



# Tavistock College Newsletter

October 2024



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Trust

...everyone in our Trust.

## SAFEGUARDING OUR COLLEGE

If you have any concerns about your own safety, or that of another person, please talk to a member of our team or another adult at our College



Hazel Blackmore  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



James Buchanan  
Principal



Jack Brokenshire  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



Rachel Turner  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead and  
Assistant Principal for SEND



Niall Murphy  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead and  
Together House Leader



Laura Evans  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead and  
Care House Leader



Natasha Ingleby  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead and  
Challenge House Leader



Rachael Squire  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead and  
Excel House Leader



Dan Jacob  
Standards Lead  
for Sixth Form



Steve Marsh  
Together  
Deputy House Leader



Sonia Fox  
Care  
Deputy House Leader



Patrick Trimmer  
Challenge  
Deputy House Leader



Trudi Massey  
Excel  
Deputy House Leader



Sophie Champion  
SEND



Come and see for yourself...

## Tavistock College Sixth Form Open Evening

for September 2025 entry

Tuesday 26th November 2024

17:00 - 19:00

Presentations in Main Hall at  
17:30 & 18:30

## Holidays aren't happy for everyone



<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/>

This does not  
appear on  
your phone  
bill

If you are concerned for the safety of a child, please report it on  
0345 1071 1071 or call 999 if they are at immediate risk of harm

### Young carers: Who are they?



#### Who are young carers?

A young carer is someone **under 18** who regularly helps look after someone in their family, or a friend, who is ill, disabled or misuses drugs or alcohol.

#### How many young carers are there?

- There are about 700,000 young carers in the UK. (BBC 2010)
- That's about 1 in 12 secondary aged pupils.
- There are likely to be young carers in every school and college.

\*The Census identified over 200,000 young carers, but many remain hidden.



1 in 3 young carers  
spend between 11-20  
hours each week caring.



#### Which one is the young carer?



Young carers are just young people – with caring responsibilities! They look the same as everyone else but they can lead very different lives!

The average age  
of a young carer

= 12

## Together: we care, we challenge, we excel.



Together: we care, we challenge, we excel.

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

23.3% of students with less than 80% attendance achieved a grade 4 (or above) in English and Maths.

61.7% of students with more than 80% attendance achieved a grade 4 (or above) in English and Maths.

## Tavistock College Endowment Fund

We are very grateful for the work of the Tavistock College Endowment Fund. The Fund is there to support wider opportunities for our young people. Applications for funding are welcome from both staff and individual families.

The Trustees meet three times a year in January, May and October and prefer all applications to be submitted to them at least two weeks prior to their meeting. They do not wish to approve applications retrospectively.

It is also important to stress that anyone applying for funding should, wherever possible, try to raise some funds themselves. Many groups have done this by activities such as bag packing at a local supermarket, seeking business sponsorship or holding their own fund-raising events. The Trustees do not support mainstream activities in school but do provide funding for extracurricular activities and trips where appropriate. They have generously supported the Aspire Programme, trips to Japan and other parts of the world and the Sports Tour.

Link to College website for application form:

[Tavistock College Endowment Fund – Tavistock College](#)

## Car Parking Safety Request

To ensure the safety of our students we kindly ask you to park in a designated car parking space only when coming onto college site, including collecting and dropping off students.

We request that vehicles are not 'double parked', particularly but not limited to, the carpark near reception. You will be asked to move your vehicle.

There are a limited amount of disabled parking bays located in the carpark closet to reception. You must display a blue badge to be authorised to use these spaces. If a badge is not displayed you will be asked to move your vehicle.



It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell. Click the image above for NHS guidance for parents and carers for more information.



**We support families who need help with food**

**We help to reduce food waste**

**A £5 donation fills a large bag**

**No questions asked - you're welcome at both of our venues**

**Tavistock Saturday Food Store**  
Saturday mornings - 11-11.45  
Stannary Brewery, Pixon Lane

**Princetown Food Hub**  
Wednesday mornings –  
11.30 -12 noon at Tor Royal Chapel

Contact Graham Parker on 07545 075942  
or by email – [graham@tavihelps.co.uk](mailto:graham@tavihelps.co.uk)



# Together Half Term News

It has been a fantastic half-term for the Together house. The students have thoroughly embraced the house system and are working hard to make Together house the best house. We have had several students represent the house and college across a multitude of school events such as cross country, national cup football and netball, Goose fair and school rehearsals for Beauty and the Beast.



