



# Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 19th November 2024

Christian Value for Term : Fellowship

Dear Parents / Carers,

Term 2 seems to be flying through and we are about to enter arguably the most magical time in primary schools: Christmas!

It can be a challenging time in terms of organisation. Please refer to the Christmas timetable that was parentmailed out last week. It's a step by step, day by day guide to all the events. If you would like a printed out version to stick to your fridge or family noticeboard, please let the office know and Mrs Sheffield or Mrs Doherty would be happy to help.

### It's assessment week time!

Next week is Assessment Week at our school, and children in Years 1 to 6 will be taking part in standardised assessments for maths and reading. These assessments are designed to help us understand your child's progress and identify areas where they may need extra support. We want to remind everyone that these tests are just one way of measuring learning, and the most important thing is for every child to try their best. This is a great opportunity for them to show what they've learned and to practice perseverance and resilience — key skills for life.

Please encourage your child to approach the week positively and ensure they come to school well-rested and ready to shine. Let's all work together to help our children "be the best they can be," living up to our school vision.

Thank you for your continued support.

### More sporting successes

This term, our pupils have demonstrated outstanding teamwork and perseverance, achieving wonderful results in football, netball, chess, cross country, basketball and boccia. These successes are a testament not only to their skill and determination but also to the power of Fellowship, one of our Christian values.

Fellowship reminds us of the importance of working together, supporting one another, and celebrating each other's achievements. On the pitch, court, board and boccia mat, our pupils showed how true collaboration and encouragement can lead to incredible outcomes. Whether passing the ball, cheering on teammates, or offering a helping hand, they embodied the spirit of unity that Fellowship inspires.

We are proud of every child who represented our school with such grace and sportsmanship. Their efforts remind us that together, we can achieve great things. Well done, everyone, for living out our values so beautifully through sport!

### Open days

We've had really good interest at our open days for Reception children starting in September 2025. Word of mouth is our number 1 advertising tool, so please encourage friends and family to come and visit Blackboys if they haven't already.

### Lunchtime and After School Clubs

A reminder as we look towards December, the last week of all lunchtime and after school clubs will take place from w/c 09/12/24. There is an exception to this with Guitar club and should your child take part in lunchtime guitar with RBMS they will communicate directly with you.

Wrap around care provision carries on throughout the remainder of the term. Please do note, places are limited and cannot be guaranteed, please email in the first instance office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk to check session availability. Parents/Carers with 'regular bookings' will have their child's place rolled over to the Spring Term '25.

A new Spring Term club choice letter will be distributed upon our return following the Christmas break, from Monday 06th January 2025.

### Art Club

There will be **no after school art club** taking place next Tuesday 03rd December. Miss Rietdyk's last session will take place the following week Tuesday 10th December.

### Christmas Whole School Lunch, 17th December

You will have received our letter regarding the Whole School Christmas Lunch and if you haven't already please return the slip at the bottom of the letter to the School Office (even if your child is having a packed lunch on the day). This will help the School kitchen with correct placing of ordering. Slips need to be returned to the School Office by at the very latest Monday 09th December

For the whole school lunch day, Tuesday 17th December we shall be inviting pupils to wear to School a Christmas Jumper in place of their Blackboys School jumper/cardigan. This will be in exchange for a £1 which with donations going to the charity of the term, Chailey Heritage Foundation.

### PTA Christmas Fair, Saturday 07th December, Midday-2.30pm

We, alongside the PTA, are getting super excited for the PTA Christmas Fair which is to take place on 07th December. Please remember to bring your filled pots and sold raffle ticket stubs and monies to School by Friday 06th December. More books of raffle tickets are available at the School Office should you require them.

Thank you all for your kind donations for the PTA Fair tombola last Friday for 'wear your home clothes to School' day.

Your child will have also brought home a flowerpot. This is for a very popular stall run at the Fair. Please decorate your pot at home, fill with lovely small items and return it to School on Friday 06th December. The pot will then be sold at the PTA Christmas Fair.

Grateful thanks to Staverton Nursery for donating the flowerpots!

**Uckfield Late Night Shopping Event**  
We look forward to supporting this popular, local event next Friday 06th December.

