



Davison CE High School for Girls

info@davisonhigh.school

<https://www.davison.w-sussex.sch.uk/>

Parent Bulletin No. 2 December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the Autumn Term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support, understanding and willingness to work together to provide a positive environment for your daughter to learn and grow.

It has been wonderful to see our collective events of celebration at this time of year ~ Carols for the Community, the Winter Concert, and our Christmas Carol Concert at St George's Church.

As we begin the final week of the Autumn Term, I would like to remind you that students **will finish the school day at 12.30pm on Friday 20th December 2024**. Students will attend lessons 1 and 2 as normal on Friday and, following an extended break, they will have time in their forms to celebrate the forthcoming holiday and to clear their lockers. All students return on Monday 6th January at the usual time.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Very Best Wishes

Chris Keating
Headteacher

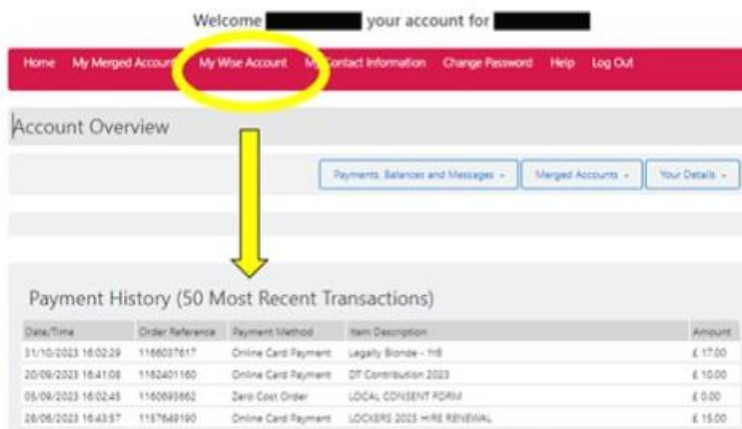




WisePay

Did you know you can **check** your WisePay **payments history** via 'My Wise Account' on the WisePay dashboard?

An example is shown here – don't cause yourself a sleepless night!



Please can we remind you that all parents must buzz the gate to enter site, report directly to reception upon arrival and must not walk around the school unsupervised.

If your daughter has forgotten an item and you are bringing it in for them, it will be left in the 'student drop off box' in reception for your daughter to collect themselves. We do not have the capacity to take it to them.

Sports News

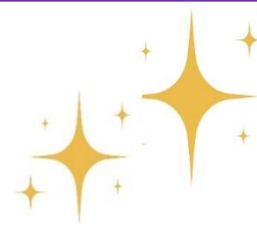
BBC Match of the Day visits Davison High School

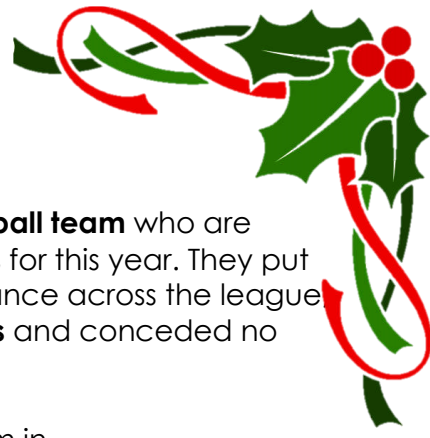
We have been very fortunate to work with the **Albion Foundation** (@bhafcfoundation) for many years and we were **very honoured** to be asked to showcase the fantastic work they do.

A crew from **Match of the Day** spent the day with us, hearing our stories and watching the Football squad in action.

To top off this experience, we were very lucky to have **Fran Kirby** and **Joël Veltman** who gave up their time to visit Davison to come and watch the partnership in action. They spent time **chatting to the pupils** and watching them in the training session.

This memory will last a **lifetime** for pupils and staff at Davison.





Well done to the **U16 Football team** who are **District League champions** for this year. They put on an impressive performance across the league **unbeaten, scored 36 goals** and conceded no goals.

It was fantastic to see them in action, **congratulations** to all those involved.

A **huge congratulations** to our **Year 11 Netball team** who played their **league semi-finals and finals** tonight. They won against Angmering in the semi-finals and took on St Oscar Romero in the finals. It was a tough but **great game** and Davison **finished in first place**, 12 goals to 6.



