Summer Term 1 Newsletter 2025/26



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Summer Term 1 newsletter round-up. It has been another busy and positive half term across the school, with lots to celebrate and reflect on as we head towards the final part of the academic year.

This term, many of our pupils have been working incredibly hard in their GCSE and Functional Skills examinations. We have been so proud of the maturity, determination, and resilience they have shown throughout the exam period. Staff have worked so closely with pupils to help them feel prepared and supported, and it has been wonderful to see our young people approaching their exams with confidence.

We are also pleased to share that our Change of Material has now been officially submitted, and we are currently awaiting the inspection process. This marks an important step forward for the school, and we would like to thank staff, pupils, parents, and carers for their continued support throughout this journey.

Transition across the school has gone exceptionally well this half term. The support shown by staff and families has helped make this a smooth and successful process for everyone involved.

We were also delighted to celebrate our Year 11 leavers with a special event to mark the end of their journey with us. Pupils enjoyed a memorable limo trip to Brighton Marina, followed by a fun afternoon at Globalls and a meal together at Pizza Express. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate their achievements, share memories, and wish them all the very best for the future.

As always, thank you to all parents and carers for your continued encouragement and support. We hope you enjoy reading about the many activities and achievements from across the school this half term.

Sarah Paoletti

Headteacher

Staffing

Goodbye

This half term we say goodbye to Alex and thank him for his contribution during his time with us. We wish him well for the future.

Transition

We have been so pleased with how well Transition Thursdays have gone this term. Our children and young people have settled beautifully into their new routines and classroom environments, and it has been lovely to see their confidence grow week by week.

Staff have worked hard to ensure that pupils felt supported every step of the way, and it has been wonderful to see pupils growing in confidence and building strong relationships with both staff and their peers.

We would also like to thank parents and carers for their continued support during this period of change. Working together has helped make the transition such a successful one for everyone involved.

17 Liverpool Garden's Update



We are pleased to share a positive update regarding the development at 17 Liverpool Gardens. All internal refurbishment works have now been completed, and the site is fully compliant with all required regulations.

The next stage is now underway, with furniture and equipment currently being delivered and installed throughout the building. It has been exciting to see the space come together, and we are looking forward to welcoming pupils and staff into a fully equipped and carefully prepared environment once complete.

Whole School Events

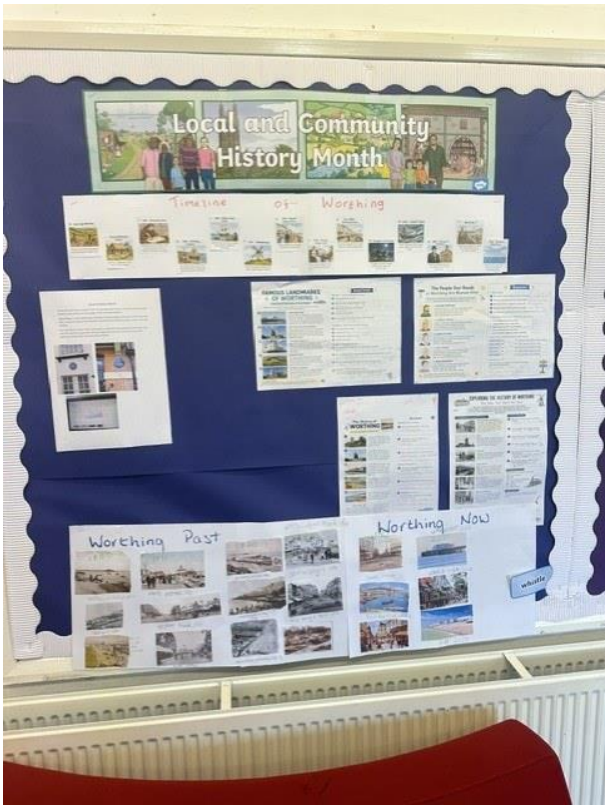


Earth Day April 22nd

On 22nd April, we celebrated Earth Day across the school with lots of fun activities. Pupils spent time learning about how we can all help to look after our planet, from recycling and saving energy to protecting wildlife and reducing waste.

It was lovely to see so much enthusiasm from the pupils, who showed great care and creativity throughout the day. Earth Day gave us all a chance to reflect on how important it is to look after the world around us and work together to make a positive difference.

Classes got involved in a variety of hands-on activities including planting flowers and creating artwork inspired by nature. There were some fantastic discussions about small changes we can make every day that can have a big impact on the environment.



Local History Month

Our focus this month has been Local and Community History Month. Students across the school enjoyed learning facts about Worthing's History with a few students doing some local trails.

