and Futures teams for making this so special.

Blaze



The Blaze course this term has been an outstanding success with eight students proudly completing their pass out on Friday 7th November. Throughout the week, students developed key skills in communication, resilience, and teamwork, fully embracing every challenge and opportunity the programme offered. Their enthusiasm and commitment have

been exceptional, and we couldn't be more impressed with their positive attitude and growth.

Tuesday marked the start of the programme, with an introduction to the course, a pump drill, and an initial questionnaire to set personal goals.

Wednesday saw students building confidence and coordination through pump hose drills and practising for their final pass out.

On Thursday, the group visited Worthing Fire Station which included trying on breathing apparatus and taking part in a simulated rescue from a burning building. They also took part in an insightful healthy relationships workshop.

Finally, on Friday, students enjoyed an unforgettable ride in the fire engine before taking part in the official pass out parade.

The High Sheriff of Sussex attended the ceremony, adding to the sense of occasion. It was truly inspiring to see the pride on the students' faces as they showcased what they had learned. Their achievement is something they can be incredibly proud of.

Thank you to Martha for organising such a wonderful opportunity for our students!

Christmas Fair

Our school Christmas Fair was a huge success and brought plenty of festive cheer to everyone who attended! The hall was filled with laughter, music, and the delicious smell of hot chocolate and fresh cookies as families enjoyed browsing the stalls, playing games, and taking part in fun activities. One of the biggest highlights of the day was a very special visit from Santa himself at Futures! Children were thrilled to meet him in his beautifully decorated grotto and share their Christmas wishes.

The celebration was made even more memorable by the fantastic performances from our school's Dance Club. Each routine was beautifully choreographed and showcased the hard work the dancers have put in over the term. Their performances added an extra sparkle to the day and captured the joy and excitement of the season. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a joyful celebration.




Tree decorations




FILL A SWEET BAG
50P


HOT CHOCOLATE
CONE
100


LUCKY DIP
50P A GO

Curriculum Trips







This term, all students had the opportunity to visit Herstmonceux Science Centre, where they took part in workshops tailored to their current topics. They also explored a wide range of hands-on, practical activities that allowed them to experience scientific ideas and principles first-hand, helping to make their learning meaningful and memorable. Secondary students enjoyed an Extreme Earth themed talk, learning about how volcanoes erupt, while Primary students were captivated by an engaging session on space, exploring what it might be like to travel beyond Earth as an astronaut. All of the students were thoroughly engaged in the activities, and it was wonderful to see them participate with such enthusiasm!

Attendance



As we head into the colder months, we can expect to see more coughs, colds, and seasonal bugs doing the rounds. The NHS has clear guidance on when children are well enough to attend school and most mild illnesses, such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough, do *not* require time off unless your child has a temperature or feels too unwell to take part in normal activities.

At school we are continuing to take simple but effective steps to reduce the spread of illnesses, including regular cleaning, good ventilation, and promoting good handwashing routines. We ask parents, where possible, to arrange medical appointments outside of school hours. If this isn't possible, pupils can attend before and after their appointment if they feel well enough.

Safeguarding

It was really great to have Kayleigh from the Early Help dedicated school's team join is on our IEP day. Kayleigh was able to link in with some of our parents / carers and guardians to give advice, signpost to other services and do some joined up work with the school. This is something that we plan to do each IEP day to support our families.

Also a reminder that the West Sussex Dedicated Schools Teams have offered to do some workshops for all our parents / carers and guardians. Before we book any of their workshops on behalf of our parent / carer and guardians we wanted to get our families opinion on which would be beneficial to you. We have therefore created and very short questionnaire and are requesting for you to look through the list and indicate the workshops that you would be interested in attending. Pick as many as you would like.

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

Student Council



Make-A-Wish
UNITED KINGDOM

Certificate of Recognition

Educate U

for donating an amazing

£100.00

in aid of Make-A-Wish Foundation® UK

Your support makes wishes come true for critically ill children when they need it most.