## Reminders

As we work together to create a positive and professional learning environment, we encourage all students to meet college expectations regarding behaviour, uniform and equipment. Respect for our peers, staff, and surroundings helps build a supportive community where everyone can thrive. Wearing the correct college uniform, in line with our guidelines, and remembering to be prepared for class with the right equipment reflects both professionalism and pride in our college community. Having these expectations in place ensures you're set up for success. The year has started really well with these expectations being followed, so let's continue to uphold these standards as we grow together and make the most of the opportunities ahead



## Enrichment

A huge well done to all the students from Excel House who helped to pick apples for the college orchard and the group of students who represented the college at this year's Goose Fair, where they successfully sold freshly made apple juice and homemade cakes. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their entrepreneurial skills, engage with the local community, and promote the college in a positive light. By participating in the fair, they gained valuable real-world experience in customer service and business operations. We are proud of their hard work and dedication as they represented the college so well!



# Care Half Term News

It has been a great first half term of our new house structure, starting off with a busy few weeks getting to know the young people and their families. There have been so many successes this half term from members of CARE house, it would be impossible to name them all but a few of note:

A special mention to Year 7 who have all done an excellent job settling into Tavistock College. You are a very conscientious and hardworking bunch, and you've managed to collect a huge number of green boards already which is brilliant! Thank you to Ms Young and Miss Rietveld for their support this half term with the transition.

Sophia C (Y9) and Macy G (Y8) were both named 'Player of the Match' at a recent netball fixture at Liskeard Community College - well done girls! A double mention to Sophia C who was also 'Player of the Match' at the previous fixture 2 weeks before at Launceston CC.

More sporting success with the first XC event of the year. Well done to Arthur M (Y7) who represented Tavistock College for the first time at the event held at Stover school. A huge congratulations to Aoife S (Y9) who was in the Top 10 finishers at the event.

Thank you to all of the young people who took part in the pumpkin carving interhouse competition, it was great to see so many people representing CARE house. I'm looking forward to a similar turn out for the spelling bee!

Last but no means least, a huge well done to Year 11. Mock exams are challenging, stressful at the best of times let alone in the last week of an 8-week half term. You have approached them with tenacity - be really proud of your achievements.

## House Leader Special Mentions:

A huge thank you to Eloise P (Y9) for her commitment to ensuring that everybody feels happy and safe at Tavistock College. It was well noticed by staff how much time and effort you put in to helping the new Year 7 students and always with a smile on your face!

Thank you to Joe M (Y9) and Miriam H (Y10) for all of their hard work on the antibullying initiatives and for always being enthusiastic about Tavistock College. Your guided tours at Open Evening were brilliant!





# Challenge Half Term News



Well done to all members of the house in completing a long eight-week term. We have been very impressed with the new Year 7s who have worked hard and settled in superbly throughout the term. This week Mrs Ingleby has headed up a pumpkin carving competition, where students voted for their favourite pumpkin. A wonderful effort from all of the students who carved one.

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## Catalyst Youth Team

**01**

**what is catalyst**

we are a youth work charity, focused and providing and supporting young people in the community of Tavistock and the surrounding areas

**02**

**How we help**

We help by running the mentoring scheme in school and by listening to your current needs. We also run lots of different clubs, such as after-school youth work, Christian unions, and detached work in Horrabridge, Bere Alston and Tavistock

**03**

**More information**

If you would like to learn more about catalyst please contact us

info@tavistockcatalyst.com  
follow us on facebook or instagram at @tavistockcatalyst

### Horrabridge Rangers SA U12's Football

Horrabridge Rangers Sports Association are looking to recruit players currently in school year 7, in preparation for next season as we step up to 11 aside

We play our home matches at Yelverton

Currently training on Tuesdays 6-7pm

We are a competitive mid league team with FA UFEA C coaches.

Contact Adam Dawe on 07591172798

Facebook:- Horrabridge Rangers SA Official  
Twitter:- @HorrabridgeSA  
Instagram:- @HorrabridgeSA

To more information on how to get involved with our community club, please contact:  
HRSA Club Secretary: Ian Mulholland  
Mob: 07764983441  
Email: hrse@hotmail.co.uk



# Excel Half Term News



Welcome to the first college newsletter from Excel House. We are excited for this new academic year and extend a warm welcome to all students and parents. In Excel House, we are committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where students can excel both academically and personally. We are excited to share updates, achievements, and upcoming events with you all and celebrate our students. It has been exciting getting to know many of our Excel students and we will work together to make this a successful and memorable year. Throughout the year, there will be a variety of House competitions and events, allowing Excel students to showcase their talent, work as a team and contribute to Excel's and the College's successes. These events will help our students to foster a strong sense of community and support each other's growth. This term we have already seen students work together to represent Excel House and the college at Goose Fair. They have been creative in designing labels for Apple Juice bottles, volunteering to pick apples from the college orchard, making homemade cakes to sell and giving up their own time to sell the products. This is a fantastic example of working together and a great start to the year

