



# Woodford County High School for Girls

## Bulletin

Issue No. 421

29th November 2022



Dear Parents / Carers

### Five Inspectors Called

As you are aware, Ofsted paid a long overdue visit to Woodford last week. Five inspectors were with us on Tuesday, four remained on Wednesday. As expected, they dipped into a great many lessons, scrutinised exercise books, and had many different meetings with students, staff and governors. Students as always were strong ambassadors for the brand and it has been my pleasure this week to thank them for their input and for their warm support at a busy time of the adults who work to support them every day. Inspectors commented on high participation levels in the Ofsted feedback surveys: from students, staff and parents. My thanks to all of you that took the time to respond. Feedback is more representative and more useful in these circumstances.

Established time lines drive the work of inspection teams. The final report will be shared promptly with parents and colleagues (and linked from our web site) when available and the inspectors will provide summary feedback for students. None of this will be available before the New Year, however, when we anticipate the report being published.

In the meantime my thanks to everyone for their support last week. It was noted and much appreciated. It's back to the day job for us all now. This is a busy term but in the three weeks running up to the Christmas Holidays there are events for all to enjoy, many of which you will read about in this bulletin.

Yours sincerely

Ms Jo Pomeroy

Headteacher

## PARENT SURVEY

Dear Parent / Carer

Having recently reviewed our uniform policy, (noting changes to our PE Kit to allow parents to shop around), we are now turning our attention to two related matters:

1. procuring a second uniform supplier to support choice and a level of price comparison
2. the feasibility of making second hand uniform available

We are seeking your opinions by asking you to complete a short survey with regard to uniform. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and will run for one week from Tuesday 29 November to midnight Tuesday 6 December

We would also like to invite interested parents to a focus group at the school on Thursday 15 December 5-6pm

Please click [here](#) to complete the survey.

**Sheila Fonseca**

School Business Manager



## **DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR TICKET FOR THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

Innovate will be offering Christmas Lunch on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December (Years 7-11 Forms A-C and Yr12) and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December (Years 7-11 Forms D-F and Yr13).

Tickets are now on sale at £3.00 per head and can be purchased from the dining hall during breakfast and lunch breaks only.

Tickets will be on sale until **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**. (Please ensure you have sufficient balances on your account before purchasing your tickets).

Please remember that only Christmas lunch is offered on these two days. A very limited supply of baguettes and sandwiches will be available at morning break.

Students not having Christmas lunch on either of these days will need to bring in a packed lunch.

Please see the poster below for all the information you need:

### **School Christmas Lunch**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Christmas Lunch will be served on 2 days this year during the normal lunchtime period.**

**The days will be split as follows:**

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Forms 7 (A-C), 8 (A-C), 9 (A-C), 10(A-C), 11(A-C) Staff & 6<sup>th</sup> Form**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

**Forms 7 (D-F), 8 (D-F), 9 (D-F), 10 (D-F), 11(D-F) Staff & 6<sup>th</sup> Form**

**The cost of the Christmas meal will be **£3.00**, and will be served by ticket only.**

**Tickets must be purchased and paid in advance at the tills at Breakfast and Lunch sessions from Wednesday 23rd November till Friday 2nd December.**

**There will be a meat and vegetarian option consisting of**

**Roast Halal/Non Halal Turkey OR Vegan Mushroom Wellington with a selection of**

**Roast Potatoes, Seasonal vegetables and Gravy.**

**Christmas pudding with custard Or Stained glass window shortbread**

**\*\*Christmas cookie to take home £1.00\*\* must be pre ordered and ticket purchased with meal**

**Tickets will be on sale up until Friday 2nd December as numbers need to be known in advance for catering purposes**

**On the days /times you are not having a Christmas dinner,  
PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH.**

**There will be the usual snacks / sandwiches at breakfast and morning break.**

**Please ensure that you purchase your tickets in advance**



# Bauble Service for CRISIS!

REALLY GREAT GIFT

**PURCHASE YOUR VERY OWN PERSONALISED BAUBLES**

THIS CHRISTMAS BUY A FUN BAUBLE FOR YOU, YOUR FRIENDS OR YOUR FAMILY FOR JUST £1! EVERY BAUBLE IS A ONE OF A KIND - JUST LIKE A SNOWFLAKE! ADD AN EXTRA TOUCH WITH A PERSONAL MESSAGE IN THE BAUBLE! ALL PROFITS GO TO THE CHARITY CRISIS.