Thank you

Supporter Care Team

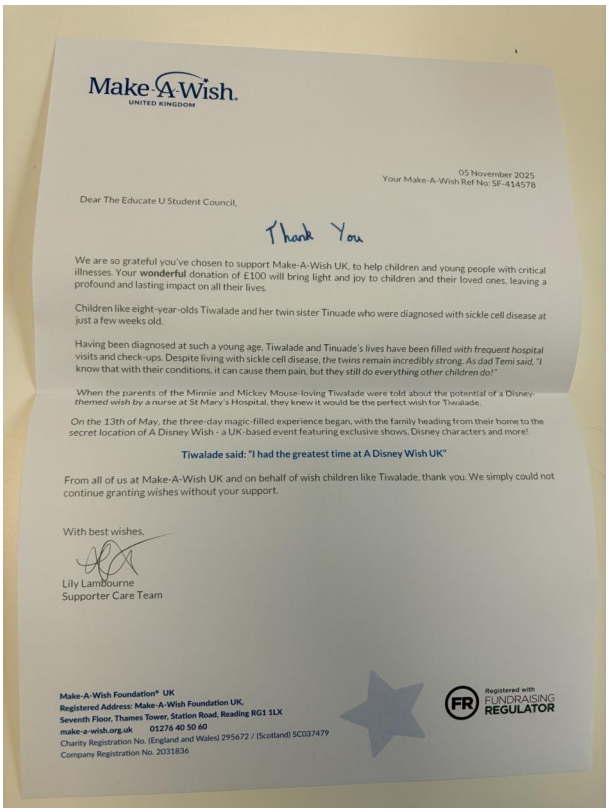
Signed by

05/11/2025

Date

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Make-A-Wish Foundation® UK is a registered charity in England and Wales 295672 | Scotland SC037479



Make-A-Wish
UNITED KINGDOM

05 November 2025
Your Make-A-Wish Ref No: SF-414578

Dear The Educate U Student Council,

Thank You

We are so grateful you've chosen to support Make-A-Wish UK, to help children and young people with critical illnesses. Your **wonderful** donation of £100 will bring light and joy to children and their loved ones, leaving a profound and lasting impact on all their lives.

Children like eight-year-olds Tiwalade and her twin sister Tinuade who were diagnosed with sickle cell disease at just a few weeks old.

Having been diagnosed at such a young age, Tiwalade and Tinuade's lives have been filled with frequent hospital visits and check-ups. Despite living with sickle cell disease, the twins remain incredibly strong. As dad Temi said, "I know that with their conditions, it can cause them pain, but they still do everything other children do!"

When the parents of the Minnie and Mickey Mouse-loving Tiwalade were told about the potential of a Disney-themed wish by a nurse at St Mary's Hospital, they knew it would be the perfect wish for Tiwalade.

On the 13th of May, the three-day magic-filled experience began, with the family heading from their home to the secret location of A Disney Wish - a UK-based event featuring exclusive shows, Disney characters and more!

Tiwalade said: "I had the greatest time at A Disney Wish UK"

From all of us at Make-A-Wish UK and on behalf of wish children like Tiwalade, thank you. We simply could not continue granting wishes without your support.

With best wishes,

Lily Lambourne
Supporter Care Team

Make-A-Wish Foundation® UK
Registered Address: Make-A-Wish Foundation UK,
Seventh Floor, Thames Tower, Station Road, Reading RG1 1LX
make-a-wish.org.uk 01276 40 50 60
Charity Registration No. (England and Wales) 295672 / (Scotland) SC037479
Company Registration No. 2031836

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

The Student Council has had a fantastic and festive term. Our members have been working hard to make a positive difference around school and continue to show great teamwork and leadership, even with numerous members out on trips!

Student Council spent one meeting updating the wellbeing board, carefully selecting supportive messages to make sure the board reflects what pupils really feel is important. Students have also been using their voices confidently during council meetings, and all ideas/discussions were forwarded to the Headteacher. The council has shown real maturity and improved communication skills, speaking up for what matters to them at our school, which is lovely to see.

In preparation for the Christmas Fair, the council spent time making, baking, and decorating delicious goodies to raise money. They were a huge success and went down wonderfully with everyone who visited thank you to all who supported us!

Finally, we are very proud to share that our certificate from the Make-A-Wish Charity has arrived. This certificate recognises the amazing hard work the school did raising money at last year's Christmas Fayre.

A big well done to all Student Council members for their dedication, kindness, and teamwork. We are excited to see what we will achieve in the new year!

