



Christ at the Centre : Children at the Heart

Loving to Learn : Learning to Love



# St Louis Catholic Academy

Dear Families,

The 8th March 2021 was a very happy day because we finally welcomed all our children back into school. It took little time to settle everyone back into their learning routines because many families have been brilliant in home learning support throughout the latest lockdown. This has helped reduce the potential for many children falling significantly behind in meeting their age-related expectations in reading, writing and maths. However, we can't expect every child to be on track in their learning and staff are busy delivering targeted intervention support every afternoon throughout the school whilst maintaining mornings for teachers to focus upon delivering high quality reading, writing and maths lessons. We also recognise the need for additional pastoral support to be offered to learners and we have trained a team to be mental health first aiders and some staff have been developed to use drawing and talking skills to support children to express themselves. In Autumn term, you told us that school did not offer a good range of clubs and so we've been busy developing new opportunities for children before and after school and during lunchtimes. We plan to begin to introduce these in Summer Term. Children have shown great understanding of the importance of Lent and it has been wonderful to experience the prayer life in school, give to others and to prepare for Easter as a school community. I wish you a safe and restful Easter.

Best wishes

Sue Blakeley



**We have spaces! Please tell your friends.** We have spaces in classes across our school.

Our nursery has wrap around care and can accommodate your child during your working day. We are an inclusive Catholic school, welcoming of all children.

Please enquire now & tell others.

## A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,  
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.  
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.  
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.  
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.  
Amen.



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Dear Parents and Friends of St Louis' School,

Like you I am delighted to see the school once again full of children as we expect it to be. I would like to pay tribute to the staff and Head of School for the way in which they have risen to the challenge of teaching within the constraints of the COVID pandemic. Their dedication and commitment together with the enthusiasm of the children makes St Louis the good school it undoubtedly is.

At the beginning of April the Christian Church celebrates what lies at the heart of our faith: the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It has been said with some justification that the Christian Faith hinges on a series of events that took place in Palestine over the course of 48 hours nearly 2000 years ago. Quite a tall claim. The children in school have been preparing for this celebration both in class and in assemblies. I am delighted that parents have been able to join us through these live streamed assemblies.

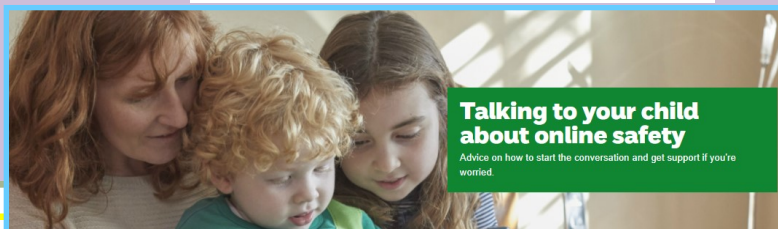
Jesus died and has risen from the dead. In this he has overcome sin and death and opened up heaven for us. This is good news for all of us. Better still friendship with God and the life of Heaven is ours as a present gift through faith and the sacraments of the Church. I would like to offer an invitation for you to join us at Mass this Easter. Please come along, but due to COVID restrictions it is necessary to book a place for Mass by going online to the parish website. Please don't be put off. A warm welcome awaits you over the Easter Season.

With the assurance of my prayers and good wishes,

Fr Christopher

Our Lady Immaculate and St. Etheldreda Catholic Church, Newmarket

For all church dates and news, check the weekly church bulletin <http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/> Link to the latest newsletter from the parish home page



### Talking to your child about online safety

Advice on how to start the conversation and get support if you're worried.



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

# Spotlight on UKS2



Upper Key Stage 2 is made up of year groups 5 and 6: Hazel, Larch and Maple classes. We are situated upstairs in the original Victorian building and are the oldest two year groups in primary school, before pupils move onto their secondary schools. In addition to building on the learning in LKS2, we concentrate on preparing children to become the more independent and responsible learners they will need to be in secondary school. Whilst the recent school-closure period was difficult in so many ways, some of our pupils have clearly become more independent, more resourceful and more resilient as a result. We were extremely impressed with how well all our children coped with their learning over the past few months - whether at home or in school - but it was wonderful to welcome them all back on 8th March. They were so happy to see their friends, we were so happy to see them and we all feel like we are now situated back where we belong!