It'll be delivered to your friends to get into the Christmas spirit. Check out ParentPay to pay for the bauble - and make sure to fill out the Microsoft form to add that personal touch, otherwise we won't be able to get it to you!

<https://forms.office.com/r/kABSEwkZWP>

**DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY 2ND  
DECEMBER**



# Hot Chocolate CONES



BUY FOR YOURSELF  
OR FOR A FRIEND



ONLY £1.50  
FOR THE CHARITY CRISIS

VEGETARIAN  
MARSHMALLOWS  
&  
MALTEASERS  
INCLUDED



PURCHASE VIA PARENTPAY  
DEADLINE TO BUY: 7 DECEMBER

Once you have made the payment on ParentPay, please fill out the  
MS Form by clicking [here](#).



## COATS IN SCHOOL FAQs

There still appears to be some confusion around the issue of coats in school. Hopefully this FAQs sheet will help to answer your questions.

### Rules

- Students are allowed to wear coats into school, but must place them in lockers at the start of the day.
- If they wish to wear them at break and lunchtime they are allowed to do so, but must collect them from their lockers at the start and end of both of those periods of time.
- Girls in Key Stage 3 are also allowed to take coats with them to period 5 if their form room is being used for a KS4 or A Level lesson at that time.
- This does not apply to Sixth Form because they have no lockers. Sixth Form students are expected to take off coats during lessons, however.

### Rationale

- Carrying or wearing coats around the school site is both cumbersome and unnecessary.
- Coats in classrooms sets the wrong tone.
- They can be very obstructive, particularly in small rooms, and hinder the orderly conduct of lessons.
- Items that are not allowed (eg mobile phones) are more easily concealed within them than in normal school uniform.

### Other Points That Have Been Raised

1. **Girls do not have a dry, warm place to sit to eat their lunch.** All girls do, in fact, have access to the canteen at break (on their allotted days) and lunchtime to eat their food, including lunch brought from home. We encourage them to eat outdoors when the weather is fine and in the warmer months. If that is the case, and the canteen is full, we may insist they do so, but this does not apply in winter or in wet weather.
2. **They do not have time to collect their coat and then go to the canteen at break for food.** Breaks are indeed short, but they should not need to collect their coat because they can stay in the canteen to eat their food at this time.
3. **Girls feel cold in certain parts of the school without coats.** I am not sure why this would be the case because the school is well-heated and the weather to date has been very mild. At times of heightened Covid we may need to ventilate rooms, even when it is cold outside. At these time, girls are normally allowed to wear coats. This is also the case when there are problems with heating because of temporary radiator malfunctions etc.
4. **They cannot always collect coats from their lockers.** Girls are allowed access to form rooms at the start and end of break and lunchtime. Key Stage 3 students may not have access at the end of the day if a KS4 or A Level lesson is taking place in their form room. On those days they are allowed to carry their coat with them to period 5.

5. **They do not have time to collect coats at break.** It takes no more than a few minutes to get from any part of the school to another. If they are not going to the canteen (where they do not need a coat) they have ample time to collect it and return it without being late to their next lesson.
6. **Girls have to eat outside without their coats on.** This is incorrect. See Point 2 above. Indeed we encourage them to stay in the canteen and eat the food they have purchased at break-time.
7. **It is unreasonable that they do not have access to their coats throughout the day.** There is no reason for them to need their coats apart from when they are outside for prolonged periods. See Rationale.
8. **They need them for protection when moving from one lesson to another.** There is no reason why they need to wear them around the corridors when transiting from one lesson to another because the buildings are heated. Even when transiting between buildings, the time they are outside is very limited and does not pose a risk to health or cause major discomfort. We do make exceptions in heavy rain and when it is very cold.
9. **They are not allowed to wear coats in PE when it is outdoors.** This is standard practice in all schools as far as I am aware. They will be participating in physical activity in these circumstances, so a coat would be both a hindrance to that activity and unnecessary because engagement in the activity will keep them warm for the majority of the lesson. Furthermore, there is sufficient flexibility in the uniform code for girls to be allowed to wear tracksuit bottoms, long-sleeved tops, vests etc when taking part in PE lessons outdoors.
10. **No exceptions are made for health conditions.** This is incorrect. If a student has a known health condition which requires them to stay inside, then an exception will be made. They will require a note from the school nurse, however, because it is impossible for all staff to keep abreast of every student's health condition. If this applies to your daughter, please ensure she follows it up with her form tutor.



