



Tavistock College is part of the
Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust family



September 2026

Dear Families,

I hope this finds you well after a very hot summer break; I hope you and yours are well rested and managed to stay safe. As we return, I am so pleased to report on some wonderful KS4 and KS5 results that continue to improve year on year; well done to each of our young people who have done themselves, and the College, proud.

Staffing updates

As we start the new academic year, it gives me great pleasure to welcome Ellie Piper (English), Doug Marshall (Maths) and Jamie Parnell (Music) to the team. We are also saying goodbye to Shaunna McGlade and Jess Cunningham (both Inclusion team) who are moving on to new pastures and we wish them all the best.

Uniform Update

We would like to acknowledge that there has been a delay in the delivery of some uniform orders. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your patience while these orders are being fulfilled. To support students during this period, a supply of spare uniform items will be available for students to borrow each day. Students are asked to return any loaned items at the end of the school day so they can remain available for others who may need them. Please note that generic jumpers should not be worn in place of the school uniform jumper. If students are awaiting the arrival of a school skirt, they may wear plain black trousers as a temporary alternative. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



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College Day

A reminder that, following student and staff voice, we have moved formally to our new College day.

Timing	Event	Notes
0835 – 0905	Line ups with Head of Year and then Tutor Time	Line ups will be in the same area each day followed by Tutor Time which will include our PD Core programme, Tutor Reading and assembly. Year 7 – Hard Courts Year 8 – Hard Courts Year 9 – Hard Courts Year 10 – Canal Side
0905 – 1005	Period 1	
1005 – 1105	Period 2	
1105 – 1130	Break	
1130 – 1230	Period 3	
1230 – 1330	Period 4	
1330 – 1410	Lunch	Week A: KS3 first lunch sitting, KS4 and KS5 second lunch sitting. Week B: KS4 and KS5 first lunch sitting, KS3 second lunch sitting.
1410 – 1510	Period 5 followed by end of College day	

Yondr Pouches and culture expectations

A reminder that following a successful implementation at the end of last academic year, each student has now received their individual Yondr pouch. Students are responsible for ensuring that this brought to college each day and that mobile devices are switched off and placed in a locked pouch for the duration of the day. If a student has lost or damaged their Yondr pouch then a new one will need to be purchased via School Gateway for £14. More information on our mobile phone policy can be found in the updated Behaviour & Culture Policy on our website.



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Policy updates

Our new policies for this academic year can be found here: [Tavistock College - Policies](#) and include:

- Attendance Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour and Culture Policy
- Curriculum and Assessment Policy
- Drugs Misuse Policy
- Offsite and Educational Visits Policy
- Positive Mental Health Policy
- SEND Policy
- SVSH Policy
- Teaching and Learning Policy

If you wish to provide any feedback or comments on any of these policies prior to formal ratification by our Local Stakeholder Board (governors), please complete the following form: [Policy Feedback - September 2026 – Fill in form](#)

RSHE and PSHE policy: stakeholder consultation

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is a statutory component of the National Curriculum. At Tavistock College, RSHE is delivered as part of our broader Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum, which supports students' personal development. Through this programme, your child will receive age-appropriate lessons focused on relationships, sexual health, and personal safety.

Should you wish to contribute to our consultation on this policy, please follow the link below:

[RSHE Policy consultation process 26/27 – Fill out form](#)

A separate letter is also being sent, containing more information.



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Medical – Action needed for all students

Thank you to those families who completed the medical capture form last half term. If you missed this, please see the information below:

As part of our commitment to ensuring the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all students, we are currently updating our records relating to students' medical needs.

It is essential that we hold accurate and up-to-date information about any medical conditions, allergies, medications, or health requirements your child may have. This enables us to provide appropriate support during the school day, respond quickly in an emergency, and make reasonable adjustments where needed.

We therefore ask that all parents/carers complete the **Medical Needs Capture Form**. This applies to **all students**, even if your child does not have any known medical conditions, as it helps us maintain complete and accurate records.

Please take a few minutes to:

- Carefully complete all sections of the form
- Provide as much detail as possible where applicable

You can access the form here: [Medical capture form 26/27 – Fill in form](#)

If your child has a medical condition that requires medication, an Asthma Care Plan or an Individual Health Care Plan, we will contact you separately.

SEND

If you have concerns relating to SEND, please contact a member of the SEND Team. The team includes:

Assistant SENDCo years 7, 12 & 13: Sam Biggs

Assistant SENDCo years 8 & 9: Abii Roberts

Assistant SENDCo years 10 & 11: Clare Dawe

SEND Administrator: Sally York

SENDCo: Sophie Champion

Assistant Principal - Inclusion: Rachel Turner

To get in contact with the team, please use the following form: [SEND Team enquiry form – Fill in form](#)



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Open evening

Open evening will be held on Wednesday 23 September with morning tours taking place the week after. This is a chance for prospective families who are interested in joining Tavistock College – all ages welcome!

Safeguarding

If you have a concern which involves the safety and wellbeing of a child or young person, please contact Hazel Blackmore (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Rachel Turner (Deputy DSL), or Jo Solman (Deputy DSL) or emailing safeguardingtav@dmatschools.org.uk.

If the concern arises over half term, school holidays or outside of college hours, please contact Devon's Front Door on 0345 155 1071 (email: mashsecure@devon.gov.uk), Children's Social Care Emergency Duty Team (out of hours) on 0845 6000 388 or Police on 101 (non-emergency) and 999 (emergency).

Please find more information available on our website <https://www.tavistockcollege.org/Safeguarding/>

Have a wonderful year and all the best,

James Buchanan
Principal

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