Exams



From September to December, our students have taken an impressive 45 exams across the school. These have included a mixture of mock exams and official assessments, giving pupils the chance to build their resilience, develop confidence, and demonstrate the progress they have made this term. We are incredibly proud of the determination and positive attitude they have shown throughout this busy exam period.

A number of students are working on Entry Level Functional Skills assessments. As these qualifications require verification by an external moderator, we are unable to publish any

results, however, once we receive confirmed outcomes which will be later in the New Year we look forward to celebrating the achievements of our learners once the process is complete.

Well done to all our students for their hard work this term!

Futures at Educate U



Careers

This term has been an exciting and productive one for our careers programme, with a strong focus on supporting our Year 11 students as they prepare to make important decisions about their post-16 pathways. We recently had a very positive meeting with the Worthing Careers Advisor, who will be providing one-to-one guidance sessions for all Year 11 students during the spring term, ensuring they receive personalised advice tailored to their aspirations.

Students in Years 10 and 11 also enjoyed a private tour of Northbrook College, where they experienced the vibrant and creative atmosphere of the campus. They had the opportunity to explore a range of departments, including Beauty, Costume Design, Music, Performing Arts, and more, giving them a real sense of what college life could offer. In addition, Year 11 students took part in taster visits to the Futures post-16 provision, allowing them to sample courses and gain valuable insight into the support available after Year 11.

PSHE

We recently held an Online Safety Workshop for parents, focusing on the key findings from the 2025 Ofcom report, which examines children's media use and online behaviours over recent years. The session highlighted some hard-hitting data about the amount of time children are spending online and the potential risks associated with this. Parents were also given helpful signposting to websites and organisations that can support with setting filters,

reporting inappropriate content, and keeping children safe online. If you would like access to the workshop slides, please email **martha@educateu.co.uk**.

As part of our *Self-care, Support and Safety* PSHE topic, we were delighted to welcome Alan from the RNLI Shoreham team. He demonstrated how the RNLI rescue boats operate and shared important guidance on how we can all contribute to saving lives at sea. Students especially enjoyed taking part in a timed challenge where they had the chance to dress up in rescue helmets, boots and trousers this was a exciting and memorable hands-on experience.



Upcoming Events

We are now looking forward to welcoming representatives from the Chichester Colleges Group, The Sand Project, and Futures to our annual Careers Fair on Wednesday 21st January. This event will provide an excellent opportunity for both students and families in Years 10 and 11 to learn more about the wide range of courses and pathways available to them as they plan their next steps.

Martha

Futures Lead

News from Liverpool Gardens & the SENCO



The healthier eating initiative has been going well, and students have been offered 'healthier' choices for snacks and lunch where needed.

Student council have recently completed a survey with the students to get feedback for the complimentary hot food provided each Thursday. The overall opinion is that it was enjoyed by most and was something that staff and students looked forward to. In fact, the survey showed that 75% of students would like the hot food to continue on a Thursday and they liked the fact that there was a different meal each week.

The menu varies each week, but the students have sampled a variety of foods from different cultures from potato, cheese and onion hot rolls to curry and oriental choices. The puddings have been a particular hit with crumbles, cookies and my favourite chocolate cake and chocolate custard.

Next term we will be offering the opportunity for parents/carers to learn about food choices that can have a positive effect on ADHD symptoms. We will also be supporting healthier packed lunches, so students have more energy to sustain the full school day.

At Liverpool Gardens students are really enjoying the Occupational Therapy, Speech and language and ELSA spaces. The exam room is also really working well, and the students feel comfortable with the new arrangements.

Sarah Marshall continues to work as an outreach tutor working with some students who have struggled to access the main school site. The 1-1 tutoring she does daily, helps students to access education particularly focusing on English and Maths.

In addition to this, next term we will also be hosting local school staff in charge of inclusion for a cluster meeting as part of the IQM Centre of Excellence award. The day will involve

discussing the origins of the school, visiting the different sites and sharing ideas on how to continue to improve inclusiveness in schools.

Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy start to 2026.

Georgina Spoor

SENCO

News from: Therapy House



As the weather drops in temperature Therapy House remains a space of warmth, nurture and consistent support. We understand that the Christmas period can bring challenges for our students and families.

