



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 552
17th April 2026

Welcome Back Letter - Summer Term

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back everyone to the Summer Term at Sharples. We have a packed schedule for the coming weeks for the Sharples community.

Our Year 11 students will begin their formal GCSE exams in just a few days' time with final Art and Language Speaking exams first up. Many students were in school during the holidays for revision sessions and completion of coursework, and their dedication is testament to the hard work that both staff and students give at Sharples.

A full programme of revision begins today and will continue until the final exam which is Week Beginning 15th June 2026. It is absolutely vital that Year 11 students remain in school full time every day until then, as extra sessions, pre-exam preparation and targeted intervention has been meticulously planned to benefit all students. We do not allow any study leave as the best place for all students is in school.

To support your child, ALS sessions continue every day after school, the library is open every evening until 6pm for independent revision, and there are a number of weekend sessions for all subjects. The schedule of these will be shared by Mr Savage.

We wish Year 11 all the very best of luck for the next few weeks. If you require any support then please do not hesitate to get in touch with us office@sharplesschool.co.uk

We will be asking all students across the school to be mindful of the examinations taking place in venues across the school every day during this important time, ensuring that they are respectful of the need for quiet areas during exam times and bearing with some minor displacements to their normal classrooms.

This week we will be launching our end of year Reward Trips for all students Y7-10. This year there are a variety of activities to choose from including Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Ninja Warrior and Jumbles Nature Park. We have aimed to provide options that suit all students and budgets. To qualify for the Reward Trip, from today, students need to achieve less than 10 negative points and excellent attendance that is in line with the school average which is currently 95%. Having full attendance at school goes hand in hand with both academic and holistic achievement. At Sharples our lessons are knowledge rich, energetic and purposeful, so ensuring your child is present every day is the first step to their success.

Continued on next page.

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As the warmer weather arrives, I would like to remind you that hoodies are not permitted to be worn at school at any time. We are extremely proud of how smart our students present at Sharples, and it is important that this continues during the summer term. At the present time, our uniform policy remains unchanged from previously, however if the temperature does rise, I will of course contact families to advise of measures to help our students stay cool.

A reminder that N2 detentions are until 4.00pm, and with lighter nights, N3 detentions on Thursday and Friday return to a 4.30pm finish. Thank you for your support with these.

I would like to remind you of some important dates for your diary this term:

Year 10 Progress Evening - Thursday 30th April 4-7pm - Appointment bookings open tomorrow

Year 8 Progress Evening - Thursday 25th June 4-7pm

Year 7 Progress Evening - Wednesday 8th July 4-7pm

It is vital that all students are represented at their Progress Evening, for parents and carers to discuss the academic progress of your child this year.

Finally, on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd April next week we open our theatre doors for the whole school production of Legally Blonde. We would love you to join us to watch this fantastic performance by our students, who have been working hard in preparation for many weeks. Doors open at 6.30pm with the show starting at 7pm each evening. Tickets are £6.50 for adults and £4.50 for children and can be purchased on the door. There is also a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) priced at £20. The tickets can be bought using the following link <https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on/bolton/sharples-school> We hope to see you then!

Yours sincerely

Ms C Molyneux

Headteacher

[Click here to view the original letter as a PDF.](#)



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Year 8 Paris Trip!