Exam News



Since returning from the Easter holidays, it has been a busy and successful time for our students. Some of our Year 11 students have now started their GCSE examinations, approaching each paper with determination, maturity, and focus.

Alongside this, we have also seen continued progress in Functional Skills examinations, which take place throughout the year. Students have continued to work incredibly hard and show great commitment to their studies. It has been wonderful to see the confidence and resilience our students continue to demonstrate during this important time.

The GCSE examination period will continue after the May half term, and we would like to wish all of our students the very best as they continue with their exams. We are extremely proud of every student who takes part in any examination and recognise the effort, perseverance and positive attitude they show each day.

Well done to all of our students for their continued hard work and dedication.

Leavers Trip



On Friday 8th May, we celebrated our current Year 11 students' journey with Educate U. It was a remarkable moment for all the students and one that everyone (staff included) thoroughly enjoyed.

We set off in a 13-seat limousine and enjoyed a smooth ride down to Brighton Marina. We then had a lovely meal at Pizza Express, followed by a game of crazy golf at Globalls. The

students had a fantastic day and really enjoyed spending time together. It was wonderful to see them encouraging one another and the adults during the golf!

This is a trip that will remain memorable for everyone involved and something that feels incredibly special to have been part of.

Attendance



At our school, we understand how important family time and shared experiences can be for our children and young people. We understand that for some children and families, particularly those with additional needs, holidays and time away can feel easier to manage outside of busy school periods, when travel and destinations are quieter. However, the Department for Education guidance is clear that holidays should not be taken during term time except in exceptional circumstances.

We kindly ask all families to support us by arranging family holidays during school holiday periods wherever possible. As a specialist SEMH school, we know that consistent attendance plays a vital role in supporting not only academic progress, but also emotional wellbeing, regulation, confidence and social development. Many of our pupils benefit greatly from predictable routines and regular connection with trusted adults and peers. Even short periods of absence can sometimes make returning to school more challenging and may disrupt the progress a child has worked hard to achieve.

We appreciate that there are occasions where exceptional circumstances arise, and we encourage parents and carers to speak with the school openly if support is needed. By working together, we can ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to feel safe, settled and successful in school. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

Student Council News



It's been a quieter half term for our Student Council, with lots of transitions and changes happening across school, but the council members have still been meeting and sharing some fantastic ideas for the future.

One exciting plan for next half term is a trip to the wonderful Dogs Trust, chosen by the students themselves as the charity they wanted to support using funds raised at last year's Christmas Fayre. The council were passionate about helping dogs in need, and we are looking forward to seeing where their fundraising efforts are making a difference.

The Student Council are also busy planning a stall for our Summer Fayre, where they will be raising even more money for Cancer Research UK. Please be sure to come along, support their fundraising, and say hello!

Our "shout outs" at each meeting also continue to be a wonderful part of the council gatherings, giving members the opportunity to spread kindness by sharing positive thoughts and recognising one another's achievements and efforts.

A special mention must go to our new council leader, who has shown incredible leadership skills already. She has truly demonstrated what a fantastic initiative the Student Council has been in giving pupils a voice and greater involvement in school life. After every meeting she has confidently fed back directly to the Headteacher herself we are so proud of her dedication and maturity.

There have also been exciting discussions around starting a gardening club… watch this space!

Futures at Educate U



On 22nd April, we were delighted to welcome Captain Spoor for a special careers visit. Students from Primary through to KS4 attended the presentation, and it was wonderful to see such a fantastic turnout in the hall.

Captain Spoor gave an engaging insight into life in the Army, sharing photos of training exercises, tanks and equipment, the different countries she has visited, and the various uniforms she has worn during her career. Students did a brilliant job trying on her helmet and asking thoughtful questions.

She also spoke about the wide range of careers available within the Army and explained the different opportunities and entry routes for a variety of roles.

SENCO news



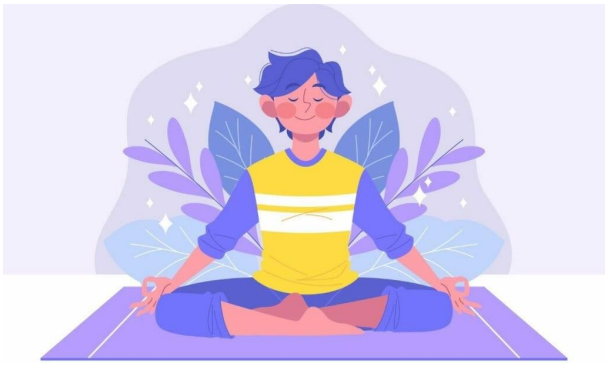
Following our success at achieving the Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence Award last summer we are now due a yearly review on Monday 15th June.

