

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



### Longridge Year 7 Visits

On Wednesday I had the pleasure of visiting Longridge and seeing our Year 7s enjoying their experiences. Students were variously engaged in Team Building, Climbing and Dragon Boat activities. It was great to see the strong bonds that had already formed between students, as well as watch them develop during the day. The visits continued on Thursday and Friday with some of the photographs on page 5 in this newsletter.



Thank you to all our families and staff who helped us provide this experience for our students.

Next week sees Year 9 Geography students visiting West Wittering and I hope they also enjoy the experience.

### Prepare to Succeed and Meet the Tutor Evenings

On Thursday I welcomed our Year 8 parents and carers to FPSS for their Prepare to Succeed Evening. This is closely followed next week by our Form Tutor Consultation Evenings. Please do ensure you book your slot on Wednesday for Key Stage 4 and 5 and Thursday for Key Stage 3.

### Sporting Success

Finally, well done to our Year 8 rugby and Year 11 netball teams this week.

Our Year 11 girls were very successful by winning every game on Wednesday at the netball league beating all visiting schools; Charters, Windsor Girls and Altwood, whilst the boys beat John Hampden Grammar School away.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ALL EVENTS

### Next Week (Week A)

<b>MON 13</b> OCTOBER	Year 9 Geography to West Wittering 9f/Gg1, 9f/Gg2 and 9f/Gg3	
<b>TUE 14</b> OCTOBER	Year 9 Geography to West Wittering 9f/Gg4, 9p/Gg1 and 9p/Gg2	
<b>WEDS 15</b> OCTOBER	KS4/5 Form Tutor/Parents' Consultation Evening	4-7pm
<b>THU 16</b> OCTOBER	KS3 Form Tutor/Parents' Consultation Evening	4-7pm
<b>FRI 17</b> OCTOBER	Year 9 Geography to West Wittering	
<b>THU 23</b> OCTOBER	Year 11 Parents and Students Consultation Evening	4.15 – 7.15pm
<b>FRI 24</b> OCTOBER	End of Term	3.15pm finish
<b>MON 27 - FRI 31</b> OCTOBER	Half Term	
<b>MON 3</b> NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2	8.40am - 3.15pm



Take care,

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



## YEAR 9 GEOGRAPHY TRIP WEST WITTERING BEACH, WEST SUSSEX



- Monday 13th October 2025 – 9f/Gg1 (Mr Ryan/Mr Wellard-Jeffs), 9f/Gg2 (Mr Brandt) and 9f/Gg3 (Ms Willis)
- Tuesday 14th October 2025 – 9f/Gg4 (Ms Willis), 9p/Gg1 (Mr Wellard-Jeffs) and 9p/Gg2 (Mr Jones)
- Friday 17th October 2025 – 9p/Gg3 (Mr Wellard-Jeffs), 9p/Gg4 (Mr Brandt) and 9p/Gg5 (Mr Jones).

Please see Parentmail for further details.

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AND SILVER AWARDS



### DEADLINE EXTENDED

We are delighted to announce that we have been able to extend the deadline for participation in the Bronze and Silver DofE Awards to next Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> October at midnight as long as the form (link below) is completed and the first instalment of payment has been made by that time.

Bronze Award (Year 9) first instalment - £67.50

Silver Award (Year 10): first instalment - £105

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR DOFE AWARDS](#)

**Please note: the enrolment form must be submitted and the first instalment must be paid by this time as we will be unable to extend the deadline further. Any submissions or payments received after the deadline will mean your child will not be able to access the DofE programme this year.**



## YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING



**THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 4.15-  
7.15PM - SAVE THE DATE!**

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our upcoming Year 11 Parents' Evening to discuss your child's progress and achievements.

Full details will follow in due course.



## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING:

**THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a late start the next day for all students.

## LATE START: FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Students in all year groups will have a 9.15am start and go straight to their first lesson (no form that day).



**SIXTH FORM  
OPEN EVENING**

**THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

## YEARS 10, 12 AND 13 REPORTS

The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

[VIEW REPORTS](#)

[GUIDANCE TO GRADING](#)

[HOW TO ACCESS GO4SCHOOLS](#)

**FREE WEBINAR - HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD SET UP FOR SUCCESS IN EXAMS**

**TUESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 6-7pm**

**elevate**  
education

**Parents and carers are invited to attend the next online free session from Elevate Education which includes:**

- Creating a road map to maximise success in exams
- Structuring the final week before exams
- Staying on track & avoiding cramming or stressing the night before

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



**CAREERS**  
EDUCATION INFORMATION ADVICE GUIDANCE

## CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

### CAN YOU HELP?

On the evening of Tuesday 25th November from 6-8pm, we will be holding our annual Furze Platt Careers & Higher Education Fair (CHEF). This is a fantastic opportunity for students and parents/guardians to meet potential colleges and universities, employers and apprenticeship providers.