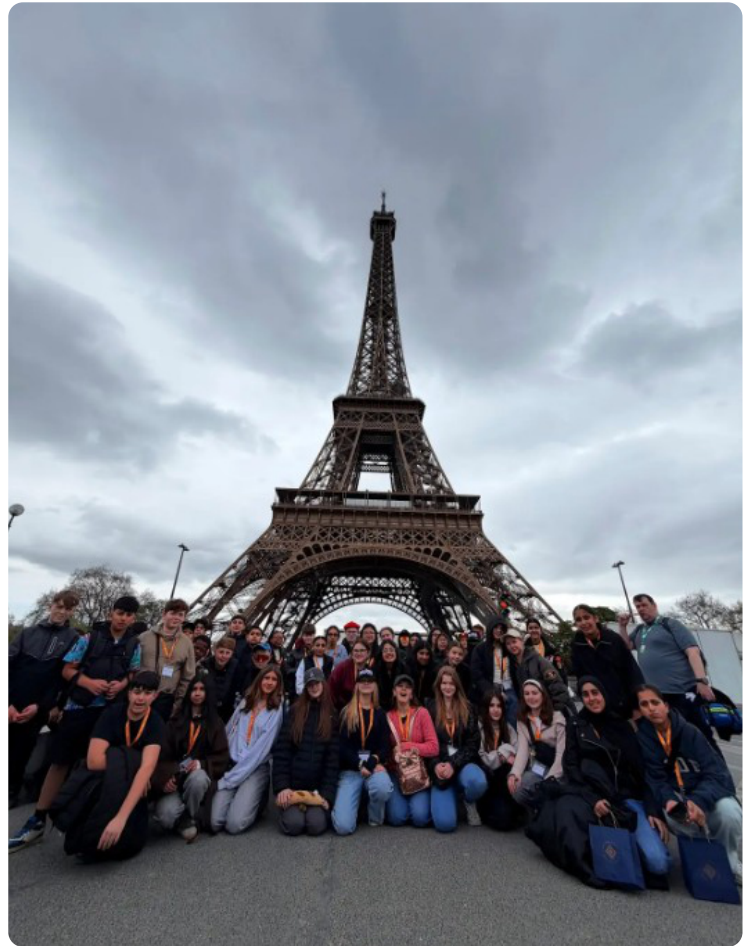
Over the Easter break, sixty Year 8 students travelled to Paris to immerse themselves in French culture and experience some of the city's most iconic sights. After a long journey, we settled into our accommodation and ended the evening with a relaxing campfire. The following day, students embraced French life at a local market, where they practised their language skills and even tried their hand at negotiating the best deals! Later, they returned to the centre for an exciting session of archery tag, followed by a lively silent disco in the evening. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to Disneyland Paris, which proved to be a truly magical experience for everyone. After enjoying some crepe-making back at the centre, students prepared for a final day exploring the heart of the city. An early start saw us climb the 624 steps to the second floor of the Eiffel Tower, where we were rewarded with stunning panoramic views of Paris (and even enjoyed pizza at the top!). We then descended to continue our adventure with a relaxing cruise along the River Seine, taking in famous landmarks including the Notre-Dame Cathedral, followed by a brief visit to the Louvre! Before heading back to England, we made one final stop at a French hypermarket, where students enjoyed a well-earned shopping spree! It was a fantastic trip from start to finish, and the students represented the school brilliantly throughout. See more pictures on the next page.



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CyberFirst Day at Lancaster University



On Tuesday 14th April, the Computing department took 29 enthusiastic Year 8 students to enjoy an exciting and inspiring trip to Lancaster University, where they explored the world of technology, artificial intelligence, and robotics through a packed day of interactive activities.

The visit began with a warm welcome from the university team. Students were introduced to campus life and given an insight into what studying at university might look like in the future and the range of courses and opportunities Lancaster University has to offer.

The morning quickly moved into a fascinating session titled The Future of Technology, where students learned about how artificial intelligence is shaping the world around us. This was followed by a lively AI-themed Kahoot quiz, which sparked plenty of excitement and friendly competition among the group.

Next, students took part in their first workshop, which focused on AI ethics. They looked at important questions about how AI should be used responsibly, demonstrating thoughtful opinions and impressive maturity. This was followed by a creative teamwork “prompt engineering battle,” where students used their imagination to regenerate AI images shown by trying to work out the prompts that had been used to generate the image, this task showcased creativity, digital skills and teamwork.

