

Parent, Family & Community Briefing

Friday 9th October 2026



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Multi Academy
Trust
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Welcome to this week's parent, family and community briefing!

We have had another busy week here at HCC. On Monday, we held our second draw for what started the term as our Start Strong Challenge and has now become our fortnightly

Attendance and Behaviour Streak. We were delighted to see over 200 students entered into the prize draw, reflecting the fantastic commitment shown by so many of our young people. Congratulations to all students who are making every day count through excellent attendance, positive attitudes to learning, and consistently meeting our high expectations. Our attendance and behaviour streaks run every two weeks, meaning every student has the opportunity to reset, refocus, and work towards being entered into future prize draws.

We were also delighted to host our first Safeguarding Conference in partnership with Devon Youth Services (SPACE). Throughout Tuesday, our year 8 students took part in a series of engaging workshops designed to help them better understand key safeguarding themes, including healthy relationships, online safety, wellbeing, and where to seek support when needed. The sessions provided valuable opportunities for students to ask questions, discuss real-life scenarios, and develop the knowledge and confidence needed to keep themselves and others safe. We would like to thank the team from SPACE for delivering such informative and impactful sessions. We look forward to welcoming them back later in the year as all year groups from 8 to 11 will experience this conference.

Devon County Council have informed us that Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are carrying out an inspection of services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Devon.

As part of the inspection, inspectors want to hear directly from children and young people with SEND, parents and carers, and practitioners. They use this feedback to help them understand people's experiences of SEND services and support across the local area.

Complete the survey here: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10420455>

The surveys will remain open until **9am on Tuesday 13th October**.

Your responses will be treated confidentially by the inspection team.

Please take the opportunity to share your experiences and views with inspectors.

More information

You can find out more about the Area SEND inspection process on Devon's SEND Local Offer website. The page includes links to information from Ofsted and the CQC for parents, carers, children and young people. [Ofsted and CQC Local Area SEND Partnership Inspections](#)

You can also sign up for updates from the Devon SEND Partnership at: [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) newsletter](#)

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Black History Month 2026: Honouring Our Communities

This week I had the pleasure of delivering a special assembly to all our students, marking Black History Month 2026. In Britain, every October, schools across the country celebrate the ways in which Black History is British history. This year the theme was 'Honouring Our Communities' which focused on celebrating everyday individuals, volunteers, teachers, carers, and local unsung heroes who strengthen their communities through service, leadership and dedication.

The assembly highlighted a number of inspiring British figures from the past, including Mary Seacole, who cared for wounded soldiers during the Crimean War, Paul Stephenson, who helped lead the Bristol Bus Boycott in 1963, and more currently, Dame Maggie Aderin-Pocock, whose work in science and space has inspired young people across the UK.

Students then learned about influential black people from the Southwest, including those from the local area, whose work had transformed their local community or sought to build bridges. This included the first footballer of African American heritage to play professionally in Britain, Steve Stacey who played for Exeter City Football Club in the 1970s, and Joe Louis, World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, who, when stationed here as an American GI during WWII, hosted a charity fight in Stanhope Park, Holsworthy.

With each of these stories, students were encouraged to see how the work of these individuals had helped honour their communities, whilst also challenging stereotypes and standing against racism.

Remember, Black History is British History. To understand a wider range of stories helps us better appreciate our shared past and present.



Kate Sampson
Academic Director



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PSHE Relationship Workshops Get Underway

On Tuesday, we welcomed SPACE Youth Services into school to deliver the first of our PSHE workshops focusing on healthy relationships, consent, and challenging misogynistic behaviours and stereotypes. This week, the sessions were delivered to all of year 8 students.

The workshops were engaging, interactive and thought-provoking, creating a safe space for students to explore important topics, share their views and learn from one another. Our year 8 students represented the school brilliantly throughout, demonstrating impressive maturity, respect and willingness to participate in discussions.

As well as gaining valuable knowledge and practical guidance, students left with a goody bag packed with resources, information about where to seek help and advice, and strategies for recognising and challenging unhealthy attitudes and behaviours.

We are incredibly proud of the conduct and engagement shown by our students and would like to thank SPACE Youth Services for delivering such impactful sessions.

Next Tuesday, it will be the turn of our year 10 cohort, with the programme adapted to ensure the content is age-appropriate and relevant to the experiences and needs of older students. We look forward to another successful day of learning and discussion.



Mrs Hallett
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



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Reminder for Parents/Carers

Our school website is often the quickest and easiest place to find the information you need. From term dates and upcoming events to uniform guidance, attendance information, policies and curriculum details, the website is regularly updated with key information for families. Information about parent platforms such as ClassCharts, Arbor and School Gateway can also be found there.

Before contacting the school, we encourage parents and carers to visit the website, as many common questions can be answered straight away. We hope it serves as a helpful resource and keeps you up to date with everything happening at Holsworthy Community College.

Thank you for your continued support.

Website: www.hcc.devon.sch.uk

Key Dates

- **Friday 9th October** - Year 11 Geography Field Trip (Bude and Boscastle)
- **Tuesday 13th October** - Year 10 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Tuesday 20th October** - Year 9 safeguarding and relationship workshop
- **Wednesday 21st October** - Seasonal flu vaccinations
- **Thursday 22nd October** - Year 11 Geography Field Trip (Plymouth)
- **Friday 23rd October** - Non pupil day
- **Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October** - half term
- **Monday 2nd November** - All students return



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