We always love to welcome new people, so if you would be interested in having a stall at the event to tell others about what you do and what career prospects are like in that industry please do fill in the form below:

[CLICK HERE TO HELP WITH CAREERS FAIR](#)



## INSTRUMENTAL AND SINGING LESSONS

We are offering range of music lessons:

- \* Guitar \* Singing \* Piano
- \* Brass (trumpet, tuba, trombone, French Horn)
- \* Strings (violin, viola, cell, double bass) \* Drums

Please do book if your child is interested.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Each month we introduce a member of our Governing Body; please meet Georgina Bramall, Parent Governor.



### Georgina Bramall Parent Governor

"I'm a Marketing Strategy Director with multiple years' experience working within the grocery, consumer goods and telco sectors leading the strategy, insight, media, comms, planning and ESG functions.  
I'm hugely passionate about the impact brands can have and am committed to creating a more equitable and sustainable future by embedding those principles into business culture and ensuring a balanced approach to decision making which equally accounts for people, planet and profit.  
I believe there are many transferrable skills from the business world that can be useful in a more academic setting, and I'm committed to working with the school to improve social mobility and the opportunities for our students across all aspects of the learning agenda."



"I'm delighted to have the opportunity to be part of the Furze Platt Senior School community in my role as Governor."

'Governors are ambitious and knowledgeable about the school.'

Ofsted 2021



## OUT AND ABOUT THIS WEEK'S TRIPS AND VISITS

### Woolley Firs

Year 13 Biology students had a fantastic day at Woolley Firs Environmental Education Centre on Monday exploring fieldwork and sampling techniques as part of their A level syllabus.



**Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire  
Wildlife Trust**





## Careers Event at Windsor Racecourse

On Thursday, some of our Year 10 and 11 students attended a careers event at Windsor Racecourse. The event was called 'Leaving school: what's next?' and was aimed at young people with an education, health and care plan. It was organised by the SEND and Preparing for Adulthood Teams at Achieving For Children and the students got to meet representatives from the following organisations:

- [Absolutely Together](#)
- [Activate Learning - Bracknell and Wokingham College](#)
- [Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [Henley College](#)
- [Jobcentre Plus](#)
- [RBWM Information and Advice Support Service \(ias\)](#)
- [RBWM Libraries](#)
- [RBWM SEND Team](#)
- [RBWM Youth Engagement](#)
- [Thames Valley Police](#)
- [Ways into Work](#)
- [Windsor-Forest Colleges Group](#)

Students said:

'The trip was really fun especially getting to wear the Police vest'

'People talked really nice and clearly, making it easy for us to understand'

'I loved that it was fun and that you got to talk to the people from the colleges. You weren't rushed and didn't feel like you were forced to ask lots of questions if you didn't want to'.

'It was nice to have just a few of us there so it wasn't too noisy'.

Many thanks to everyone involved.



## Year 7 Longridge

Year 7 students have had a brilliant time this week at Longridge, making new friends and growing their confidence in outdoor activities.



We are waiting to receive all the photos as one group is out today; more will pictures be in next week's newsletter. You can see more on Facebook via the link below. A great number of staff supported these trips - thank you all!

[CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE](#)

'School leaders are ambitious for the school. They enjoy positive relationships with the rest of the staff and work with them to ensure the success of the school.'

Ofsted 2021



## SCHOOL CLUBS

### CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS

#### Term 1: up to October half term

Parents and carers of students in all year groups have been sent e-mail invites at the start of term to attend clubs for their son/daughter. The email is headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address [evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk](mailto:evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk) and the links will be safe for you to click on to confirm your child's attendance. If you have not received an email please check your junk / spam folders.

Clubs for next term will be sent out on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

**MY EVOLVE:** In addition, 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.

#### CLUBS LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

### GARDENING CLUB

Many thanks to the FPTA for funding plants and bulbs for the Sixth Form 's external area. Gardening Club really enjoyed planting them and we even found some wildlife. Here one of our newest members is bravely handling a baby beetle which we think is a rose chafer.



We also recently investigated a social wasp nest (without the wasps) and learnt about their life cycle and important role in the ecosystem. They play a crucial role in the garden being both predators and pollinators! Then we planted up the Learning Support garden in the sunshine. Next week we are going to be visiting the Tech department. To find out why please join up! Duke of Edinburgh volunteers or skill sections most welcome. Meet in S12 on Tuesday after school.

