

Class of 2031

Welcome to our Downland's Community

The magic of a new beginning



The challenge of transition

- ▶ Navigating a new environment
new routines and timetables.
- ▶ Managing expectations
Adapting to subject-specific teachers,
homework, independent learning.
- ▶ Building new friendships
Form new social groups.

The power of communities

The sapient paradox



Safe, Supported, successful

Communities

- ▶ Downlands
- ▶ Communities: Beacon, South Downs, Weald, Wolstonbury
- ▶ Year Groups
- ▶ Tutor groups



SAFE



SUPPORTED



SUCCESSFUL

Our Priorities

1. Inclusive Culture & Belonging

Community Focussed, maximise participation

2. High Expectations & Academic Challenge

Downland's Expects, minimal distractions, punctuality, routines create familiar and safe environments

3. Values-Driven Development ROCKS

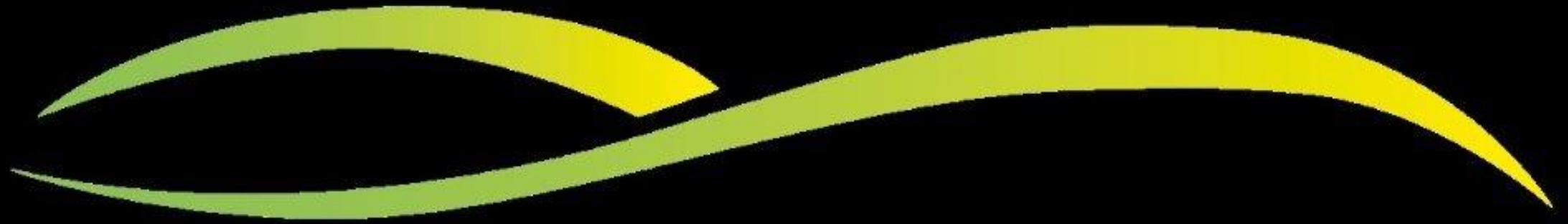
A toolkit to thrive

4. Well-being & Purposeful Learning

Ambitious curriculum, rowing together, commonality removes uncertainty

5. Future Readiness & Lifelong Learning

Currency and social capital



ROCKS

Resilient • Optimistic • Community • Kind • Self Aware

Character Passport

	January Character Day	May Character Day	Other
Year 7	OPTIMISTIC: Theatre Day: Wicked or Lion King	COMMUNITY Volunteering Day: Supporting our local community	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	RESILIENCE: Curriculum Enrichment Activities (July)
Year 9	OPTIMISTIC: Careers Day in School	KIND: First Aid Course	KIND: Appreciation Day: Opal Coast and 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

TEXTILES CLUB

STEM



CHARACTER DAY

Yr7 Beach Clean - Making a difference to our environment



CHARACTER DAY



CHARACTER DAY - FRANCE



CHARACTER PASSPORT DAY - YEAR 8



Self-efficacy: powered by ROCKS!

