

**MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER**

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Good Luck to all our Examination Students

We are nearly there with external written examinations beginning on Monday. After weeks, months and years of study and revision our students have the chance to show what they are capable of.

I am sure that I speak on behalf of all members of our community in wishing students good luck over the next few weeks. Thank you to all our families, staff and students who are supporting the exam effort.

With focus and continued effort, I am sure that our students will obtain their well-deserved places in colleges and universities, as well as apprenticeships and employment.

Year 13 Leavers Event

As examinations begin, we were able to say a fond farewell to our Year 13 students. They have been an asset to FPSS over their time in the school and have contributed to our community through some tragic and trying circumstances.

On Friday, students came together to celebrate their time at FPSS and I hope they enjoy the celebrations that followed.

Year 6 Induction Evening

On Wednesday it was lovely to welcome our new parents and carers to FPSS, along with many familiar faces. Our Transition team were able to share information as well as answer questions. We look forward to welcoming our new students in a few weeks for their Transition Days.

Football Semis and Finals

Many congratulations to our Sixth Form and Year 11 teams who won their respective semi-finals. I wish them every success in their upcoming finals.

**TERM 5 EVENTS****ALL EVENTS****Next Week (Week 1)****Forthcoming events**

WED 24 MAY	Drama Summer Showcase	
FRI 26 MAY	END OF TERM (TERM 5)	3.15pm finish
MON 5 JUN	Return to school (Week 1)	8.40am - 3.15pm
WUE 20 JUN	Pixl Build Up Evening	6-7pm
WED 21 JUN	Year 11 Graduation	4-6pm
THU 22 JUN	Year 11 Prom	7pm - 10.30pm
FRI 23 JUN	Non-Uniform Day in aid of Alexander Devine Children's Hospice	

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Well done to our U13 (Year 8) boys who played in the County Cup semi-final this week and we wish them the best of luck for their League Cup semi-final next week.

Inter House Netball

Good luck also to all our students participating in the Inter-House Netball over the next couple of weeks.

Take care,

Dr Andrew J Morrison (BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)

**YEAR
7****YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING FEEDBACK**

Please see below link to a very brief questionnaires for our recent Year 7 parents' evening (not the transition evening for Year 6-7). We value feedback from all our parents and carers and would appreciate your responses. Thank you.

YEAR 7 PARENT FEEDBACK

EARLY BREAK 2 W/C 15TH MAY

To accommodate exam timings, from Monday 15th May we will have an early Break 2 (12:45-1:15), with P4 running after Break 2 (from 1:15-2:15) rather than before.

YEAR 11 GCSE REVISION PROGRAMME

Dear Year 11 Parents,

I hope this email finds you well and your child's final GCSE exam preparations are going well. As promised, please find our final GCSE revision programme below which covers both exam phase 1 and 2 for your information and reference. Here is another reminder about our expectations during the two exam phases:

15.5.23 – 24.5.23: Exam Phase 1

During *Exam Phase 1*, students will either be in an exam, a revision session for that exam or in their normal lessons (there is an expectation for all students to attend both timetabled lessons and revision sessions if not in an exam). When in normal lessons, students will have a choice of either working with their teacher for that subject or to revise for another subject – quiet study will be expected. However, students will not be expected to attend tutor time and will thus not be required in school until 8.45 if they have a 9.00am exam or 9.10 if they are going to normal lessons or a revision session. When students have an afternoon exam they will be permitted to leave the school site as soon as the exam finishes.

25.5.23 – 21.6.23: Exam Phase 2

From Thursday 25th May *Exam Phase 2* starts. During this phase students will attend their exams and the associated revision sessions (there is no expectation to attend normal lessons). When they are not in an exam or a revision session they will have Home Study, where they will be expected to be working at home preparing for their next exam.

Please take a few moments to review these arrangements and the exam phase revision programme with your child. If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me – either by phone (01628 625308) or email (james.dollery@furzeplatt.net).

