

Longdon



Weekly Bulletin

LEADERSHIP MESSAGE:

We would like to warmly welcome all our pupils and families back after the Christmas break. We hope you had a restful and enjoyable holiday.

While the start of term was a little inconsistent due to the recent wild weather and snow, we are delighted to say that this week has been a real success. It has been wonderful to see pupils settling back into their routines, re-connecting with staff and peers, and engaging positively with their learning. Thank you to our families for your patience, flexibility, and continued support during the disruption. As always, strong routines and positive relationships are key, and it has been lovely to see these re-established so quickly across the school. We are very much looking forward to the weeks ahead and everything this term has to offer.

PARENT NOTICES: January 2026

Half-term: 16th-20th February 2026

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FREE ACTIVITY DAY at Stanley Head on the 30th March (For looked after children)



Stoke and Staffordshire Virtual school welcomes you to join

A FREE ACTIVITY DAY

MONDAY 30TH MARCH 2026 9:30AM - 3:30PM

Why join Us?

- ✓ Full day of fun activities
- ✓ Top-Quality Equipment
- ✓ Q&A with instructors about careers

Register now lea.bell@stoke.gov.uk

Open to 12-18 Years only

Location Stanley Head ST9 9LY

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED TO ALL THAT ATTEND

Stoke on Trent

Staffordshire Virtual School

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Staffordshire CIC Arts and Sports TT:

Jan- May Starts Jan 12 th Mon Morning & Tues after school sessions	New Vic Theatre	Chapter 2- drama work- shops Regular sessions	A chance to work with others through creative writing, drama and photography to be supported when you may be anxious or have difficulty just getting out of bed. A chance to express yourself, make new friends and make a difference. Chapter 2 after school Tues Jan 2026.pdf	Youngsters aged 14yrs+ Daytime sessions for NEET.
Sat 7 th Feb	Stone	Winter Olympics	Clip and Climb on the challenging walls. Are you daring enough to give it a go!!?? Can you reach the top? Winter Olympics 'Give it a Go' (2).pdf	Staffordshire and Stoke CIC aged 5-16yrs
Sat 14 th Feb	Uttoxeter	Winter Olympics	Wrap up warm and get ready for a try at Ice Skating. Will you be the next Torvil & Dean Winter Olympics 'Give it a Go' (2).pdf	Staffordshire and Stoke CIC aged 5-16yrs
Mon 16 th Feb	Port Vale Stadium Tour and sporting activities	Half-term fun day of activities	Stadium Tour and sporting activities to inspire the youngsters. scan to book a place	Statutory Aged CIC
Tues Feb 17 th	Creative Mentor Celebration Gladstone Pottery Museum	Workshops with Pottery and painting.	Staffordshire Virtual School DfE Project – Celebration Event (17th February 2026) - The Mighty Creatives	For students who have been on their creative mentor journey
Wed 18 th Feb afternoon	Stafford	Wicked Workshop	For all those who love the Wicked Films and musical- we will have our very own workshop, where you can be Glinda or Elphaba -or the Wizard. Come join us for some fun, song and dance. WMVS PP Wicked Workshop flyer.pdf	Stoke and Staffordshire youngsters with a love for musicals. Limited spaces Age 10-18yrs

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Thurs 19 th Feb am	Uttoxeter	Winter Activities	Ice Skating- Wrap up warm, get your skates on and whizz round the rink. Winter Olympics 'Give it a Go' (2).pdf	Staffordshire and Stoke CIC aged 5-16yrs
Mon 9 th /10 th March	Gruffalo Garrick Theatre Matinee	Theatre performance	Come watch the performance of the adapted book- where the Gruffalo comes to life	EYS
Spring Term Sat 7 th March Daytime & Another date next term	VAMOS Workshop	Drama workshops	We wish to put together a film to share with professionals the impact of consequences within the education system. What helps, what doesn't? Would you like to be involved in creating the script, work behind the scenes or be one of the actors in the film? Let us know, and come and be part of something truly amazing mary.gardner@staffordshire.gov.uk	Aged 12yrs+ with an interest in drama, but also some experience of suspension and exclusion. We are keen to have feedback from professionals also, to assist with a full rounded presentation.
Sun 8 th March	Making Music Stafford	Stafford	Staffordshire Virtual School are teamed together with Entrust Music Service to provide Music opportunities to help boost confidence, raise self-esteem and support young people in realising their potential. We want to bring all those together who play an instrument to challenge them to play together and make music.	Children who are learning an instrument in school already or wishing to do so.
Tues 10 th March	West End Theatre Trip Oliver Twist	Educational trip to the West End. To watch the professional performance followed by Q & A session with cast, backstage crew and front of house.	West End Theatre trips.pdf Limited tickets This will be a first come first served basis. Particularly for those who have not been on a theatre trip with us before. To request a ticket please complete this form via email Mary.gardner@staffordshire.gov.uk	CIC to Staffordshire aged 12yrs +
Monday March 30th	Outdoor Education Activity	9:30am- 3:30pm	Full day of outdoor activities. Face your fears, challenge your skills	Stoke & Staffs CIC aged 12-18yrs

