



Dacorum Education
Support Centre

DESC Key Stage Summer Review 2025



As we come to the end of this academic year, we want to celebrate the hard work and achievements of our learners. Year 11 students have shown great engagement and attendance during their GCSEs. Well done to all of you!

Year 10 students have also done a great job with their end-of-term assessments. They have been actively participating in Centre activities. A special thanks to Year 10 for their hard work during the recent Friday Enrichment Day. You did an amazing job with the 'Centre Jobs' – cleaning windows, gardening, and giving the courtyard a makeover!

Our Year 11 Presentation Evening was a fantastic event. It was wonderful to celebrate the successes and achievements of our students. Thank you to all the parents, families, and school representatives who joined us. Your support means a lot.

We wish our Year 11 learners the very best of luck in their next steps, whether that's further education, employment, or training. We look forward to seeing you and your families on Thursday, 21st August to collect your results. The Centre will be open from 9:30am, and Services for Young People will be there to help with your next steps.

We are excited to welcome new learners and their families to the Centre. Transition activities are in full swing, with tours and taster sessions. Return to Centre meetings will be on Friday, 5th September. Link mentors will be in touch to arrange meeting times. All learners will start back on Monday, 8th September at 9am.

A huge thank you to all the staff at DESC for their dedication and hard work this year. We also thank parents and carers for their continued support. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the new term. Have a restful and enjoyable summer break!

Best wishes, The DESC Team

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Year 11 Uniform Donations



We are always grateful for any secondhand uniform families are able to donate once learners leave. If you are a Year 11 family and have any uniform you would be willing to donate we would be hugely grateful. Please drop it into reception at your convenience or bring it into centre on results day. Many thanks in advance.

Year 11 Presentation Evening

On Wednesday 25th June we held our annual Year 11 Presentation Evening. We were delighted to welcome learners, families and friends to celebrate all their achievements. Families were delighted to see the showcase of work on display, and learners' portfolios. Dan and Dustin opened the evening sharing highlights of the learners DESC journey and provided words of wisdom and encouragement as they take their next steps. Jade led the presentation of Learners'

Record of Achievements which highlight their hard work and demonstration of resilience throughout their time with us.

It was a fantastic evening, celebrating all that Year 11 have achieved - they should be rightly proud of their achievements - we certainly are proud of you all.

We wish you all well as you go on to your next steps, and hope you will drop in to keep us posted on how you are doing.











Year 11 Results Day



Centre will be open from 11am until 1pm on Thursday 21st August to collect their exam results. Results will be available in the Prince's Trust Room - Please use the external door to access. We look forward to welcoming learners and families during the course of the morning. Services for Young People will also be available to help with advice and guidance regarding next steps. If you are unable to collect your results in person, they will be emailed to you after 1pm.

Attendance and Punctuality



Attendance Matters



Attendance to Centre is crucial in ensuring learners can access all the help, support and opportunities that are available to them while at DESC. Please support your child in ensuring 'good' attendance to Centre. One day off per week over the course of the school year equates to 7.5 weeks of missed learning.

Where possible, please ensure any medical appointments or check ups are booked outside of Centre hours. Where there is a planned absence, please inform us as soon as possible and complete a 'Leave of Absence Request' which can be found on our website.

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Learning from the half term:



Gaudi
Chimney at Guell Palace

This is Gaudi

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Year 10 Assessment Week:

A huge well done to all Year 10 with their Assessment Week. They showed resilience and grit towards each assessment and we are very proud of you.

English:

All year 11 learners have been working hard at preparing for GCSE English and have completed a range of exam papers. Some learners have also completed the Spoken Language Endorsement; they delivered an impressive individual speech, demonstrating their presentation skills in a formal setting and responding to questions and feedback. All learners also demonstrated confidence when delivering their 5-minute individual talk and 10-minute group discussion for their Functional Skills S&L assessment.

Y10 have also worked extremely hard at completing their 'Entry Level Step Up to English' papers and have produced some fantastic descriptive writing. They have also enjoyed responding to a range of discussion topics, demonstrating that they can express ideas confidently and clearly! Learners are also currently completing end of year assessments

Maths:

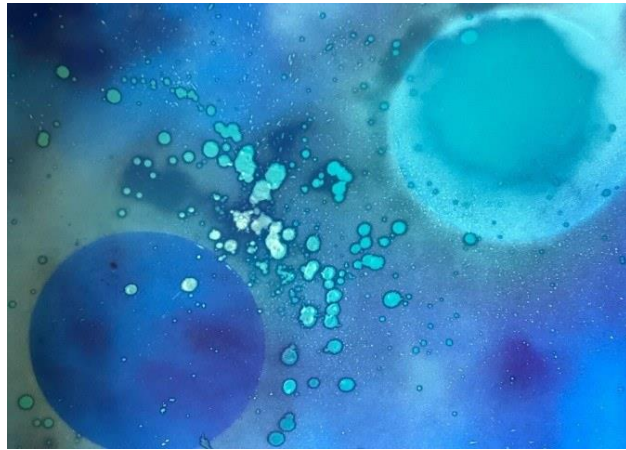
Maths at Barncroft this half term has had year 10 learners engaged with topics such as simplifying ratio, operations with fractions and estimation techniques. In addition to this, learners have been applying their problem solving skills to virtual escape rooms, many succeeding well in advance of the targeted time- a great effort and achievement. Year 10 learners also completed their end of term assessments, it's been a very busy term for them but it's been great to see them focused and reflecting on their year. Year 11s continued and completed their GCSE exams with a fantastic attitude.

Arts Review of the Year:

In the Art room this year, we have traced, sketched, printed, collaged, sculpted, stitched, painted and generally tried a host of new things to help us develop our skill base. Within the planned activities, Learners have followed their interests and researched artists of their choice, finding out how they make their art and trailing their ideas. This has enabled our Learners to work towards an Arts Award, or a Creative Craft award, whilst dyeing their own fabrics, upcycling tables with their own artwork, making Jackson Pollock inspired cushions and transporting us to new universes with their 'out of this world' spray painting!

Learners have also had the opportunity to take part in and lead workshops to share their developing skills and supported the wider cohort of students to take part in art and craft-based activities designed to support our wellbeing and to just have fun creating. These included our hand sculpting and T-shirt designing projects, all of which featured in our Creative Crafts and Learning Exhibition in the Spring Term.

All in all, a fantastically creative year. Well done to all!





Enrichment:

As part of our enrichment activity, we have been magnet fishing along the canal on a lovely sunny day. Although no gold was found, we did pull out a house key, a car key, and even a tyre, and the learners especially enjoyed watching the barges pass through the locks.

Learners visited Jarman Park athletics track for a sports day. They had a go at high jump, shot put, long jump, discus, and a 100m sprint. One learner impressively outran two staff, there was healthy competition and plenty of fun between learners and staff alike.





Year 10 Tennis programme:

Gosling Tennis Academy and the Lawn Tennis Association offered the King's Trust students another chance to learn how to play Tennis. They organised a 3-week programme with a coach and a Tournament to finish.

Four of our students did really well each week and made the most of the 2-hour long sessions. The aim was to play against Chessbrook from Watfords, King's Trust Team who played on another day.

Finally, we all met at the Tournament. They were nervous but really wanted to win. They had never played against anybody else.

We were so proud of their determination, resilience and putting the skills they learnt to practice. They were all very polite and respectful towards each other.

It all paid off! They WON!!

Faith took us into the lead by winning her Final, also winning best girl and most improved player.

Logan won best player and best boy.

Connor and Ollie also won medals for their fantastic efforts.

Again, we are so proud of them, it was an amazing day and we are back on the leader board.













Return to Centre: September 5th

We look forward to welcoming all new and returning learners into Centre from Friday 5th September.

Link mentors will be in contact to arrange a 'New Term' meeting which will take place on Friday 5th September - learners will only be expected to attend Centre for their meeting time.

Term starts back for all learners on Monday 8th September at 9am.

For Week 1, learning hours will be as follows:

Year 10: 9am-10:45am

Year 11: 9am-2:30pm

If you have any questions, please contact main reception.

Holiday Support

During the holidays there is always someone on duty to help and support. If you have any concerns or would value any help and support, please contact safeguarding@desc.herts.sch.uk. This is checked throughout the holiday period. Any emails received on this email will be responded to, and you will be contacted directly to discuss support and signposting for your concern.

In addition, we work very closely with the team at Liberty Tea rooms and community hub. They are open throughout the holiday period, providing community support, and operate a 'suggested minimum donation' for their cafe menu. Further details can be found on their website via the following link: [Liberty Tearooms and Community Hub](#)



 **PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1)**
EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025
moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult. Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, after 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

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ONE IMPOSSIBLE THING
SPORTS SHOE NETWORK

Need sports shoes for sport or walking shoes for DofE?

We're a charity that collects preloved sports shoes and gives them out for **free** to people locally.

We hold Pop In's at our storage container in Grovehill. We have all sizes of trainers and astro boots available. We also have a limited supply of walking boots and football boots.

Dates and Times:

Thurs 29th May - 9am-12pm

**Every Tuesday from 3pm - 5.30pm,
starting Tuesday 3rd June**

**The Green Container
Active Hub, Redbourn Road,
Hemel, HP2 7BA**

e: contact@1impossiblething.com



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www.1impossiblething.com

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's link mentor in the first instance via reception