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher

GCSE REVISION PROGRAMME MAY/JUNE 2023

YEAR 8 GCSE LANGUAGE CHOICES

Deadline Monday 22nd May

At Furze Platt students choose their GCSE options in Year 9 and will continue to study a broad curriculum, ensuring they are well prepared for their GCSEs which start in Year 10. Students will choose their GCSE options during term 3 in 2024. However, to prepare them for the demands of GCSEs some subjects in Year 9 will be given slightly more lesson time than in Years 7 and 8.

This morning all Year 8 students sat in an assembly led by Mrs Budgett, who oversees Key Stage 3 Modern Foreign Languages. This was to discuss them choosing to focus on just one language in Year 9 from September 2023.

You can also indicate if your child wishes to continue studying two languages. Further information about how lessons for a second language will be structured will be sent once students have made their choices.

The language the student chooses to continue studying in Year 9 will be the language taken to GCSE level. This is therefore an important decision to make. To help students with their decision, languages teachers will discuss language options during lessons. If you want to discuss the choice further, please do email your child's languages teachers in the first instance and they will be happy to talk through the options further.

To indicate the language your child wishes to continue studying please complete the Microsoft Form available here:

LINK TO CHOOSE GCSE LANGUAGE CHOICES

Please ensure the form is completed by Monday 22nd May.

Thank you for your time reading this letter and if you do have any questions please contact us at school.

Miss L Stirling

Associate Assistant
Headteacher – Curriculum

Mrs A Budgett

2nd i/c MFL and KS3 MFL
Lead.



PERFORMING ARTS

Year 9 Puppetry

This term in Drama, Year 9 are exploring the theatre company, Kneehigh (1980-2021). Kneehigh were a theatre company that aimed to create playful theatre that often used traditional tales but exploring the story through the use of song, music, dance and puppetry.

This week we have been making our own paper puppets and learning how to operate them. It has been very impressive to see how Year 9 have adapted to this alternative style and have been willing to try out new ideas.



Dance Class

On Thursday 4th May, 20 students took part in a free workshop from Living Lines Dance Centre. The workshop focused on commercial and contemporary dance. Students were a mix of experience dancers and beginners and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the class.

We really look forward to having more dance opportunities moving forward at Furze Platt, so watch this space! If your child is interested in dance, please do ask them to come and speak to Mrs Kalinowski, Head of Performing Arts or send an e-mail to kate.kalinowski@furzeplatt.net to hear of future opportunities.

Furze Platt were offered this opportunity as the Living Lines Dance Centre is opening up classes in Maidenhead and have spaces for new students.

For more details please see page 9 of this newsletter.



Sixth Form: Semi Final of District Cup

The team: Isaak Palmer, Freddie Chalk, Declan Pinto, Oliver James, Euan Russell, Christian Correia, Jayden Weier, Chiba Ezukanma, Joshua Dilley, Edward Lemon, Charlie Sinnott, Shay East, Rhys Williams, Ben Thompson, Dawid Orzel, Varon Dhillon, Jacob Shimmin, Joe Fernandez

Our Sixth Form football team all played a part in winning their Semi Final of the District Cup. They will now be in a final at a semi-professional football club with a stadium capacity of over 1,000 at Ascot Town FC.

U12 Cricket County Cup Round 1 Fixture

The team: Luke Parker, Harry Davis, Jack Admans, Lukas McLachlan, Marcel Arora, Dylan Dev, Edward Dawson, Alexander Boddy, Will Hayward, Josh Hoad, Theo Sangamneheri

Our Year 7 boys played their first cricket fixture on Tuesday against Desborough College. The boys were determined and worked well in the rain to win by 18 runs. Good luck to them all in the next round.

RBWM Athletics League Year 7/8

Everyone who attended the Athletics League on Wednesday 10th May did really well and the atmosphere was brilliant. Special mention to:

Archie Charles and Joe Brooker - 1st and 2nd in 1500m

Casey Schuck for coming 1st in 100m

Anna Webster for coming 1st in 200m

Berkshire Schools Combined Events Championships

Well done to Sophie McLachlan (Year 10) for winning Silver at the Berkshire Schools Combined Events Championships on Friday 5th May.