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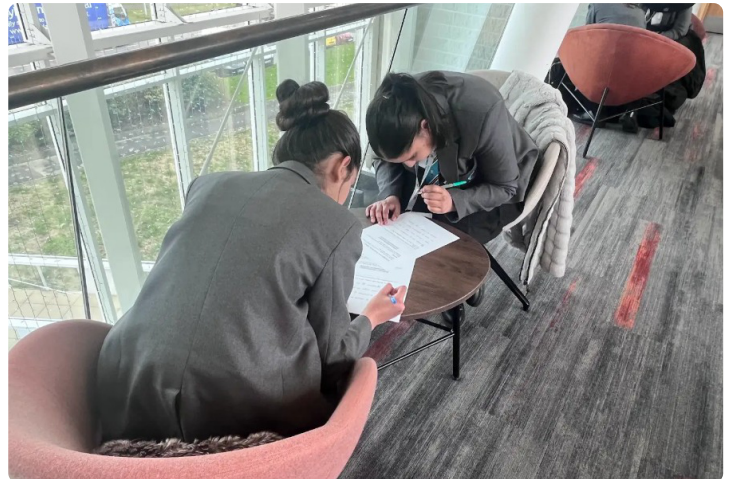
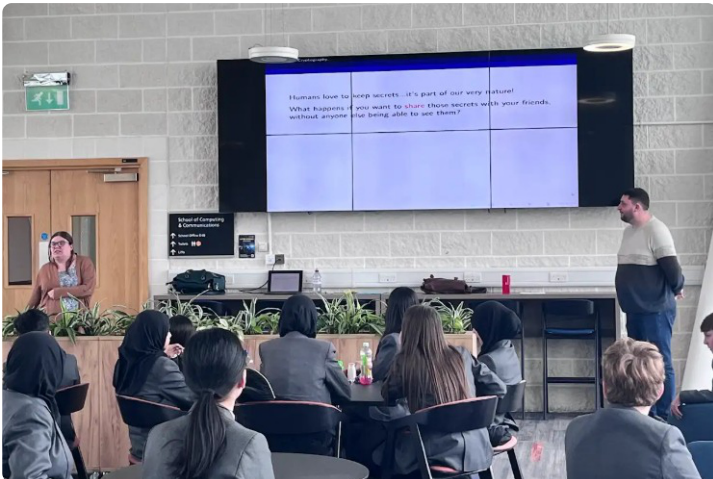


The afternoon sessions included an encryption workshop. Here, students explored the basics of coding and cybersecurity, working together to solve challenges and crack codes using different ciphers. The University staff commented on the ability of the students to quickly decipher codes and crack them

The final workshop of the day proved to be a highlight for many: programming Sphero robots using block coding. Students had the opportunity to control and direct robots around the room and a maze, this developed problem-solving skills while having plenty of fun.

The students left inspired and full of new ideas about technology and future careers. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for Year 8 to engage with cutting-edge topics and experience a taste of university life.

A big well done to all students for their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the day!





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6 Blind Chickens Crowned Winners of Battle of the Bands 2026



Congratulations to the '6 Blind Chickens' who won this year's Battle of the Bands which took place on Friday 27th March.

As a reward for their excellent attendance and the number of reward points achieved over the term, 200 pupils from KS3 watched the battle to be named 'Sharples Best Band' between our established and newly formed bands. The battle was tough as the standard was so high.

'NeuroDivine' opened the show with their first ever public performance and set the high standard for the rest of the bands to follow. 'CHES' showed the audience how much progress they have made since their debut at the Winter Showcase. 'Rufus & Evan' got a standing ovation after performing a Radiohead classic. The audience were brilliant throughout with many holding posters and banners as well as singing and dancing in support of their favourite band. Crowd pleasers 'Stave & Close' along with 'On the Edge' brought the house down with their performances. 'O-so - CANTastic' had everyone singing the Killer's classic 'Mr Brightside' in full force to end an outstanding event.

Well done to all who took part and thank you to everyone who supported. We look forward to Battle of the Band 2027!



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Green Light for St Patrick's Day Winners



Well done to students in the form 8Ples3 who earned themselves some chocolate treats after they won the Kahoot quiz all about St Patrick's Day.

The form competition, open to Years 7, 8 and 9, followed similar activities for St Andrew's Day and St David's Day.

Watch this space for St George's Day!

Pictured with their goodies are students in Miss Brook's form: Abdoulie, Jennah, Teegan-Louise, Abeera, Samera and Zunairah.