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2025

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
is annual World Mental Health Day.

It's a reminder of the importance of good mental health and the need to prioritise and invest in good mental health.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind families of the support available for young people who may be struggling. The below organisations offer a number of sources of information regarding:

Mental health conditions

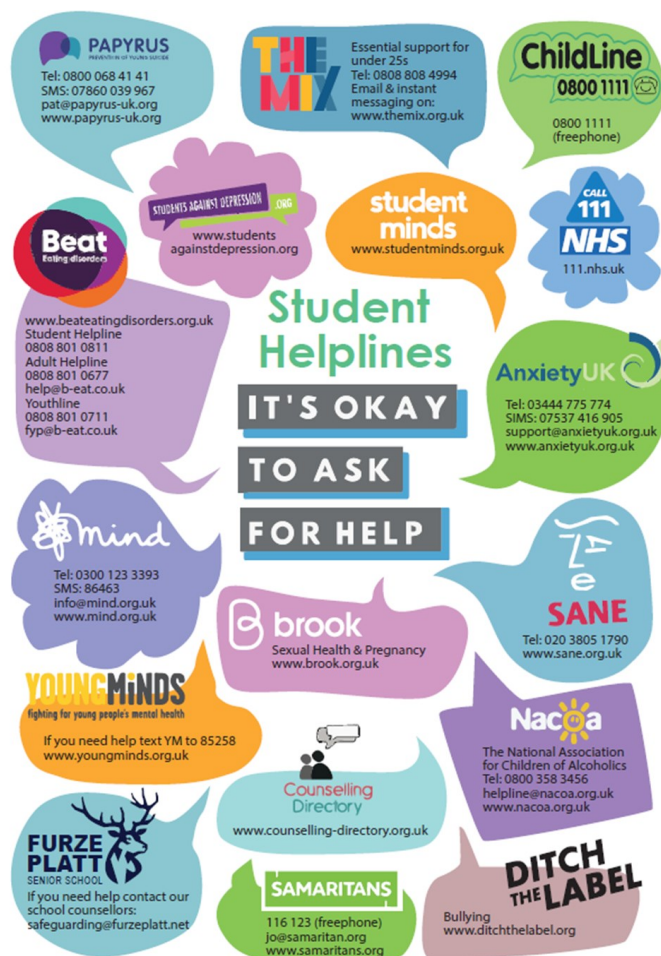
Supporting your child's mental health

Strategies for supporting wellbeing

Access to professional support for mental health

If you have any concerns about your child's mental health and wellbeing please do reach out to [safeguarding@furzeplatt.net](mailto:safeguarding@furzeplatt.net)

The Furze Platt Pastoral Team







Well done to our top ten students this week!

**SPARX SCIENCE CHAMPIONS**

1. LILLIE-MAI RAWLINGS
2. DENZEL NKRUMAH
3. JUDE SANDERS
4. SEB SUTEHALL
5. LILLY GIBBINS
6. MAXIMILIAN DUNCAN
7. HAYDEN APPLEYARD
8. JOSEPH LISI
9. MATHEW CHEW
10. ALEKS KOZIAK

## Furze Platt Science Fair Igniting Curiosity and Competition!



Get ready for an explosive display of creativity and innovation at this year's FP Science Fair, scheduled to dazzle us this March! Our young scientists in Years 7, 8 & 9 are gearing up to showcase projects that not only stretch their imagination but also sharpen essential academic and life skills.

### Why a Science Fair?

Participating allows students to engage deeply with scientific inquiry and engineering design processes. It nurtures curiosity, encourages methodical research, and fosters an understanding of scientific principles. Beyond the science, students develop invaluable skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and public speaking, as they prepare to present their projects to an audience of peers, parents, and teachers.

### Exciting Prizes Await!

All participants will get the chance to go on a school trip to the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham.

Winners will be entered into the Big Bang Fair with the chance to win £500.

Winners will receive trophies and rosettes.

There will be lots of house points for all participants!

### Mark Your Calendars!

This March, join us in celebrating the hard work and success of our students. The Science Fair isn't just a day for competition; it's a festive gathering of minds eager to learn and grow. Let's cheer for our young scientists as they make their mark, one discovery at a time!

Prepare to be amazed by the wonders of science and the brilliance of our students. We can't wait to see you there!

## SCIENCE ALUMNI TALK: NICKEL CATALYSTS IN INDUSTRY



Join us for a special session with Bethan Terry, a former FPSS student who's returning to share insights from her Masters dissertation in Chemistry!