KS2 pupils who have returned their consent slip, alongside members of Miss Mayhew's choir will be appearing on the Ashdown Radio stage at 6.40pm. Pupils will sing a collection of songs. Even if your child is not taking part in the choir, the event is incredibly festive and we would thoroughly recommend to all a visit.



**Festival of Christmas Trees**

In conjunction with the late night shopping event, Holy Cross Church, Uckfield will be opening it's doors for all to experience their beautiful annual 'Festival of Christmas Trees'.

If you've never been before, it really is a spectacle and one not to be missed. You may even spot our Federation Tree, the decorations are very twinkly!

**PTA Wreath Making Event ,  
Wednesday 04/12/24, 7pm School Hall**

Mrs Beale and the PTA invite you to take part in the annual Blackboys tradition of the PTA Wreath Making event. If you would like to secure a place, please make contact with a member of the PTA or email office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk cost of the evening will be £38 and includes all materials to make your wreath.

Gold Book Awards for week beginning Monday 25th November

Class 1

Trixie S - for her great recall in RE, talking about Tom and Tessa going to church.  
Benji D - for using adjectives in his poster about the missing dragon.  
Darcy R - for her great work in computing using the art tools to make a picture.

Class 2

Raeya P and Emily L - for amazing artwork on their 3D abstract relief maps.  
Zach J - for making a big effort to read every night and do his homework on time.

Class 3

Fred B and Daisy H - for their excellent Roman army reports.  
Eddie V - for his recall of numbers 11 - 31 in French!

Class 4

Elodie D - for putting real effort into editing her persuasive leaflet and understanding that there's always more we can do!  
Indi FH - for showing a real positive attitude this week despite her injury.  
Jess P - for an excellent leaflet about the Muslim Pilgrimage Hajj, showing a really good understanding.

Class 5

Hope W - for the excellent tours she gave during open morning.  
Elizabeth McL and Eva C - for getting on really well with Maths this week, including long division and order of operations.

**ACADEMIC YEAR 24/25**

<b>DECEMBER</b>	
MONDAY 2ND	SCHOOL COUNCIL - 'BASKETBALL CHALLENGE' 50P 'A GO!'. MONIES RAISED FOR THE CHARITY OF TERM 2, CHAILEY HERITAGE. CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
TUESDAY 3RD	NO ART CLUB THIS WEEK
WEDNESDAY 4TH	PTA WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP WITH MRS BEALE, SCHOOL HALL. £38 PLEASE MAKE CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL OFFICE OR A MEMBER OF THE PTA TO REGISTER YOUR PLACE. 7-9PM
THURSDAY 5TH	CLASS 4 LED ACT OF WORSHIP 9-9.30AM - ALL WELCOME CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
FRIDAY 6TH	KS1 AND KS2 PARTY FOOD LISTS TO BE DISPLAYED FROM TODAY - PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AGAINST AN ITEM TO BRING IN AND DONATE ON THE DAY OF THE PARTIES DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF PTA FILLED POTS, PRE LOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS AND RAFFLE TICKET STUBS IN TIME FOR THE CHRISTMAS FAIR TOMMORROW! SENIOR CITIZEN CHRISTMAS PARTY, SCHOOL HALL 1.45-3PM UCKFIELD LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EVENT 5-8PM - CHOIR TO PERFORM AT 6.40PM
SATURDAY 7TH	PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR 12-2.30PM—ALL WELCOME!
SUNDAY 8TH	SELECTED PUPILS - PARISH CAROL CONCERT REHEARSAL AT ST THOMAS Á BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD- THE GIFT 5-5.30PM
MON 9TH-FRI 13TH	LAST WEEK OF LUNCHTIME AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
MONDAY 9TH	DEADLINE FOR RETURN OF CHRISTMAS LUNCH SLIPS AND DONKEY WALK CONSENTS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE. CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
WEDNESDAY 11TH	OPEN THE BOOK DONKEY WALK 3-4.15PM
THURSDAY 12TH	CLASS 3 LED ACT OF WORSHIP 9-9.30AM - ALL WELCOME CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
FRIDAY 13TH	KS1 NATIVITY COSTUMES IN SCHOOL IN A NAMED BAG BY WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED PTA FILM EVENING £5 PER CHILD, POPCORN AND DRINK PROVIDED. TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE, PLEASE EMAIL THE SCHOOL OFFICE. 3.15-5.30PM THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY - HOWEVER THERE WILL BE THE OPTION OF FOR PUPILS TO ATTEND THE PTA FILM EVENT ENDING AT 5.30PM
SUNDAY 15TH	SELECTED PUPILS SINGING REPRESENTATIVES TO ST THOMAS A BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD FOR CAROL CONCERT. SINGING THE GIFT. 6.30-7.30PM
MONDAY 16TH	RETURN OF CUPS/AWARDS FROM SUMMER TERM TO BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY TODAY AUTUMN TERM CUP ASSEMBLY NOTIFICATION - CUP ASSEMBLY RECIPIENTS PARENTS/CARERS WILL BE SENT A PARENTMAIL EMAIL TO INFORM THEM THAT THEIR CHILD WILL BE AWARDED A CUP IN CUP ASSEMBLY - FRI 20/12 CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
TUESDAY 17TH	RETURN OF PANTO PUPILS (07 01 25) CONSENT FORMS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WEAR YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPER TO SCHOOL DAY - DONATION OF A £1 WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH 12-1PM KS2 CAROL CONCERT AT ST THOMAS Á BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD.STAFF WILL BE AT THE CHURCH FROM 5.40PM. WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WELCOME TO ATTEND. 6-7PM

