



**Braunton
Academy**

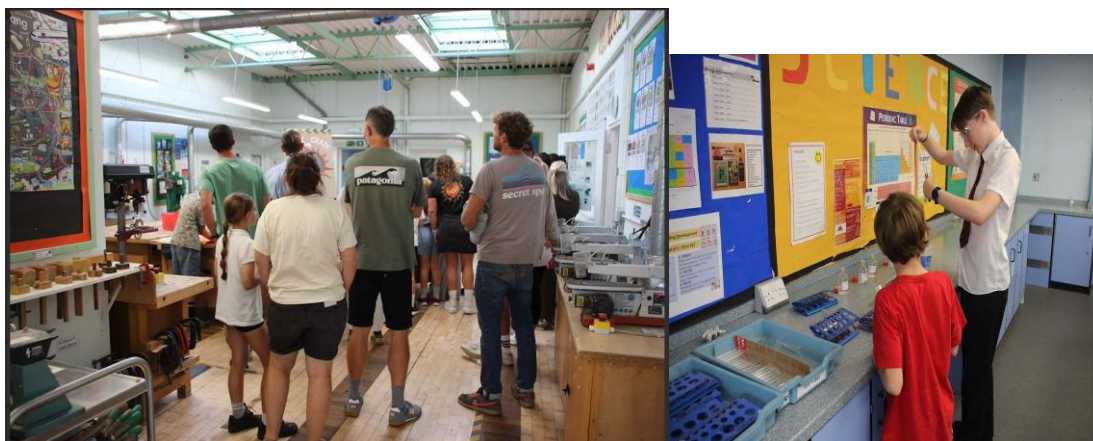
**Aspire &
Achieve**

Braunton Academy Newsletter:

25th September 2026

Dear Families,

We hope you have had a good week. Last night we ran our Annual Open Evening for Year 5&6 parents. It was very well attended and I would like to thank all of the students that came and supported the evening. For the past 5 years we have supported the community by increasing our intake to 180 students in line with the needs of the catchment area. This has now finished and from September we will be reducing our intake to 150 students, I would like to assure all parents that live in the catchment area that this reduction does cater for all students living in the catchment area. The temporary expansion had led to a 5 million investment over the past 5 years in the school infrastructure and as the school reduces it will allow us to further develop new spaces that come available when they are no longer needed as day-to-day classrooms.



For any parents that missed Open Evening, there are **opportunities to visit the school in the coming weeks on Thursday 1st October at 9:30am or Tuesday 6th October at 3:30pm**. If you would like to book to attend either of these

Key Dates for
September /
October:

Wednesday 30th
September:

Year 10 Welcome to
GCSE Evening
6-7pm

Thursday 1st
October:

School Tours for
Prospective
Families
9.30 to 11am

Tuesday 6th
October:

School Tours for
Prospective
Families 3.30 to
5pm

slots please contact reception.

Additional Inset Days:

This year there has been a considerable increase in the level of training that has been directed by the Department for Education for all staff to complete. We are also waiting on the publication of changes to the National Curriculum which staff will need time to implement. For this reason the Trustees have supported the school by agreeing two additional inset training days to complete this vital training. For this reason **the Academy will be closed to students on the following two days:**

Friday 4th December 2026

Monday 15th March 2027

We appreciate that this can cause inconvenience for some families but it is also essential that staff get adequate time for continued professional development to support all students learning.

Students played in the National League on Wednesday night, and the U14 girls won their first round 16-0. A fantastic start to the season!



Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Evening

A reminder to all Year 10 families that on **Wednesday 30th September we will be holding the Welcome to GCSE evening at 6pm in Isaac Hall**. All parents and students are encouraged to attend. You will be provided with key information on core subjects, revision, mock examinations and work experience week. Please note that this years **work experience week differs from previous years. It has been changed to the week beginning the 5th July 2027.**

