



SHELDON Standard

Term 3
Jan-Feb 2025

BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU

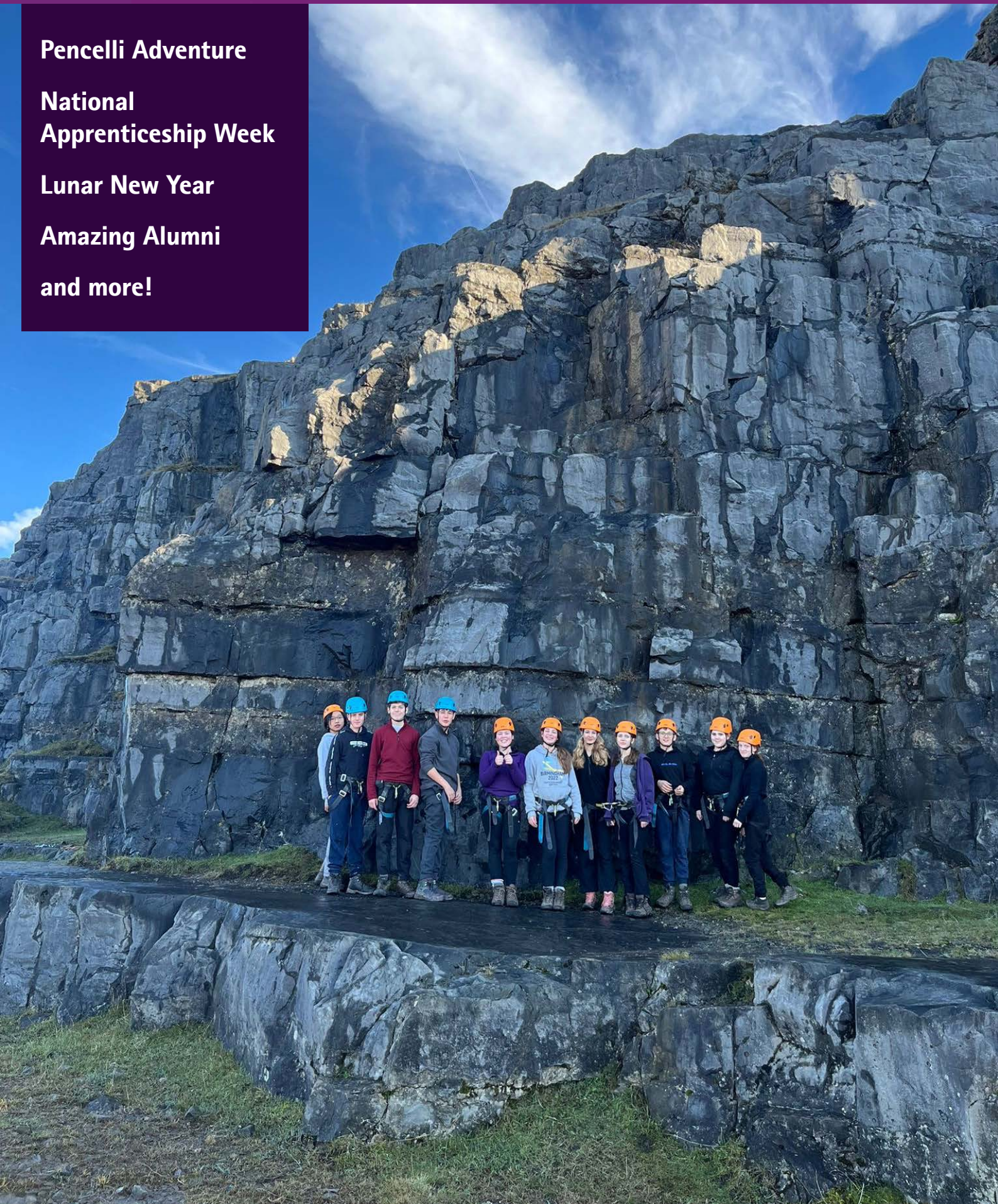
Pencelli Adventure

**National
Apprenticeship Week**

Lunar New Year

Amazing Alumni

and more!



