

Welcome



Today marks the start of the 2026 GCSE/Level 2 exam season. We have worked really hard this year with our Year 11s to ensure that they stand every possible chance of success in these exams and the students have responded.

As always, this is a stressful and anxious time for everyone but particularly for the students themselves and their families. Good outcomes transform lives.

At GCSE, it sets up students for the next stage of their educational journey and life. Hard work and preparing for these exams is essential- particularly when we think that roughly 750,000 students across England are doing exactly the same and chasing the same grades.

Before each of the exams start, we are running a quick presentation on the exam itself as a useful reminder to the students and lessons will continue as we will be providing as much advice and revision opportunities as possible.

We will also be organising revision sessions during the May half term holidays as there are key English and maths exams that take place after that week.

Finally, good luck to all of our students as they commence their exams. We are all thinking of you and we all wish you the very best. I look forward to celebrating your success in August when the results come in.

Best wishes,
Mr Williams

Principal's Reward Lunch Celebration

We were delighted to host a special Principal's Reward Lunch this week to celebrate pupils who have gone above and beyond in demonstrating our CARE values, with a particular focus on Community.

Pupils enjoyed a lunch with the Principal, received a certificate recognising their outstanding contribution, and were awarded 15 CARE points on Arbor.

A brilliant celebration of kindness, leadership, and positive impact across our school community — well done to all involved!





A Fantastic Week of RAF Inspiration at Paignton Academy

What a busy and inspiring term it's been at Paignton Academy!

Last Monday and Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Sergeant Liam Quinn from the Royal Air Force .

He gave our students a fantastic insight into life in the RAF, followed by an engaging, hands-on team-building workshop.

A huge thank you to Liam and the RAF — our students left feeling informed, motivated, and full of energy!



Building Futures: Work Experience Success at Paignton Academy

We had an exciting week last week at Paignton Academy, trialling a brand-new Work Experience Workshop in partnership with Next Steps South West.

Some of our lucky Year 10 students took part in this fantastic opportunity, gaining valuable skills and practical tools to help them understand how to apply for and secure work experience placements in what is currently a very challenging climate.

The workshop ran over two days and, as a split site school, that meant delivering four sessions in total. A busy but incredibly worthwhile experience!

We are extremely grateful to Ewa, Pete and Fran at Next Steps South West and our student ambassadors for their time, support and expertise in delivering such engaging and impactful workshops.

We're also delighted to share that one of our students has already secured a work experience placement following the sessions - and we're hopeful this will be the first of many success stories to come.

Thank you again to everyone involved for supporting our students to take these important next steps.





Student Success!



Elliot, Year 7

Elliot recently travelled to Morlaix, France, representing Torbay Tigers in an international basketball tournament against teams from Cornwall, Belgium, and France.

He gained valuable experience, trained with French hosts Hermione, and impressed coaches with his excellent sportsmanship and representation of both his club and Torbay.

We're very proud of Elliot's hard work this season!

Well done!



Mrs Pugh's 8WB2 Shout-Out



Mrs Pugh would like to celebrate some fantastic sporting achievements from students in her 8WB2 tutor group.

Leonora is enjoying an exceptional athletics season, achieving personal bests in both the long jump and the 200m. She is now preparing to compete in the Devon Championships this weekend. We wish her every success.

Nate has played a key role in establishing a new Dart Academy, making an excellent contribution to raising the profile of the sport among fellow students.

Nate, Jenson, and Oscar reached the Cup Final with their Stoke Blues team. They narrowly missed out against Stoke Blacks, a team competing in a higher league. This remains a significant achievement of which they should be very proud.

Mason and Ozzy are heading into the Galmpton football final this weekend, where they will compete for the league title. We wish them the very best of luck.

We are extremely proud of all students for their commitment and achievements. Keep up the excellent work, 8WB2.



The CARE Store is Here!

At Paignton Academy, our values are at the heart of everything we do. CARE stands for **Community, Ambition, Relationships and Excellence** — and now we are proud to launch the much anticipated **CARE Store**.

The **CARE Store** is a rewards initiative that allows students to use their earned **CARE / Kindness and House Points** to purchase a range of items from the CARE Store brochure -

[CARE Store brochure](#)



Once you have chosen your item/s please place your order via this form:

[Paignton Academy - The CARE Store – Fill in form](#)

The **CARE Store** isn't just about rewards, it's about recognising students who step up, try hard, show kindness, and represent the Academy in the right way.

You can also locate the brochure and the order form on the dedicated rewards page via the website:

[Paignton Academy | Thinking Schools Academy Trust](#)



Dates for Your Diary

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|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| YEAR 11 | GCSEs | 07/05/2026 - 17/06/2026 |
| All Years | Half Term | 25/05/2026-29/05/2026 |
| YEAR 10 | BRC Geography Field Trip | 09/06/2026 |
| YEAR 10 | WRC Geography Field Trip | 12/06/2026 |
| YEAR 8 | BRC Pirate Enterprise Day | 19/06/2026 |



Paignton Academy



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