She competed in Long Jump, 80m hurdles, High Jump, Shot and 800m and won Silver overall.

Sophie has now been invited to compete at the South East Regional Combined Events Championship in June representing Berkshire schools. Good luck Sophie!





HOUSE TURING MATHS CHALLENGE

This half term's House competition is a Turing Maths Challenge, in honour of Alan Turing.

Monday - Year 7

Tuesday - Year 8

Wednesday - Year 9

Thursday - Year 10

Friday - Sixth Form

The winners will win prizes and lots of House points:

Selected finalists will all get 10 points each.

Winners of the final will all get 25 points each.

Winning House will get 1000 points, 600 points for 2nd place, 400 points for 3rd place and 200 points for 4th place.

The winning team will also win some sweet treats!

The individual with the highest score in each year group will win a £10 Amazon voucher, + 60 House points.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE FINALISTS!

ENDURANCE FORTNIGHT 1 WINNERS



Well done to everyone in Hawk House and also to

Year 7 - Charley Smith 7MEE

Year 8 - Mustafa Ali 8CED

Year 9 - Milen Reehal 9CRR

Year 10 - Gabriela Kedziora 10RHT

Year 11 - Kirsty Steed 11NOY

Sixth Form - Lily Rasti 6FGN

Highest Endurance points in Tutor Groups:

8LED, 7SH, 9CRR, 10BUD, 11ZHM, 6SO



Students in all years:

For those interested in science and who would like to attend talks from people who share the same passion, you may wish to

go to the Science Festival which is taking place on Saturday 27th May from 10am to 4pm at Royal Holloway University. There is no need to book and it is free. There will be food and drink available to purchase. <https://royalholloway.ac.uk/science-festival/>



For Year 12 students looking for summer work experience:

PWC are offering a Virtual Insight Programme from 24th to 26th July. This will be to gain an insight into their 5 main areas - including Audit, Tax, Consulting, Technology and Operate. You need to be on track to obtaining 96 UCAS points. The deadline to apply is Friday 19th May <https://jobs.pwc.co.uk/school/uk/en/job/406628WD/Virtual-Insight-Programme-Y12-Eng-Wales-Y13-NI-S5-Scotland-2023>



For Year 13 students taking a gap year:

St Piran's School are looking for a gap year Sports Coach who is knowledgeable and passionate about sport. The hours are Monday to Friday – term time only.



ST PIRAN'S
Inspiring Confidence

The deadline to apply is today!

For more details, <https://www.stpirans.co.uk/news/?pid=2&nid=2&storyid=1047>

For Year 13 students looking for degree apprenticeships



Local company Quantuma <https://www.quantuma.com/> is offering degree apprenticeships in accountancy and tax. Please see their advert and promotional video.

https://www.canva.com/design/DAFcy6ePrkc/4nFrVPT8E1P_4UWnTbpzkA/watch?utm_content=DAFcy6ePrkc&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=publishsharelink

If you would like to speak to someone before applying, you can contact Glenn Parsons by email at Glenn.Parsons@quantuma.com, or you can apply for the role directly via this link:

<https://www.quantuma-careers.com/Jobs/84134383-f74a-4187-b9f3-8e50762a2697>

The deadline to apply is 17th June.



ROYAL CORONATION CELEBRATIONS FOR FURZE PLATT TEACHER

Mrs Stimson, Teacher in Shine and Travel and Tourism Subject Leader, was invited to perform at The Big Lunch at Windsor as part of the Coronation celebrations.



As a member of the Windsor and Maidenhead branch of Rock Choir, Mrs Stimson met with both the Prince and the Princess of Wales. Prince William asked her what songs they had sung and in return told her that their son George loves AC-DC and Led Zeppelin. He then asked where else the Rock Choir performs and Mrs Stimson said that as well as other Royal events such as the Platinum Jubilee, they sing at much smaller events like village fetes.



Prince William also mentioned he was glad the service was 2 hours and not 5 for his children's sake!