1

Making good
choices

2

Stepping out of
your comfort zone

3

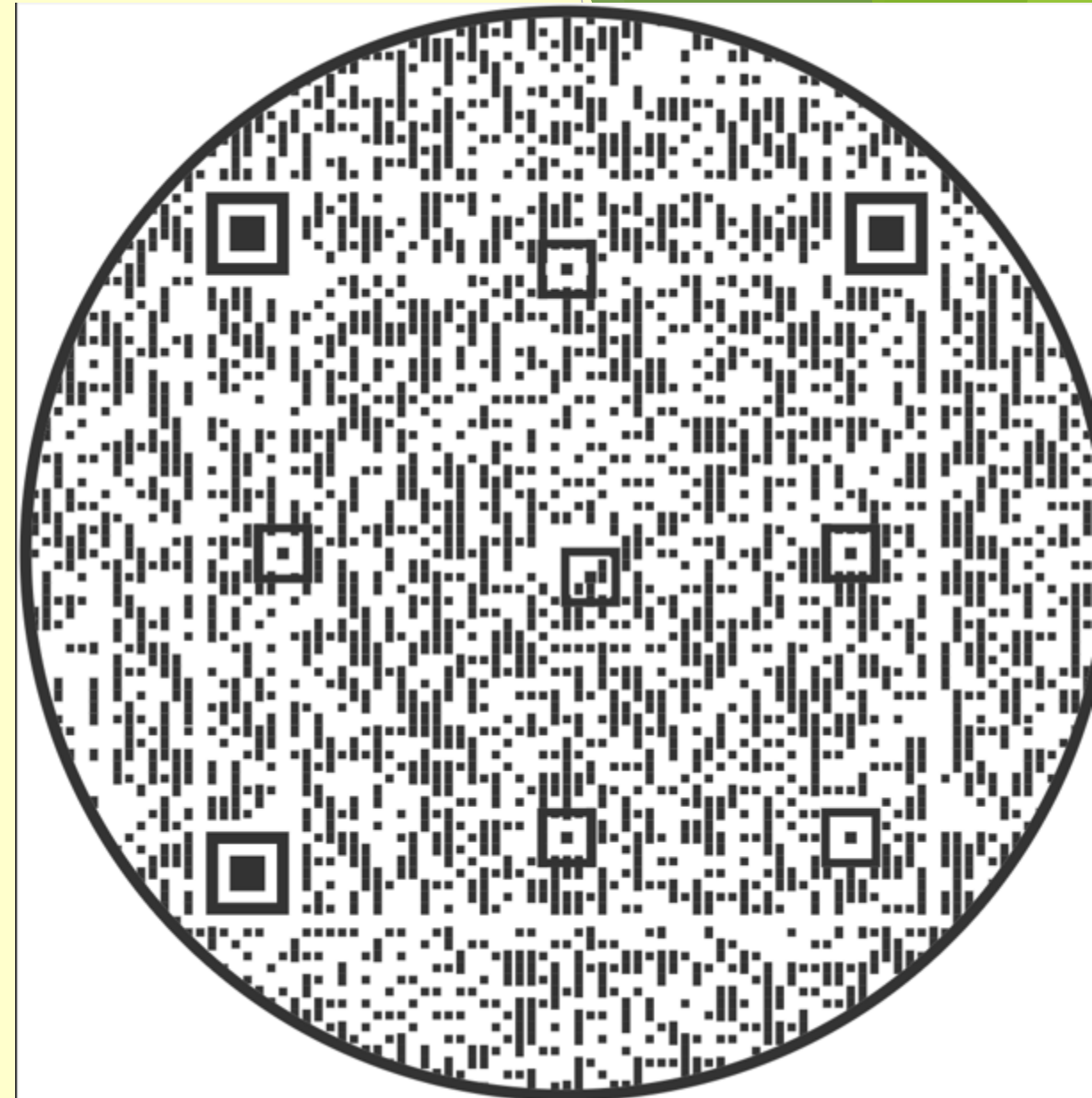
Embracing new
opportunities

Downlands School Association - DSA

- ▶ The DSA are a dedicated team of volunteers who raise vital funds to support students and school projects
- ▶ We are very grateful for their support with events like the quiz & comedy nights, the Christmas market and the summer fair.
- ▶ Whether you can offer a few hours or take on a larger role, your support is invaluable. No experience is needed—just your willingness to help!
- ▶ Interested? Come along to our next PTA meeting or get in touch with us at

dsa@downlands.org

- ▶ We'd love to welcome you aboard!