The following girls represented Davison at the **National Swimming Championships** on Saturday 16th November in Birmingham -Tanya Dipu, Bell Bettis, Lizzy Groves, Lily Parker

They **came first** in their heats in September in Horsham to get them through to the **national finals** and were one of the only state schools in the south to attend! **Congratulations** to all of those involved.

Our **Gymnastics squad** competed at the South East Trio competition on Sunday 1st December. They were brilliant and **represented the school beautifully!**

Our under 13's came in **1st and 2nd place** and our under 16's came **2nd place!**





UK Parliament Week

UK Parliament Week was marked on the 18th-22nd November as we endeavoured to learn about **how Parliament works**.

Year 10 had a drop-down afternoon where they had an assembly and a Citizenship lesson. They learnt about how all of Parliament works and **discussed ideas** about what law they would introduce if they could. There were some **brilliant ideas** and they all contributed amazingly well.

Key Stage 3 have learned some of the ways that Parliament works and played a quiz in their Tutor groups.

Some of our Year 9 students were invited to meet the elected representative for East Worthing and Shoreham, **Tom Rutland MP**. They asked him many questions about why he got into politics, what campaigning in the General Election was like and what it was like to begin working in Parliament.



ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition 2024

As part of our **commitment to Oracy**, Davison entered two teams in the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition. The format involves a **Chairperson**, to welcome and introduce a speaker from an opposing team; **a Speaker**, who has 4 minutes to present a challenging and well-researched speech, and also **a Questioner** to further test the ideas presented.



Annabel Ware presented a **fascinating speech** entitled "What is the point of NATO?" - a very topical and pressing issue, and she was ably supported by her team mates Nathanylle Retardo and Frankie Owen Sims.

Our Year 11 Team chose the topic, "**Health is a Right, not a Privilege**" and Georgia Parker spoke with clarity and passion on such an important subject which effects every one of us. Jetta Braham and Emily Pollard made up the rest of the team, **using high level and thoughtful questioning**, and all three of them are fortunate to go through to the next round in the new year.



LRC News



In October, we had the **wonderful author Tia Fisher** join us for an author assembly and **verse writing workshop**. Everyone who attended created brilliant pieces of work and contributed to **enthusiastic discussions** about writing and experiences of school. Tia spoke to the whole of Year 9

about her verse novel, **Crossing the Line**. Her book is based on a **true story** about a teenage boy that gets caught up in county lines drugs operations. She was open and honest about the impact this can have on family and friends. Our brilliant students had lots of **interesting questions** to ask.

The **fantastic author Elle McNicoll** (A Kind of Spark, Keechie, Some Like it Cold) visited us in October. She spoke with a group of Year 9 and 10s about **neurodivergency in writing** and the world of publishing. She was incredibly engaging and the audience of students asked some **insightful questions**.

Elle was delighted that our **book vending machine** included her new novel, Some Like it Cold.



Reading News



On Thursday 28th November, we held our first Parent workshop on '**How to Support Your Child's Reading at Home**'. The session enabled us to share how we use the school systems to gather data on reading plus an insight into each child's reading report. We discussed **strategies for reading support** plus also explored some of the brilliant books we have on offer in the LRC which **increases accessibility** for students.

Frances Maloney from **Worthing Library** was also in attendance to explore reading for pleasure and the facilities available to families at their local libraries.

We will be running future workshops for parents about reading in various formats. Should you wish to attend one of the workshops then you can register your interest using the following form:

[READING WORKSHOP ONLINE FORM](#)





What can you do to support your child's reading development?

- Ensuring there is a quiet place and time for your child to read away from screens or technology.
- Talking to them about what they are reading.
- Sharing your own favourite books.



PSHE News



Year 7 had a visit from **Sussex Safer Roads Partnership**. They were taught how to **stay safe** and to be observant when out and about. A very **serious message delivered** with **some fun games** along the way!



Year 7 and year 9 had a visit from the **youth community police officer** to learn about **online safety** and exploitation.

All students supported **anti-bullying week** by wearing **odd socks**. This helped to raise awareness and **celebrate our differences**. There were some great socks to be seen around the school!



Christmas Card Competition 2024

Congratulations to **Eden Johnson** in 10 Red for winning the **2024 Christmas card competition!**

And well done to our runners up, **Molly Dowd** (second place) and **Elise Adams** (third place).

merry christmas





Christmas at St George's Church

23rd Dec, 3:30pm – Christmas Story Time – Family story time with activities.