For more details on Rock Choir please visit <https://rockchoir.com/>

Drama Summer Showcase

WEDNESDAY 24TH MAY 2023
7PM IN THE THEATRE

A range of work being performed by Years 7-12

Book your free tickets here:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/furzeplatttheatre/t-nodjpzl>

FREE ENTRY



Parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from the club or academic support clinic emails sent to you in two easy steps:

1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs/clinics
2. Click 'create account' button.

**SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS
SCHEDULE 2023**

YEAR 6 TO YEAR 7 TRANSITION PRESENTATION

It was lovely to see so many new faces (and parents we know from Furze Platt already!) at our recent Year 6 -Year 7 Transition evening.

For parents and carers who were unable to attend, please see a link to the presentation below:

YEAR 6 PARENTS AND CARERS PRESENTATION

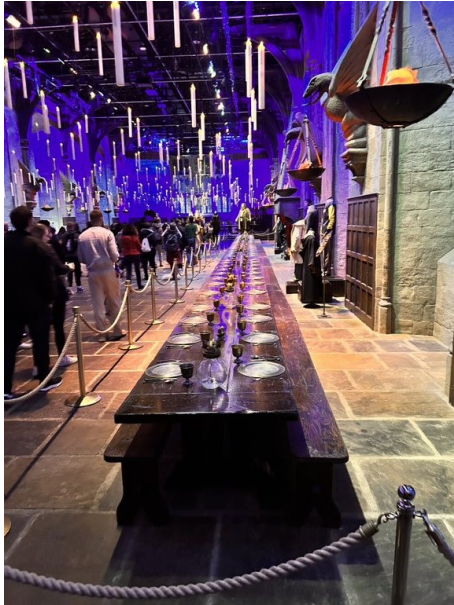


A number of our Year 10 students were lucky enough to go to see the studios at Warner Bros to support their GCSE subjects, which had a wonderful array of items, sets and outfits from the Harry Potter films. Following a fascinating talk on costume design and more, students enjoyed seeing and interacting with the displays. Thank you to everyone involved and to Miss Carty, DofE manager, for organising the trip.



THE MAKING OF Harry Potter

YEAR 10





NEW COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT LAUNCHES AT FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Maidenergy Community Share Offer opens for investment

MaidEnergy, a not-for-profit, volunteer-led organisation introducing renewable energy to some of the borough's biggest and most-used buildings launched their latest low carbon share offer for a solar project at Maidenhead's Furze Platt Senior School on 10th May 2023.

Dr Morrison, Headteacher, says, "We are delighted to be working with MaidEnergy to support sustainable energy use within Furze Platt Secondary School and our wider community. As a school we are keen to work towards being Carbon Neutral and further investment in solar energy at Furze Platt Senior School takes us closer to this ambition, as well as supports us to reduce costs by investing money in education rather than paying higher energy costs."

The new share offer will see the installation of 240kW of solar PV on the roof of the school, adding to the existing 35kW installed in 2020. MaidEnergy's biggest installation to date will provide FPSS with a long-term secure renewable energy supply, at a fixed low cost.

In their eighth project since 2015, MaidEnergy will again open the share offer to local investors for a six-week period to fund the project. The share offer allows investors to purchase shares for £1 each, there are 280,000 shares available to raise the expected funding to deliver the project. The projected annual return on shares is 5%.

Once the funds are secured, the project is launched with a return on investment to shareholders and surplus funds put towards the next project. The project potential has been recognised by the Climate Partnership CIC, which has agreed to provide £40,000 to underwrite the development of large scale solar in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM).

The install funded by this share offer will provide considerable benefit to Furze Platt Senior School, supporting the provision of education to young people. The school will benefit from a donation of shares in MaidEnergy, which will provide income from interest payments and a future cash benefit when the school request to withdraw its share capital. MaidEnergy has offered to donate the panels to the site after 15 years.

The project will provide locally owned renewable energy to serve the community; benefit the environment by lowering CO2 emissions; offer lower energy bills for Furze Platt Senior School; and provide a projected return for shareholders. Income will be earned from electricity generated by the solar panels and MaidEnergy expect 70% to be sold to the school with the rest exported to the grid. The school will pay a fixed price linked to inflation, while the export price will vary according to market

conditions.