**24/25 Dates for your diary**

If you take a look at the homepage of our Blackboys website, you will find that School 'main' events like Parents Evenings and Sports Day are already confirmed for 24/25.

**Inset Days 24 25:**

\*Monday 24th February 2025\*  
\*Monday 21st July 2025\* \*Tuesday 22nd July 2025\*



**FAMILY HUB**  
EAST SUSSEX

# What's on?

**FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

**FREE ONLINE webinars & groups  
to support  
Parents & carers of children aged 0-19 years**

**JANUARY TO MARCH 2025**

**Early Help 0-19**  
Respect | Partnership | Strength



**NHS**  
East Sussex Healthcare  
NHS Trust

East Sussex  
County Council

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One off sessions for 90 mins to 2 hours

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To book onto any of our free webinars, please email your name and the title and date of the webinar you wish to attend to:

[EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)

or call 01424 725800 to discuss options

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6 to 8 weeks, 2 hours per week

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To book onto any of our free groups, please email your name and the title and date of the group you wish to attend to:

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# Meet the Parenting Team...



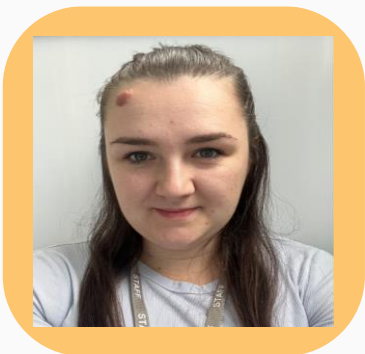
**Ann Marie**



**Sarah**



**Gemma**



**Carly**



**Helen**

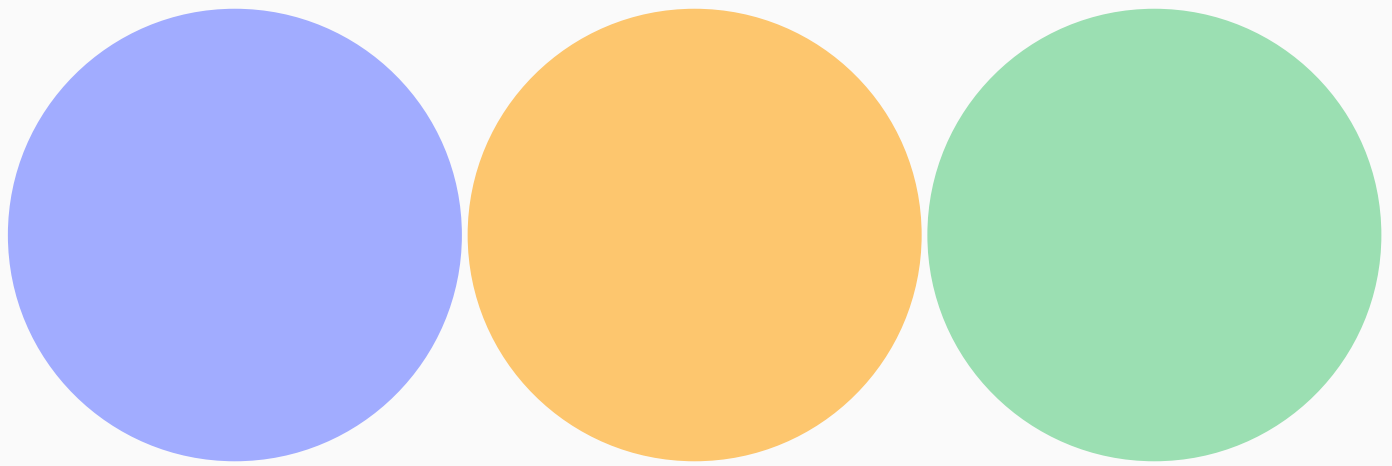


**Sophie**



**Jeorgia**



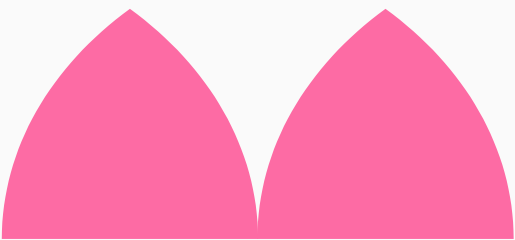


# WEBINARS

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# The power of positive parenting

Appropriate for children aged 2-10 years



This webinar is perfect for new parents/carers, or those who need a refresh!

It introduces parents to the five key principles of positive parenting that form the basis of Triple P. These principles are:

- Ensuring a safe, engaging environment
- Creating a positive learning environment
- Using assertive discipline
- Having reasonable expectations
- Looking after yourself as a parent

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January  
6:30-8:30pm

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
12:30-2:30pm

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March  
6:30-8:30pm





# Oral health

with H.A.L.O (Healthy Active Little Ones)  
Appropriate for children aged 0-12 years



**Do you have a regular battle with brushing your child's teeth?**

**This session is for parents/ carers who want oral health support. Gain knowledge & practical advice on developing healthy habits around toothbrushing & sugary foods.**

**As part of attending the session, families will receive a complimentary toothbrush pack for their child/ children.**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January  
10:00-12:00**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