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Sharples Scientists at Work



It's been a fantastic return to the labs for our Sharples scientists this week! Our Year 7 and 8 students have hit the ground running as they prepare for their upcoming assessments, while Year 9 have made an impressive start to their new pre-GCSE units. Meanwhile, Year 11 are showing great dedication, remaining fully focused on their crucial GCSE preparations. It is wonderful to see such a purposeful atmosphere across the department as every year group tackles these important academic milestones.

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Year 7 Maths Fest Final



Before the Easter holidays, we hosted the exciting final of the Year 7 Maths Fest competition. A huge well done to everyone who made it to the final and took part! Special congratulations to Leo B, Reece H and Mason C who won the best teamwork prize, and to Hafsa T and Mabroor H who won the overall competition. Great job, everyone!

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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Well done to Viresh in Year 7 for his wonderful handwriting progress, which reflects the effort he made in interventions as well as extra practice at home. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Fatima Z for writing a brilliant Petrarchan sonnet. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Ahmed E for great effort and reflecting on the Othello quiz. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Mia R for her excellent I Shall Return analysis. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Zahara C for her perceptive essay on Mr Birling. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Martha B for reading clearly and confidently.

Year 8

Evie W for always volunteering to read with enthusiasm.

Year 9

Aqsarida S for a clear reading voice.

Year 10

Dylan R - Extremely enthusiastic and demonstrates a love of reading.

Year 11

Tom D for always volunteering to read his work aloud and using ambitious vocabulary.



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BWITC Literacy Celebration



On Wednesday we took a group of Year 7 and 8 boys on a trip to the BWFC stadium to celebrate the completion of their recent literacy intervention with Bolton Wanderers in the Community. They went on a tour of the stadium and got the chance to experience life as a professional footballer.

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KS4 Football Team Celebration!



On Tuesday evening, our KS4 football team enjoyed a well-deserved celebration following their fantastic success in winning the recent town tournament. To mark the occasion, the team began the evening with a meal at Nando's before heading to The Brick Community Stadium to watch Wigan Athletic take on Rotherham United. Before kick-off, students had the incredible opportunity to meet Sarah Guilfoyle, the youngest CEO of a professional football club across all leagues, including the Premier League. Appointed at just 26, she has been working in football since the age of 18! They also met Brenda Spencer, the oldest female chairwoman in football, who at 80 years old has dedicated over 50 years to the club. The girls greatly valued the opportunity to take part in such an insightful conversation with two inspirational women. Following this, the team spent time in the family zone before heading pitchside to take on the exciting role of flag bearers, proudly welcoming the players onto the pitch. It was a memorable evening for all involved and a fitting reward for the team's hard work and success this season!

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Success at the Pony Club Spring Festival



Sharples student, Jessica S competes in horse riding disciplines outside of school. She recently took part in the Pony Club Spring Festival at Addington manor in Buckingham. To qualify and compete there she must be first or second overall in the winter league dressage series for her area.

Jessica won with 24 points out of a possible 28 the closest to her was 12! At the festival she finished an impressive 8th!

Well done Jessica and good luck for your next event.

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Double Mini Trampoline



During the Easter holidays, our Head Boy Oliver M received the news that he has been selected to compete and represent Great Britain and England for Double Mini Trampoline. Oliver is now in the England Squad with the first competition being during the May half term at the home nations competition competing against Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Well done Oliver!



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Attendance Information

Reporting an absence:

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school before 9.30am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. The attendance email is the easiest way to contact school as the phone line can get very busy.

The school attendance email is: attendance@sharplesschool.co.uk

If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Attendance Data

Year Groups attendance this week:

7 = 94.25%
8 = 93.21%
9 = 93.29%
10 = 92.12%
11 = 93.74%

Best forms this week:

7Shar5 = 98.81%
8Shar4 = 99.07%
9Shar5 = 98.89%
10Ples1 = 98.08%
11Ples1 = 97.85%

177 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

Dates for your Diary

Monday 20th April to
Friday 24th April:
Year 11 GCSE
Speaking exams

Monday 20th April:
Oracy Workshop for
select Year 10s
(8:45 – 9:15am)

Wednesday 22nd April:
World Earth Day

Wednesday 22nd April:
Legally Blonde -
Primary session
(1:30 – 3:00pm)