At the end of KS2 (Year 6) pupils are tested as part of the programme of National Curriculum tests (sometimes known as 'SATs'). These tests cover English (Reading Comprehension, and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) and Mathematics (Arithmetic and Reasoning). Teachers' assessments for writing are also submitted in June. The National Curriculum tests are externally marked, with results for each school published in the Department for Education performance tables. The NC tests usually take place at the beginning of May, with results published at the beginning of July. Due to the extended period of school closure this year however, these National Curriculum tests have been cancelled for this May. Class teachers will still be assessing pupils' progress and attainment in both years 5 and 6 and this information will be included in the Year 6 children's transition exchange with secondary schools.

Like LKS2, we also base our learning around a termly 'theme'. This theme is led by our choice of English books (through the Power of Reading scheme), which we use as the basis for our English reading comprehension, writing, grammar and punctuation teaching and learning. The themes this year have been Leadership through History (Autumn term) and Britain at War (Spring term). In the Summer term we will be studying Migration, What does it mean to be British. We have selected the novel Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson and a book of poetry called Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson to support our learning. We continue to teach RE, Science, History, Geography, French, PE, Art, Computing, Music and PSHCE (Personal Social Health and Citizenship Education) following the national curriculum guidelines. However, we also endeavour to offer pupils a much wider curriculum, including a broad range of activities like participating in live science presentations, exploring the energy activity of our solar panels, Playmaker training, Bikeability, Camping weekend, Mini Vinnies and much more!

In Year 6, all pupils are awarded a role of responsibility. These include prefects, librarians, dance leaders, play rangers, sports leaders, press and digital officers and head boy and girl. These extra responsibilities contribute towards pupils' service to others and leadership experiences. Towards the end of Year 5, pupils are asked to consider which role may be best suited to them for the forthcoming year. They then write a letter of application to Mrs Blakeley and myself (as KS2 Leader). In addition, Year 6 pupils are able to apply to become House Captains. This involves leading their house in sports and fundraising ventures.

As always, if you want to find out about anything else or need to speak with any of us about anything, please email using your child's class email address or get in touch with the office if you need us to call you.

Mrs Feehan (KS2 Leader)

## Welcome to St Louis Forest School

We are Working with Abbeycroft Explore Outdoor to launch our Forest School. Going forward, every year 2 and 3 children will attend Forest School in the woodland for half a day every fortnight. Over Summer term, year 4 can book a place at the after school Forest Club held on Thursdays.

Mrs Cox has agreed to be our Forest Leader but it will take up to 9 months to train and so Abbeycroft leaders will work with us for the next year. We plan to train more staff to develop their Forest School skills. The New Economics Foundation (NEF) evaluated the benefits of Forest Schools. Their evaluation suggests: Forest Schools make a difference in the following ways:

**Confidence:** children had the freedom, time and space to learn and demonstrate independence

**Social skills:** children gained increased awareness of the consequences of their actions on peers through team activities such as sharing tools and participating in play

**Communication:** language development was prompted by the children's sensory experiences

**Motivation:** the woodland tended to fascinate the children and they developed a keenness to participate and the ability to concentrate over longer periods of time

**Physical skills:** these improvements were characterised by the development of physical stamina and gross and fine motor skills

**Knowledge and understanding:** the children developed an interest in the natural surroundings and respect for the environment



in-  
ac-

Healthy children  
make a healthy future



### Keeping our children fit and healthy

Some children have become less active during lockdown but we are getting children outside for their daily mile now we are all back together.

We've added more outdoor sports opportunities

at lunchtimes too with a cricket area, target walls and wall mounted basketball hoops. One Life Suffolk offer support to families

At OneLife Suffolk, we they offer a combination of 10-week Family Programmes in the community and 'After School Programmes'. They take an approach that focuses more on the importance of healthy lifestyles, instead of encouraging weight loss, where there are no unrealistic expectations.

<https://onelifesuffolk.co.uk/services/families-young-people/our-programmes/>

Contact school if you need help with a referral

**One  
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Suffolk**

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# World Book Day

Well done to the winners of the best dressed book characters at home and in school. We enjoyed our book based meal too– thank you catering team. KS1 also made brilliant story boxes.



# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT



Mrs Cox held her amazing Fairtrade events during March with the help of the catering team.