Best wishes,

Mrs F Bowler, Principal

Whole School Messages

Flu Vaccine Dates

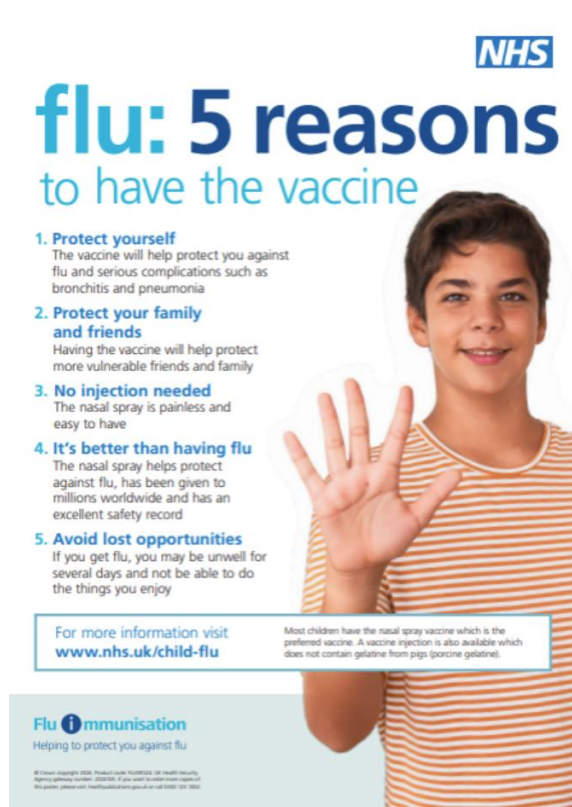
The School Nursing team will be visiting school on 13th November 2026.

Please complete the online form by 9am on 12th November 2026.

How to Consent

To provide consent please follow the link to your school below:

<https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=DV138041>



Free School Meals - More Families Now Eligible

From September 2026, the eligibility rules for Free School Meals in England have changed.

How to Check Eligibility and Apply

For more information, please visit the Devon County Council website at [Applying for free school meals - Children, families and education](#)

Applications are quick, easy, and give an instant decision

- Apply Online: Visit the [Devon County Council Citizens Portal](#)
- Need Help? If you do not have internet access or need assistance with your application, you can call Devon County Council's Education Helpline on [0345 155 1019](tel:03451551019).

Please take two minutes to check today—it could make a huge difference to your family budget and our school community!

Matilda Rehearsal 9

Thursday 1st October 2026 from 3.20pm to 5pm.

Cast required:

- Big Kids
- Little Kids
- Dads
- Mums
- Singing Ensemble
-

All of the above will be doing singing rehearsals of the following songs:

- Bruce Part 1
- When I Grow Up
- The Smell of Rebellion

We will also be continuing to block the following:

p.59-62 (Mrs Phelps, Matilda, Miss Honey, Acrobat, Trunchball, Bruce, Kids in the classroom)

Scene 13 p.74-76 (Escapologist, Matilda, Trunchball)

Scene 14 p.76-77 (Miss Honey, Bruce, Trunchball, Lavender)

Please remember to bring your scripts 😊

Braunton Youth Club



“Connecting Moments” – Digital SEND Support for Families



Family Hub Advice & Guidance Line, 0800 5385458
Mon-Fri 10am—4pm

‘Connecting Moments’- Digital SEND Support for Families

Are you a parent or carer of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? Join us for **Connecting Moments** – a friendly online space designed just for you.

What’s it all about?

- Connect with other families in a small, welcoming group
- Share experiences and ideas
- Build a peer support network

Please join us on the **last Tuesday of the month at 12 noon**, for a **1 hour session**—to book a space please fill in the form using the QR code below, places are limited and the session will be run

The Ambassador Volunteer Programme
Supporting families with SEND

DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL



Charity Event – Sponsorship for Mr Ovey

⚡⚡ Mission Unbreakable means more to me than just a challenge. I’m doing it for North Devon Hospice, in honour of those we’ve loved and lost, and for the families who rely on the incredible care the hospice provides. Taking it on with my brothers as Team Ovey Achievers has become a day I look forward to – a moment to remember, to celebrate, and to give something back 🧡💙❤️



northdevonhospice.enthuse.com

Fundraising started!