Pencelli Adventure

Our Year 9 students had an amazing adventure at Plas Pencelli Outdoor Adventure Centre in the Brecon Beacons. Over a week in January, they took part in canoeing, climbing, mountain walking, caving and gorge walking.



They had a fantastic week and threw themselves into all activities, making memories to last a lifetime!

Thank you to all of the students who attended for being such wonderful representatives for Sheldon and to our staff for organising this fantastic trip.

[Read more here](#)



The Sheldonian Newspaper Club



[Read the latest issue here!](#)

If you want to join the Newspaper Club, sign up on epraise or come to E8 on Thursdays after school.

Art Students Visit the National Gallery

Our GCSE and A Level Art and Photography students travelled to London to visit the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery. They had a fantastic time looking at the artwork and finding inspiration for the students' current exam project topics.

Their behaviour was exemplary at all times and they were an absolute pleasure to take on the trip. Despite being faced with a huge tractor protest resulting in Trafalgar Square and Westminster being completely gridlocked, they had a great (and very memorable) day.

[Read more here](#)



Grand Appeal Day

Thank you to our Student Leadership Team for organising a fantastic fundraising event to end Term 3.

The atmosphere in the Sports Hall was electric as our staff took on students in a very competitive volleyball match. Thank you to everyone who participated and came out to watch the match.

Along with the match we had a cake sale, sweets and prizes. Congratulations to Lexi-Lou and Patrick for winning the teddy and sweets!

Thanks to your generous donations, we were able to raise funds for the Bristol Children's Hospital Charity Grand Appeal.

[Read more here](#)



Sixth Form Reunion

It was a pleasure catching up with our Sheldon Sixth Form Class of 2024 during our reunion in January. Many of our former students are beginning university courses, are setting off on international adventures and beginning first steps to exciting new careers.

During the reunion we announced the winners of our two top awards in Sheldon Sixth Form, as chosen by our faculty.

Congratulations to Olivia Roberts for winning the Phillips Award for academic excellence and to Brinda Benny for winning the Diamond Trophy. This award was first presented by a former faculty member, Carolyn Wakefield, and is presented to students who have shown great resilience.

[Read more here](#)



Otis Reaches New Heights for National Title

Congratulations to current Sheldon Sixth Form student, Otis P, for taking home the national title for high jump in the England Athletics National Indoor Championships in Sheffield last weekend. His jump of 2.09m earned him a new PB! Otis's teammate and former Sixth Former, Peter, took home the silver after a jump-off!

[Read more here](#)



Sixth Form Interviews

Last term we began holding interviews with Year 11 students who will be joining Sheldon Sixth Form next year.

All students from Sheldon have conditional offers, pending their GCSE results. The interviews are for students to discuss their subject options, their plans for the future and what they want to get out of the Sixth Form experience. It is also an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about studying at Sheldon Sixth Form.

We will continue holding interviews later in Term 4 once Year 11 students have completed their mock exams.

Filip Joins Team GB Youth Jujitsu Squad

Huge Congratulations to Filip in Sheldon Sixth Form for his outstanding achievement at the Flanders International Competition in Belgium with the Team GB Youth Jujitsu squad.

Filip had a great tournament coming in 2nd in Brazilian jujitsu blue belt 69kg division and 4th in fighting jujitsu 77kg division.

He made history as a member of the first GB Youth team to travel internationally for a competition. Their team came in 3rd overall with 36 medals in total!



ARE YOU EXAM READY?

Set good revision habits now to be ready for your summer exams!

[Click here for Exam Resources](#)

Amazing Alumni

We had several visits by our alumni this term to share their experience of life after Sheldon with our Sixth Form students.

In January, James Harriman visited our Year 13 assembly last week to speak to students about preparing for A Level exams and university.

James attended Sheldon School and Sixth Form from 2016-2023. While at Sheldon he was Head Boy, excelled academically and was a keen Sheldon musician. James earned A*s and As in biology, physics, maths and his EPQ. He is now studying biology at the University of Oxford.