We feasted on Fairtrade soup, hot chocolate and a take home cookie bag to raise funds for Cafod. Thank you all for raising an incredible £270.



## Our contributions to Cafod this Lent

**We launched Lent with Assemblies led by Mary Humphrey—a Cafod volunteer speaker. All our children worked hard this Lent to raise money for Cafod. Thank you for all your help.**

**Events included:**

**Mid-week Milkshake Bar**

**Fairtrade soup, hot chocolate and cookies**

**Nursery and Foundation guess the number of sweets**

**KS1 All the Fun of the Fair Afternoon**

**LKS2 Dressing Gown and Slippers Day**

INDEPENDENT  
FOOD AID  
NETWORK

## FOOD BANK

**COLLECTION DAY IS EVERYDAY DURING LOCKDOWN**

**During Lent, we did things a little differently by asking children to bring in a different item each week. Home learners saved up their items at home until they returned on 8th March.**

**We collected:** soups, pasta, noodles & rice, Cereal, cleaning products for home and beauty/skincare, jams and spreads

Thank you

**Our next trolley collection is Thursday 15th April**

Newmarket **Open Door**  
Churches Together With People in Need

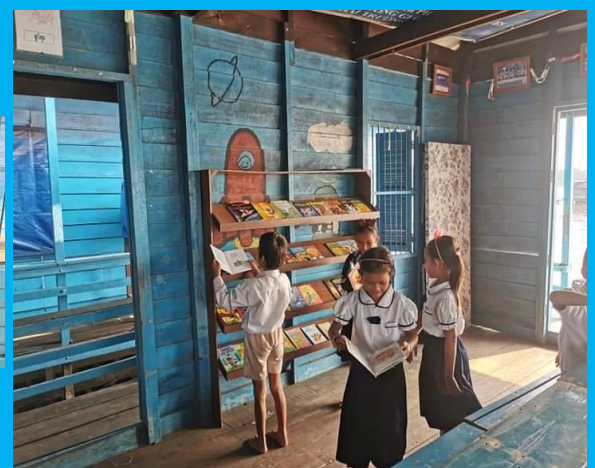
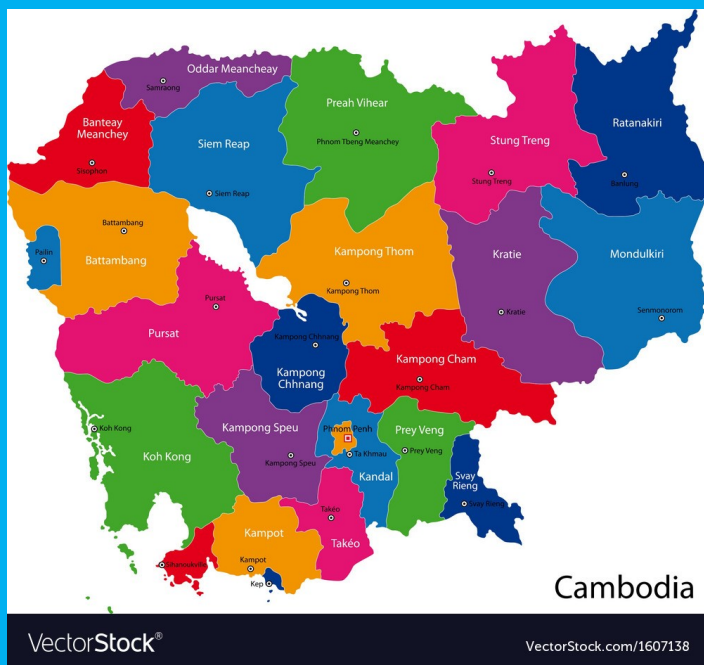


# Our Books to Cambodia finally arrived!

Our recently retired Governor, Miss Fox (who was also a teacher in our school for many years) supports a boat school in Cambodia. She has visited several times and tries to take supplies with her each time. These include resources for the school and medical supplies. She raises interest through the Parish. Although she comes into school to speak with our children about the school, until now, we have not sent anything over.

Just before school closure, in March last year, Mrs White, the Y6 librarians, the Mini Vinnies and Mrs Feehan ran a book sale in school. Miss Fox chose books to send to the Boat School and the money raised was used as postage (£285.55!) to send 4 boxes of books to them.