The School Day

8:40: Tutor Time (20 Mins)

9.00: Period 1 (60 Mins)

10:00: Period 2

11:00 Break (20 mins)

11:20 Period 3

12:20 Period 4

13:20 Lunch (40 mins)

14:05 Period 5

15:05 Close



The Timetable

1Mo	1Tu	1We	1H	1Fr	2Mo	2Tu	2We	2H	2Fr
1Mo:1 History DJ H4	1Tu:1 Mathematic ZS E6	1We:1 Geography DJ H4	1H:1 Geography DJ H4	1Fr:1 Physical E ANE COUR	2Mo:1 French EA ML2	2Tu:1 Mathematic ZS E6	2We:1 Science THU S1	2H:1 Computing AW C1	2Fr:1 Physical E ANE COUR
1Mo:2 Science CMO S4	1Tu:2 Drama KRO DA	1We:2 Mathematic ZS E6	1H:2 Dance ANE HALL	1Fr:2 English SGR M7	2Mo:2 Science THU S1	2Tu:2 French EA ML2	2We:2 Mathematic ZS E6	2H:2 Dance ANE HALL	2Fr:2 English SGR M7
1Mo:3 French EA ML2	1Tu:3 Science THU S1	1We:3 French EA ML2	1H:3 Technology CHW DT1	1Fr:3 Science THU S1	2Mo:3 History DJ H4	2Tu:3 Music AW MU2	2We:3 French EA ML2	2H:3 Technology CHW DT1	2Fr:3 Science CMO S4
1Mo:4 Mathematic ZS E6	1Tu:4 Physical E ANE ATP	1We:4 English SGR H7	1H:4 Technology CHW DT1	1Fr:4 Religious Educa MS E5	2Mo:4 Mathematic ZS E6	2Tu:4 Physical E ANE ATP	2We:4 English SGR H6	2H:4 Technology CHW DT1	2Fr:4 Religious Educat MS M5
1Mo:5 English SGR LIBC	1Tu:5 Forest Schools MS CL	1We:5 Art and De CHW DT1	1H:5 History DJ H4	1Fr:5 Geography DJ H4	2Mo:5 English SGR M3	2Tu:5 Pers Dev C ML MU2	2We:5 Art and De CHW DT1	2H:5 Music AW MU2	2Fr:5 Computing AW C3