24th Dec, 3pm & 5pm – Christingle Services

24th Dec, 11:30pm – Midnight Communion

25th Dec 10:30am – All Age Christmas Service

For more details please see stgw.org.uk or contact the church office at 01903 219672 or office@stgw.org.uk

St George's Road, Worthing, BN11 2DS

Drama News



Shakespeare Schools Festival 2024

In November our **Year 10 GCSE Drama students** took part in the **Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival**, the largest youth Drama with **over 300,000 students** having experienced the power of appearing in a professional theatre. After the success of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' last year, our offering this year was the **much darker and challenging Macbeth**, with the lead role being presented thoughtfully and emotionally by Nethanylle Retardo. There was a large supporting cast played with **conviction and professionalism** by the members of the ensemble.



The **experience of the live theatre** and sharing the stage with other schools certainly upped the ante for our performance and working with a **professional sound and lighting desk** and the technicians at The Old Market, Hove was a great opportunity for our techies Ruby Ward and Izzy Whyatt.

Davison girls once again **excelled themselves** in ensuring that the production ran smoothly and performed with conviction and dedication. Who could forget Diya Patel's portrayal of Macduff whose grief turned to anger in order to avenge Macbeth's murderous acts and rid Scotland of this ambitious and flawed tyrant.



Congratulations to all who took part and the parents who came to support them. Also, a big thanks to Mrs Stiff and Mr Vachhani.

"A haunting, dynamic, and highly polished production of Macbeth" – Kayleigh Ellen, SSF



West End Residential Trip 2024

49 Year 10 students enjoyed a 3 day residential trip in **London's West End** at the end of October. In addition to watching **3 West End shows**, the trip included 3 performance workshops at **Pineapple Studios** (singing, dance and acting), **a backstage tour of the National Theatre** and some sightseeing / shopping time thrown in! Everyone had a fabulous time and we even got to meet some of the actors at the **stage door!** Year 9 - watch out for the next trip launch coming soon!



Nativity! The Musical

Ten Davison girls took to the stage in November at the **Connaught Theatre, Worthing** in a glorious production of **Nativity! The Musical**. They performed to **sell out audiences and standing ovations** and justifiably so. It was outstanding. They have all **worked incredibly hard** and deserved every moment. **Congratulations** to: Lois Burrows, Suzi Gough, Amelie Gould, Evie Gregg, Amber Holford, Ayla Marchant, Billie Stanley, Sophie Stone, Isla Thompson and Mia Thompson.





Computer Science News



Computer Science - BEBRAS Computational Thinking Competition

The Bebras Challenge introduces computational thinking to students worldwide. Our students took part in the competition in their Computer Science lessons at the beginning of November. **Almost 374,000** Year 7, 8 and 9 students took part nationally this year.

Each participant has 45 minutes to tackle a series of interactive tasks, designed to encourage **logical thinking** and **problem-solving skills** appropriate for their age group. The tasks are designed to allow every student the opportunity to showcase their potential, whether they excel in maths or computing, or neither.

In **Year 7** (the junior age category) - **Meriel in 7 Silver** scored highest in the school and in the top 3% nationally. Emma in 7 Pink and Emily in 7 Orange also scored in the top 10% nationally which is fantastic.

In **Year 8 & 9** (The intermediate age category) - **Anna in 9 Pink** scored highest in the school and in the top 2% nationally. There were an additional 12 students who scored in the top 10%: Sky, Gretal and Hazel in 8 Yellow, Hattie in 8 Purple and Edie in 8 Pink followed by Amelie, Moriah and Mae in 9 Green, Asheada in 9 Orange, Ayla in 9 White, Mia in 9 Pink and Takiki in 9 Silver.

CyberFirst Girls Competition 2024/25



We are proud to announce that for the **first time ever** Davison CE High School for Girls has entered the **CyberFirst Girls Competition** which is run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), to encourage more girls to consider Computer Science as an option at school and a **career in cyber security**. As we rely increasingly on social media, online shopping, and online services as part of our everyday lives, we need the right talent in place to protect us from online threats.



The Competition is designed for girls in Year 8 in England and Wales, Year 9 in Northern Ireland, and S2 in Scotland. The competition is a wonderful way to introduce them to cyber security, why it matters and where it could take them. It ran from 18th - 27th November 2024. More information can be found about the competition at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>

We had a lot of interest and entered a total of **7 teams – 26 students**. All of those who dedicated time during lunch or after school to complete challenges, solve problems and **work collaboratively** within their teams. They all had **remarkable success** and achieved remarkably high scores. Well done to all those that took part, we are incredibly proud of you and look forward to watching your future grow and develop.