12:30-2:30pm**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00-12:00**



# Encouraging positive choices & managing conflict

Appropriate for children aged 2-10 years



This very popular session helps parents/carers to teach their children limits, make good choices and build a strong bond through effective communication

Taking turns, waiting, following instructions, getting along with others, and being told “no” can be hard, especially for younger children.

As the brain grows and emotional regulation develops tantrums are a normal way to express themselves.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January  
10:00-12:00

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
6:30-8:30pm

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March  
12:30-2:30pm



# Learning about Neurodivergent children

Appropriate for children aged 2-19 years



This session is for parents/carers who want to develop their understanding and knowledge of different types of neurodivergence and ways to support Neurodivergent children.

We look at:

- What is Neurodivergence & neurodiversity?
- Different types of neurodivergence
  - Pathological demand avoidance (PDA)
- Sensory Sensitivities
- Meltdowns & tantrums

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February  
12:30-2:30pm

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00-12:00

# The Importance of play

Appropriate for children aged 2-10 years



Let's talk about play! What is it and why

is it so important?

Play is an essential tool that can help to support our child's core skills such as social, cognitive, physical, emotional & creative skills.

This webinar discusses ways in which we as parents/carers can get involved & encourage our children to play in ways that help to develop their confidence, self-esteem, curiosity & independence. Play & learning go hand in hand.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January  
12:30-2:30pm

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
10:00-12:00

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00-12:00

# Managing anxiety & raising resilient children

Appropriate for children aged 2-12 years



**This session is for parents/carers who want to develop their child's understanding of big feelings & appropriate ways to express them. Gain knowledge on how to encourage your child to problem solve & cope with stressful situations. In this session we will go through some practical ideas and strategies to help with anxiety – turning challenges into opportunities!**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January  
12:30–2:30pm**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February  
6:30–8:30pm**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00–12:00**



# Online safety in a digital world

Appropriate for children aged 2-19 years



Screens surround our children from birth, from TV to smartphones, desktop computers and laptops to tablets, iPads, and even smartwatches.