As Mr Spiers reminded students, his success didn't come by chance, but was down to exceptionally hard work!

James is the first person to be profiled on our new Alumni display that we are creating outside the library to inspire younger students.

[Read more about James here](#)

At the end of term, recent leaver Olivia Nowak visited to speak to students about her degree apprenticeship with KPMG in Bristol. We hope to feature more about Olivia's experience in our next alumni profile.

We want to hear from our alumni, [click here to join our network and share your experience with students.](#)

James Harriman

Sheldon Sixth Form Class of 2023

Biology, Physics, Maths, EPQ

James is currently studying biology at the University of Oxford. He attended Sheldon School and Sixth Form from 2016-2023.

"You can achieve literally anything if you take the time and effort to make it happen. Take advantage of both academic and extra-curricular opportunities and don't be afraid to go outside your comfort zone."



Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Celebration

Congratulations to the students who earned their DofE Awards last year. We had a special presentation evening in January to reflect on their achievements and present awards to the 51 students receiving Bronze Awards and 12 students receiving Silver Awards. Our 20 Gold participants will receive their awards during a special ceremony at Buckingham Palace upon completion of their activities.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a programme that inspires young people to explore who they are, grow in confidence and develop the skills they need to successfully

navigate life. Students have to volunteer, learn new skills, take on physical challenges and expeditions.

During the ceremony, DofE Coordinator, Miss Langdon shared photos and memories of the previous year.

The evening also featured a very special guest speaker. Archie Fitzgerald is a former Sheldon student and the first in recent years to earn a Gold Award. Archie spoke to students about how his experience working through the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards shaped the person he is today—a medical student who also volunteers with mountain rescue and air ambulance services. He encouraged students to "keep saying yes to new adventures!"

[Read more here](#)



Clubbercise Raises £350 for Sheldon Students!

Thank you to all the parents, staff and friends of Sheldon School who attended our sold out Clubbercise event in aid of the Sheldon Student Opportunity Fund. We raised £350, which will be used to provide enrichment opportunities for children at our school.

We must say a huge thank you to Roz Chandler for putting together the event and donating all of the ticket sales to the SSOF.

We all had a wonderful time – dancing, sweating and reliving our 90s glory days! If you've been inspired to have fun and get fit with Roz, check out her selection of courses on her website (including Clubbercise on Thursday nights at Sheldon).

[Read more here](#)



Spring Raffle Coming Soon!

Look out for more information about our Spring Raffle in March. We have lots of great prizes lined up including meal vouchers, event tickets and more!

Thank you to all the generous donations we've received so far. We really appreciate the support from everyone in the Sheldon community!

We're still on the look out for star prizes, so if you have any connections to local businesses, festivals, events, spas, etc that could donate a prize please get in touch!

If you would like to donate a raffle item, please let us know by 1 March by emailing opportunityfund@sheldonschool.co.uk with details of the prize. Donations can be dropped off at Reception.

Pre-Loved Uniform Sale

Thank you to everyone who visited our Pre-Loved Uniform Sale in January.

We have plenty of small jumpers, but could use more in bigger sizes. As your children out grow their jumpers or PE kits, please drop them off at Reception to be added to our stock.

If your child is in Year 11, please make sure to donate their old uniform and tie at the end of the year!

Our next Pre-Loved Uniform Sale will be on Thursday 3 July. We will also take surplus stock to the Chippenham Uniform Exchange at the end of the year so that you can collect items over the summer.

Join the Lottery

Don't forget to join the Sheldon School Lottery. Your ticket will enter you into our weekly draw as well as a chance to win the national £25,000 jackpot!

Tickets are just £1 per week and will help us to continue to fund enrichment activities for Sheldon students. There's a guaranteed winner every Saturday—but you have to be in it to win it!

We've already raised £112 this year and are on track to raise over £700 this year. Could you help make it to £1K?!