## Enrichment

A huge well done to all the students from Excel House who helped to pick apples for the college orchard and the group of students who represented the college at this year's Goose Fair, where they successfully sold freshly made apple juice and homemade cakes. This was a fantastic opportunity for them to showcase their entrepreneurial skills, engage with the local community, and promote the college in a positive light. By participating in the fair, they gained valuable real-world experience in customer service and business operations. We are proud of their hard work and dedication as they represented the college so well!

Congratulations to Mabel G who excelled in representing the college at Stover School in Cross Country by coming in the top 10.



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Well done to Excel House Member Georgie E, Millie T and Rosie W who won the Apple Juice label competition. Sofiia D and Samuel P for winning the cake baking competition.

Congratulations to our first Golden Ticket winners of the year.

Ten students received prizes of food and drink tokens to spend in the canteen and our £5 Amazon vouchers were won by Matilda G, Daniel W, George B, Iris H, Scarlett M and Alfie M.

# Top Green Board Students



## TOGETHER HOUSE

Charlie D  
Fleur G  
Isla S  
Belle L  
Nevaeh M  
Hayden M  
Thomas H  
Riley H  
Mirianthi C  
James S  
Amelia D  
Dylan L  
Daniel U  
Arthur A  
Ella W



## CARE HOUSE

Bethany A  
Scarlett W  
Evelyn F  
Beau B  
Keirily B  
Amelie G  
Eugene G  
Harry P  
Sam G  
Sam D  
Aoife S  
George S  
Anastasia M  
Aimee B  
Daisy W  
Anya C  
Isabel B



## CHALLENGE HOUSE

Harry M  
Hordi M  
Archie H  
Matthew P  
Emilia A  
Leo D  
Harriosn D  
Kasy B  
Zach M  
Josh A  
Amilie S  
Riley H  
Evelyn C  
Bethany D  
Bethany B  
Sofia T  
Arabella G  
Katie Co



## EXCEL HOUSE

Samuel P  
Emily C  
Elsie D  
Millie T  
Summer K  
Nell P  
Rosie W  
Sophia B  
George B  
Lucas M  
Lillia P  
Summer F  
Harry H  
Archie H  
Zac H-T  
Effie P  
Sujan K  
Taylor C  
George S

Together: we care, we challenge, we excel.

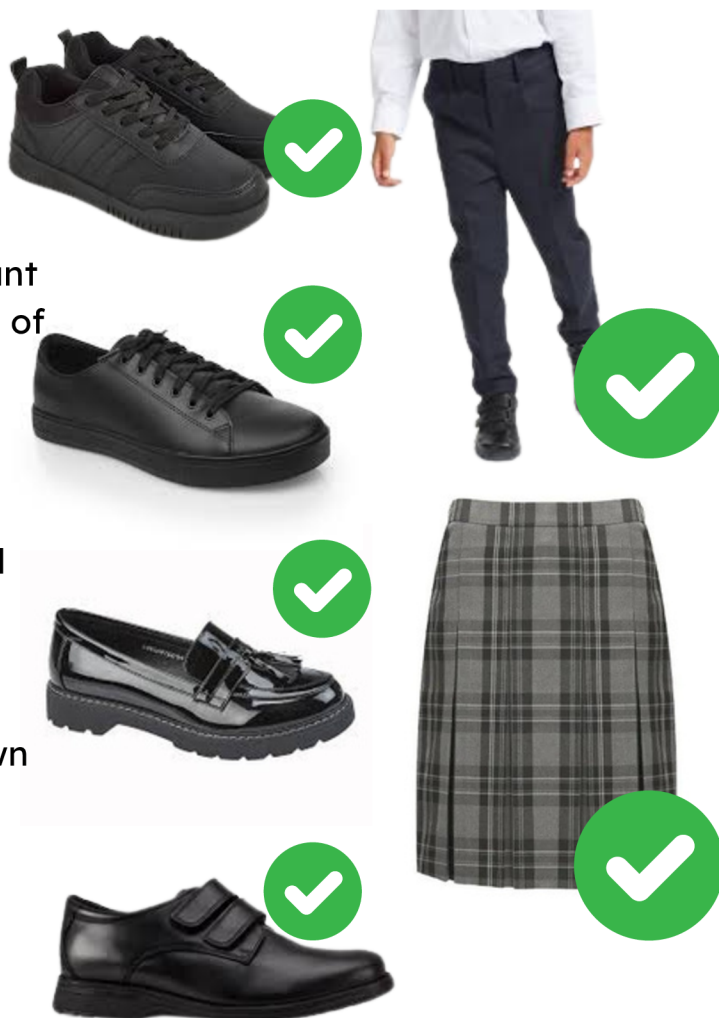
# Uniform

We are Team Tavi ready and wear our uniform with Pride.

