



LINWOOD
TRAINING, SUPPORT & ADVICE

Linwood School News



MESSAGE FROM GEMMA TALBOT, EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

What an amazing start to the new academic year! We have welcomed current and new students across all campuses and our students have been settling in to the routines of the new school year and building relationships with peers and staff.

As well as the lessons and activities regularly on offer through the curriculum, there have been lots of extra-curricular trips and activities for various groups across the school. Some notable highlights were: students at Woodford Campus enjoyed a workshop with staff from Lush learning about the production of bath bombs. Summerwood have been really busy – see page 3 for highlights! Some students from Springwood campus have been horse riding in Bovington and lots of students have visited the Tree House near the airport – check out their website for more details.

We are very excited for the opening of our new Post 16 provision, The Skills Centre (see right for more information) and we look forward to sharing the photos and highlights of the Open Afternoon in the next newsletter.

I hope you all have a restful break over the half term and we look forward to welcoming the students back on **Monday 3rd November**.

THE SKILLS CENTRE – NEW POST 16 BUILDING

We have been fortunate enough to work with BCP to find a new building for our Linwood and Springwood Campus Post 16 cohort. The building was formerly the Ted Webster Children's Centre on Ashley Road in Parkstone. It has undergone major refurbishment to get it ready for our students to move into after the October half term. We have been taking the students across to see the new building before they move in and they are very excited about it!

We will be having an official opening on Wednesday 12th November and the Mayor of Poole will be officiating. The students' families and various stakeholders have also been invited to attend. If you would like more information on the progress of the build, please take a look on our website – click the link below:

<https://linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk/new-skills-centre/>





TESCO STRONGER STARTS

We applied to take part in the Tesco Stronger Starts project and we won! Voting was held at Tesco stores between 1st April 2025 to 30th June 2025 and proved to be very successful with millions of votes being cast by Tesco Customers across the UK.

We were granted a total of £1,307 which will go towards the Alma Sensory Project that we were raising funds for last year. Donna and Sally, two representatives from Tesco, came into Linwood Campus on 16th September to present the cheque to us. They were hosted by Badgers class who were all amazing!

HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Citizens Advice BCP manages some of the Household Support Fund (HSF) on behalf of BCP Council. This includes issuing grants to provide short-term financial support for low-income households struggling with food and energy. If you think you may be eligible and would like further information on how to apply, please click on the link below:

<https://citizensadvicebcp.org.uk/projects/household-support-fund/>



ACTIVITIES FOR ALL THE FAMILY

The Parks Foundation are an independent charity devoted to enhancing BCPs parks and green spaces for everyone to enjoy.

There are lots of activities planned for the May half term. For further information, click on the link below which will take you to their events page:

<https://parksfoundation.org.uk/events/>

TREEHOUSE TRIP!

During this term, some of our students took a trip to The Treehouse, a specialist venue created with children and adults with physical and learning disabilities in mind and is run by Diverse Abilities.

The students had a fantastic time and every inch was explored!



SUMMERWOOD CAMPUS UPDATES

POST 16 LUSH FACTORY TOUR

On Thursday 25th September, a group of Summerwood students joined CHI students for an exciting visit to the LUSH Factory, organised by the Linwood Workplace Coordinators. During the tour, students explored the factory and even got hands-on by making face masks and bath bombs! LUSH staff also delivered an engaging talk about the company and the various career pathways available within the cosmetics industry.



Our students impressed everyone with their insightful questions about LUSH's operations as a global manufacturer. And of course, there was time for some well-deserved shopping in the LUSH Factory store!

ROBOTICS WORKSHOP

The Autumn term kicked off with a dynamic Robotics Workshop for Summerwood and Lumos students, hosted by Hyett Education.

A big thank you to David Price, our Summerwood Science Teacher, for organising this enriching experience. Students developed valuable skills in coding and gained insight into careers in STEM industries.



BLOOD BROTHERS TRIP

Over 30 students from Summerwood and Linwood attended an inspiring performance of Blood Brothers at the Lighthouse Theatre in Poole.



Students were outstanding in their behaviour and engagement. They were a real credit to their families and to the School. It was an amazing opportunity for them to experience a real live performance as the majority of students had not done this before. It was a pleasure to speak with them afterwards and see their excitement about what they had just experienced on stage. A huge thank to all staff who supported with this trip and helped to ensure the day such a success. We couldn't have done it without you.

Also, a big thank you to the Lighthouse who let the staff have carers tickets so we could use all the money to take more students.

BUDDING RADIO PRESENTER AT SUMMERWOOD!

Linwood Radio has opened up an exciting opportunity for Summerwood students to create and present their own radio shows.



Mihnea was the first to take the mic, delivering a fantastic 30-minute segment packed with football facts. A passionate supporter of both Bournemouth and Romanian football, Mihnea impressed listeners with his extensive knowledge of the sport at local, national and international levels.

 Listen to the show here:

[A conversation with Mihnea on the subject of football](#)

LINWOOD RADIO

Welcome back to Linwood Radio! If you haven't already, please have a listen to episodes we have recorded this term.

