



The Tiverton Tribute

"Learning for Lifelong
Success"



December 2025

Diary Dates

23.02.26 - Students return to school.

05.03.25 - World Book Day.

11.03.25 - Coffee Morning

19.03.26 - Immunisations

20.03.25 - Red Nose Day.

01.04.26 - Easter Bingo

Term Dates

Spring Term 1:

Half Term: 16/02/26 -
20/02/26

Spring Term 2:

Easter Holidays: 03/04/26
- 17/04/26

Please note all dates have been updated on our website.

Student Achievements

Well done to all students that have taken part in the Cricket Sessions this Term! #schoolfamily



End of Term Letter from Mrs Smart and Mrs Chatterton



Dear Families,

We are writing to celebrate the progress and success experienced across our school family this half term. We are so proud of all our students as they continue to develop great connections with each other, enabling everyone to focus on learning and progress, every lesson. We hope you have seen our weekly updates on social media and if you're not a follower, please do search @acetiverton and give us a like. Alongside our half termly newsletter, it provides a weekly update on the events and learning happening across the school.

Merger with REACH South: Our plans to merge with REACH South are well underway, with an expected completion date of 1st April 2026. Our current Trustees have chosen REACH South as a partner because our vision and values for education are deeply aligned. The merger will change very little at ACE Tiverton straight away, over time and with consultation and conversation, we will adopt the processes and procedures that REACH South use. I will write with more information over the course of next half term; this is an exciting development of our school family, and we look forward to joining our new trust.

Mobile 'Phones: You will have seen in the news and on social media channels that the government is reviewing the law relating to mobile 'phone use in school. Our rules, attached below are in line with the government view that mobile 'phones should not be used in school. We recognise the importance of 'phones in travelling to and from school but during the day, 'phones are not allowed. I ask you to support this message with your child and work with us to ensure that your child's education is not disrupted by their 'phone. We will always ensure students can be contacted by you - and contact you - during the school day, via the school landline if this is necessary.

Uniform: We intentionally have a sensory friendly uniform - both in colours, materials and items that students can choose to wear. After half term, we will be focusing on all students' uniform so please take time over the half term break to equip your child with the clothing that meets our uniform criteria. We will be actively meeting with families where uniform isn't correct to identify how we can support you to provide your child with the correct uniform. We have included a link to our uniform guidance here: [Uniform Expectations](#)

Key Dates: We wish you all a very happy, restful and refreshing half term. We return on Monday 23rd February, with students spending lesson 1 with their Learning Families to aid the transition back to school. A brief reminder of some key dates for next half term:

- Thursday 5th March: World Book Day
- Wednesday 1st April: 5-7.30pm - Easter Bingo
- Friday 3rd April (good Friday) - Easter Holidays

Happy Half Term everyone, we hope you have a relaxing week of half term holiday.
Yours faithfully

Mrs Hannah Smart
Executive Headteacher

Mrs Julie Chatterton
Head of School





News from our CEO



We want to share some positive news about the future of our school. Transforming Futures Trust will be joining with Reach South Academy Trust, bringing our schools together as part of one larger family of schools.

This change is expected to take place in April 2026, subject to formal approvals, and is all about strengthening the support we can offer our children. Importantly, there will be no day-to-day changes for pupils, parents, families and carers – school routines, curriculum and staffing will remain the same.

By working together, the two Trusts will be able to share expertise, improve support services (including for special educational needs and safeguarding), and create more opportunities for pupils to thrive, while keeping a strong local voice through school governance.

As we move forward, we are committed to keeping families informed and will share updates as they become available.



Volunteers
needed



* WE NEED *
your
* SUPPORT! *

We are seeking members for our Local Governance Committee from our local community

The commitment is a 2-hour meeting (in-person or virtual) each half term (every six weeks) and at least one visit during school hours every 12 weeks.



Interested?

PLEASE
HELP

Please contact Sarah Dunn
atss_info@transformingfutures.org.uk
or call 01884 760140
to find out more.

No experience necessary, full training will be provided

#SchoolSpotlight

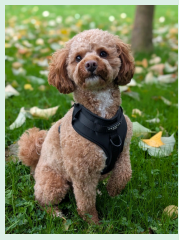


Learning Families

Welcome to Packham



Mrs Sorlie-Pring
Packham
Learning Family



Chewie
Packham
Support Dog



Miss Harling
Packham
Learning Family.