The Lessons



- ▶ Tutor groups
- ▶ Mixed ability
- ▶ Seating Plans
- ▶ Group size



Curriculum Ambition

Outcomes

Skills

Knowledge

Experiences

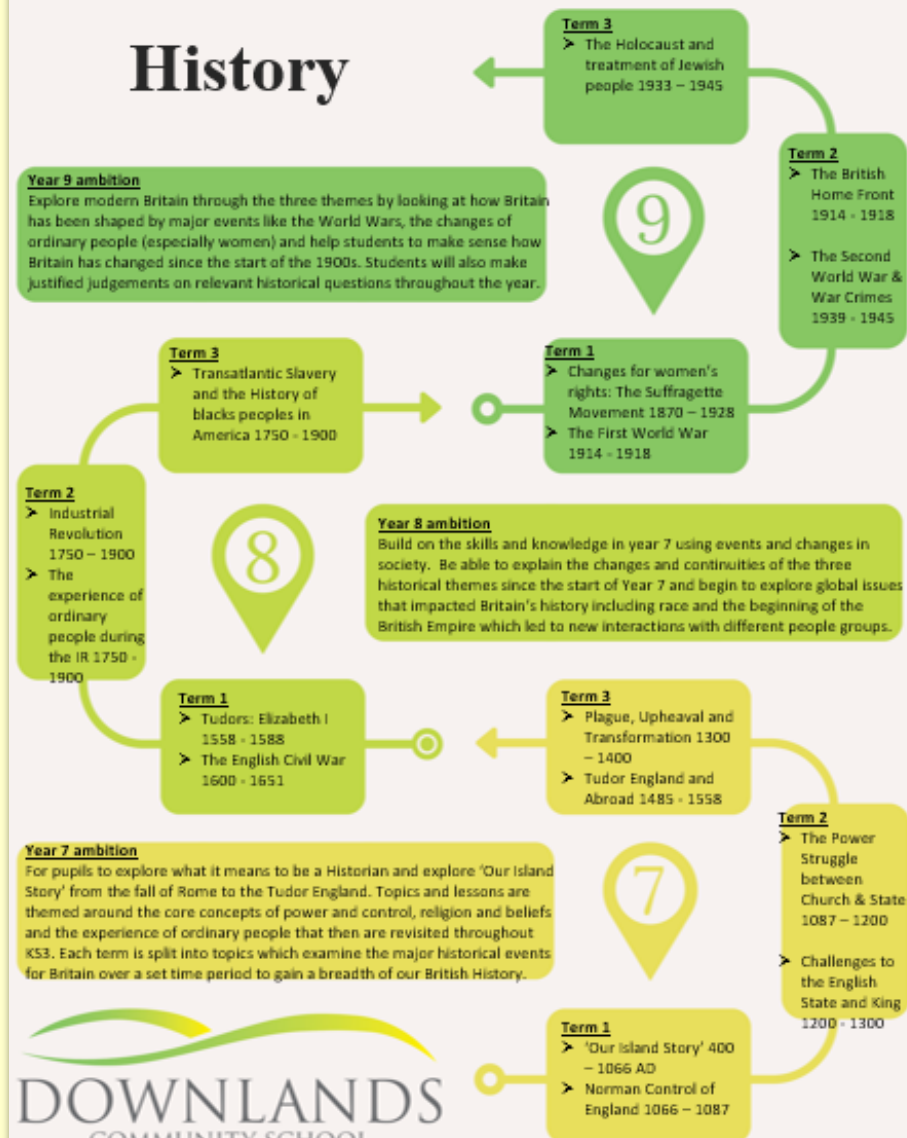


Curricula



LEARNING JOURNEY

History



Key Stage 3 Curriculum



English
Maths
Science
Language
History
Geography
Religious Studies
PE
CDC
Computing
Art
Drama
Music
Forest Schools
PE
Dance
Technology

Safeguarding Team



Mrs Turner
Designated Safeguard Lead
and Designated Teacher



Mrs Goodman
Deputy Designated
Safeguard Lead

OFSTED & Public
Examination Results

Safeguarding At
Downlands

Learning Support/SEND
Information

Diversity

Our Prospectus

Uniform At Downlands

Reporting Absence &

Safeguarding at Downlands

Downlands takes its responsibility to safeguard children extremely seriously and has safeguarding at the heart of everything we do. We train and empower all staff to recognise and respond effectively to protect a child who may be at risk of significant harm.

Safeguarding Statement We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this common commitment. We will ensure that all staff members in our school maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' and feel able to raise concerns either about a child at risk or a member of staff whose behaviour may present a risk to a child. If you are concerned about the safety of any child in our school, you must report this to a member of the Safeguarding Team. Please email safeguarding@downlands.org

Signposting

Useful Links

Informative Events & Webinars

Safeguarding Policies

Contact: Safeguarding@downlands.org

Head's Welcome

Ethos & Values

Learning Support/SEND
Information

Looked after and
Previously Looked After
Children

Safeguarding at
Downlands

Young Carers



WELCOME TO LEARNING SUPPORT



Vicky Cornish
SENDCo
Assistant
Headteacher for
SEND



Zac Shinebourne
Assistant SENDCo
Neurodiversity Lead

How do staff know about my child ?

- Primary SENDCos and extra visits
- Head of Year and Pastoral plus SEND meetings
- Subtle flags on registers and BROMCOM profile
- Staff communication
- SEND register

What will support look like ?

- Accessible by design lessons for all pupils in classes. This is the first wave of support.
- Teaching assistants work with pupils with EHCPs. Three Lead TAs in SEND, Dyslexia and ASC/ADHD.
- If concerns are raised this will be discussed by the Year 7 Team so it can be addressed by the correct person.
- Guided independence is key.

What do I do if....?