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Monday March 30th	Outdoor Education Activity Day Stanley Head	9:30am- 3:30pm For students in Secondary	Full day of outdoor activities. Face your fears, challenge your skills, achieve personal goals and team building work too. To register interest scan	Stoke & Staffs CIC aged 12-18yrs
Wed 1 st April 6pm start	Birmingham Hippodrome	Six The Musical	All female starring cast, sharing the story of Henry and his many wives - told through Song, dance and sassy style!?	Only 2 tickets available – for performing arts students
	Easter Craft			
SUMMER				
Mon 13 th April	Gotta Dance Garrick Theatre	Schools event	Showcase performance of our students from the Care to dance groups	Our Care to Dance dancers will be show-
Tues 21 st April Evening	VAMOS Workshop	Drama workshops	We wish to put together a film to share with professionals the impact of consequences within the education system. What helps, what doesn't? Would you like to be involved in creating the script, work behind the scenes or be one of the actors in the film? Let us know, and come and be part of something truly amazing Mary.gardner@staffordshire.gov.uk	Aged 12yrs+ with an interest in drama, but also some experience of suspension and exclusion. We are keen to have feedback from professionals also, to assist with a full rounded presentation.
Mon 8 th June	Governing Body Take Over	Virtual school council working with our Governing body	An evening having fun together, working as a team where important conversations and questions can also be asked to improve our support for our children	Members of the Virtual school council
	Keele Uni	Students will	Contact your Virtual school advisor	All children in
Fri 3 rd July	A2U Graduation	Wolverhampton Uni	A achievements of some outstanding contributions to the A2U programme.	Invite only
Sat 4 th July	WMVS Mini	Telford AFC		

Any queries or issues with links please email mary.gardner@staffordshire.gov.uk

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Tues 16 th June	Keele Uni Taster Day	Students will discover the affordability of higher education, the financial support available to them, and gain practical experience of what studying at university is like.	Contact your Virtual school advisor if this is something you would like more info on.	All children in care in KS3, KS4 & 5 To be accompanied by an adult/ guardian, whether that be your designated teacher from school, social worker, Guardian etc.
Fri 3 rd July	A2U Graduation	Wolverhampton Uni	A wonderful celebration of all the achievements of some outstanding contributions to the A2U programme.	Invite only
Sat 4 th July	WMVS Mini Football Tournament	Telford AFC	Our Football team are going to come together in a 5 a side tournament alongside teams from Virtual schools from other LA. A fun day for all	

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Lunch Menu: Week commencing: 19/01/2026

Monday main: Pizza, corn on the cob, potato bites

Dessert: Lemon gateaux

Tuesday main: Chicken and mushroom in black bean sauce, rice & naan bread

Dessert: Iced fingers

Wednesday main: All day breakfast/ vegetarian option

Dessert: Crispy cake

Thursday main: Chicken burger, chips, spaghetti

Dessert: Chocolate mousse

Friday main: Sausage roll/sandwich box (vegetarian option also available)

with lunch box snacks

Dessert: cookies

Each day there are also the following options in addition to the main meal:
jacket potato or sweet potato

hot ham baguette

hot cheese baguette

hot ham and cheese baguette

hot tuna and cheese baguette

Ham, tuna or cheese sandwich

salad choices

a vegetarian option of the main course is also available daily

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SAFEGUARDING UPDATE: Parent/Carer Information

Popular Apps and Games - A Handout for Parents

Drawn from the Ofcom Online Nation Report 2025 this free handy guide for parents and carers looks at the more popular apps and games used by children and young people. Specifically, it covers:

- Key insights.
- A comparison of safety and wellbeing features within apps and games.
- Help and support links for those games and apps (e.g. Family Pairing, YouTube Supervised Experience etc.).
 - A few of the more popular helplines.
- App/games reviews from Common Sense Media.

<https://www.esafety-adviser.com/popular-apps-and-games-a-handy-guide-for-parents/>

[Popular Apps and Games - A Handy Guide for Parents | e-Safety Adviser](https://www.esafety-adviser.com/popular-apps-and-games-a-handy-guide-for-parents/)

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SAFEGUARDING UPDATE: Parent/Carer Information

PlayStation Family App

The PlayStation Family App came out in Sept 2025, and it is a great way to help parents set up and manage their children's Gaming experience. Features include:

- Manage playtime.
- Activity report.
- Visibility into what children are playing.
- Approving playtime requests.
- On this web page you will find detailed instructions to guide you through setting up a child account, get notified what game your child is playing in real time, approve or decline a request for extra playtime, apply content filters, privacy settings and more.

For more information visit:

<https://blog.playstation.com/2025/09/10/announcing-playstation-family-app-for-parental-controls-and-family-management/>