ACE Tiverton, Orchard Way, Tiverton EX16 5HB
01884 763140
atss_info@transformingfutures.org.uk





Packham Class are storming ahead in their quest for independence!

Our students range from year 9-11 and so Preparation for Adulthood is reinforced in everything we do, whether it be reading and writing non-fiction texts, using a map to plot a walking route to a local place of interest, or cooking a delicious family meal.

Our 5 year 11 students are knee-deep in college applications and preparing for life beyond ACE. We realise that huge changes like this can be daunting for both students and families, and we have been working together to ensure that EHCPs are up-to-date to ensure the best transition for our young people. The progress made, both academically and personally, over their time with us has been humbling and heartwarming to measure.

The classroom works like a well-oiled machine, due in no small part to the students' willingness to take responsibility for their own resources and the cleanliness and tidiness of their space. This independence extends beyond the classroom, and our students are making good use of their leisure time to make new friends and play in our outdoor spaces, or reflect on their wellbeing and take time for some mindfulness practice. This is a great testament to their engagement in our learning about personal wellbeing this term.

We also love to hear about our students' hobbies and interests outside of school—would you believe that we have an artist, a bell-ringer and a future Gladiator in our Learning Family?

We are so very proud of all the small steps that each and every one of our students take every day which are leading to big progress for all.

Well done, Packham!

Mrs Sorlie-Pring, Miss Harling and Chewie the dog.

Student Take Over Page

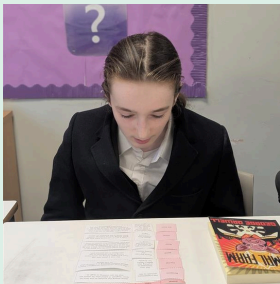
ACE Tiverton is more than just a school. It's a home. A place to feel safe and welcome, a place to grow, a place to learn, and a place to meet inspirational people.

This is a school that offers all you could desire. From the reading room to fitness arena, it provides something for everyone.

My personal favourite? Well that would have to be the art department. What can only be described as a haven of creativity, there are next to limitless ways to express yourself and bountiful resources to do so.

But none of this would be possible without the incredible staff we are most fortunate to have here. Always supportive. Always ready to teach, and always ready to learn. Artists, athletes, and at the heart teachers, all excelling in their field, as are the incredible young people that attend ACE Tiverton. Above all ACE Tiverton is a family, and one always ready to give a helping hand when you need it. Thank you.

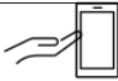




Peter B. Williams.



Mobile phone Rules

Please remind your child these are our School Mobile phone rules and these are expected to be followed.

School Rules: Mobile 'Phone & Electronics

1	If your 'phone or any electronic item is seen in school, it must be handed in to ensure it is kept safely in an agreed place.	
2	We have a locked cabinet in which all 'phones and electronic items are kept. This is the safest place in the school for all electronic items.	
3	If another place is agreed, this will be recorded on your <u>five point scale</u> .	
4	Phones and other electronics cannot be checked or used throughout the day, unless agreed as part of a personalised support plan. These will have very specific reasons and a limited time that they apply.	 

We recommend students don't bring in any item that is of value or importance



as there is a risk is may get lost or damaged in a busy school environment.

Every student has access to a locker and this is the safest place to keep non-electronic items.





Donations and Wish List

We would like to say a massive thank you to all families that have made donations to our school family, we are very grateful to each and every one that has been received.

We have left the School Shop open on Arbor for anyone that would like to donate any amount to our school.

We have also set up an Amazon Wish List. Which we will update each half term with items that we are in need of. Here is the link for this:

<https://amzn.eu/bRyJpPL>

If you are able to contribute by purchasing any of these items for our #schoolfamily, we would be extremely grateful.



Important Information

Please note that the school office team are with students during break and lunchtimes. Between 09.45 - 10.15 and 11.45 - 12.15 there is an answerphone facility and the team will check messages and emails when they return to the office.