We are working towards becoming a Flagship School over the next 3 years which would celebrate that Educate U not only model inclusion within schools but actively influence the broader educational landscape through innovation, research, and sharing best practices.

Schools at this level demonstrate sustained excellence in inclusive teaching, actively contribute to national discussions on education, and act as hubs of inspiration for others seeking inclusion awards for schools. This award acknowledges that inclusion is deeply embedded in ethos, strategy, and classroom practice.

The IQM inspector is keen to talk to any parent who would like to contribute to a short discussion on their experience of inclusion within school. This will be on Monday 15th June at 1pm for approximately 15 minutes. I f you are prepared to join in person or via Teams, then please let me know as your help will be gratefully appreciated: **georgina@educateu.co.uk.**

Intervention Staff Spotlight: Project R&R (Regulate & Reset)



Project R&R (Regulate & Reset)

So this term was the launch of Project R&R, a fusion of Yoga, Reflexology & Mindfulness Nature Connection. Previously children accessed these as separate interventions, but there is something very special about bringing them altogether to create a beautiful interconnected, holistic offering and I think the children would agree.

Project R&R for the most part takes place at our wonderful Forest School, where the children are already immersed in nature, so therefore, the perfect setting, as regulation begins from the moment they step off the minibus.

Yoga, Reflexology and Mindfulness all act as anchors, communicating with the body to restore a sense of safety, helping to calm an overactive mind and bringing attention back to the moment.

Our children love having their Reflexology and mixing the rest of the session up with yoga poses, practiced to their favourite music, rather than the traditional “grown up” zen music, which adds the fun factor. Breathing techniques are encouraged through play, so we use

Bows & Arrows, crafted during their Forest School session, to “Breathe In” when they pull back the arrow and then “Breathe Out” when they let it go, this is just one example of integrating play into their sessions, to develop life long wellbeing skills. Positivity Jars, is another example, so should a child bring some worries, we might write a single word onto a carefully chosen leaf and let it go in the stream and then for every worry allowed to drift away, we write something positive on another leaf and place in their own positivity jar. We also choose a Focus Stone/Crystal/Pine Cone or other natural object and work mindfully with this, focusing and engaging the senses, or simply creating natural artwork out of the treasures we have chosen.

These sessions are also held in our lovely Therapy Room at Therapy House, when Forest School isn’t an option and things are adapted to bring the outdoors in!

Vicki Dorling

News from Therapy House

Endings and beginnings

Hello again from Therapy House.

As the brighter mornings and warmer afternoons begin to settle around us, thoughts of summer can filter into our minds and all the changes that brings to the academic year. The second part of this term begins the transition into new classes and the start of saying goodbye to the familiar.

Some of our students have already shared their experiences of transition of being one of new connections, fun and excitement for the year head. Their curiosity and energy symbolising the bright seasons outside our windows.



At the same time, we recognise that change and transition can also stir uncertainty for many children and young people. As we begin preparing for new classes and the next steps in each pupil’s journey, we remain mindful that transitions are not just about the physical changes, but they are emotional experiences too. Throughout this term, staff have been carefully

supporting pupils through conversations, visits, relationship building opportunities, and gentle

News from Forest School



This half term, pupils across both Primary and Secondary Forest School have enjoyed a wide range of outdoor learning experiences that have encouraged confidence, teamwork, creativity and independence. Sessions have provided opportunities for pupils to explore the woodland environment, develop practical skills and build positive relationships with their peers.

Throughout the sessions, Primary pupils have taken part in activities linked to the topic of “Early Britain,” including shelter building using natural materials and creative clay work. Practical hands-on activities have been a key part of Forest School this half term. Secondary pupils have developed skills through whittling, woodland management tasks, fire lighting, collecting firewood and helping maintain the outdoor space.



Woodland walks to explore bluebells and local wildlife have encouraged curiosity and discussion, with many pupils enjoying spotting birds, nests and other features within the natural environment. Many pupils also enjoyed creative activities such as loom band making, imaginative roleplay and nature-inspired craft's cooking and campfire sessions have continued to be a highlight, with pupils helping to prepare food, make pitta pizzas and pasta bolognese, as well as toasting marshmallows and making s'mores around the fire pit. These activities have supported communication, cooperation and responsibility while creating enjoyable shared experiences for the group.

Alongside this, pupils have benefitted from activities that supported wellbeing and social development, including yoga walks, reflexology sessions, hammocks, swings, bubble play and group games such as hide and seek, man hunt and "Noodle Ninja." It has been wonderful to see pupils growing in confidence, supporting one another and fully engaging in the Forest School environment throughout the half term.

Safeguarding



Safeguarding

As most of you know, we work closely with Kayleigh from Early Help in terms of being able to offer support to families and advice relating to signposting. Kayleigh will be in school on the 29th of June our next IEP Day. If there are any families that would like to meet Kayleigh or have any questions please speak to the office who can then book in a time that is suitable for you.