Wednesday 22nd and
Thursday 23rd April:
Legally Blonde the
Musical
(7:00 – 10:00pm)

Career of the Week: Dentist

Dentists promote good oral hygiene, diagnose and treat teeth and mouth problems and help prevent dental disease

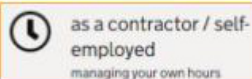
Average Salary:



Typical hours:
(per week)



You could work:



Qualifications:

- You'll need to complete a 5-year degree in dentistry approved by the General Dental Council, followed by 1 to 2 years of postgraduate dental training.
- 3 A levels, or equivalent, including biology and chemistry.
- At least five GCSEs with grades ranging from 7s-9s.

Skills required:

- Knowledge of medicine and dentistry.
- Customer service skills.
- Physical skills like movement, coordination and dexterity.
- Thinking and reasoning skills.
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- The ability to work well with your hands.
- To be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device.

Relevant Subjects:

- Science, Maths and English.



Information sourced from: <https://national.careers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/dentist>



Careers &
Enterprise
at Sharples School

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PE Lunch Time Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - PGR	Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM
Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y10 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA
Rounders/Cricket (SH) - LAL	Rounders/Cricket(SH) - LAL/AHM	Rounders/Cricket LAL/PGR	Rounders/Cricket) - LAL	Rounders/Cricket - LAL
	Sports studies catch up/KS3 hmwk- AHM			



PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
KS3 boys Swimming Club	Y8 Football Practice	Staff Meeting	Girls Football	PE detentions
Rounders - all years	KS4 Fitness Suite	Y9 Girls Badminton v Ladybridge	KS4 Fitness Suite	
Y7 Football Practice	Racquets		Cricket practice- all years	
	Running Club			
	Y7 Football v Canon Slade (a)			

Week beginning 20th April

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Attendance MATTERS



Sharple's
SCHOOL

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE MOST RECENT GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDANCE CODING IN SCHOOLS?

- If your child arrives to school after 9.15am they will receive 0.5 day absence automatically

- Your child must be in school at 12.05pm to receive their afternoon mark

- The government has a target for EVERY CHILD to have a minimum of 95% attendance

- This means no more than 9 days absent ALL YEAR



Unsure of your child's current attendance? Check MCAS or contact your Year Coordinator. We are here to help!



SHARPLES PROM

2026

WEDS 1ST JULY
LAST DROP HOTEL

Arrivals from 18.15

Carriages at 23.00

Red Carpet Arrival, Mocktails,
Hot Buffet, Dessert Table, Pick n Mix,
360 Gabbit, Selfie Mirror with
unlimited prints, DJ and Dancing,
Chillout Zone






TICKETS £40

Available now on MCAS



**REMINDER THAT YOU WILL BE REMOVED IF YOU DO NOT MEET THE CRITERIA
95% ATTENDANCE UNTIL END OF EXAMS, NO INCLUSION OR SUSPENSION**

MENU

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Cheese Whirl & Salad £1.85 	Marinated Chicken Wrap £1.85	Chips & Battered Fish £2.10	Veg or Meat Moussaka Served with Salad £2.10	Tugo Pizza Slice £1.50
Vegetarian Main Dish	Sweet Potato Enchilada & Salad £1.85 	Italian Veg Pasta Bake Served with Salad £1.85 	Aubergine & Chickpea Dhansak Served with Rice £2.10 	Salsa Jacket Potato Served with Salad £1.85	Bhaji Burger served on a Folded Naan With Salad £1.85 
And there's more	Panini £1.95 Sandwich £1.45-£1.85 Jacket Potato from £1.85 Salad Box £1.90	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Love Joes	Korma Curry Sauce & Rice Tikka Curry Sauce & Rice Served with a Naan Bread £1.90	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Pasta King	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread £2.10	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Dessert	Fruit Pots 55p-75p Cake of the Day 72p Cookie 50p Large Cold Dessert £1.10 Hot Pudding 90p	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday

Mellaro
FOOD
HAPPY

KEY  1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY  MEAT-FREE (VEGETARIAN)  CHEF'S CHOICE  PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

Allergens and Intolerances All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.