Tavistock College uniform plays an important part in contributing to the ethos and values of the College. Our uniform demonstrates our shared values and identify as part of our school and wider community.

Students who are not in correct uniform will be sanctioned through our Behaviour and Conduct Policy.

Samples of acceptable shoe types are shown on the right, other styles are available. All plain black school shoes and trainers are acceptable, other coloured soles and embellishments are not permitted.



## Tavistock College Uniform

- ✓ Black sweatshirt with Tavistock College badge
- ✓ Tavistock College tie
- ✓ Plain white collared shirt – buttoned to the collar (worn tucked in)
- ✓ Plain black trousers or tailored button waist black shorts
- ✓ Tavistock College tartan skirt

Acceptable trousers	Not-acceptable trousers
Plain black full length tailored trousers, not tight around the ankles School tailored shorts with College logo only available from Fitness for Sports, online	Jeans style trousers eg. heavy cotton, studded trousers Leggings, jeggings, hipsters, tracksuit bottoms, tight skinny legged trousers
Acceptable skirts	Not-acceptable skirts
Tavistock College tartan skirt	No other skirts are acceptable
Acceptable shoes	Not-acceptable shoes
Plain black shoes, trainers with black logo and black sole only	Long boots or 'Ugg' style fur boots
Acceptable outerwear	Not-acceptable outerwear
A coat for outside wear only	Tracksuit tops, hoodies and baseball caps

### Sportswear

PE kit can be purchased from Fitness for Sport and Lawsons  
 Tavistock College PE Top  
 Tavistock College shorts or skort or leggings  
 Black sports socks  
 Gum shield for contact sports  
 Shin pads for football and hockey  
**ITEMS THAT ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
 Studded boots for use on the astro and the field

# College Equipment

Equipment Requirements - Be Prepared Tavi 7

1. Bare Essentials
2. Reading book
3. Pencil case
4. Blue/black pens
5. Pencils
6. A 30cm ruler
7. A rubber

## Additional items:

- A pair of compasses
- Pencil sharpener
- Scientific calculator
- A protractor
- A set of coloured pencils
- A water bottle

## Parental Communications

We have a number of ways to communicate with our families.



Newsletters are shared 4 times per term. These are sent via email and can also be found on our website.



Classcharts is used to communicate behaviour points, detentions and homework.



Email is used to communicate generic and bespoke information. Staff emails will end in @dmatschools.org.uk



Telephone, calls will be from 01822 614231, staff will always leave a message if the answerphone facility is available.

Time	Activity
0800	College site open for students.
0830 - 0840	Triage support available in House hubs
0840 - 0845	Morning Line-Up - equipment check, uniform check, daily messages and walk in.
0845	Period 1
0945	Period 2
1045 - 1110	Break (20 minutes)
1110 - 1210	Period 3
1210	Period 4
1310 - 1340	KS3 Lunch / KS4 Tutor session
1340 - 1410	KS3 Tutor session / KS4 Lunch
1410	Period 5
1510	End of College day

## Introducing Our SEN Team



### SEND Team 24/25

Assistant Principal - SEND	Rachel Turner
SENDCo	Sophie Champion

SEND Administrator	Sally York
Exams Administrator	Abii Roberts

For general SEND queries, please email:  
[send@tavistockcollege.org](mailto:send@tavistockcollege.org)  
 For enquiries relating to access arrangements, please email:  
[eaq@tavistockcollege.org](mailto:eaq@tavistockcollege.org)

	Years 7, 12 & 13	Year 8 & 9	Years 10 & 11
Assistant SENDCo	Sandy T	Clare Dawe	Sam Biggs
Assistant Teachers	Eleanor Fisher Delia Hayman Andrea Robinson Jimo Siffre Kat Stride	Melissa Fieldsend-Danks Rita Melville Deb Morris Gemma Perkins Abii Roberts Jess Rose	Lucy Barratt-Love Nyssa Davis Justine Hunt Shaunna McGlade