As we move toward the end of term and the end of the year, we're especially mindful that while many look forward to the excitement and the break from routine, others can find this time unsettling. Routines changes, excitement builds, and the usual structures disappear and for some children and their families this familiar predictability is what helps with feeling safe and regulated.

Here at Therapy House, we pay close attention to these transitions. We know that endings, holidays, and unstructured time can lead to feeling overwhelmed. A big part of our work is supporting students to understand these feelings and supporting these mini goodbyes.

We would like to thank our families for the trust, openness, and partnership you bring. We wish you all a calm, connected, and joyful Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in January, ready for a new year of growth together.

Warmest wishes,

The Therapy House Team

News from: Forest School









In KS2, we have added some Christmas Crafts to our Forest School Activities to get ready for the festive season. The children have created different crafts such as foil images and lanterns using snow spray. We have also looked at the topic of Space and enjoyed stories around the fire to keep nice and warm. The students have also enjoyed being at one with nature and

having times in the hammocks to relax and embrace the changes that the woods have given us this season.

In KS3 and KS4, we have continued to look at extreme weathers and the changes of the woodland now we have reached our winter months. We have experienced different woodland walks in order to keep warm and how things have changed throughout the year. The students have also had the opportunity to take part in arts and crafts around the fire to stay warm and been able to explore different conversation topics with other students and staff.

As the weather is getting much colder, please can I remind all parents and carers to ensure children arrive at Forest School with appropriate clothing and footwear. This should include hats, gloves, wellies/boots, waterproofs and spare clothing such as socks. This is to ensure the comfort for all pupils whilst being able to embrace the outdoors.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and I look forward to seeing everyone in 2026!

Hope Bridle

Forest School Lead

Intervention Staff Spotlight: Media Intervention



Hi I am Tom and I run two days (Wednesday and Thursday) of Media at our school.

I currently work with eight students, with each session lasting one hour.

The outcomes are based predominantly around ASDAN. Students work with me to achieve an ASDAN challenge, for example: *'9B4 - Develop your programming or robotics skills'* which when completed, count as 1 of 6 credits towards achieving ASDAN Bronze/Silver/Gold award.

Choosing the ASDAN credit to work towards is based on the student's interests. For example, one student loves a particular Nintendo franchise, so '1A9 - Write a letter ...' was a great hook to motivate the student to write a letter to Nintendo. The student engaged well, using Dictate on Word to write their letter. They received a lovely reply which they are proud of.

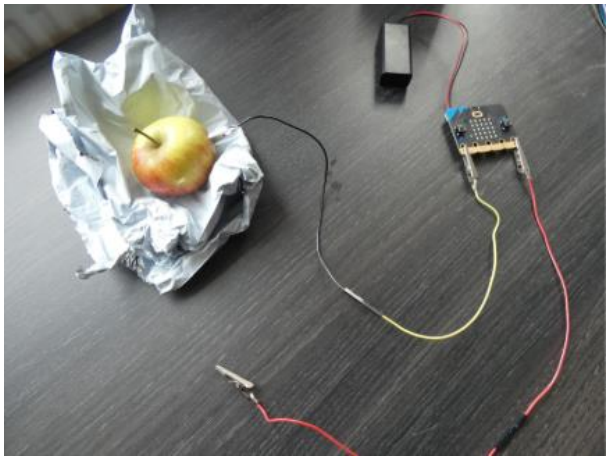
Here are some other projects from this term:

Slideshow of other lessons:

- 9A10 Electricity and circuitry – A student expressed an interest in using the connection ports on the micro-bits to learn about electricity. He created a circuit powered by Apple – literally!
- 9B4 – A student learned the basics of Python which I have taught to other students previously. He enjoys using the Turtle drawing tool to create patterns.
- 2B6 My community – A student put together a Halloween event for the school, organising a floor plan for the hall and what to put on each table, designing a poster for the event, and presenting their plans to their headteacher for approval. The event was received positively by their peers and is becoming a yearly event.
- Minecraft education and has built an apple circuit. Working on understanding timings and being more verbal

There are also students currently working towards a qualification – Digital Functional Skills. The student in question had completed ASDAN credits with me previously, based on building PCs, and designing game levels, with their knowledge and skills progressing enough to access the qualification.