Term Dates

2024/25



Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January to Friday 4 April 2025

Half term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22 April to Tuesday 22 July 2025

Monday 5th May is a **Bank Holiday**

Half term: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025

Autumn Term 2025

Wednesday 3 September to Friday 19th December 2025

Half term: Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October

Teacher Training
(INSET) Days 2024/2025

◇ Friday 28th March '25

Dates for your diary...

- ◇ Tuesday 17th December – **EARLY CLOSURE 2PM**
- ◇ Wednesday 18th December – Flu Catch Up Clinic
- ◇ Friday 20th December – Non-uniform & **EARLY CLOSURE AT 12:30PM**
- ◇ Friday 20th December – Friday 3rd January – **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**
- ◇ Monday 6th January 2025 – **BACK TO SCHOOL**
- ◇ Thursday 9th January 2025 – Year 11 'Getting Ready for Exams' Evening
- ◇ Monday 13th January 2025 – Teenage Booster Vaccinations
- ◇ Thursday 16th January 2025 – Year 9 Options Evening
- ◇ Thursday 23rd January 2025 – Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening - **EARLY CLOSURE AT 2PM**
- ◇ Tuesday 28th January – Year 8 Interform Dance
- ◇ Monday 3rd February – Friday 14th February 2025 – Year 10 Mock Exams
- ◇ Thursday 6th February 2025 – Year 7 PJ and Film Afternoon
- ◇ Friday 7th February 2025 – Non-Uniform Day
- ◇ Friday 14th February – Friday 21st February 2025 – **HALF TERM**
- ◇ Wednesday 12th March 2025 - Davion's BIG Iftar





Parent, Carer & Student Reminders



Polite Reminder: We respectfully ask you to **drive considerately and park legally** when dropping off/ picking up students within the surrounding area, This ensures that the safety of students, and other community members, continues to be our number one priority. We have very good relationships with local residents and we are always extremely concerned to hear of occasions when student safety, in general, has come second to the personal convenience of those who reduce visibility for all by parking on double-yellow lines.

Please also note that the **school site should not be entered** whilst collecting/dropping off unless you are coming into Reception to meet with/speak to a member of staff.

Please could you remind your child ...

NOT to bring aerosols (for example, perfume, deodorants) into school or on school trips.

Inhaling chemicals from the aerosols can cause allergic skin reactions, nausea, headaches, asthma and breathing difficulties for many of our staff and students. If your child is found to be in possession of an aerosol in school or on a school trip, the item will be confiscated and made available for your collection from our Reception.

To avoid bringing food items into school that contain nuts, as we have members of our school community who have severe nut allergies.

We welcome your support in protecting the health and wellbeing of **all** our school community and thank you, in advance, for your understanding in this matter.

Lost Property Reminder!

- **Students can look through un-named lost property in Student Services during break, lunchtime and also before and after school.**
- **We will upload images of unnamed lost property onto the lost property section on FROG.**

Please note that we are unable to allow parents/carers through to Student Services to look in Lost Property. At the end of each term, any unclaimed un-named items will be recycled within the school and local community. Thank you.

Signing in and out during the school day

Pupils must sign in and out at Student Services only, if required during the day.

Water Bottles, Breakfast & Antihistamine!



Please can all students bring a water bottle to school with them, and be encouraged to have **breakfast and any required antihistamine** before coming to school.



Wellbeing News



Rainbows' Bereavement and Loss Programme

We are pleased to announce, that following the relevant training, Davison C.E High School for Girls is now an accredited 'Rainbow' school. This means we are able to extend our wellbeing support to our students through the Rainbows' Bereavement and Loss Programme.

Rainbows' Bereavement and Loss Programme is dedicated to supporting those who have experienced bereavement and loss in their lives. This may include:

- Death of a loved one
- Divorce or parent separation
- Foster homes/adoption and Special Guardianship
- Families coping with life-limiting or terminal illness of a close family member
- A home where a parent is serving/ has served a prison sentence
- Families where one parent has never been part of the child's life
- Those who have experienced war or conflict
- Any other experiences of bereavement and loss.
-

Please use the link below to either refer your child or self-refer if you are a student. You can find the full information regarding Rainbows' Bereavement and Loss Programme in the documents section below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/LdQru5N8YB>

If you need support, help is out there...