<https://northdevonhospice.enthuse.com/pf/lewis-ovey-fe1e0>

Thank you

Mr L Ovey

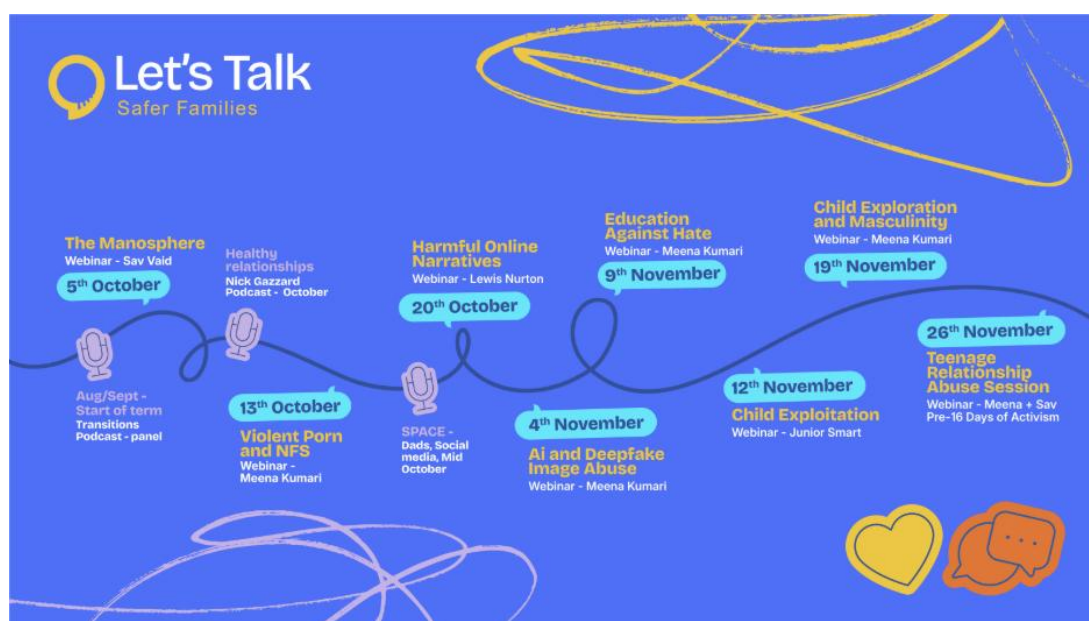
Head of Year 8 and 11 and Teacher of Physical Education

Let's Talk Safer Families

Free online sessions offer practical strategies, up-to-date guidance, and useful resources to help parents and carers support their children through every stage of development, from primary school through to adolescence.

No webcam or microphone is required and all sessions include opportunities to access further support and resources.

Please use the following link to book onto a session. [Events - Let's Talk Safer Families](#)



Clubs and Activities

All clubs and activities are now on the website

[Whole School Messages - Braunton Academy - Aspire and Achieve](#)

Competitions

Netball matches for year 8-11 at Park school Tuesday 29th September. Leave school 2.45pm and return to school approximately 6.30pm.

Ecoclub

Ecoclub is on Tuesday lunchtimes in room 25. Bring your lunch or collect from the canteen first. Our first job this year is to plant 320 spring bulbs! Come and see what we're up to – new members are welcome!

BREAK TIME: 10.45 – 11.05AM LUNCH TIME: 1.05 – 1.45PM						
Day	AGP – Lunch only		Sports Hall – Break & lunch		MUGA – Lunch only	
	Activity	Year	Activity	Year	Activity	Year
Monday	Football	8 & 9	Basketball	7 & 11	Football	10
Tuesday	Football	7 & 8	Basketball	8 & 11	Football	10
Wednesday	Football	8 & 9	Basketball	10 & 11	Football	10
Thursday	Football	7 & 8	Basketball	9 & 11	Football	10
Friday	Football	8 & 9	Basketball	7 & 11	Football	10

Latin Club

New club: replacing our German music club, we will now begin a Latin club! Thursday lunchtime in room 43, open to all year groups and staff alike!

French Penfriends Club

French penfriends club continues, Friday lunchtime room 43, and we still have a few French students sharing an English penfriend for lack of members on our side so come fill the ranks!

True Colours – LGBT+ club

Monday lunchtime, Room 21. Bring your lunch.

