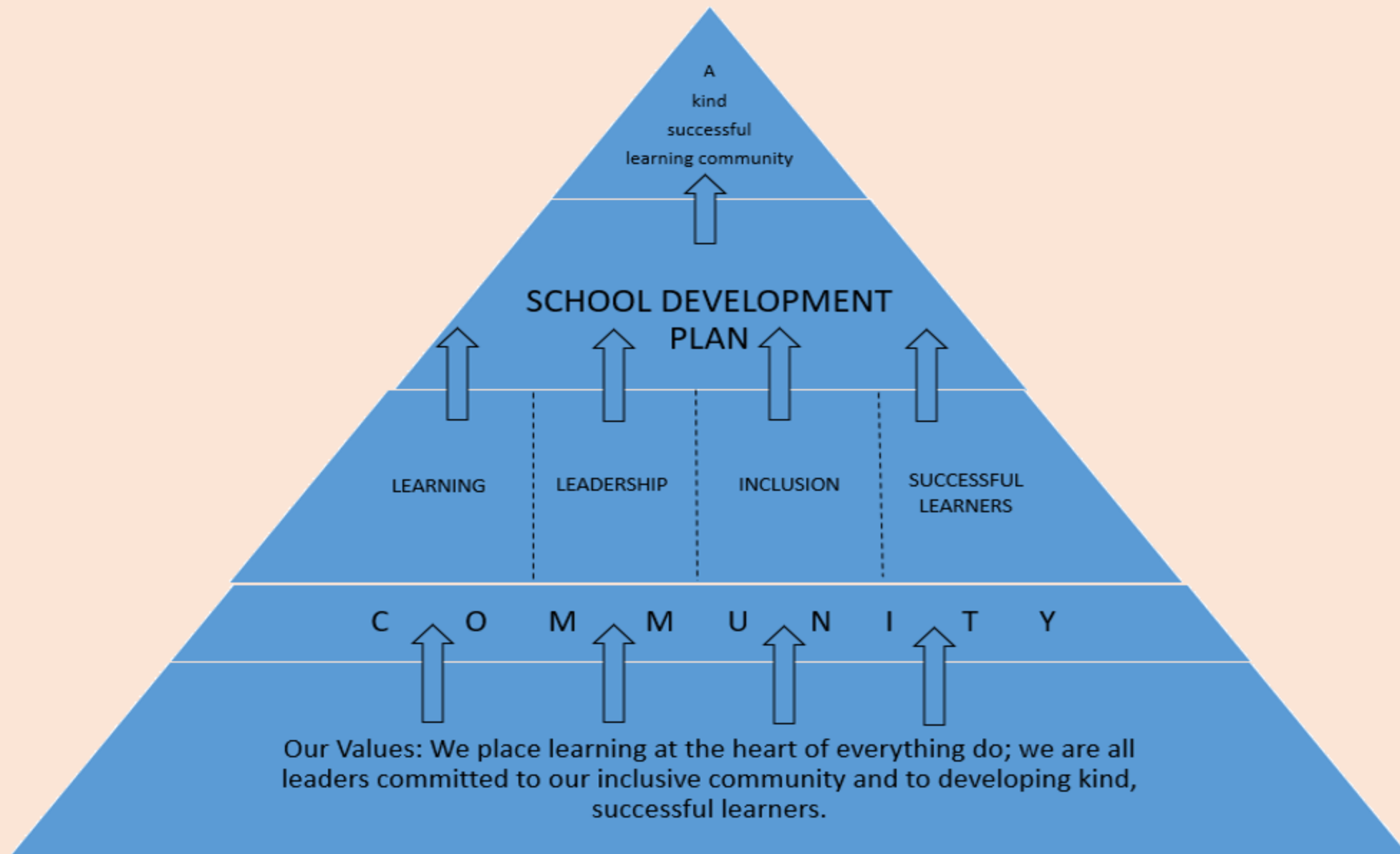


Downlands Community School
Year 9 Information Evening 2024



DOWNLANDS

A KIND SUCCESSFUL LEARNING COMMUNITY





Progress 8 is over +0.5 for three years running

Ability group	Progress 8 - 3 year average
Low	+0.43
Middle	+0.6
High	+0.46



ROCKS

Resilient • Optimistic • Community • Kind • Self Aware

ROCKS Character Expectations

Based on our ROCKS Character Development programme, we have the following expectations for students.

