



FAMILY NEWSLETTER

20th May 2021

PUSHED FOR TIME? QUICK SUMMARY:

- **BB Playground** – Initial groundworks and purchasing of new play equipment will commence this summer. The Student Council has been involved and will continue to do so.
- **Peer-on-Peer Abuse Training** – All staff have received this important training. If you would like to see our new policy, click here: [Safeguarding-Peer-on-Peer-Abuse-Guidance-and-Policy.pdf \(bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk\)](https://www.bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk/Safeguarding-Peer-on-Peer-Abuse-Guidance-and-Policy.pdf)
- **NHS App** – It's a good idea to download this app to your phone so you have proof of your Covid-19 vaccination as well as being able to order prescriptions etc. The NHS App is different to the Track and Trace App. Click here to register, it takes about 10 minutes [NHS App - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – All schools have been asked to choose an additional day in the next academic year to celebrate the Queen's 70th year as monarch. Bidwell Brook School has chosen the last day of the Summer Term 2022 so will finish its academic year on **Wednesday 27th July 2022**. Term Dates for next year are attached. Please destroy any previous copy you may have.
- **Bursary Guidance and Application** – If you have a student in current Years 11, 12 or 13, click here for information about bursary funding [Bursary Application – Bidwell Brook School](#).
- **19-25** – See below for some information from Natalie Murphy, Manager of 19-25.
- **Champions for Change** – Some of our learners from across the Learn to Live Federation are representatives on this Devon-wide group. Their next focus will be Devon Youth Parliament's initiative to clean up Devon.
- **Popular Online Games & E-Safety** – Various links are below to help families understand the types of games young people are playing, and how you can help keep them safe when online.
- **Post 16 - School Transport** – School Transport is not automatically in place for Post 16 students. If you have a young person in Year 11, moving to FE from September 2021, you will need to speak with School Transport to discuss your options for getting your young person to school next year. For Devon's Transport Team call 01392 383000 or for Torbay's Transport Team call 01803 207688 or 01803 208244.

Dear Parents & Carers,

A few notices this week:

Bidwell Brook Extension and Playground – As the building of the new extension continues, we are now focusing on the playground. Site vehicles have been trundling across the playground all winter to be able to access the building site but over the summer, we will be revamping the play area. Initial groundworks and purchasing of new play equipment will happen soon to allow time for installation prior to resurfacing the area once contractors have left at the end of the summer. The Student Council has been involved in the plans and will continue to do so until completion of the project. We'll keep you updated.

Peer-on-Peer Abuse Training – You may have seen or heard about the “Everyone's Invited” website. This national website was set up to allow people who had been abused to share their testimonies and seek help and advice. The response was overwhelming, with thousands of responses to date. As a result, the DfE tasked Ofsted with checking schools' policies and procedures to ensure all safeguarding was up to date including peer-on-peer abuse. As a Federation, we always take safeguarding very seriously and since Easter, we have rolled out a training programme to all staff on peer-on-peer abuse. This training focused on everyone being able to recognise and support any pupils who may be abusing or have been abused themselves. There is a new Peer-on-Peer Abuse policy in place and this can be viewed on our school website [Safeguarding-Peer-on-Peer-Abuse-Guidance-and-Policy.pdf \(bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk\)](https://www.bidwellbrook.devon.sch.uk/Safeguarding-Peer-on-Peer-Abuse-Guidance-and-Policy.pdf)

Students know they can approach any member of staff with a safeguarding disclosure at any time, and this is followed up according to our strict procedures. Any disclosures are passed to our trained Designated Safeguarding Leads on each site.

If you would like to find out more information about how we manage our safeguarding in school, please contact Stella Wood. We appreciate this topic is sensitive but it is important we are supporting all our learners. If you yourself feel affected by this subject, please speak to your GP.