Climbing Club

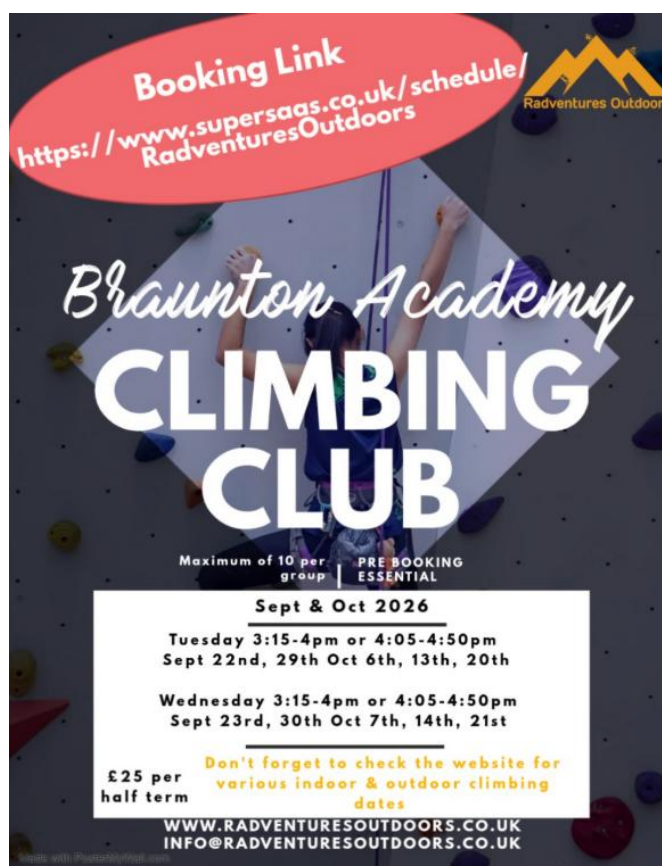
After-School Climbing Club Booking Now Open (All Years Welcome!)

We are delighted to announce that booking is now open for our upcoming after-school climbing club, hosted right here in the Braunton Academy Sports Hall!

Led by qualified, professional instructors, this block offers structured, progressive coaching designed to build confidence, agility, and safety awareness. **The first session starts on Tuesday 22 September.**

- **Who:** Open to all year groups.

- **Kit Required:** Students should wear their PE kit (or sportswear that fully covers harness points) and clean, lace-up trainers. All technical safety equipment is provided.
- **How to Book:** Spaces are strictly limited and pre booking is essential. Bookings are as a full block commitment. Secure your child's spot via our new, secure online portal here: <https://www.supersaas.co.uk/schedule/RadventuresOutdoors>



Basketball Club

Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to confirm that we have once again managed to secure the services of Basketball coach, David Roper, a Level 3 advanced Basketball coach, former England Player and qualified Physical Education teacher, to support the coaching of our students for the duration of the Autumn term.

We are therefore offering your son/daughter the opportunity to book a place in our upcoming Basketball Academy during the Autumn term, See below all details.

Mondays - Year 7,8 and 9 from 3.30 till 4.45

Start date - Monday 14th September

End date - Monday 19th October

6 sessions at £4 per session - £24

Fridays - Year 10 and 11 from 3.30 till 4.45

Start date - Friday 11th September

End Date - Friday 23rd October

7 sessions at £4 per session - £28

N.B. - Please note there may be changes if the hall is out due to mock exams! This year, all parents/carers MUST book their child's place directly with David Roper and NOT through Braunton Academy Parent Mail system. David would like to manage all booking and payments direct through him from now on. Therefore, apart from this email, all queries, questions etc must go directly through David Roper from now on. See details below.

Booking

Email David direct at davidropersports@gmail.com to book your child's place.

Please copy and paste these details into your email and fill in the details for your child.

School: Braunton Academy

Name:

Year Group

Parents Name:

Parents Contact Details:

Payment Details

Name - Mr D G Roper

HSBC 40-10-16

Account no. 21191160

Payment reference: BA Childs name and year group

Contact details

David Roper

Email: davidropersports@gmail.com

Facebook: North Devon bucks

Tennis Club – Autumn 2026

Dear Parents

We are delighted to announce that the Devonshire Tennis Academy will be continuing our after school Tennis club at Braunton Academy in the Autumn Term.

Tennis club develops crucial hand eye co-ordination. Teaching them techniques and rallying skills through fun games.

Tuesday 8th September – Tuesday 8th December (excl. 27th October for half term)

5-6pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 £78 (13 week course)

To book please email the following to: bookings@devonshiretennisacademy.com - places will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Player's Name: D.o.B: Year:

Parent's Name(s):

Contact tel N°:

Alternative tel N°:

Email Address:

Medical conditions / allergies / additional information:

How to pay

Devonshire Tennis Academy SC 30-98-97 Account No. 57684068
(Please use your child's name & school as a reference)
www.devonshiretennisacademy.com

Volleyball Club

Thursday 17th September until Christmas.

3:30-4:30pm on Thursdays with Danny Mulford.

Price (£30 for 10 sessions)

All levels and year groups are welcome, it's great for beginners and all those who regularly come will be able to play in the North Devon Schools competition in the spring term.