Unfortunately, since March last year, the school has either been flooded or closed. However, the school is now open and our books are in use. Miss Fox has sent us these wonderful photographs to show us how delighted the children are with their new reading opportunities.





We took part in British Science Week : a 10-day programme running throughout the whole of the UK with the aim of celebrating science, engineering, technology and maths. We hope that all our children have been inspired by this.

Thank you to our amazing volunteers who gave live talks each day during science week.

Mr Hodson told us about how proteins are used to make early cancer detection kits.

Mrs Veysier talked about therapies and drugs used against cancer.

Mrs Beswick took us to the laboratory for a microbiology lesson about bacteria and how drinking water reaches our tap.

We ended the week with UKS2 watching a live Mad Science Lesson in the hall with our other bubbles joining us in their classrooms.

Helpline: 0800 068 3131

There is a clear need to provide ongoing support to the Suffolk population both in response to Covid-19 and to meet wider support needs.



**Our Science Winners**



**FRIENDS OF ST LOUIS (FOSL)**

FOSL have been busy recruiting new members. A huge thank you to those who have come forward to help this group who raise money for St Louis children. Please think about joining this growing group. We're always on the lookout for new ideas for fundraising, so drop us a line with your ideas. FOSL will be running a **Monster Easter Egg Raffle** this year and we'd welcome donations of eggs to raffle. From 15th March, tickets will be sold in class bubbles



for 20p each.

All £1 donations for World Book Day and Mad Science Day are for FOSL fundraising that goes directly back to supporting children with extras in school. FOSL make a huge difference to ST Louis.

Shelley Bosley and Wendy Patman– Smyth



# Project X CODE

Proven phonics intervention for Years 2-4

We have invested in some new books to support children who need help with catch-up to meet their age related reading goals. These books combine phonics and comprehension development in an exciting and motivational character adventure series. Some children may soon be sharing the adventures of the Code X characters with you at home.

We need every child to have time to share reading with an adult at home because confident readers develop into great writers. Your child will be sent home with a book and reading diary. Please help them to read daily wherever possible. Similarly, we are using extra adults to support children in their daily reading in school.

A group of confident readers are taking part in Reading Gladiator challenges too.



**Parent Consultations online:** Thank you for attending your online meeting with your class teacher during March. You should now understand if your child is working at their age related expectations for reading, writing, maths and phonics or if they are below or above when compared to schools nationally. We will be focusing upon catch up interventions for those needing extra support whilst stretching learners to progress to working at Greater Depth too.



## Your School Council is busy

The school council had a productive meeting which discussed all things concerning the big 'Return to School'. Representatives all agreed that their pupils have settled back into the class well - it feels like they never left! As we are getting back into the swing of things we are proposing the introduction of Student Diaries so that pupils can keep track of the day to day happenings and due dates. Representatives have been conscious contributors to CAFOD fundraisers and have been encouraging their pupils to participate and think about how they can give back during Lent. Our EcoSchool certification seems to be within reach as representatives are beginning to plan and propose various initiatives to the Head Teacher. For example planting class trees and creating 'Insect Hotels' as animal habitats. Representatives are excited for Music to become a more consistent part of our weekly timetable. We have put ideas forward for the structure of Music of the Month, including the use of practical instruments, research projects, and a mixture of modern and classic genres. We wish all St Louis families a safe Easter break and we look forward to accelerating our plans in the Summer term.

## KICKSTART SCHEME

Creating hundreds of thousands of jobs for 16-24 year olds, building their skills and experience.

We've had clearance to support five young people into employment. Four will be classroom based as teaching support assistants and one will be a facilities assistant.

**If you have anyone in your family who might be eligible to apply, let us know and we'll contact them once the positions are advertised on the Government website.**



suffolk  
Resilience



*"I love my job.  
But I don't love the  
thought of passing  
the virus on."*



SAMANTHA, CARE WORKER

### Newmarket test centre now open

Open 7am to 6pm, 7 days a week

- Get free, rapid tests if you have to leave home to work
- Get tested, even if you don't have symptoms
- Get tested at least twice a week

St Etheldreda's Parish  
Centre, Exeter Road,  
Newmarket, CB8 8LT

Around 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19  
don't have any symptoms and can  
spread it without knowing

**Thank you for booking your test**

[www.suffolk.gov.uk/bookatest](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/bookatest)

## Free school meals

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

We've been busy working with our parent panel and volunteer nutritionist to improve our menus. Children loved the chicken burgers on fresh wholemeal roll. You can now enjoy a school roast on Tuesdays and Thursdays up to Easter.