We understand the challenges parents face in the ever-changing digital world - this webinar will support you through tricky conversations, digital dilemmas and setting them up safely.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January  
10:00-12:00

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February  
12:30-2:30

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March  
6:30-8:30pm

# Understanding your teenager

Appropriate for children aged 10-19 years



Sometimes talking to pre-teens and teenagers and feeling close can be tricky. As children go through adolescence their brains go through a huge development and pruning process, which can mean lots of things change very quickly, leaving both parents and teens feeling frustrated and confused with one another. In this session we look at what's going on in our pre-teens and teens brains, how we can reduce and avoid confrontation and have much better communication.

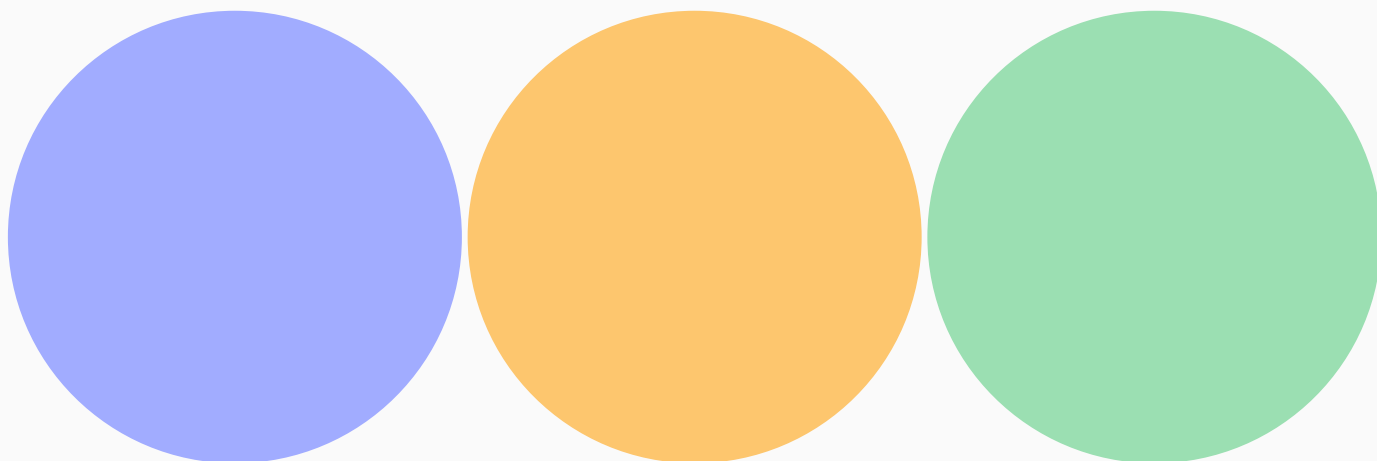


Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January  
10:00-12:00

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February  
6:30-8:30pm

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00-12:00





# GROUPS

To book onto any of our free groups, please email your name, the title & dates of the group you wish to attend to:

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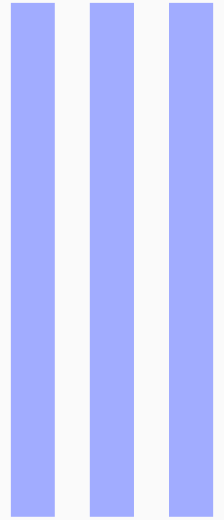




# **NEW!** EarlyBird Plus

from the  
**National Autistic Society**

Appropriate for children aged 4-9 years diagnosed  
with autism or on  
the pathway to diagnosis



EarlyBird Plus is a programme for parents/carers of autistic children aged 4 to 9 years from the National Autistic Society. This programme empowers parents to understand more about autism in their children.