- Classwork and homework are completed to the best of our ability
- We always try our best
- We do our best to be in school and on time

Resilient



- We act on our feedback
- We follow instructions to keep everyone safe
- We believe that we can always improve

Optimistic



- We eat and drink in our year group zones only
- We are always fully focused, polite and respectful in lessons
- We co-operate with all members of our community
- We put litter in the bin; treat our environment and other people's property with respect

Community



- We are kind to all members of our school community
- We communicate respectfully and use social media responsibly
- We treat others as we wish to be treated ourselves

Kind



- Our mobile phones, headphones and devices are turned off and out of sight in our bags
- We have the correct equipment and uniform at all times
- We learn from our mistakes and understand that we improve with practice

Self Aware



ROCKS POINTS

2022-23 – 60,000

2023-24 – 123,000

5:1 ratio

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES LIST 2024-2025

MONDAY				
CLUB	STAFF	VENUE	TIME	YEAR GROUP
ART CLUB	JMS	AD1	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
Public Speaking	SK	E4	Lunch	All Years
Freehand Machine Embroidery	CHW	DT1	Lunch	Year 9
<u>Songwriting</u>	RG	MU2	3-4	ALL YEARS
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	LUNCH	YR10/11
TUESDAY				
CLUB	STAFF	VENUE	TIME	YEAR GROUP
ART CLUB	JMS KBI	AD1/AD2	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
Brass Band	External	Mu2	3-4	ALL YEARS
Chess Club	<u>TBI</u>	M6	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
DAC (Discussion and Cake)	DJ	H5	Lunch	<u>Wk 1: 7 & 9</u> <u>Wk 2: 8 & 10</u>
Dungeons and Dragons	NB, HH & <u>TBI</u>	E4	Lunch	Years 9, 10 & 11
GCSE Food preparation and Coursework catch up	FS	DT6	3-4pm	10 and 11
Jazz Ensemble	AW	MU1/Ensemble room	3-4	ALL YEARS
Science Workshop	Science	S1	3 - 4	Year 11
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	LUNCH	10/11
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	3-4	10/11

WEDNESDAY				
CLUB	STAFF	VENUE	TIME	YEAR GROUP
ART CLUB	JMS KBI	AD1/AD2	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
Dungeons and Dragons	NB, HH & TBI	M1	Lunch	Years 9, 10 & 11
Guitar Club	RG	MU1	3-4	All Years
Maths club	Maths dept	M5, M6 and M7	3-4	11
Maths homework club	Teresa Vieira Ventura	C1	3-4	7-10
Steel Pans (Paid)	External	MU2	3-3.45 3.45 - 4:30	All Years
GCSE Food Preparation and coursework catchup	DM	DT5	3-4	10 & 11

THURSDAY				
CLUB	STAFF	VENUE	TIME	YEAR GROUP
ART CLUB	JMS	AD1/AD2	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
Eco club (Week 1)	HM	H7	Lunch	All years
Global Ambassadors (Week 2)	MSM	H8	Lunch	All years
GCSE Art Support Class	JMS KBI	AD1/AD2	3-4	10-11
LGBTQ+ Lunch Club - Years 8-9	CH	E2	LUNCH	All years
Orchestra	AW/ML	MU2	3-4:30	All Years
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	LUNCH	10/11
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	3-4	10/11
Recording Club	RG	MU1	3-4	All Years
FRIDAY				
CLUB	STAFF	VENUE	TIME	YEAR GROUP
ART CLUB	JMS	AD1	LUNCH	ALL YEARS
Language Leaders	<u>KLb</u>	ML5	LUNCH	Year 9 & 10
Photography GCSE catch up	CHW	C4	Lunch	Year 10
Choir	ML	MU2	3-4	All Years
Dungeons and Dragons	NB, HH & <u>TBI</u>	M6	Lunch	Year 7&8
TEXTILES GCSE	CHW	DT1	LUNCH	10/11

	January Character Day	May Character Day	Other
Year 7	OPTIMISTIC: Theatre Day: Starlight Express, Wicked or Lion King	COMMUNITY Volunteering Day: ???	RESILIENCE: Year 7 Camp (July)
Year 8	SELF-AWARE Museum Visit: Houses of Parliament or Science Museum or Tower of London	KIND Sustainability Day: Wakehurst Place or Arundel Wetland Centre	
Year 9	OPTIMISTIC: Careers Day in School	KIND: First Aid Course	KIND: Appreciation Day: Opal Coast or Somme Trip (June)
Year 10	SELF AWARE Business Enterprise Day: Dragons Den Activities in school	OPTIMISTIC University Day: Visit to University of Sussex	COMMUNITY: Work Experience Leadership roles



Smartphone Free Childhood is a well organised grassroots movement of parents who believe childhood's too short to be spent on a smartphone.
We are on a mission to – **CHANGE THE NORM!**

1.