*There are still a few places available  
for after school activities,  
Starting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.*

*Thursday Street food  
Dance  
Pop workshop  
Boxing  
Calligraphy  
LAMDA Drama  
(new intake)  
Basic cooking 2 Monday  
and Tuesday.  
Arts & crafts  
Skincare  
Sewing textiles*

*Please book on parentpay by Friday  
6<sup>th</sup> January, to secure your daughters  
place.*





# INVESTIN

AMBITION BEYOND EDUCATION

info@investin.org | +44 (0) 203 488 5089

## DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

We are delighted to inform you that **Woodford County High School** is an InvestIN Partner School! The school joins over 1,200 others across the world who share our commitment to helping students bridge the gap between school and industry and maximise their potential.

### Who is InvestIN?

InvestIN empowers students with the knowledge and experience they need to make the right choices about their future careers. We offer students aged 12-18 the opportunity to learn from top industry professionals through interactive activities, invaluable site visits, networking opportunities, career coaching sessions and much more.

### Our career experience programmes

- We deliver immersive career experiences across 19 different industries, from the ever-popular Medicine and Law but also in industries such as Video Game Design, International Development, and Art.
- These are available in both a live online or in-person format and range from 1 to 15 days in length throughout the year.
- Our Summer Experiences, in particular, offer a 360-degree immersion into some of the world's most illustrious careers. Students will learn from top professionals through interactive simulations, experience days, site visits, exclusive networking opportunities, personalised career coaching and much more. Before 31st December, your child can benefit from an exclusive 15% off any Summer Experience by use of the code **SUMMER15** at registration!
- Students also gain a certificate of attendance, which are widely recognised and help boost CVs and UCAS applications.
- When they register, students are invited to join our state-of-the-art tech platform, AmbitionX, so they can really enhance their future prospects by experiencing an unlimited number of live online programmes and masterclasses, tracking their progress as they go.

### How to register

- You can register your child for any programme by visiting our website, [www.investin.org](http://www.investin.org), or by scanning the QR code below.
- Your child can benefit from 10% off any of our opportunities by inserting the school's unique Partner School discount code **WOODFORD10** at registration.
- It has been fantastic to see students from **Woodford County High School** leave InvestIN programmes an **average feedback score of 8.7/10** to date, and we are excited to support your school community further this academic year.

### Support for parents & guardians

InvestIN is dedicated to supporting teachers and parents help young people make the right career decisions for them. On our website, you can find a range of careers resources, including blog posts, competitions and free events for parents, so that you can keep the conversation going at home. We also offer our Partner Schools access to complimentary employability skills workshops, featuring follow-up resources for both students and parents.

For more information, you can reach out to us via [info@investin.org](mailto:info@investin.org) for all general enquiries.

We look forward to working with more students at Woodford County High School and providing opportunities for your child to maximise their potential!

Best wishes,

**LILLY WALKER**

**Partner Development Associate**

[investin.org](http://investin.org)

★ Trustpilot ★★★★★







**HOLIDAY ACTIVITY  
& FOOD PROGRAMME**

# Winter Holiday Fun



Is your child in Year  
Reception to Year 11  
and in receipt of benefits-  
related Free School Meals?

**Redbridge's HAF programme**  
is delivered by approved providers  
and offers **physical fun, nutritional  
education** and an opportunity  
to **make new friends**.

Activities include **multi sports,  
arts and crafts, drama, cookery**  
and much more!

Every child attending gets  
**a free meal every day.**

**Wednesday  
21 - Friday 23  
December 2022**

To find out more and book  
your place - scan the QR code  
below or visit:

<https://find.redbridge.gov.uk/haf>

Booking is essential for all  
activities, so **book early** to  
avoid disappointment!

For any queries, please email:  
[haf@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:haf@redbridge.gov.uk)







## **Join us at our next virtual careers conference to explore the diversity of careers within the space sector.**

The National Space Academy will be hosting online careers conferences for students and parents/guardians, thanks to the UK Space Agency. These conferences will allow viewers to find out about some of the most exciting job opportunities within an ever-growing industry. Jobs within the sector range from working with satellites to help predict the weather and farmers to better understand their crops to designing and building rockets to becoming a space lawyer.

The UK Space Industry has an annual turnover of £16.4 billion and employs over 45,000 people. It continues to grow year on year. The UK Space Innovation and Growth Strategy has a target of achieving 10% of the global space market, which is estimated to be £400 billion by 2030.