I am excited for the future of our media provision and to offer more pathways to students to access qualifications in the future.



I wish you and your family well over the holidays.

Here are some activities you can try with your child over the holidays.

Trinket.io - Have a play with the turtles – can you work out what each line of code does?

https://trinket.io/python/c333089f4627

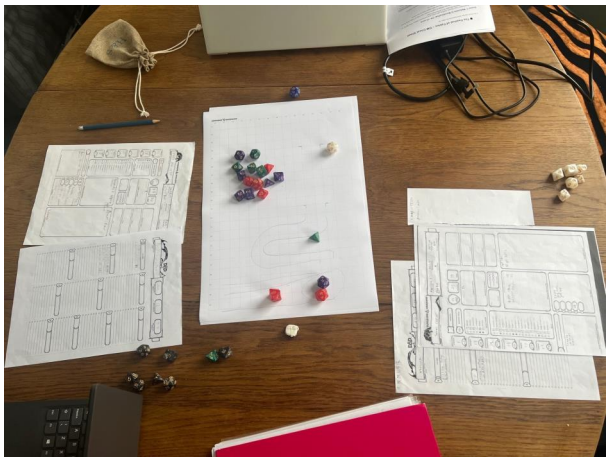
Monkeytype – A fun way to practice your typing. Minimalist and low arousal.

https://monkeytype.com/

Scratch – Beginner game design with blocks. Create animations and games together.

https://scratch.mit.edu/projects/1250944833/editor

Clubs Spotlight: Games Club



The Games Club is thriving with new adventures and creative play! Our students recently started a new Dungeons and Dragons campaign set in the mysterious town of Brooks Hollow. As their characters navigate this exciting world, students are learning valuable social skills and teamwork. The sessions encourage imagination, self-expression, and collaboration in a relaxed environment.

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.

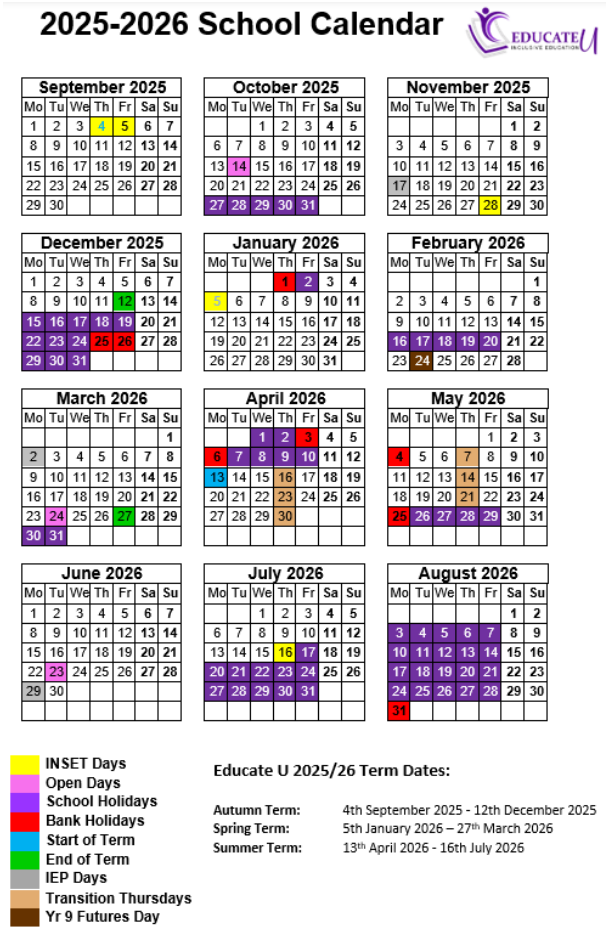
Educate U Parent and Carer ViewsEducate U Parent and Carer Views

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.

Upcoming Events

Bikeability March 16th - 20th - Due to a change in their system Bikeability forms will be sent home the first week back in January and will need to be brought back in signed by January 14th.

2025-26 School Calendar



Date for the diary:

15th December - 2nd January - Christmas Holidays

5th January - Inset Day

6th January - School re-opens for students

21st January - School visit from the High Sherriff of West Sussex

21st January - Post 16 Careers Fair