To find out more about joining the lottery, [click here](#).

**SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL
PLAY OUR LOTTERY**



The Scottish Play Comes to Sheldon

Fair was foul and foul was fair as our Year 11 students watched a fantastic performance of Macbeth by the Quantum Theatre Company.

Shakespeare's dark tale of vaulting ambition and the toll it takes was brought to life on stage to help

support our students' understanding of the play ahead of their exams this summer.

Macbeth is one of the set texts for GCSE English Literature and our English faculty are passionate about giving students the opportunity to see Shakespeare performed live to fully appreciate his craft.

[Read more here](#)



Pokémon Professor Visits Club

Our Pokémon Club had a very special visit from Pokémon Professor, Sam Getliffe. Sam attended our club to share his extensive knowledge of the game and give tips to our club members as they battled it out in the Sheldon Library.

He spoke to students about how to build a great deck and even let some students play using his custom decks. He very generously gave cards to some the newest members of the club to help them get started in the game. Some of our older members went head-to-head with him in an ultimate Pokémon showdown!

[Read more about Sam and his tips for getting into Pokémon here](#)

Year 9 Starts Flying Start Challenge

Our Year 9 science students took part in the first round of the Flying Start Challenge in February. The year group attended a lecture on the principles of flight delivered by engineers from AtkinsRéalis. Then returned to their science classes to work in teams to design the perfect paper airplane using their newly acquired aviation knowledge. The designs were put to the test during a fly-off in the School Hall.

The engineers from AtkinsRéalis will return later this year to guide the winning teams through the design and build of wooden gliders.

Thank you to our visitors for inspiring our year group. It certainly is an exciting lesson when throwing paper airplanes in class is encouraged!

[Read more here](#)



National Apprenticeship Week

Thank you to all the employers who visited Sheldon during National Apprenticeship Week to speak to students about opportunities available to them once they leave Sheldon.

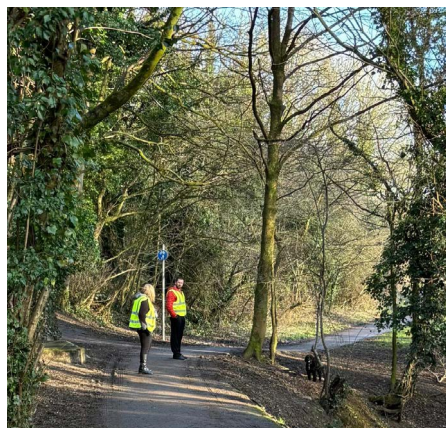
Students spoke with representatives from the Royal Navy, Bath College, Wiltshire Council and Wavin during our lunchtime pop-ups.

If students would like further information about apprenticeships, they can speak with Miss Witchell, our Careers Advisor.

[Read more about our Careers and Work Experience programme here](#)

Y9 Rugby Win Blackman Cup

Congratulations to our Year 9 Rugby team — the undefeated winners of the Eric Blackman Cup! They travelled to Millfield to represent Wiltshire in the tournament of 10 teams who all won their regional competitions across the South West. The boys won all of their matches, including the final against Stonehenge School.



Thank You to Sheldon Staff

We would like to thank our staff for increasing their presence before and after school to reassure our students last term. We will continue to monitor the school entrances and exits as usual, with staff in high-visibility jackets. If students ever have any concerns, they are encouraged to speak to a member of staff.

Lunar New Year Celebrations

To celebrate Lunar New Year, our EAL Coordinators hosted a special lunch for members of the EAL Club and their friends. Many brought in special treats to share with the group as they talked about the New Year traditions they enjoy at home. Thank you to all the students who attended and to Mr Davies and Mrs Henzl for organising the lunch.



Year 11 Exams Revision

Everything you need to know about Year 11 exams can be found on our website. Along with the Revision Olympics documents, you'll find our exam timetables, information about exam regulations, course specifications, revision techniques and more.

[Click here to find Y11 Exam Revision information](#)

Lettings at Sheldon

Once the school day is over, our facilities are available to let out. We have a wide variety of spaces available for sporting clubs, meetings and other group activities.