To help protect Furze Platt Senior School from excessive energy prices in the future, MaidEnergy is offering to provide power at a nearly 40% discount to the current price for power from the grid, increasing with inflation, and guarantees not to charge more than the price from the grid in future. This has been endorsed by the Education Funding Agency.

MaidEnergy has already financed and installed solar panels on seven community buildings, gaining income for MaidEnergy from the sales of power and the Feed-in Tariff for renewable energy. As generation is well understood, and prices are inflation-linked, MaidEnergy's income is reasonably predictable. The rapid rise in inflation in 2022 will increase income now and in the long-term, while the addition of 240kWp of solar at Furze Platt will increase overall income by over 40%.

By buying shares, investors join MaidEnergy and help raise money to finance new installations. Each potential installation is assessed by MaidEnergy to ensure it is suitable to deliver a return sufficient to cover operation, maintenance, capital repayment costs and interest to investors.

Local resident and Co-Chair of MaidEnergy Richard Taylor comments, "It's wonderful to be returning to Furze Platt Senior School for another solar project, our biggest one so far. We need more clean energy in the climate emergency, and we love helping schools in our area to cut their emissions and their bills at once."

This latest share offer is for 280,000 shares offered at £1 each. This will finance 240kWp of solar PV to be installed on Furze Platt school. The minimum investment is £100 per member and the maximum is £90,000 or such lower amount as takes a member to 10% of the total issued equity. Returns will be calculated according to projected income and expenditure based on a set of assumptions. The projected annual return on shares is 5%, paid annually, and will be capped at the higher of 5% or RPI plus 2%. See the website <https://www.maidenergy.coop/> for a detailed share pack and the share purchase online form.

About MaidEnergy

MaidEnergy is a community business, democratically run with an asset lock to preserve the solar panels for the community. No remuneration has been paid by the organisation to Directors for their service as Directors. Although Directors can be paid, they have served in a voluntary role. Directors are committed to putting substantial time into the society.

MaidEnergy works by:

- Finding community buildings interested in cutting carbon emissions
- Raising community finance from people in the local area and throughout the UK, through the issuing and managing of community share schemes, to fund installations
- Providing all relevant legal documents and arranging grid export capability
- Managing the installation and all ongoing maintenance
- Working with sites to maximize financial, environmental, and community benefit



Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ
Tel: 01628 625308
Email: office@furzeplatt.com
Website: www.furzeplatt.com

Finance Manager To start at the earliest opportunity

Permanent 37 hours a week full-time, or part-time hours

We will consider applications from candidates looking for flexible working, a full year-round post or term-time only plus some work during the school holidays.

Actual salary depending on experience £38,342 - £42,307 FTE (pay award pending).

We have an exciting opportunity for a Finance Manager to join our team.

Ideally, you will be a qualified accountant or have a strong background in financial management. Experience of working in an educational environment would be advantageous but is not essential. The successful person will line manage two finance support staff and report to the Head of Finance and Operations.

As Finance Manager, you will be a confident communicator and enjoy working collaboratively. You will have excellent attention to detail, be proactive and proficient in IT skills, especially with Microsoft Excel.

In addition, if you have strong organisational skills and are self-motivated, can work independently to meet deadlines and key deliverables, we would love to hear from you!

The role includes:

- Responsibility for preparing budgets and financial and management reports for the school.
- Fulfilling statutory accounting functions for year-end audit.
- Dealing with the management accounts and budgets
- Co-ordinating the annual audit.
- Overseeing bank accounts, petty cash and credit cards.
- Managing a finance team of two.
- Dealing with the expenditure in relation to the school's budget and producing monthly management reports.
- Checking and reconciling the payroll reports; the payroll service is contracted-out.

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1500 students of all abilities develop the skills and qualities to enable them to excel in the future. We are a highly ambitious, high-achieving and fully inclusive school in which our students are challenged and supported to achieve excellence.