Crisis Services:

SAMARITANS
116 123 (open 24/7)

childline
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
0800 1111 (open 24/7)

PAPYRUS
0800 068 41 41 or Text
PAPYRUS to 07860 039967

NHS Sussex Partnership
Sussex Mental Healthline
0800 0309 500 (24/7)

Text Services:

For under 25s:
Text **THE MIX** to 85258

For help with self-harm:
Text **SHOUT** to 85258

For info and advice:
Text **YM** to 85258

General Support:

For emotional wellbeing: e-wellbeing.co.uk

For help with eating disorders: beateatingdisorders.org.uk

For young people and families: youngminds.org.uk

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:
Call 111 or 999, or go to your nearest A&E

e-wellbeing
POWERED BY YMCA DownLink Group



Did you know that as well as topping up accounts electronically [via this link](#), cash top-ups can be made for as little as £1, via the machines in the Refectory and Diner. This allows students to avoid having to load the minimum electronic top-up of £10.



Sussex Mind



If you're worried about your child or young person's mental health and wellbeing, West **Sussex Mind** can help you to support them and build their resilience. Their parents and carers service aims to increase your knowledge and awareness of mental health and boost your confidence in coping with and addressing your child or young person's mental health.

They offer support for parents and carers of school-age children (five to 18 years) across West Sussex by providing:

- Online and in-person peer support meetings, which are hosted and mediated by Mind staff
- Talks by 'Experts by Experience' on specific topics (evenings), such as self-harm, school avoidance and autism and mental health
- One-to-one sessions with a peer support worker
- A closed Facebook group
- Signposting to other services as appropriate
- A range of free parent and carer [webinars](#) on different topics
- Free [e-learning courses](#) on topics, such as disordered eating, self-harm and LGBTQ+ awareness.

If you're interested in their parenting support or would like to speak to someone in the parenting team, please contact their Help Point on 0300 303 5652 (Mon to Fri, 10am to 4pm) or email helppoint@westsussexmind.org. You can also complete their support request form using the link below.

This link also takes you to information about the free and low-cost training and resources they also offer.

https://www.westsussexmind.org/help_and_support/specialist-services/parenting-support

Gentle reminders.....

Pupils must inform their teacher if they are feeling unwell and a member of the medical team will see them.

Students are requested not to call home; any student who bypasses this process and is collected without being seen by the medical team will have their absence recorded as unauthorised. This is because official absences are only approved by the Headteacher or medical team in the case of illness.

Missed calls from school

If you miss a call from school and no message is left, we would ask that you bear in mind that with the large amount of staff we have, it is unlikely that our receptionist will know who called. If the phone call is urgent, a message will be left or a follow-up call will be made.





WhatsApp age restriction is 13+

Who is contacting me?

To start a chat on WhatsApp, all anyone needs is a person's phone number. If a child has given their number to someone else who then adds them to a group chat, everyone in this group chat will now have access to their number. This means that complete strangers can contact them. Does your child know what to do if they get a message from someone they don't know?

Secrecy and chat lock

Be aware of chat lock. Chat lock is a feature which allows WhatsApp users to keep their chats in a separate locked folder, with its own secret code. This allows users to hide conversations, even if someone checks their phone and messages. This could include messages about harmful behaviours such as self-harm and inappropriate sexual content.

Disappearing content

WhatsApp has a feature which allows messages to be sent and only be viewed once. Unfortunately, this allows users to send inappropriate and abusive content which cannot be re-opened once seen. This means there is no evidence of what has been sent. It also means that if you check your child's phone you won't see a complete picture of what they have viewed. You can never really know what has been sent or received by your child's account.

Scams and fakes

Information sharing on WhatsApp can reach a lot of people, very quickly. This means that false information can rapidly gather momentum resulting in sharing of fake news. Children and young people may not have the critical thinking needed to understand what is real and what isn't. This also means that they may be vulnerable to scams. Internet Matters have produced a [toolkit](#) for parents and carers.

What can we do?

Teach them to be cautious - Guide them to ask themselves how likely a message from an unknown number is really from someone they know.

Adjust the settings - You can specify who can and cannot add them to group chats. You can do this in the '**Settings**' menu under the '**Groups**' tab.