The aim of the EarlyBird plus programme is to equip parents/carers to develop a greater understanding of their child's needs whilst waiting for or following diagnosis. It also aims to develop a consistent approach across settings (e.g. home and school)



Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January  
To  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March

10:00-12:00

*7 sessions over 8 weeks,  
with a break for half term*

# Fear Less

For parents/carers with children experiencing moderate to severe anxiety  
Appropriate for children aged 2-10 years



Anxiety in children can cause significant distress or negatively impact on everyday life.

Fear Less has four main goals:

- To support setting a good example of coping with anxiety
- To assist parents/carers to coach children to become emotionally resilient
- To help develop a toolbox of strategies for supporting children to manage their anxiety more effectively
- To help parents/carers find effective ways to respond to their children's anxiety



Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
To  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

12:30-2:30

*7 Sessions over  
8 weeks, with a break for  
half term*

# **NEW!** Harmony at home

For parents/carers that are still together, but are experiencing regular disagreements and conflict



Everyone has arguments from time to time - they are a normal part of relationships. How they are resolved is the most important thing. If they happen often, are intense or not resolved properly they can negatively affect children's mental health and wider development.

Harmony at home is designed to help parents/carers to help themselves at the times when arguing and poor communication are overwhelming their relationship.

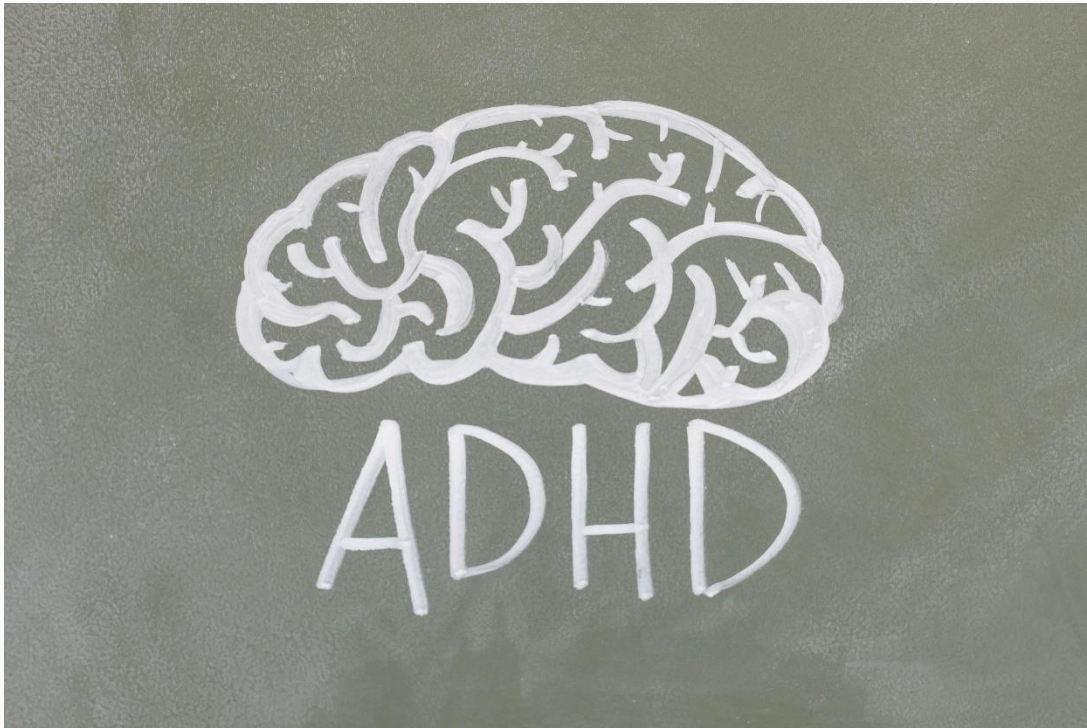


**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February  
To  
Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
10:00-12:00**

***7 Sessions over 8 weeks,  
with a break for half term***

# New Forest Parenting Programme

Helping parents/carers to help children  
aged 3-11 years with ADHD



The New Forest Parenting Programme (NFPP) is for parents with a child between the ages of three and eleven with moderate to severe symptoms of ADHD.

NFPP takes place online and during these sessions, parents are made aware of symptoms and signs of ADHD and the ways in which they may affect their child's behaviour and their relationship with their child. Parents also learn strategies for managing their child's behaviour and attention difficulties.