These interactive online careers conferences will explore the range of careers available before delving further into the career choices of three of our speakers. Looking at how their career journey brought them to where they are today and what it is they do daily. This will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A session with the speakers.

## **Upcoming Online Careers Conferences 2022**

### **Online careers conference - Students aged 14 - 18**

#### **Saturday 3rd December 2022**

Year 10 and 11 students

10.30 - 12.30

[Book here](#)

#### **Saturday 3rd December 2022**

Year 12 and 13 students


14.00 - 16.00


[Book here](#)



# **'GET INTO' TECH, DIGITAL, & IT**

**Year 9-13's come and join us for an evening with  
the some of the top brands in the industry...**

 **Beal High School, Ilford & Live streamed**

 **Thursday 8th December**

 **17:00-19:30**

**Sign up now**

**Bring your  
parents &  
friends along!**

- ★ Network with professionals
- ★ Learn more about the industry
- ★ Q&A session
- ★ Prizes to be won

**Scan me to secure  
your place!**



**Deutsche Bank**



**Sign up today: <https://pathwayctm.com/event/get-into-tech-digital-it/>**



# REDBRIDGE EDUCATION AWARDS

supported by Lead Sponsor **Parker Smith Inclusion**

**Celebrating individuals  
who are shaping  
extraordinary futures**

Dear Parent / Guardian,

As we settle into the new school year, I am thrilled to announce on behalf of Redbridge Council, the launch of the first ever Redbridge Education Awards! The awards are an amazing opportunity for you to say **thank you** to a teacher or member of staff who you think deserves to be recognised and celebrated for all that they do for young people in Redbridge.

With 14 award categories to choose from, there is something for everyone. If you can think of an individual or team who has made a positive impact on your child's learning, development, or extracurricular activities, now is the time to give them something back!

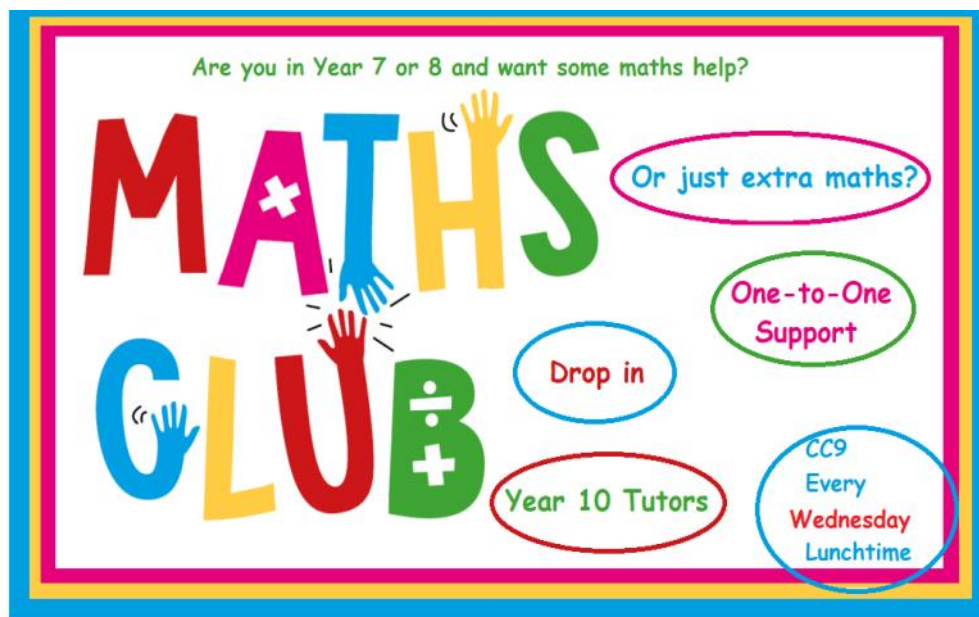
If the person or team you nominate are shortlisted, they will be invited to a spectacular awards ceremony to be held in Wanstead next April 2023 – it will be a night to remember!

Making a nomination couldn't be easier, simply head to [www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-education-awards](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/redbridge-education-awards) or scan the QR code at the top of the page. Please also encourage your child to make their own nomination!

If you have any questions or need assistance making a nomination, please speak to a member of staff, or contact [educationawards@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:educationawards@redbridge.gov.uk).

Thank you.