Bring parents together - to start new and positive conversations about the problems of smartphones in childhood.

2.

Empower parents to take collective action - in their local communities - agreeing to delay giving their children smartphones until at least 16.

3.

Demonstrate that parents are demanding change at scale – and therefore force the government and tech companies to act.

Why are we doing this now?

There is a wealth of evidence making it clear that smart phones are damaging our children's mental health and development.

We believe something needs to change, and it starts with the **WHOLE community.**

We have already started!!...

- We have a **fast-growing WhatsApp group**, which currently has 137 members. Where we are – 1. Starting the conversation / 2. accessing information and resources / 3. Planning local events to support change.
- We are in **positive discussions with Downlands** to see how the school can support our aims.
- We have **linked up with the four main feeder primary schools** to rally and galvanise change in the early years.

How can you get involved?

Locally Join our Downlands WhatsApp group! Please scan one of our QR code before you leave. **Nationally** Follow us on Instagram @smartphonefreechildhood, and smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk



**SFC Downlands Community
School Smartphone Free
Childhood**

WhatsApp group





Why is Attendance Important?

- Regular attendance is essential for academic success.
- Student wellbeing

Severely Absent

<90% = 19 days absent = 1 grade lower in each subject

Punctuality

- Being on time for school is important.
- School gates close at 8:38am
- Register from 8:40am



Top tip

Recharge your
batteries

Would you start
the day with your
phone on
half charge?



Supported by the Downlands Team

Form tutor

Pastoral Support
Officer

Head of Year

Pupil Premium
Support Officer

Learning Mentors

Teaching
assistants

Core Department
Teaching
Assistants

Behaviour
Support Officers

Safeguarding
Team

School Counsellor

Build up Team

College, Work &
Careers Guidance
Coordinator



**SFC Downlands Community
School Smartphone Free
Childhood**

WhatsApp group



The Curriculum at Downlands



Curriculum Ambition

- Ambition for students to achieve outstanding outcomes
- Ambition for students to have the knowledge, skills and character to thrive in their next stage of learning
- Ambition for students to be happy – healthy – good members of the community
- Ambition to provide students with culturally enriching experiences



Celebrating Diversity

Working towards a nationally
recognised Diversity award

Changes to Curricula

Inclusivity training

LGBTQ+ student group

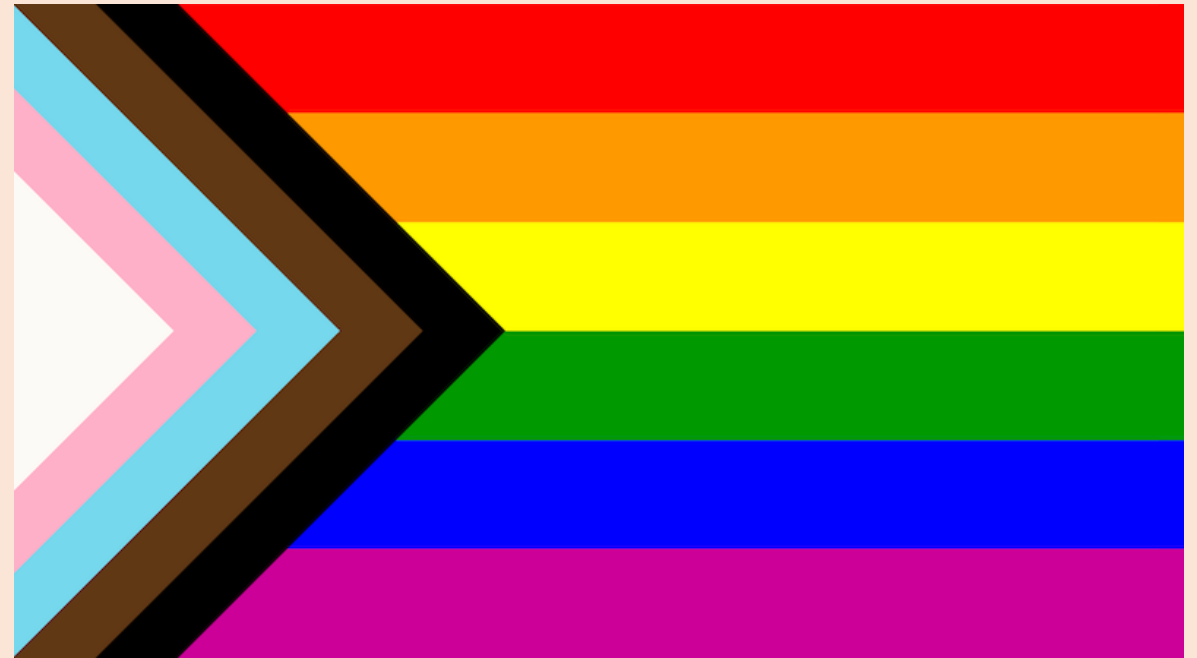
Diversity student group

Staff Diversity team

Changing the environment

Events

The Library



“Inclusive and welcoming school”