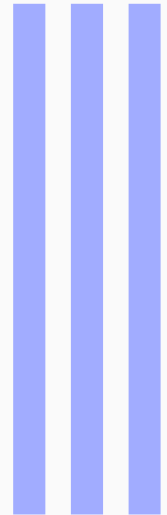
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
To  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March

10:00-12:00

*7 sessions over 8 weeks,  
with a break for half term*

# **New!** Calmer co-parenting

For parents who are separated or divorced  
Learn at your own pace, anywhere, anytime.



Each of the five online modules takes about an hour (or less) to complete.

Interactive, easy-to-use online program with videos, activities and downloadable resources.

Supported by an East Sussex Parenting Practitioner

Your former partner and other family members can do the programme too.

- Improve communication and reduce conflict with your co-parent
- Gain new ideas, techniques and strategies to help you through the day-to-day dramas
- Build parenting skills and confidence
- Support your child to manage emotions and develop good coping skills

# Feedback

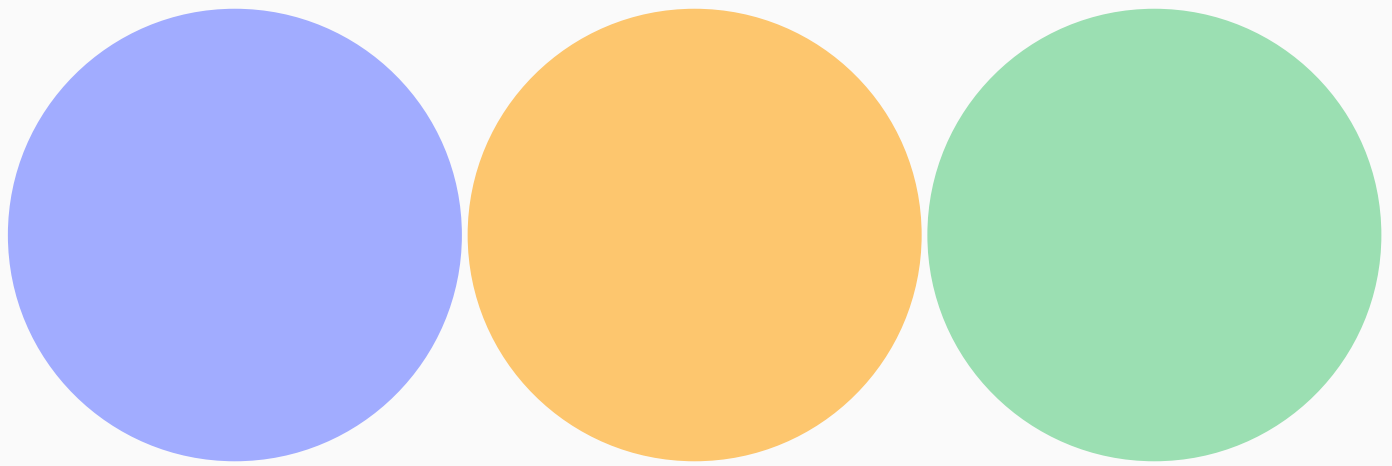
from parents and carers who have attended  
some of our webinars and groups...

I enjoyed the course very much and felt welcomed. I feel I have come away with loads of ideas, it's just now putting them into play at the right time.

"Amazing! Can't wait to start putting things into practice. I found this session fantastic"

"It was so amazing. Non-judgemental, having the team to talk to was so helpful."

"Facilitators were brilliant, they really helped me have the confidence to follow things through, listened and didn't judge and I felt able to speak up throughout the course, thank you."



# BOOK YOUR PLACE

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or call 01424 725800 to discuss options

# Get in touch



Being a parent is not always easy. You are not alone if you find it difficult sometimes.

But it's OK. You can talk to us.

If you live in East Sussex and you're worried about managing your child's behaviour, supporting their development or their emotional wellbeing, or you want support & advice to help build a positive relationship with your child, we can help.

## Do you have any questions?



Call: 01424 725800



email: [EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:EH.0-19parentingteam@eastsussex.gov.uk)



Visit: [www.familyhubs.eastsussex/activities](http://www.familyhubs.eastsussex/activities)



Find us on Facebook: The Parenting Team

