

Parent Carer Bulletin

Autumn Term Dates

20 Dec 2023, last day of Autumn term * Early closure

21 Dec 2023 - 3 Jan 2024, Christmas Break

4 Jan 2024, Students return for Spring Term

Events this December

Wednesday 20 December
Final day of Autumn Term, *early closure

Dates for your diary week commencing 18 December:

- **Wednesday 20 December - Final day of Autumn Term, *early closure**



Important Message re: Bus Routes Operated by Hedingham/Chambers

We have been asked to publish the following message for Hedingham/Chambers about changes to their timetable and removal of the 237 bus from Sudbury to Stour Valley Community School:

Hedingham & Chambers (Suffolk area) timetable changes – 3 January 2024 affects routes 236, 237, 373, 374, 375, 716, 751, 753, 757, 758.

From Wednesday 3rd January 2024 we will be making some changes across the Suffolk area of the Hedingham & Chambers network. These changes are to improve punctuality, reliability and better match supply with demand.

236 Sudbury - Stour Valley Community School

The 0709 journey from Great Cornard is retimed and will now commence from Sudbury Bus Station at 0718. On schooldays this journey will terminate at Stour Valley Community School.

The 0650 journey from Sudbury to Clare is retimed and will operate 4 minutes earlier. The route 236 journeys which serve SVCS will be operated by a larger double decker with extra seats.

237 Sudbury – Stour Valley Community School

Due to low usage this route will be withdrawn.

Please use route 236 instead, which will be operated by a larger double decker bus with extra seats to ensure passengers have a seat.

Passengers boarding in Great Waldingfield and Acton should get in touch with Hedingham & Chambers buses about possible alternatives as the 236 does not service these villages – email geaschools@goeastanglia.co.uk.

'Bus SVX' Sible Hedingham – Steeple Bumpstead - Stour Valley Community School

The morning journey will operate 5 minutes earlier to ensure a prompt arrival at the school.

This is operated by Hedingham & Chambers under contract to De Vere Travel.

<https://www.hedinghamandchambers.co.uk/news>

Christmas Concert 2023

We would like to say a huge well done to all students and staff for their fantastic efforts in Thursday evening's SVCS Christmas Concert. We are very proud of the talent displayed and hope our audience members had a wonderfully festive time!



BBC Bitesize School Tour

Today at SVCS all students had the opportunity to attend the BBC Bitesize School tour focused on Careers. They heard from three panellists: Joe May, a freelance production secretary; Steph Parmee, the learning manager at Gainsborough House; and Jacob Ottaway, a BBC broadcast journalist. Each year group had a session tailored to their age range and alongside hearing the personal career journeys of the hosts, heard messages not limited to the following:

- Persistence is really important.
- Try your hardest in everything, you might surprise yourself.
- Take responsibility for your work, your applications, your opportunities.
- GCSEs don't determine your success, your attitude and effort does.
- Follow your passion, do what you love and what you're good at.
- That you can change your mind at any stage, a job is not a lifetime commitment.
- The importance of employability skills.



Wednesday 20 December 2023 - 12 noon School Closure

Please note that Stour Valley Community School will be closing early - at 12 noon - on our last day of term, Wednesday 20 December. We have arranged for all school buses and taxis to collect our students at 12 noon - the public service bus HL018 to Haverhill will collect from our site at 11:55am. However, the public service bus Chambers 237 will not be able to pick up early, so any students who normally use that service to return home will be able to use the SC236 which covers the majority of stops, or may need to be collected from school. Due to the early closure there will not be a food service at the regular lunchtime, but additional food will be available to purchase at breaktime. Students in receipt of free school meals should use their allowance during this time - thank you.

Latest Rules Around Covid-19 in Schools

Respiratory infections, including the common cold and COVID-19, are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids. Routine testing for [Covid-19](#) ended in April 2022 and UK Health and Security Agency (UKHSA) [guidance](#) says that it is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

Can my child go to school if they have Covid-19 symptoms?

As COVID-19 presents a low risk to children and young people, combined with high vaccination rates in the population, there are no longer specific rules relating to it in [schools](#), [colleges](#), [childcare](#) and other education settings. Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to go to school, college or childcare. However, those who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

Student Lost Property

Please advise your child to visit reception to check the lost property stand prior to the last day of Autumn Term as we have several PE kits and coats in storage. Please note that the stand will be renewed at the end of term, with items being donated/disposed of accordingly, thank you.



Important Letters & Notices

<https://support.overnetdata.com/knowledge-base/how-do-parents-update-their-information-in-edulink-one/> - How do parents/carers view and update their information in EduLink One

[Microsoft Word - PSHE Parental Advice \(stourvalleycommunityschool.org\)](#) - PSHE Parental Advice

<https://www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org/news/letters-from-the-headteacher> - Letters from the Headteacher

studentabsence@stourvalley.org - Stour Valley Community School Attendance reporting email address

safe@stourvalley.org - Stour Valley Community School Safeguarding email address

Stour Valley Community School

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2023-26