**Advanced Notice – WCHS will be taking part in the National Christmas Jumper Day to raise money for Save the Children. This is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Plan / save up / create / make / customise your jumper!**



Maths Club is a drop in session open to all Year 7 and Year 8 students run by Ms Gribble and older students. Students will normally receive one-to-one support and can ask for maths challenges, or specific maths topics they would like help with.



## P.E. EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tues</u>	<u>Weds</u>	<u>Thurs</u>	<u>Fri</u>
<u>Before School</u> <u>7.50-8.20am</u>	All Years – Badminton Sports Hall KST	All Years – Volleyball Sports Hall VJA			Badminton for y12 & 13 ONLY STA
<u>Lunchtime</u> <u>1.30-2pm</u>	All Years – Basketball Sports Hall VJA	Football for y7&8 Sports Hall/Field STA & TL	<u>Running Club – led by</u> <u>Rachael Yr13 student</u> KRU  Netball for ALL (courts)  <u>Football for y9,10 7 11 only</u> STA & TL	Badminton Sports Hall VJA  STA – Y9-13 <u>Trampolining</u>  All Years – Athletics Sports Hall/Field KRI	<u>Trampolining – Y7&amp;8</u> KRU
<u>Afterschool</u> <u>3.30-4.20pm</u>	A.S.C self defence Sports hall  All years – Games (dodgeball / kickball etc.) Courts KST	A.S.C JIU JITSU Sports hall	Netball Training/Fixture (courts) INVITE ONLY STA VJA KRU KRI  Boxing External Coach A.S.C	A.S.C DANCE Dance Studio	Prisons - led by Lilla Yr11 student 3.45 – 4.10pm Supervised by Ms Gribble Years 9, 10 & 11

Come and join us for

# Prisons Club

**Fridays after school 3.45—4.10pm in the Sports Hall**

**Run by Lilla in Year 11 and supervised by Miss Gribble**

**Years 9,10 & 11 welcome! Free to attend**

Team B's Prison	Team A	Team B	Team A's Prison
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## **Music Extra-curricular Timetable: Autumn 2022**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>Junior Choir</b> (SF1) 13:30- 14:10  <b>Brass Ensemble</b> MTH (SF2) 13:45-2:15  <b>Kalimba Club</b> (Conference room) 13:45-14:20	<b>Junior Band</b> IBO (SF1) 13:30- 14:10  <b>Musical Theatre club</b> (Conference room) 13:40-14:15	<b>Jazz Band</b> KHN (SF1) 13:40-14:15  <b>String orchestra</b> IBO (Conference Room) 13:40-14:15  <b>Carnatic Ensemble</b> Jubilee Room 1 13:40-2:15	<b>Senior Choir</b> KHA (SF1) 13:40- 14:15  <b>Theory and GCSE/A-level support</b> IBO (SF2) 13:40-14:15	<b>Orchestra</b> IBO (SF1) 13:40-14:15  <b>Guitar and Ukulele Ensemble</b> (SF2) 13:40-14:15
<b>After school</b>		<b>Chamber groups</b> IBO (SF1/2) 15:45-16:30			

**Jazz band** is a group for wind, brass and percussion players of grade 4/5+ standard. We primarily play big band music, but there are opportunities to learn improvisation skills and perform solos within ensemble playing. We perform at concerts and events like the summer showcase.

**Junior choir** is our main choral ensemble for years 7-9, run by Yolanda Thompson from Redbridge Music Centre. It is also an excellent group to participate in for new students in year 7, reinforcing musicianship skills required during the curriculum. No previous singing experience is required and so the group gives great confidence to those looking for a friendly environment to develop their abilities while also producing high-quality performances for concerts.

The **orchestra** is the main music ensemble of the school which plays music from the classical repertoire plus arrangements and film music. All string/wind and brass instruments are welcome and entry requirements are for students, are to be at least grade 4 standard.

**String orchestra** is a group for all string instruments for students at least grade 3 in standard. We will be tackling some 20<sup>th</sup>-century Russian repertoire this term.

**Junior band** is an excellent group for younger musicians, from those just beginning on an instrument up to grade 3 in standard, to engage in an ensemble playing a variety of musical arrangements. All types of instruments are welcome, regardless of previous experience. Again, this is an excellent opportunity for younger musicians to build up confidence in performance and develop skills which also strongly support their curriculum work.