NO TRAINING 12th and 19th November due to exams in the hall.

Please book via the school portal.

Year 11 News

North Devon College

We have received the information below from North Devon College regarding apprenticeships. Please follow the links for further information.

[Apprenticeship Programme Overview](#)

[North-Devon-College-Looking-to-secure-an-Apprenticeship.pdf](#)

[North-Devon-College-Talent-Pool-Mailing-List-Flyer.pdf](#)

Year 10 News

To All Year 10 Parents/Carers

I hope the term has started well for you and your families. As your son/daughter is now in KS4 and preparing for their GCSE exams, it's a good opportunity for us to touch base and talk through some important features of their final two years at the Academy. Therefore, I'd like to invite you to a 'Welcome to GCSEs' Evening on **Wednesday 30th September, in Isaac Hall from 6-7pm.**

The evening will include information about key dates, study/revision tips, post-16 information and general coping strategies (for students and parents!) as we move towards the formal examinations in the Summer of 2028.

We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday 30th September**, at 6pm.

Kind regards

Mr T Barfield, Assistant Vice-Principal, Curriculum

Year 9 News

No news this week.

Year 8 News

Netball

No netball club Tuesday 29th September due to the netball matches.

Year 7 News

Netball

No netball club Tuesday 29th September due to the netball matches.

Communication with School

Dear Year 7 Families,

As we begin the new academic year, we would like to thank you for your support and partnership as your child settles into life at Braunton Academy.

To help us provide the best possible service to our families, we have reviewed our communication systems to ensure that queries are directed quickly to the most appropriate member of staff. Effective communication is essential in supporting our students and maintaining the positive relationships we value within our school community.

How to Contact Us

Telephone:

Call the main school reception on **01271 812221**. Our reception team will help direct your query to the appropriate member of staff. We aim to respond to telephone messages within **48 hours during term time**, although urgent matters will always be prioritised.

Meetings:

If you would like to meet with a member of staff, please contact the school in advance so that a suitable appointment can be arranged. Staff are generally unavailable for unscheduled meetings during the school day.

Email:

For non-urgent matters, email remains the most effective way to contact us. Please include your child's name, tutor group and a brief outline of your query.

For Year 7 families, the main contact email for pastoral matters is:

Year7pastoral@braunton.academy

Other key contacts include:

- Attendance: **attendance@braunton.academy**

- Curriculum and lesson enquiries: academicsupport@braunton.academy
- SEND: SEND@braunton.academy
- Safeguarding concerns (non-urgent) safeguarding@braunton.academy
- General enquiries: admin@braunton.academy

Working Together

We are proud of the positive relationships we share with our families and ask that all communication remains respectful, constructive and solution-focused. By working together with kindness, understanding and mutual respect, we can ensure Braunton Academy remains a safe, happy and successful environment for all students.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you throughout your child's Year 7 journey.

Catering

This is a polite reminder that we are a **nut free school**. Please ensure your child does not bring nuts or food containing nuts as part of their lunch. Many thanks.

	Monday –	Tuesday –	Wednesday –	Thursday –	Friday –
Main Meal 	Chicken stir fry served with noodles & veg	Exmoor beef lasagne with garlic bread salad & green salad	Roast chicken served with roast potatoes seasonal veg Yorkshire pudding & gravy	Exmoor pork sausages served with mashed potatoes peas & gravy	Fishcakes served with hash brown bites peas or beans
Veggie	Vegetable stir fry served with noodles & veg	Quorn lasagne with garlic bread salad & coleslaw	Veggie cottage pie served with Yorkshire pudding seasonal veg & gravy	Veggie sausages served with mashed potatoes peas & gravy	Omelette served with hash brown bites peas or beans
Desserts 	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots	Tray bakes Fresh fruit Fruit pots
Grab & go Break &	Pasta Bolognese Veggie Bolognese Veggie option	Chicken pesto pasta with loaded veg Veggie option	Chicken rice & vegetable medley Veggie option	Pasta bolognese Veggie option	Thai green curry with rice & veg Veggie option
Grab & go Break	Cod fish finger bap served with iceberg Lettice & tartar sauce	Halloumi burger roasted peppers mayo sweet chilli sauce	Bagel with cream cheese bacon & chives Veggie option	Breakfast wrap Veggie option	Meat ball sub roll Veggie option
Deli Bar	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 	Freshly made Rolls Wraps Pasta pots /salad 