Secondary school is all about gaining independence, promoting problem solving and resilience in your children. Sometimes this is harder for us as parents and carers! Help your child by suggesting the following.....

- Ask your tutor
- Ask your Year 11 prefects
- Ask a friend
- Ask a trusted teacher
- Ask your Pastoral Support Officer, Achievement Leader or a member of Learning Support staff
- Ask support staff (Librarian/TAs/Reception)



Transition for Parents.....

- Mistakes
- Choices
- Space / decompression
- Listen



Contact us via :

sendco@downlands.org



SParC Forum

SParC is a parent & carer led community working in partnership with Downlands to create positive, constructive change at a school-wide level, trying to ensure that SEND students receive the best possible support for their wellbeing and education.

We are there to support each other and the school in creating strategic and systemic improvements as well as providing a nurturing and supportive community with a wealth of knowledge and a lived experience understanding of the challenges and tribulations of supporting our young people through getting the most from their school experience. We provide practical and emotional support for each other whilst acting as advocates for those in our care.

To join the community or find out more please either register on the link found on Downlands website or drop a line to DownlandsSParC@gmail.com and we will be happy to help. Or you can come and meet to Cat or John who will help guide you through the process during settling in evening in September.

Pastoral Team

Head of Year



Mr Stokes

**Pastoral Support
Officer**



Miss Carron

Year 7 Tutors



7AW

**Mr Wardrobe
WOLSTONBURY**



7EG

**Ms Groves
BEACON**

**Mr McGuiness
WEALD**

7FM



7HBR

**Ms Bridge
SOUTH DOWNS**



7JB

**Mr Bartle
WOLSTONBURY**



7HH

**Mr Herbert
WEALD**



7TA

**Ms Attia
BEACON**



7SGR

**Ms Green
SOUTH DOWNS**

Form Tutor

- ▶ First “port of call”
- ▶ Greets your child at the start of each day
- ▶ For registration
- ▶ Day to day information
- ▶ To answer general questions
- ▶ Check uniform, equipment, general organisation
- ▶ Foster tutor/year group belonging
- ▶ To be a friendly and familiar face



MCAS- Parent Portal (Bromcom)

The screenshot shows a web browser window with three tabs: 'downloads school - Search', 'Year 7 Transition | Downloads Com', and 'MCAS-New-Parents.pdf'. The address bar shows the URL: <https://www.downlands.w-sussex.sch.uk/about-us/year-7-transition/>. The website has a blue sidebar menu with the following links: Ethos & Values, Our Staff, Governors, OFSTED & Public Examination Results, Our Prospectus, Safeguarding At Downlands, Learning Support/SEND Information, Diversity, Young Carers, and Looked After And Previously Looked After. The main content area has a header image of a person in a red sweater. Below the header, the title 'Year 7 Transition' is displayed in red. The text below the title reads: 'This page is dedicated to our Year 7's.', 'Year 7 Head of Year for September 2026: Mr Stokes', and 'Year 7 Pastoral Support Officer September 2026: Miss Carron'. There are two blue links: 'Y6 to Y7 Information Booklet 2026' and 'MCAS New Parents'. A large green arrow points from the bottom right towards the 'MCAS New Parents' link.

downloads school - Search Year 7 Transition | Downloads Com MCAS-New-Parents.pdf

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Ethos & Values

Our Staff

Governors

OFSTED & Public Examination Results

Our Prospectus

Safeguarding At Downlands

Learning Support/SEND Information

Diversity

Young Carers

Looked After And Previously Looked After

Year 7 Transition

This page is dedicated to our Year 7's.

Year 7 Head of Year for September 2026: Mr Stokes

Year 7 Pastoral Support Officer September 2026: Miss Carron

[Y6 to Y7 Information Booklet 2026](#)

[MCAS New Parents](#)

Canteen

If you'd like to make your way to the canteen area for.....

- ▶ Meeting with tutors / PSO / HOY
- ▶ Food samples