## Young Carers

We have been working with Suffolk Family Carers to register children in school as Young Carers. We are offering free clubs to those who register. To find out more about the service

visit: <https://suffolkfamilycarers.org/young-carers/>

Please ask if you want school to register

your child  
on your  
behalf



Suffolk  
Family Carers  
Living Fuller Lives

Support For Carers  
Young People

# St Louis Clubs - Summer Term

We have been busy developing more clubs because feedback from families in our Autumn survey told us that we could do better. However, we remain in bubbles and have tried to offer each bubble something. We are also limited by space to host these and the wish to keep costs low for you. We are also trying to extend our offer beyond traditional sports to yoga, music, Forest School, book clubs and art over coming months. We are able to offer free DBS screening to parent volunteers who are able to run school clubs. Let us know if you could help or lead with a club.

Here is a reminder of St Louis Clubs for the Summer Term that are available to book on Parentmail.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			<b>Before School</b> Year 5 Multi-Sports 8am to 8.40am	
	<b>Lunchtime</b> Year 2 Ukulele Club 12.10pm to 12.40pm			
<b>After School</b> KS1 Multi-sports finish at 4.15pm	<b>After School</b> Year 4 Netball finish at 4.15pm	<b>After School</b> UKS2 (Year 6) Multisports finish at 4.15pm Year 4 Art Club-finish at 4.30pm  Year 5 Ukulele Club finish at 4.15pm	<b>After School</b> Year 4 Forest School finish at 4.30pm  LKS2 Yoga with Bridget Pooley (external instructor) finish at 4.15pm  UKS2 Hockey Club finish at 4.15pm	<b>After School</b> LKS2 Multi-sport finish at 4.15pm

# Gallery of Learning

## It's Great to Have You All Back in School





## Building of a Willow Cross





# Our Catholic Faith in School and at Home



**Lent** is a very special time for Catholic schools like St Louis and we will be joining Fr. Christopher in prayer each Thursday morning throughout this season. Our key themes for Lent are

### Pray

We will pray in class and at home with an added mid-week reflection led by teachers.

### Stop

We're encouraging children to do a little less of things for themselves and free up time to help others. Screen time is the ideal thing to cut back on.

### Go

With time saved, we are encouraging children to help others, at home, in school, in the local community and wider world.

### Give

We feel children have given up a lot this year already and so our school community wants to focus upon giving to others including our children who have struggled in lockdown. If you want to give a little gift to a child in school, we welcome donations. A pack of coloured pens, a book or something similar is ideal.

### Also please give to our Open door food bank collection

- Week 1 soups
- Week 2 pasta, noodles & rice
- Week 3 cereal
- Week 4 cleaning products
- Week 5 jams and spreads

### Share

We're sharing our food, time and talents to support Cafod, one another and during Lent.

### Take Care

Our Mini-Vinnies are writing to people in the parish who remain isolated during Covid.

We are walking for water in support of the Cafod Lent appeal



This Lent, you made a huge difference! Whether you helped virtually, in your parish community or in school, you

helped us reach out to help people like Abdella who has to walk ten hours a day to find water to keep his family alive. Please watch Abdella's story again: <https://projects.cafod.org.uk/walkforwater/>

# He is Risen

DEATH COULD NOT HOLD HIM.

Rejoice in the resurrection of

Jesus Christ.



WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND JOY FILLED EASTER!

## Jelly Bean Prayer



Red is for the blood He gave.  
 Green is for the new life He made.  
 Yellow is for the Son of God come to earth  
 Orange is for love beyond all worth  
 Black is for the sins we made,  
 White is for the grace He gave.  
 Purple is for His hour of sorrow  
 Pink is for our new tomorrow.

An egg full of Jelly Beans, colorful and sweet is a prayer, is a promise, is an Easter treat.



Lent Appeal 2021



# Dates for your diary

15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Food Bank Collection Day.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 non uniform day. A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

22nd April—Meet the Authors (Tom Palmer virtual visit to talk to children)

6th May 2021 Food Bank Collection Day.