If you need to contact anyone within the school, the response times are as follows:

- Teachers and Class Based staff reply within 48 hours
- The School Office team reply within 24 hours..
- The Student Support Team reply within 24 hours.
- Please email:
atss_studentsupport@transformingfutures.org.uk to message them directly.

Have you seen our website?

www.atss.transformingfutures.org.uk

It's packed full of useful information including Term Dates, safeguarding and curriculum information, useful links and much, much more.

ACE Tiverton, Orchard Way, Tiverton EX16 5HB
01884 763140
atss_info@transformingfutures.org.uk



Term Dates 2025-2026

Term Number	Common Name	Start Date	Finish Date
Term 1	Autumn 1	Thursday 4th September 2025	Friday 24th October 2025
October Half Term		Monday 27th October 2025	Friday 31st October 2025
Term 2	Autumn 2	Monday 3rd November 2025	Friday 19th December 2025
Christmas Holidays		Monday 22nd December 2025	Friday 2nd January 2026
Term 3	Spring 1	Tuesday 6th January 2026	Friday 13th February 2026
February Half Term		Monday 16th February 2026	Friday 20th February 2026
Term 4	Spring 2	Monday 23rd February 2026	Thursday 2nd April 2026
Easter Holidays		Tuesday 7 th April 2026	Friday 17th April 2026
Term 5	Summer 1	Monday 20th April 2026	Friday 22nd May 2026
May Half Term		Monday 25th May 2026	Friday 29th May 2026
Term 6	Summer 2	Monday 1st June 2026	Tuesday 21st July 2026
Summer Holiday		Monday 27th July 2026	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
INSET Days	Occasional Day - Thursday 23rd July 2026 Occasional Day - Friday 24th July 2026 INSET 1 Tuesday 3rd September 2025 – Staff Onsite INSET 2 Wednesday 4th September 2025 – Staff Onsite INSET 3 Monday 3rd November 2025 - Disaggregated INSET 4 Monday 5th January 2026 – Staff Onsite INSET 5 Wednesday 22nd July 2026 – No Staff Onsite		
Bank Holidays	Christmas Day BH – Wednesday 25th December 2025 Boxing Day BH – Thursday 26th December 2025 New Year BH – Thursday 1st January 2026 Good Friday BH – Friday 3rd April 2026 Easter Monday BH – Monday 6th April 2026 May Day BH – Monday 4th May 2026 Late May BH – Monday 25th May 2026		

School Attendance

If your child is absent from school, please ring the school office on 01884 763140 and leave a message or email atss_info@transformingfutures.org.uk.

By law, all children of compulsory school age (between 5 and 16 yrs) must get a suitable, full-time education. As a parent **you are responsible** for making sure this happens. Parents and carers commit an offence if a child does not attend school regularly and the absence is not agreed by the school.

Will an absence be authorised by the school?

Schools can only agree absences for a limited range of exceptional circumstances, these are typically absences that are completely unavoidable. Absences that **will not be agreed** might include:

- Arrival after registers have closed.
 - Absences that are not properly explained.
 - Day trips and holidays in term time.
 - Leaving the school without school authorisation during the day.
- Repeated unauthorised absences may be referred to Devon County Council for Parent Responsibility measures to improve attendance.

Who can help you?

Do not be afraid to ask for help if a problem arises.

Parents and carers should reach out to the school to explore how they can support and/or contact other services available to help.



Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership

www.devonscp.org.uk/

Public Health Nursing Hubs

Tel: 03332 341 910

www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/health/public-health-nursing/

Early Help

Northern Devon: Earlyhelpnorth@secure-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

Southern Devon: Earlyhelpsouth@secure-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

Mid & East Devon: Earlyhelpmid@secure-mailbox@devon.gov.uk

Exeter: Earlyhelpexeter@secure-mailbox@devon.gov.uk



Devon Independent Advisory Service

DIAS.devonias@devon.gov.uk

School attendance matters



Attendance advice and guidance for parents and carers

For further information about the Attendance Improvement Team and Devon Children's Services please see our website: www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/

Why is good school attendance important?