**PRICES**  
FROM **£36** PER DAY  
INCLUDES ALL SPOOKTACULAR ACTIVITIES



FANG-TASTIC  
FRIDAY

## Halloween Ice Breaker Games

## Crazy Cornish Long

## Spooky Fun Swim

## Spooky Fun Swim

## Spooky Fun Swim

**Halloween Fancy Dress,  
Spooktacular Team  
Dance Off & Crafting**

**EVERY DAY FINISHES WITH GRUESOME GRABS & AWARDS CEREMONY!**

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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.nhs.uk](https://nationalcollege.nhs.uk)

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## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

## IN-GAME CHAT

Instagram is a highly popular social media platform with over 2 billion active monthly users. The app is continuously updating and adding new features to meet the wishes of its audience, allowing them to upload images and videos to their Instagram feed, create interactive 'stories', go live, exchange private messages or explore and follow other accounts that catch their eye.

Video games are continuing to grow in popularity – including, of course, among children and young people – and the emergence of gaming communities has been accelerated by the inclusion of chat functionality across many different titles. While in-game chat isn't inherently a bad thing, it can create some concerns about online safety and the people that children might be interacting with.

## INFLUENCER CULTURE

Many social media platforms, Instagram included, are designed to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. They encourage scrolling often and scrolling more in case we miss something important – in essence, a fear of missing out. On Instagram, young people can lose track of time when aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers and possibly strangers.

Social media influencers are sometimes paid thousands of pounds to promote products, services, apps and more. When celebrities or influencers post such content, it often says 'paid partnership' above the post. In April 2024, Ofcom found that over a quarter of children (27%) believed in influencer marketing, accepting their endorsement of products wholeheartedly. So it's perfectly possible for young people to be taken in by this kind of marketing.

## UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children sometimes compare themselves to what they see online: how they look, how they dress, and the way their life is going in comparison to others on social media. However, most people only share the positives about their lives online and many use filters when sharing pictures of themselves. A constant comparison with unrealistic ideals can lead to insecurity over one's own appearance and lifestyle.

## PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users to tag a product or business in their post. This tag will take viewers directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased. Children may also be encouraged by influencers to purchase products that they advertise.

**GOING LIVE**

Livestreaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real time. Risks increase if the account is public, because that means anyone can watch the broadcast, which could result in further contact from strangers. Additional dangers of going live include an impulse to act inappropriately to draw more viewers, as well as being exposed to harmful content or offensive language.

## EXCLUSION & OSTRACISM

Youngsters are highly sensitive to feeling excluded, which comes in many forms: not receiving as many "likes" as expected; not being tagged in a friend's photo; being unfriended; not receiving a comment on their post or a reply to a message they sent. Being excluded online hurts just as much as offline. Young people have reported lower moods and self-esteem when excluded in this way, feeling as if they don't belong and aren't valued.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

**AVOID GOING PUBLIC**

If a young user wants to share their clothing style, make up or similar and use product tagging to show off the items in their post, they may be tempted to change their settings to public. This leaves their profile visible to everyone, which carries the risk of strangers getting in touch with them. Set a child's account to private and explain the importance of keeping it this way.

**HAVE AN OPEN DIALOGUE**

Talk to children about the positives and negatives of social media, including the risks involved and how they can view or create content safely with family and friends. Explain how safety settings will ensure only followers can view them, and why this is so important. Also, if you find a child continuously uses filters on their photos, ask them why and impress on them that they

## MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the potential impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram allows users to hide the total likes on their posts, to prevent people from obsessing over that number in the corner. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes a person gets. This can be done by going into Settings > Notifications > Posts > Likes > Off.

## USE MODERATORS

Instagram Live has implemented a mechanic called Moderators, meaning that creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and remove the ability for certain viewers to comment at all. Consider this if a child in your care wants to go live on the platform. It's also recommended to keep devices in communal spaces so you're aware if a child does go live or watch a livestream.

## FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to children about who they follow and help them to develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, encourage the child to ask themselves if an influencer is trying to sell them a product when they make a video endorsing it.

## BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram has a built-in activity dashboard that lets you control how much time is spent on the app. Make sure children sign in to the platform with the correct age, as Instagram's "Teen Accounts" afford much more control for parents and carers over how long they can use the app each day. Talk with young users about how much time they spend on Instagram and work together to set a healthy time limit.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at BCyberAware. She has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. Claire has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

## Meet Our Experts

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon and has been working in the games media industry for five years. He's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: [nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-charts](http://nationalcollege.com/guides/in-game-charts)

The

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