[Welcome Back! Hello Autumn term 2025!](#)

[King's Lance, Queen's Lance](#)

[All around the kitchen... and a handful of dedications](#)

[A conversation with Mihnea on the subject of football](#)



If you would like to contact the radio please email:
linwoodradio@linwood.Bournemouth.sch.uk



REQUESTS FOR LEAVE

Just a reminder that if you need to request leave from school for your child, you must put it in writing for the attention of Gemma Talbot, Executive Headteacher. You can either drop a letter into your campus reception or email: leaverequest@linwood.Bournemouth.sch.uk

Schools are only allowed to grant a leave of absence in *exceptional circumstances*. Unfortunately, a family holiday is not an exceptional circumstance.

We have been particularly lenient over the past few years, but have now been directed to not authorise any leave unless the school considers it exceptional.

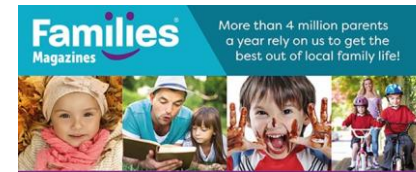
Thank you for your understanding.

BOURNEMOUTH FESTIVAL OF RUNNING

Many staff members took part in the Bournemouth Festival of running on the weekend of 11th October. Some volunteered to make sure the event ran as smoothly as possible, whilst others ran the distance!

It was a fantastic weekend and everyone had a good time. We are already looking forward to next year. Bookings are now open for anyone looking to participate. Fun runs for children, 5k and 10k races and the half marathon are all options to consider. If you are interested, please click on the link below for more details:

<https://www.runbournemouth.com/supernova5k>



FAMILIES DORSET MAGAZINE

What's on for families in Dorset for the October half term?

Please click on the link below to access more information and the latest issue of Families Dorset: [Families Dorset - October half term](#)

FREE SCHOOL MEAL HOLIDAY VOUCHERS

We will be contacting you shortly about the vouchers that support pupils through the school holiday period. These will be available for £15 per week equivalent for each eligible pupil. This funding comes from national decision making and funding.

The vouchers are provided as supermarket vouchers and a link will be sent via email/text. If you believe you are eligible for the voucher and do not receive a link, please email: enquiries@linwood.Bournemouth.sch.uk

KIDS EAT FREE - OCTOBER HALF-TERM

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Dear Families,

I'm pleased to let you know that our full summary of the governors' work over the last academic year is now available on the school website. It provides more detail on how we've supported the school and our wonderful students. You'll find it under the Impact Statement tab in the Governors section. Please click the link below:

[Annual Governance Report 2024/25](#)

Next half term, governors will be carrying out learning walks and link monitoring visits to see the fantastic work happening across the school, how students are learning and thriving and how staff are supporting them.



Thank you for your ongoing support of Linwood School!

Sue Lay
Chair of Governors

BCP COUNCIL INFORMATION DIRECTORY

The information directory has lots of activities, including SEND appropriate activities that families can access over October half term.

Please click on the link for further information:

[BCP Family Information Directory](#)

<p>01. BILL'S</p> <p>Children can eat free all weekdays with any adult main course</p>	<p>02. THE REAL GREEK</p> <p>Every Sunday, for every £10 spent by an adult, one child under 12 gets a free meal, including a drink and ice cream or sorbet.</p>	<p>03. BELLA ITALIA</p> <p>Kids Eat For £1 Sunday to Wednesday, until 6pm and FREE all day on Thursdays!</p>
<p>04. PRETO</p> <p>Kids eat free with every paying adult all day on weekends and from 4pm weekdays. (Download the voucher first!)</p>	<p>05. DOBBIES</p> <p>Kids eat for £1, including a drink with the purchase of an adult meal. Plus you can have a good mooch!</p>	<p>06. IKEA</p> <p>Kids' meals from 95p! Pasta, drink and fruit = done. Budget-friendly Swedish goodness.</p>
<p>07. TGI FRIDAYS</p> <p>Free kids' main when an adult orders one – all day, every day (Stripes Rewards members only – it's free to join!).</p>	<p>08. GORDON RAMSAY</p> <p>Fancy but family-friendly. Free kids' main when an adult orders two courses at select Ramsay spots.</p>	<p>09. MORISSONS</p> <p>One free kids' meal with any adult meal over £5. Handy mid-shop pit stop!</p>
<p>10. TENPIN</p> <p>Kids eat free on Mondays when you book two junior games of bowling</p>	<p>11. ASK ITALIAN</p> <p>Kids eat for £1 with an adult purchase during the holidays</p>	<p>12. DUNELM</p> <p>Kids eat free with drink and snack with any £4 spent in their Pausa cafes</p>
<p>13. ANGUS STEAKHOUSE</p> <p>Free kids' meal (plus colouring!) every day 'til 5pm with an adult main.</p>	<p>14. PUREZZA</p> <p>Mini pizza = mega win. Kids under 10 eat free with an adult meal at this plant-based pizza haven.</p>	<p>15. TESCO</p> <p>Kids eat free when an adult purchases any item Monday-Friday.</p>