Summer Fair



Our School Fair will take place on July 9th from 3:00–4:00pm. There will be lots of opportunities to enjoy time with friends and family. We hope to see everyone there for an afternoon of fun!

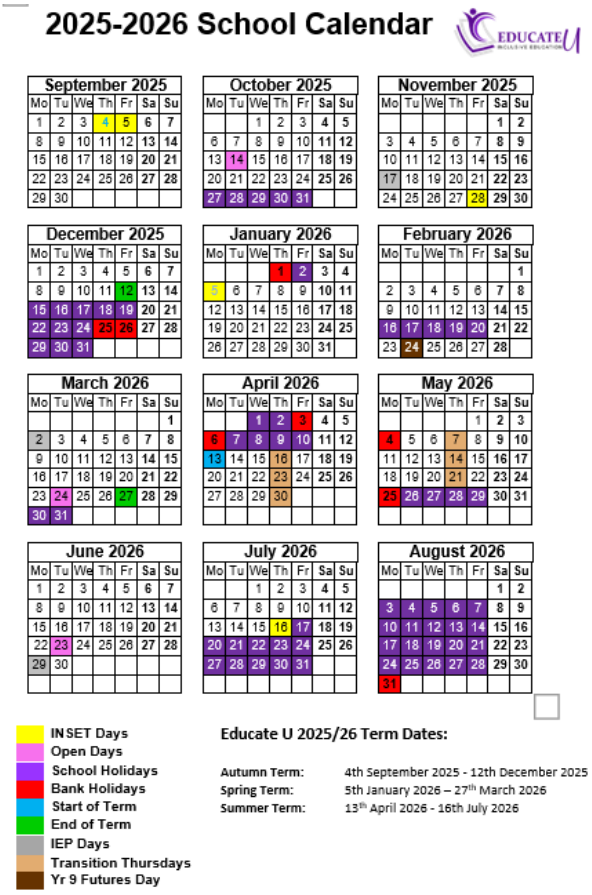
Half termly Parent and Carer Voice Survey

We really value your thoughts and are always looking for ways to improve our school community and the way we do things. We'd really appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete the Microsoft Form linked below.

Educate U Parent and Carer Views – Fill out form

Your feedback helps us understand what's working well and where we can make improvements. Whether it's a quick comment or a more detailed suggestion, it all helps and we really appreciate you taking the time to share it. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

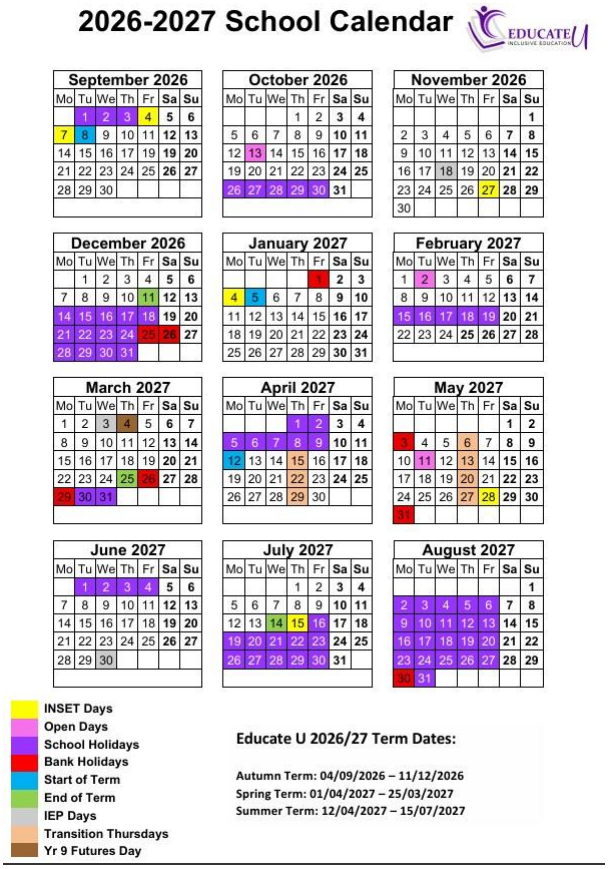
School Calendar



Dates for the diary:

- 23 June - Open Day (students finish at midday)
- 26 June - Leavers' final day at school
- 29 June - IEP Day (students finish at midday)
- 9 July - Summer Fair
- 15 July - Last day of term for students *(students finish at midday)*
- 16 July - INSET Day (school closed to pupils)

2026-27 School Calendar



Our 2026-27 School Calendar is now live, you can find it here, or on our website.