Regular and punctual school attendance is essential to supporting a child or young person to flourish, fulfil their potential and enables them to:

- learn
- make and manage friendships
- develop new skills
- have fun
- experience new things in the world around them
- develop awareness and respect of other cultures, religion, ethnicity, and gender differences
- build confidence and self-esteem
- achieve and thrive with a sense of belonging to their school community
- prioritise their well-being and happiness
- be given the best start in life, enabling the best possible choices in their future.

Missing school... missing out!

Don't let your child be the one to miss out!

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent number of missed:		
	Days	Weeks	Average lessons
95%	9	2	54
90%	19	4	114
85%	29	6	174
80%	38	8	228
75%	48	10	288
70%	57	11.5	342
65%	67	13.5	402

"We are only a few minutes late" - Does it matter?

Being late for school reduces learning time and does not prepare your child or young person for their future working lives.

- Arrival 5 minutes late every day = 3 days of learning missed each year
- Arrival 15 minutes late every day = 10 days or 2 weeks of learning each year.

How can you help your child or young person to have excellent attendance in school

- Always inform the school if your child is absent.
- Talk openly to your child about school and work in partnership with the school to best support them.
- Encourage your child to attend regularly and advocate, speak up on behalf of their needs.
- Arrange medical or dental appointments outside of school hours when possible.
- Establish good morning and bedtime routines.
- Support your child to arrive at school on time.
- Take truancy seriously - consider where are they? Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Where possible attend parent consultations and school events.
- Value and acknowledge achievements in school.
- Take family holidays, visit family outside of term time.

Young people regularly missing school without good reason = increased risk of becoming isolated from their friends, underachieving in their learning and/or have vulnerability to become involved in anti-social behaviour.

A good diet and sleep routine adds to successful learning.

Every minute in school counts.

Helping your child to arrive at school on time, wearing correct uniform gives them a positive start to their day.

Regular school attendance teaches a young person life skills like time-keeping, problem solving and independence.

Help your child by encouraging them to get their uniform and school bag ready the night before.

Our Safeguarding Team

ACE TIVERTON
SCHOOL

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

WORRIED? 😊 CONCERNED? 🧠 GOT QUESTIONS? ?
WANT TO TALK? 🗣️ NEED INFORMATION? ⓘ

YOU CAN TALK TO ANY MEMBER OF STAFF OR CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

Your family and friends are good places to get support but if you think there is an immediate risk of harm, please do not keep it to yourself.
Talk to any adult in our school family - we will help you. If you do not how to start, just use the word "TREE" and we will know you are worried.
If you want to get confidential or anonymous (no one asks your name) help, these organisations can help.

Stacy Fagg
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sharna Cooley
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sophie Bond
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Nikki Orchard
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Sarah Dean
Safeguarding Team

Rebecca Sampson
Safeguarding Team

Amy Chatterton
Safeguarding Team

Rhys Davis
Safeguarding Team

Jessica Stephenson
Safeguarding Team

YOUNGMINDS
ONLINE ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Young Minds is online, social media and free texts: send YM to 85258 and you will be contacted by text.

childline
ONLINE ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

Childline can be contacted via a free phone number: 08001111. There is also a website childline.org.uk.

shout
85258

Young Minds is online, social media and free texts: send YM to 85258 and you will be contacted by text.

SAMARITANS

Call us any time, day or night. Whatever you're going through, you can call us any time, from any phone, for FREE. Call 116 123

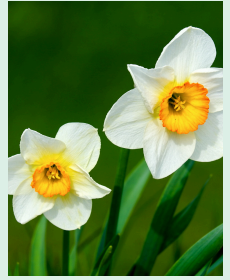
mash
safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub: 0345 155 1071

Safeguarding Over the Holidays

If you are concerned about the safety of a child in Devon, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0345 155 1071 or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk and give as much information as you can. If you are worried about yourself or another young person while school is closed, please call someone and talk.

- NSPCC 0808 800 5000 if worried about a young person
- Young Minds Crisis Manager. Text YM to 85258, if you are a young person in crisis
- Childline: 0800 1111, if you are a young person and have no one to talk to.
- CAMHS 0330 024 5321



Enjoy your Half Term.

**We wish you a restful, relaxing
Half Term.**

**We look forward to seeing you
back on Monday 23rd February
2026.**

with lots of love

your #SchoolFamily ;o)