NHS App – If you have received your second vaccination, you may have been advised to download the NHS app. This is different to the NHS Covid-19 app so make sure you download the right one! Once downloaded, you can use this app to book NHS appointments and order repeat prescriptions. You will also be able to see (and prove) you've received both vaccinations. This app may be used in the future as a possible passport when travelling abroad. It takes about 10 minutes to download and complete, possibly quicker if you have previously provided photo ID to your GP. If not, you will need your NHS number, Driving Licence or Passport to hand for photo ID/face recognition purposes. We recommend everyone takes time to register. [NHS App - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee – In 2022, the UK and Commonwealth will celebrate the Queen's 70th anniversary as monarch. Celebrations will take place from Thursday 2nd June 2022 to Sunday 5th June 2022. This celebration falls within our May 2022 half term holiday, so Devon County Council schools have been permitted to choose one additional day during the academic year as holiday.



For the Federation, this day's holiday will be Thursday 28th July 2022.

Our final day in school for pupils and staff next summer will therefore be Wednesday 27th July 2022. A revised Term Schedule is attached.

Bursary Guidance and Application Form – For families with students in the current Year 11, 12 and 13, please read the guidance on our website relating to bursary funding [Bursary Application – Bidwell Brook School](#).

Learn To Live 19-25



A message from Natalie Murphy, Manager of '19-25' – Learn to Live 19-25 is a Community Interest Company that provides specialist day care provision for young adults with learning disability, physical disability and complex needs. 19-25 is currently situated at the Ellen Tinkham School Hollow Lane site which affords us a fantastic base for community access. We promote an inclusive environment and provide our young people with social opportunities with other young people of a similar age and shared interests.

We want our young people to benefit from a person-centred approach that looks to support them in consolidating, developing and transferring their skills and for them to have meaningful learning and work opportunities within the local community.

Our Clients follow a programme of person-centred activities and individualised targets that encompass Employment, Independent living, Community Participation and Health and, of course, good fun. If you would like more information about the work that we do, please take a look at our website learntolive19-25.co.uk or you could follow us on Facebook [Learn to Live 19-25 | Facebook](#)

For more in-depth enquiries, please contact myself, Natalie Murphy, on admin@learntolive19-25.co.uk.

Champions for Change – Some of our students from across the Learn to Live Federation are involved in the “Champions for Change” group. Made up of various students from across Devon, this group regularly meet online and provide their views and questions raised. One recent agenda item has been their students’ views on the new Devon SEND Strategy. Click here to see what this group discussed at their April meeting [Champions for Change – April meeting update - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

Their next challenge will be involvement in the Devon Youth Parliament initiative to “clean up Devon”.

**Get involved with
CLEAN UP DEVON
this May half-term!**

Clean up Devon is a litter picking campaign by Devon Youth Parliament for young people to clean up their communities.

Getting involved is simple! Arrange to go on a litter pick with friends, family or alone. Then, email or message us with some pictures of your pick (no faces required in pictures!) alongside the information of where you picked and how polluted you found it, for our research

**CLEAN UP DEVON
Some important information ...**

- Wear gloves at all times, for your safety. Gardening gloves or litter picking gloves work best
- Don't touch anything that looks suspicious. Tell an adult, if you're with them, or leave it alone
- Check our Instagram, @greenerdevon, to find out about any events going on in your local area, such as group litter picks
- Send us your pictures on our Instagram or Twitter, @greenerdevon, or on our email, greenerdevon@gmail.com

Popular Online Games – Here is a useful overview of quite a few of the popular online games which our students play and talk about. And a link provided some hints and tips about how to keep young people safe online.

[Game Guides - Parents.Ygam](#) – guide to current games including Roblox, Fortnite etc.

[Safety Controls Checklist - Parents.Ygam](#) – things you can do at home to safeguard your child/young person.

Another really good site is [E-safety Guides for Schools | National Online Safety](#)
There is lots of good information and guides for you to read.



School Transport – Post 16 Vacant Seat Applications - If your young person is moving from Year 11 (Key Stage 4) into Year 12 (FE/Key Stage 5) from September 2021, you will not automatically have a place on School Transport next year. You will need to contact your relevant School Transport Team who will be able to discuss Vacant Seats and options. To contact Devon’s School Transport Team, please call 01392 383000. For Torbay’s School Transport Team, please call 01803 207688 or 01803 208244.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jacqui Warne'.

**Jacqui Warne
Executive Head**