The Curriculum at Key Stage 3

English
Maths

Sciences
Languages
History
Geography
RS

Art
Drama
Music
Dance
PE
Technology
Forest Schools
PDC



Geography

History

Mathematics

Languages

Music

Personal Development

Physical Education

Religious Studies

Science

"Books and doors are the same thing. You open them, and you go through into another world." | Jeanette Winterson

English-Curriculum-Ambition-Statement

LEARNING JOURNEY

English Department

Year 9 ambition: To consolidate the skills and knowledge developed over Years 7 and 8, whilst ensuring a smooth transition to Key Stage 4 English. Texts have been carefully selected – both in terms of content and context – to prepare students for rigours and demands of GCSE English. Students are granted opportunities to take greater risks with their creative and transactional writing in order to develop an independent voice.

Term 3

- Power and Conflict Poetry
- An Inspector Calls (Faster Read) – Bridging Unit

Term 2

- Gothic Fiction
- The Turn of the Screw

9

Term 3

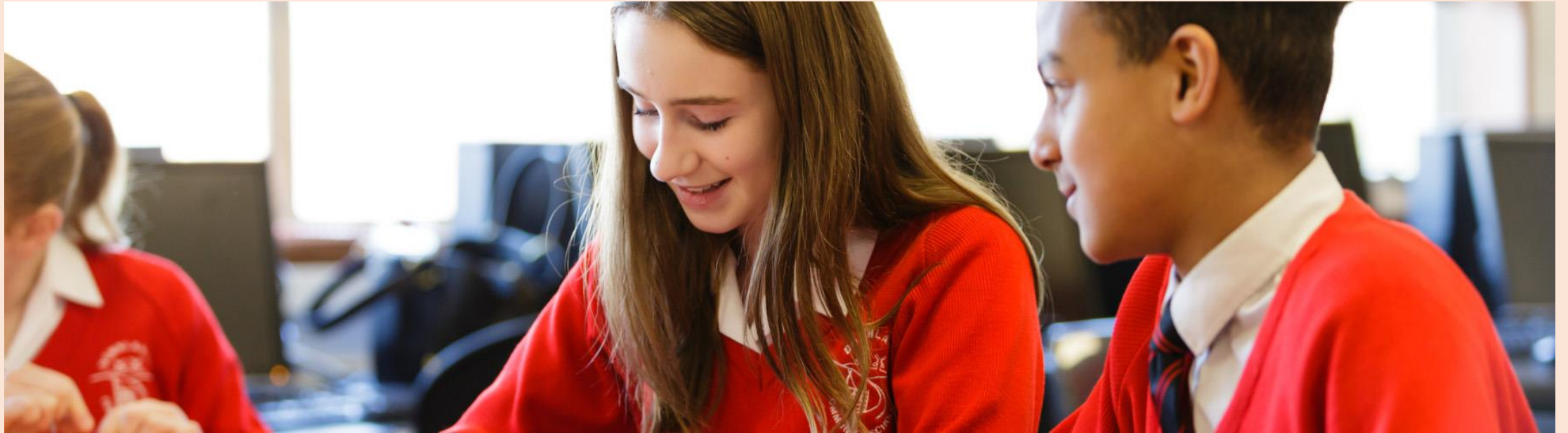
- Lady Macbeth (Shakespeare)
- Powerful Voices:

Term 1

- Transactional Writing (non-fiction)
- A Christmas Carol



Options



The **Blue** curriculum

PDC
PE

English
Maths

EBACC

Science

History Or
Geography

Language

Art – Dance – Drama – Computing – I Media – PE
– Food and Nutrition – Product design –
Resistant materials – RS – Health and Social Care
– Music – Textiles – Classics -

Other pathway provision

Yellow

Green

Not required to
study a Language

Not required to study
History/Geography OR
Language

Pathway Provision

Blue

Yellow

Green

Target grade 5 and
above in
Languages

Target grade 4 or
below in
languages

Most vulnerable

SEND

How we prepare you and them

- January – Options Assembly
- January – Character Day
- January: Options presentations for students
- Feb (before half term): Option Booklets go home
- Feb: Options evening
- After Feb Half term: Options Deadline

Wider Curriculum



Student leadership