**DATE:**  
THUR 16 OCT

**TIME:**  
3:30 – 4:30PM

**LOCATION:**  
S5

**Topic: Synthesis of Nickel Catalysts for the Suzuki-Miyaura Reaction**  
Bethan's research explores how nickel catalysts could replace expensive and environmentally harmful palladium catalysts in the pharmaceutical industry – making chemistry greener and more sustainable.

This is a great opportunity to hear first-hand about academic research and university-level chemistry, especially if you're thinking about studying science further.

**Open to all students in Years 10–13.**



**SIGN UP IN ADVANCE ON EVOLVE  
(UNDER TERM 1 CLUBS - VIEW DROP IN CLUBS)  
TO SECURE YOUR SPOT!**

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL**

# SECONDARY SCIENCE FAIR

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March,  
5pm - 7pm**

**OPEN TO YEARS 7, 8 & 9**

We want you to come up with your own amazing projects! Once you have your idea please email them to [katie.mcelligott@furzeplatt.net](mailto:katie.mcelligott@furzeplatt.net) before the Christmas half term with confirmation of your attendance.

You can work in groups of no more than 3 people or if you'd rather, on your own. Should you want to discuss your idea, please either email Mrs McElligott or drop into Science Club which happens every Tuesday at 3:15 in S10 to discuss with Mr Wright & Mr Barrett.

## AUTUMN TERM HEALTH GUIDANCE

As we move into the autumn months, we wanted to share with you some general NHS guidance for managing common health concerns whilst in school.

**Covid-19:** There is no longer a need to isolate for Covid-19. Please treat as you would with a common cold, medication can be administered during the day, to relieve symptoms, however, please stay home if your child has a fever of (38+) until the fever clears.

**Coughs and Common Colds:** It is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough and common cold. We can keep medication in school to administer during the day, however, if they have a fever (38+) please keep them off school until the fever goes. We would like to remind students about the importance of hand washing and covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing to reduce the spread of germs.

Please complete the consent form sent via Parentmail for your child to receive the upcoming flu vaccination.

**Headaches:** We would be grateful to remind all students to remember to bring their own water bottles into school as staying hydrated is important to prevent illnesses such as headaches.

**Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting:** Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting can return to school 48 hours after their last episode.

**Chicken Pox/Shingles:** Please alert the school as soon as possible if your child contracts shingles, measles or chickenpox as we have multiple immunocompromised students who are at increased risk.

Children with chickenpox should stay home until all the blisters/spots have crusted over.

Children with shingles should stay home until the rash stops weeping.

Should you require your child/children to keep medication in school, Medical Consent forms can be requested by emailing the School Medical Officer [clara.child@furzeplatt.net](mailto:clara.child@furzeplatt.net)

Please fill in the form and return along with the required medication.

Please note: School does not have spare medication such as paracetamol. A form is required for any medication brought into school, including, Paracetamol and Ibuprofen.



## GEMS WORKSHOP

Barriers to School, Can't go, not won't go



Hosted by the Autism Group:

To understand what EBSA/ERSA is. Recognising potential early signs in our children. Exploring strategies to support our children. Encouraging questions and sharing experiences.

Places are very limited and we can only allow parents and carers to attend whose child is experiencing school avoidance.

Autism or Dual Support

For parents & carers of primary & secondary school aged children.

Online: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 7:30 - 9:30pm

**BOOK HERE**

Please take a look at the GEMS website for a full list of available support:

**PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR GEMS WEBSITE**





*Outside on the rugby pitch...*



*...in the Noughts and Crosses challenge...*



*...and both Sixth Formers and younger students stretching and lifting!*







DEADLINE EXTENDED TO FRIDAY 17TH OCTOBER

## HOUSE PUMPKIN CHALLENGE

Deadline extended to next Friday

We have had such a fantastic response to this challenge (see below) we have extended the deadline!



HOUSE POINT WINNERS THIS WEEK...

IT'S EAGLE HOUSE!

Great work Eagles!



10493



9580



10185



9656



## What's in the box?



Could it be a monster's tongue?



Maybe it's zombie guts?



- Put your hand in each box to see what spooky item is inside!
- Gain an R3 for taking part and an R4 for those with the highest score in this House activity.
- Open to all staff and students, first come first served.
- During break 1:
  - Y7- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October in AR3
  - Y8- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October in Gen3
  - Y9- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October in Gen3
  - Y10- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October in AR3
  - Y11- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October in AR3
  - 6<sup>th</sup> form- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October in AR3



FREE  
TO  
TAKE  
PART





# OPEN MORNING TOURS 2025

Please call **01628 625308** to book  
a tour or ask at Main Reception.