FAMILY SUPPORT - DIARY DATES

STAY AND PLAY

October Half Term – Monday 27th and Wednesday 29th, 10am – 12 noon at Littlewood Campus

WELLNESS GROUP

Every Monday at Linwood Campus Family Room, 9.30am – 11.30am

COFFEE MORNINGS

Thursday 6th November and Thursday 4th December, 9:30am – 11am, Springwood Campus

Tuesday 9th December, 9.30am – 11am, Woodford Campus

MY CHILD

Wednesday 26th November and Wednesday 17th December, 10am – 12 noon, Linwood Campus Family Room. Monthly coffee morning focusing on regulation and engagement

SHAPE CODING WORKSHOP

Thursday 27th November, 10am – 12 noon, Linwood Campus Family Room. Contact familysupport@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk for more info and to book a place (a flyer with more information will be sent out after half term)

TALKING DADS

Friday 28th November 10am - 11:30am, Linwood Campus Family Room. Open to all male carers/family members

Parents/carers are welcome to attend coffee mornings/workshops at any campus.

Any questions, please call the Family Support Team on 01202 525107.

IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance)

- **All leavers:** Colleges now have their Open Events on their websites. If there is a provision you would like your young person to attend, please book into one of the Open Events on the colleges website
- **Future Thoughts Coffee Morning:** Weds 12th November 10am -11.30am: Opportunity for families to come together and discuss next steps.
- **Future Pathways Event:** Date for the diary - Tuesday 25th November.
- **Reminder of deadlines for final choices:** For year 11, BCP students: 31st Oct. Year 14, BCP Students: by Christmas break.

PLACEMENT SUCCESS!

Earlier this month, some of our students went on work placements. Jonny and Mason (below picture) had their placement at The Entertainer toy store. Jonny said *"I really enjoyed my 2-week placement at The Entertainer and I would love to do it again!"*

What amazing feedback from the students - who are really starting to recognise and seek out opportunities for their future skills development.

Thank you also to the Placement Coordinators and the class staff teams who support the students on placement - this includes not only placement support, but travel training to get to the placement as well.



NATIONAL COLLEGE TRAINING – ONLINE SAFETY

Linwood School has signed up for training via The National College that enables staff to train online as well as having our usual face-to-face sessions. The good news is that we can also enrol parents and carers onto the platform to enable you to undertake training that would be specific for parents, such as Online Safety.

We would encourage you to download the National Online Safety App, this way you can view the content just for parents/carers, without having to filter through National College content on the website.

If you would like to enrol, please click on the link: [National College Enrolment](#)

You will need to ensure that you select **Parent/Carer** from the drop down menu when registering.

There is more information on social media apps and sites if you click on the link: [National College - Social Media Apps](#)

- We post weekly updates on our Facebook page, including online safety guides – please give us a follow if you haven't already!
- The NSPCC website is also a great resource for families and their content is for all ages: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- They also have specific content for SEND pupils, specifically [Online safety for families and children with SEND](#) and [Supporting children with SEND to talk to people online](#)

We do hope that you will take advantage of these wonderful resources to help you as parents/carers to discuss social media and online safety with your child/children in order to keep them safe.

National Online Safety® Download your Free Online Safety App for Parents & Carers



On the National Online Safety app you'll find:

- ✔ Hundreds of online safety guides on the topics you need to know about – from screen addiction, fake news and trolling to hacking, social media influencers and sexting;
- ✔ An online safety training course for parents – developed by our experts and delivered by online safety ambassador Myleene Klass;
- ✔ A user-friendly interface with increased functionality – find exactly what you need, when you need it;
- ✔ The option to get notifications to your phone as soon as new content becomes available – so you can stay up-to-date with the latest online crazes (and risks!);
- ✔ An in-app voting system so you can help determine the subjects you'd like us to cover in future;
- ✔ The facility to personalise your content by favouriting key resources.

Download the free app today



Scan to download on Apple App Store



Scan to download on Google Play Store

or search for 'National Online Safety' in the store



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Search for: **Linwood School**



GambleAware

See website for Terms & conditions. Enter by 25/10/25.



Thank you to those of you that have registered with easyfundraising. So far, you have raised over **£1,200** for Linwood School which is amazing!

We now have 40 supporters, but we could do with more! With summer round the corner, some of you might be thinking about booking a holiday abroad or even a staycation! TUI, Booking.com and various hotels are all part of easyfundraising. Please think about signing up and help to raise funds for the school.

Registering with them means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

Please click on the link below which will take you to our donation page and where you can sign up: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/linwood-school>

Alternatively, you can download their app to your phone. Once you have registered, you use the site to find a retailer, click on them and they will redirect you to the retailer's website.

There are many retailers to choose from such as Argos, eBay, John Lewis, Tesco, Sports Direct, Just Eat, Deliveroo and TUI, to name a few!



FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS!

We have now reached over 1,000 followers on Facebook, which is amazing! Thank you to all the parents, carers and friends of Linwood School that follow us.

We include lots of information on there about the school and events that are happening, so please consider giving us a follow if you can! Thank you for your support.