14<sup>th</sup> May 2021 non uniform day. A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

7th and 14th June—Vocations Fortnight Dress as your Vocation Fundraiser

10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 Food Bank Collection Day.

14th June 2021 Eggs coming to St Louis for hatching to chicks

18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 non uniform day. A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 Food Bank Collection Day.

2nd July 2021—Sports Day (Carousel of Sports to win house points) - parent invite subject to Covid-19 restrictions (contingency day 5th July).

2nd July 2021—Year 6 Leavers Mass and Picnic—parent invite subject to Covid-19 restrictions

9th and 10th July 2021—Year 6 Camping in School— subject to sufficient take up.

9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 non uniform day. A fundraising day towards the Friends of St Louis who support the school in its ongoing improvements.

9th July 2021—School Reports Sent Out

W/C 12th July 2021— Opportunity for parents to discuss reports with teachers.

15th July 2021 St Louis End of Year Mass for whole school or a selected bubble and St Louis Day - parent invites dependent upon Covid-19 restrictions.



## Induction Dates for Moving up Classes

17th June (am)

24th June (pm)

1st July (am)

8th July (am)

**Saturday Friends of St Louis Spring Grounds Tidy- Up Day (in bubbles) 10am to 2pm - supervised children welcome. Date to be confirmed.**

Volunteers needed with gardening, hedge tidying, fence painting, tidying around our grounds and more. We will pay for your DBS checks to allow you to help us.

## Theatre Royal Festival

### Performances in School

Monday 14th June—The House that Jackson Built (LKS2)

Monday 21st June—Paper Aeroplane (Nursery, Reception and KS1)

Tuesday 22nd June—The House that Jackson Built (UKS2)

## Our Lady Immaculate and St. Etheldreda Catholic Church, Newmarket

For all church dates and news, check the weekly church bulletin <http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/> Link to the latest newsletter from the parish home page



# Cricket fun

For Boys & Girls, aged five and above



## At Chippenham Cricket Club - Every Monday during summer starting April 12th

At Chippenham Cricket Club we provide coaching every Monday during the summer in the beautiful setting of Chippenham Park, just 5 minutes drive from Newmarket. We also run six junior teams for boys and girls. We cater for all abilities, providing a welcome introduction to the game for beginners, as well as being very proud that players from Chippenham captained teams at county level in both boys and girls junior cricket last summer. If you have a young person in your family who is interested in playing the great game of cricket, then it will be great to see them at Chippenham this summer.

For more information and how to book a place at our sessions please contact Claire Long at [clairelong12@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clairelong12@hotmail.co.uk) or check out our website at [www.chippenhamcricket.co.uk](http://www.chippenhamcricket.co.uk)

## SCC School Nursing Service- Chathealth

The School Nursing Team offers a Chathealth service which is available to young people throughout Suffolk aged 11-19 and their parents/ carers. Parents/carers of children aged 5-19 are also welcome to use the service.

This texting service lets young people/ parents/carers text the School Nursing service to get confidential advice and support for a range of health and wellbeing issues, including:

- Anxiety, emotions, and anger
- Bullying
- Family issues and friendships
- Sexual health and contraception
- Smoking, alcohol, and drugs
- Sleep
- Staying healthy
- Support throughout the Coronavirus pandemic



Chathealth is available Monday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm all year round (except Bank Holidays).

We aim to reply within one working day and you should get an immediate auto-reply message to confirm we received your text.

If you text the number out of these hours, you'll get a 'bounce-back' message that explains where to get help, and a school nurse will get back to you the next working day.

Below is a link to our Chathealth video;

[Chathealth Video](#)



*“The teaching is a joy and I have the flexibility to deliver a course that engages and empowers the children in a fun way.”*

an Outspoken cycle instructor

## We're searching for new Cycle Instructors

### Could you inspire the next generation of cyclists?

Outspoken Training are looking for confident communicators to enthuse school children to make more journeys by bicycle.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Freelance (self-employed)

Hourly Rate: £12

Cycle Training Programme: Bikeability

Training and Support: We provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact Sean:

[jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk](mailto:jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk)

01223 473820

[outspokentraining.co.uk/vacancies](http://outspokentraining.co.uk/vacancies)