Talk to them openly - Without judgment about what they are sharing and how they contribute. Consider with them how they can use group chats safely and that is okay to exit group chats if they feel uncomfortable.

**Thriving in
education**

For more support and advice, please visit our [Thriving in Education website](#) or scan the QR code.





Reminders for Students & Parents/Carers



Davison offer second-hand uniform for sale in various sizes (subject to availability) at very reasonable prices.

We also hold a very limited stock of unembroidered PE kit. To purchase, please email preloved@davisonhigh.school with your child's name, form and details of the sizes and quantities you require. If you have any uniform or unembroidered PE kit in good, clean condition that you wish to donate, we would be happy to take it in at Reception. **All monies made from the sale of Davison Pre-loved Uniform goes towards the School Fund.**

FODS recycling textile bank is based in the carpark outside the school gates—an eco-friendly way of raising funds at no extra cost !

The textiles/items collected are sent to poorer communities across Eastern Europe and Africa. Garments that cannot be used are recycled into insulation materials and industrial cleaning wipes, so nothing ends up in landfill.

We are pleased to be raising extra funds for our school, through textile recycling, whilst being part of something really positive for the environment and reinforcing the importance of recycling.



If you are interested in joining Davison CE High School as a colleague, please keep an eye on the vacancies section on our website. [Please click here](#) to be directed to our website.



Are you a former Davison student? Did your time at Davison help **inspire** and **shape** your career paths and achievements? If yes, then we would love to hear from you and share your stories as part of our **#alumnaespotlight**

Please email k.chamberland@davisonhigh.school to be featured.





Support During Difficult Times

At Davison, we take great pride in being at the heart of the community. We support many local organisations and also invite our wider community to join us for events, celebrations and much more.

In recent times especially, 'community' has been even more important. We recognise that many family circumstances have changed and this is only being added to by increasing financial pressures experienced due to rising food and energy costs, causing many of us to need extra support.

Community Hub – Support for all families available

Those children and families that are not eligible for FSM will be able to access urgent support for food via the WSCC Community Hub. We would encourage schools to share this information with the school community.

The Community Hub can be contacted on 0330 222 7980 and is open 9:00 – 17:00 seven days a week.

Further information can be found via [West Sussex County Council website](#)

Should you require any further information or advice about the scheme, please contact welfarecommunities@westsussex.gov.uk

Could your family be eligible for extra support? Please click [here](#) for the link to apply for FSMs via West Sussex County Council. Eligibility will depend on what other benefits you might be entitled to. Unfortunately, school have no say in this process.

Free sanitary items for all students - here at Davison, Student Services are able to supply free sanitary products to any student who needs them during the school day. We can also supply any student, who is unable to afford the cost of them, with during these difficult economic times. Please contact Student Services to make a request medical@davisonhigh.school



Davison Headship Team 2024/25

Mr C Keating - Headteacher	headspa@davisonhigh.school
Mrs J Lewis-Tutt - Deputy Headteacher Pastoral & DSL	j.lewis-tutt@davisonhigh.school
Ms S Binney - Assistant Headteacher - Standards & Effectiveness	s.binney@davisonhigh.school
Mrs J Anstey - Assistant Headteacher Head of KS3	j.anstey@davisonhigh.school
Miss H Fox - Assistant Headteacher Head of KS4	h.fox@davisonhigh.school
Mr A Smith - Assistant Headteacher Assessment & E-Learning	a.smith@davisonhigh.school
Mr C Bailey - Assistant Headteacher Teaching & Learning	c.bailey@davisonhigh.school

Heads of Year Groups 2024/25

Mrs L Wilson - Year 7	l.wilson@davisonhigh.school
Miss S Melard - Year 8	s.melard@davisonhigh.school
Miss K Meers - Year 9	k.meers@davisonhigh.school
Mrs E Dewey - Year 10	e.dewey@davisonhigh.school
Mr A Clayton - Year 11	a.clayton@davisonhigh.school

Assistant Heads of Year Groups 2024/25

Miss D Baker - Year 7	d.baker@davisonhigh.school
Miss K Laxton - Year 8	k.laxton@davisonhigh.school
Mrs C Rudd - Year 9	c.rudd@davisonhigh.school
Mr A Stewart - Year 10	a.stewart@davisonhigh.school
Mrs R Christmas - Year 11	r.christmas@davisonhigh.school