We offer a friendly and harmonious campus, and we support the physical and mental wellbeing of all our staff. Generous leave, 29 days holiday (including 3 days between Christmas and the New year) plus bank holidays, for a full year-round post. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site and we have free onsite parking. All staff have access to an employee advice programme which offers information, resources and a counselling service. We reward long service and encourage community spirit and staff involvement through various social events. Tea and coffee are free, and freshly brewed coffee is available in the main staff room at break times with edible treats to help you through the week!

For further information about this role and in order to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net.

Only applications submitted on the **school application form** will be considered.

Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: 9am Friday 26 May
Interviews will take place w/c 5 June

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

Furze Platt Senior School: a company limited by guarantee. Registered Office: Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ
Registered in England: Company Number 7834715

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

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If you have any news items you wish to feature in our newsletter please email: media@furzeplatt.net

LIVING LINES

DANCE CENTRE

Each and every one of us has a natural rhythm living within, and it's time to let it shine.

LLDC offers fun, challenging & versatile dance classes to suit all abilities.

What are you waiting for?
Register today!

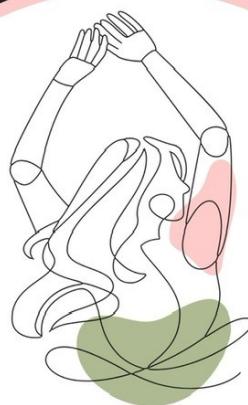
Classes:

Tuesdays from 4pm :
Ages 4-17
Contemporary + Commercial Dance

Tuesdays from 7pm :
Adult Dance Fit + Stretch

Venue:

The Tithe Barn, High Street, Hurley,
Berkshire, SL6 5LX



LIVING LINES
DANCE CENTRE

ENROLMENT OPEN

ENQUIRE NOW!

Livinglinesdancecentre@hotmail.com

FOLLOW US
SCAN HERE!





BRITISH
ATHLETICS

STARTRACK



Athletics Holiday Camp!

Startrack has been running for over 10 years getting children between the ages of 5-13 years involved in athletics. Startrack sessions will give the children the opportunity to see what the sport is all about!

May Dates

30th May - 2nd June

Keep your eyes open for our new camp starting in the Summer!

Activities

Learn all three athletics disciplines and follow in the footsteps of Mo Farah, Jessica Ennis and many more world class athletes!

Time: 09:00-15:00

Camp Prices

Price for 4 days - £130.00

Price per day - £32.50

For extended hours - £12.50

Extended hours 08:00-17:00



kidsactivities@deleisure.com
www.deleisure.com



GIRLS GOLF ROCKS

**Burnham Beeches Golf Club
HAVE FUN WITH FRIENDS!**

LIMITED PLACES — MUST BE BOOKED

GIRLS GOLF ROCKS

**6 HOURS
COACHING**

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ONLY £40

to book

#GIRLSGOLFROCKS

Sessions 1 to 4

30 & 31 May 1 & 2 June

10:00am - 11:00am

Covering all parts of the game

Final 2 hour Session

4th June 2023

2:00pm - 4:00pm

On Course Tuition

Burnham Beeches Golf Club Buckinghamshire

T: 01628 661448 E: enquiries@bbgc.co.uk W: www.bbgc.co.uk

Get your voice heard

The independent voice of families
representing their experiences to improve lives

What do we do?

We give a voice to families who, like ours, have a child or young person with SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disabilities). We work in partnership with the local authority and decision makers to ensure that these views and experiences are heard and understood. Our aim is to improve the lives of all our children and young people with SEND.

How do we do this?

By listening to our members and ensuring our membership is diverse. We do this through:

- Events
- Training Courses
- Consultations and surveys
- Information sharing

Join us, become a member

All **parents and carers** of children and young people (aged 0- 25 years) with any SEND, living or accessing services in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, are welcome.

Professionals and practitioners who work with children and young people with SEND such as SENCOs, teachers and therapists are welcome to become associate members.

Membership is FREE

To become a member or for more info, email us at info@svrbwm.org.uk

Together we can improve lives