The **brass ensemble** welcomes students from beginner to advanced level to take part playing music for the end-of-term concerts. This group is particularly appropriate for musicians who have previously done the year 8 brass projects as part of the curriculum lessons, and is an excellent next step in developing their instrumental skills. Instruments can also be provided by the tutor so please do come even if you do not own an instrument.

The **senior choir** is an excellent ensemble for years 10-13 which tackles more challenging and diverse repertoire for performance in concerts and other functions. Again, as with other groups, new-comers are always welcome in this friendly and supportive environment.

**Theory** and **GCSE/A-level support** provides theory tuition at all levels for those wishing to build up their theory knowledge. GCSE and A level students are also supported in their studies for example in coursework or revision.

**Chamber groups** – This is an opportunity for self-led student groups to run rehearsals with the support of music staff when required.







**THANKS FOR REMEMBERING  
THIS IS A**



**PEANUT/NUT FREE  
SCHOOL**

## LOST PROPERTY—WOODEN TRUNK IN RECEPTION

We still have a large number of unclaimed outdoor coats and school uniform sitting in the large lost property box in reception.

They have been there for many months. We have sent numerous messages out asking for goods to be collected.

Could you please ask your daughter to check the box for any missing items, as soon as possible.

**For your information, all unclaimed goods will be discarded/sent to charity, at the end of the week, Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022.**

Thank you for your co-operation.



## **REMINDER**

**Please remind your daughter to bring in her lanyard, locker key and fob to school every day.**



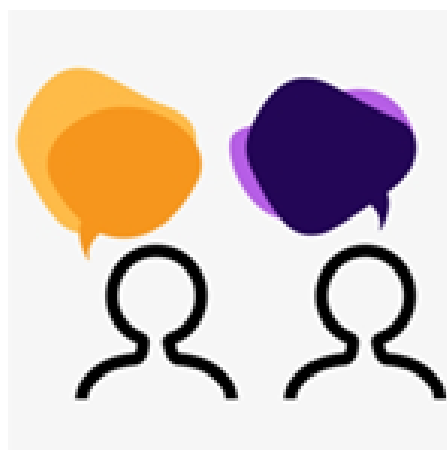


## Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

*Would you like to talk to someone about difficulties that you or your child are experiencing during the COVID-19 pandemic? Do you need some support with creating a daily routine for your child? Are you concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing? Are you struggling to motivate your children at home or manage sibling relationships? The Educational Psychology Service are here to support you.*

The Redbridge Educational Psychology Service have a **dedicated telephone helpline for parents/carers** where you will receive advice and guidance from a professional psychologist.

The EPS helpline is available for all parents and carers - your child does not need to be known to the EPS, does not need to have a special educational need or additional support within school. We welcome calls from all parents and carers.



### EPS Helpline

Telephone: 077 41 3 31 009

Opening hours:

Every Wednesday 10am - 4pm

Webpage: <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/educational-psychology-service/>



FIND: [Educational Psychology Service](#)

@Redbridge\_aep Twitter account.



## **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

<b>AUTUMN 2022</b>		
Term	Monday 5 September 2022	Friday 21 October 2022
<b>Half-term</b>	Monday 24 October 2022	Friday 28 October 2022
Term	Monday 31 October 2022	Tuesday 20 December 2022
<b>Non-Contact Day</b>	Friday 7 October 2022	

<b>SPRING 2023</b>		
Term	Thursday 5 January 2023	Friday 10 February 2023
<b>Half-term</b>	Monday 13 February 2023	Friday 17 February 2023
Term	Monday 20 February 2023	Friday 31 March 2023
<b>Non-Contact Day</b>	Tuesday 7 March 2023	

<b>SUMMER 2023</b>		
Term	Monday 17 April 2023	Friday 26 May 2023
<b>Half-term</b>	Monday 29 May 2023	Friday 2 June 2023
Term	Monday 5 June 2023	Friday 21 July 2023
<b>Non-Contact Day</b>	Wednesday 28 June 2023	



## **KEY DATES TO REMEMBER**

- 29 November—Year 13 Parents Evening**
- 30 November—7pm – 8.15pm in Classroom N1 — Annual General Meeting of Parents & Friends of Woodford County High School**
- 5 December—Year 11 Parents Evening**
- 6 December—Years 7 & 8 School Disco**
- 8 December—Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Concert**
- 12 December—Year 13 (2020-2021) Certificate & Social Event**
- 15/16 December—School Christmas Lunch**
- 20 December—End of Term**