[Find out more about our lettings programme on our website](#)

Coming Up in Term 4

[View our website](#) for term dates and other important dates on the school calendar.

w/c 24 Feb
Y11 & Y13 Mocks

Sun 2 Mar
DofE Training Day

w/c 3 Mar
Y11 & Y13 Mocks

Tues 6 Mar
Parents' Evening Y8 L Side

Tues 6 Mar
World Book Day

7-8 Mar
Ten Tors Camp 1

Tues 11 Mar
Parents' Evening Y8 R Side

20-21 Mar
Ten Tors Camp 2

21 Mar
Red Nose Day

28-30 Mar
DofE Silver Practice Expedition

Tues 1 Apr
Parents' Evening Y13

2 & 3 April
Step Into It (Dance Show)

4 April
Inset Day
(School Open to Staff Only)

4-6 April
Ten Tors Camp 3

4-21 April
Easter Holiday

22 April
First Day of Term 5

Need help ICT Support or help with your student log on? [Click here](#)





Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing

Online Course

Wednesday 12 March 12:45- 2:45pm

Booking closes Wednesday 5 March 2025



- Understand the changes in a teenage brain
- Learn techniques to promote wellbeing
- Explore positive psychology

Contact familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
 call the FaCL team on 01225 770478
 scan the QR code or visit
<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>



Our courses are free, if you are 19+ years old, resident in the UK/EU for over three years (some immigration status exempt), have a Wiltshire postcode and meet any of the following criteria: earn less than £25,000 pa, in receipt of benefits, military family, foster carer/care leaver/carer.



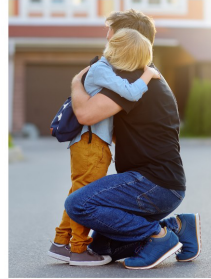
Online Course (2hrs)

Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry

Available dates

- Friday 28 February 10:00-12:00
- Wednesday 19 March 12:15-14:15

Join this course for practical ideas to help you support your child.



- Explore the difference between anxiety and worry
- Understand how to support emotional wellbeing at home
- Suggestions shared to manage anxiety together
- Positive and realistic help for the family

Please sign up at least 7 days before course start date

For bookings and enquiries scan the QR code

or

call the FaCL team on 01225 770478

or email

familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk



Website: <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>

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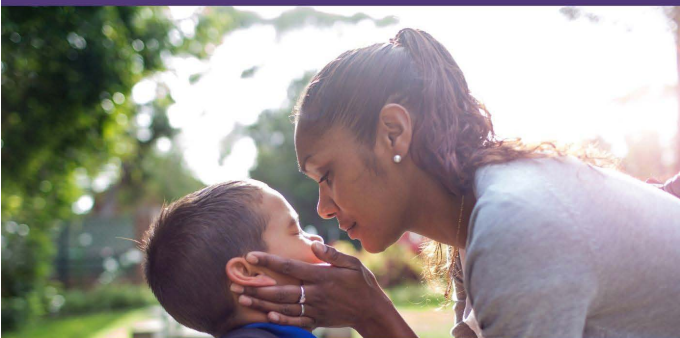


Online Course

Understanding School Anxiety Early Signs of Emotionally Based School Avoidance

Friday 7 March 10am - 12pm

Booking closes Friday 28 February



- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance?
- Strategies to support with anxiety and worry
- Strategies to support attendance
- Advice on reasonable adjustments that schools can make
- Group discussion with education psychologist

For bookings and enquiries:
 call the FaCL team on 01225 770478 or contact
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk
 or scan the QR code



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Please see our website or contact us for more information



FLEXIBLE FRIENDLY FITNESS

FLexercise with Sue

SATURDAYS 9:00am

Sheldon School Dance Studio

£6.00 PAYG

45 minute class

Contact Sue for more information

T : 01249 247336

M : 07551 135581

E : cassellsue@hotmail.com



www.fl-exercise.com