Parent Webinars with GT Scholars



The Success Habits Workshop:
*Discover The Framework That Drives Lasting
Motivation and Academic Achievement*



FREE Parent Webinar April 2026

Date: Tue 21st April 2026

Time: 7:30 - 8:45pm (UK time)

Sign up to join us LIVE or get
access to the replay:

gtscholars.org/parent-webinar



NURTURING CONNECTIONS

SKILLS FOR PARENTS
AND CARERS



5TH MAY 2026 - 16TH JUNE 2026

6 X 90 MINUTE SESSIONS

ONLINE



Are you looking for practical ways to support your child's emotional wellbeing and development?

Our Nurturing Connections programme offers a safe and supportive space to explore:

- building positive relationships
- strengthening communication
- navigating challenges
- repairing emotional bonds

The sessions will provide you with tools and insights to help you foster resilience, empathy, and healthy behaviour in your child.

To sign up or learn more:

programmes@khulisa.co.uk



 **khulisa**
www.khulisa.co.uk



R.I.S.E



Resist injustice, Seek equality.

This campaign is centered on raising awareness about racial discrimination among young people. Its goal is to produce a series of short films that showcase the experiences of young people confronting racism in Bolton, while also educating the wider community.

JOIN US

If you are passionate about creating positive and impactful changes and are between the ages of 11- 18, we would like to invite you to join our young peoples focus group to help plan the R.I.S.E campaign. During this focus group, we will:

- Listen to Shalom and Danielle, the creators of the project, share their enthusiasm for R.I.S.E and how it all started.
- Hear from Bolton's Community Safety Team about their priorities for young people in Bolton.
- Begin the initial planning of the R.I.S.E campaign while learning how discrimination affects young people.

If you have not yet completed our discrimination research survey, please do so by following the QR code.



MORE INFORMATION >>

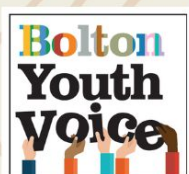
When : Tuesday, April 28th 2026

Where : Castle Hill Young People's Centre

Time : 6:00 PM – 8:15 PM



Pizza and refreshments will be available. To register your attendance or if you have any additional questions, please email the Participation team on positive.activities@bolton.gov.uk



REGISTER FOR

FREE

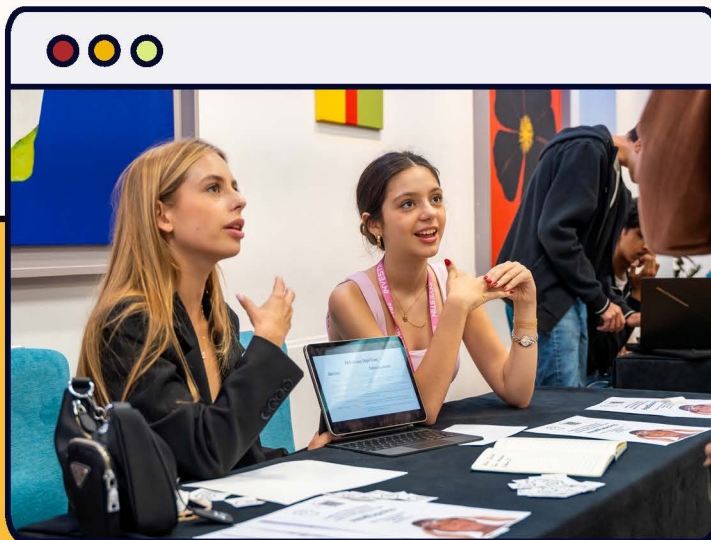
WEBINAR SERIES

Parent Webinars in April, May and June

WEBINAR SCHEDULE

How to Support Your Child During Exam Season
Wednesday 29th April
6PM (BST)

Find out how to support your child through exam-related stress and burnout, learn effective revision strategies and explore ways to create a positive, supportive environment.



If you're unable to join live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording after the session.

How to Find Work Experience
Wednesday 13th May, 6PM (BST)



Click the webinar title to sign up now!

OK

Everything You Need to Know About Applying to University
Wednesday 10th June, 6PM (BST)



Explore all webinars on our free events page