**BOOK NOW -  
LAST FEW SPACES  
AVAILABLE**

OCT

- **TUE 14** - 9.10am & 10.10am
- **WED 15** - 10.10am
- **WED 22** - 10.10am



*Turkey Cashback: 5% of order donated to PTA.*  
**Furze Platt Senior School**

**CODE:  
FPSPTA24**



**COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK**

**T: 01628 499 980**





St John's  
**inspire**  
programme

# CRITICAL THINKING SERIES



YEAR 9

**WHY IS LANGUAGE  
SO POWERFUL ?**

YEAR 10

**DOES CRIME  
ALWAYS  
DESERVE  
PUNISHMENT ?**

YEAR 11 & 12

**WHAT DOES  
THE FUTURE  
HOLD ?**

**REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN**

**until 7th Dec 2025**

## What Is Inspire Critical Thinking?

- **FREE** online programme run between **January - April 2026**
- For **Years 9 -12** (non-selective schools in the UK)
- Develop your **critical thinking** skills through a range of **subject perspectives**
- Made up of **4 workshops** linked to a central question for different year groups
- Complete **super challenges**, vote on polls, **win prizes!**
- Access to a virtual summer school

## How do I sign up?

Scan the QR code to register,  
or visit [www.sjcinspire.com](http://www.sjcinspire.com) for  
more information.



**SCAN HERE!**



## Budgeting & Money Management Course for Parents

### *Do you want to ...*

Take control of your family's finances?  
Hear from experts at Citizens Advice about your consumer rights.

Learn how to spot loan sharks, or pick up tips for cooking on a budget?

Join our workshop designed to help you build smart budgeting habits, reduce financial stress, and set a strong financial future for your family.



### *What You'll Learn:*

- Determine sources of income and outgoings.
- Consider ways to reduce expenditure.
- Plan personal budgets.
- Recognise products provided by financial institutions.
- State some of the advantages and disadvantages of borrowing money.
- Know where to obtain help with managing own money.
- Teaching your children good money habits.

### *Who Can Attend?*

All parents or guardians are welcome. No prior financial knowledge needed.

- **Course duration:** 5 weeks
- **Start date:** Friday 17th October – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025
- **Start time:** 10:00 – 12:00
- **Location:** Furze Platt Senior School

***Don't delay, register now! Places are limited!***

If you're interested in joining the course, please contact Lifelong Learning:



**Call:** 01753 476611

**Email:** [lifelonglearning@slough.gov.uk](mailto:lifelonglearning@slough.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.webenrol.com/ebclass](http://www.webenrol.com/ebclass)

**Visit:** Maidenhead Library, St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1QU  
Tuesdays 10:00 - 14:00

The Curve (Ground floor), Wellington Street, Slough, SL1 1XY



# FIRST AID COURSES

## At Braywick Leisure Centre

### 3 DAY FIRST AID COURSE

Cost **ONLY £199 per person** (Normally £320)  
Quote SCHOOL3

- 13th – 15th October 2025
- 10th – 12th November 2025
- 24th – 26th November 2025
- 01st – 03rd December 2025

### 1 DAY FIRST AID COURSE

Cost **ONLY £99 per person** (Normally £150)  
Quote SCHOOL1

- 21st October 2025
- 18th November 2025

**Be prepared. Be confident. Be First Aid qualified**

Scan here to sign up  
Or  
Email us down below



[academy@leisurefocus.org.uk](mailto:academy@leisurefocus.org.uk)

LEISURE  FOCUS  
OPERATING AGENT FOR





# CHOIRS OPEN DAY

**We're opening the doors to  
our music centre choirs on  
Saturday 18 October!**

Come and join the fun and discover the joy  
of singing with others.



## **WINDSOR MUSIC CENTRE**

**Dedworth School, Smiths Lane, Windsor, SL4 5PE**

### **Reception - Year 13**

Windsor Young Singers & Children's Choir

9.30-10.10am

### **Year 6 - Year 13**

Windsor Contemporary Voices

10.50-11.35am



# RBWM Achieving for Children

# TAKEOVER DAY 2025

## Tuesday 25 November

**Do you want to take over  
someone's role for a day?**

We are inviting young people aged 13 to 18 to experience a role within RBWM/AfC for Takeover Day 25 November 2025  
9am to 4.30pm starting at Maidenhead Town Hall.

**Have your voices heard by changemakers**

**Experience real jobs**

**Learn and understand more about council roles**

Scan the QR code to complete the application form



For more information, please contact **Molly Bowyer**,  
**Young Peoples Engagement Officer**

E: [molly.bowyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:molly.bowyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

T: 07881 529176



 **achieving  
for children**