

ST EDWARD'S SCHOOL

HAMPSHIRE

St Edward's School is a charitable trust providing day and residential placements for boys aged 9-18 years who experience behavioural difficulties associated with their Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. These may be complicated by additional learning difficulties.

Issue 40

NEWS



CLIFTON
DIOCESE

Called to be a People of Hope

THE MELCHET CUP WALES EXPEDITION

Biodiversity
GCSE ART &
DESIGN

CAREERS DAY

ONLINE SAFETY

stedwardsschool.co.uk

OUTDOOR EDUCATION DAY &
much more....



CONTENTS

- 02 **Boys Who Dared to be Different**
- 03 **GCSE Art & Design - 3D Design**
- 05 **Viking Invasion in St Edward's**
- 07 **GCSE Art & Design - Fine Art**
- 08 **BTEC Creative Media
'The Last Shot'**
- 09 **Democracy at St Edward's**
- 10 **Biodiversity**
- 11 **Outdoor Education Day**
- 13 **Wales Expedition**
- 15 **Careers Day**
- 17 **Stop Motion Animation Club**
- 18 **Swimming Gala**
- 19 **Surf's Up**
- 21 **The Melchet Cup
A Footballing Tradition**
- 23 **Turn Down the Heat
St Edward's School, Romsey
Leads the Way**
- 25 **Safeguarding Your Young
Person at Home
Online Porn**

Boys Who Dared to be Different Leavers' Day 2022

Click your fingers and it's time for them to fly the nest!

For some of our cohort, their last day represented the end of a 5 year placement at St Edward's and as significant as this was, there was a resounding feeling of readiness as they set to embark on their next steps into young adulthood; something that they had been well prepared for.

Whilst the younger pupils in the school studied, our leavers spent the morning on their chosen activity - paintballing. Some catharsis must have been found for both staff and pupils alike as they held each other in the crosshairs!

With the rest of the school having departed for the weekend, we retired to the Dining Room where our kitchen team had prepared a lovely reception for them. Once full, the Headmaster asked us all to raise a glass (of juice) as he delivered a speech for each pupil, celebrating their time with us; the progress they had made and the very real impact that they'd had on our school. Whilst in the past, for many of them, the idea of sitting in a crowded room listening to superlatives about themselves would have been excruciating, they sat and accepted the warm recognition of their journeys, with what one can only surmise as a quiet sense of pride.

After each speech, to rapturous and very heartfelt applause, each pupil was presented with a leavers' hoodie, emblazoned with their names and an embroidered school emblem - The Melchet Rose. As is tradition at St Edward's, they also received a copy of the bestselling book, 'Boys Who Dared to be Different' – a celebration of men who have changed the world, despite breaking the mould of the mainstream. The special touch is that each of our pupils have their own chapter in this book, written by those staff members who know them best; a gift that we hope they keep, treasure and more importantly use to look back on their time here for years to come. Finally, they were presented with a wallet. A mark of a young man's independence, within which was a card with the school contact details and the simple message, 'Once a St Edward's pupil, always a St Edward's pupil'; a sentiment that we uphold unwaveringly.

Liam, Freya, Kieran, Ethan, Finn, Alfie, Cody, Jaiden, Seb, Jay and Shayne, we are immensely proud of the young adults you have become and wish you luck at college and beyond. We know that you are ready. Your names are inscribed on the Chapel wall in the hope that one day, you will come back to see them.

For James and Roscoe, we're not quite done with you yet. See you in September!

Jim Fenemore
Deputy Head



GCSE Art & Design - 3D Design

It was, as is often the case, a very exciting last few weeks for our year 11 pupils. As their deadlines approach, the stimulus of the finish line always generates extra pressure and often, but not always, a burst of additional work. This year was no exception, although Finn had paced himself quite well throughout the year and found himself in a good position, completing qualifications in two disciplines.

Jaiden was close to giving in to the pressure at one point. Fortunately, he dug deep and to his credit pulled it all together in the last week.

It did not look as though James would make the deadline, but the energy from the rest of the group pulled him along and he was able to complete his practical work.

Seb did not have much portfolio work, as he developed all his designs through practical, iterative design. Fortunately, in the final weeks he took a memory stick home so that he could work on his portfolio in the evenings, improving his grade and keeping him well occupied.

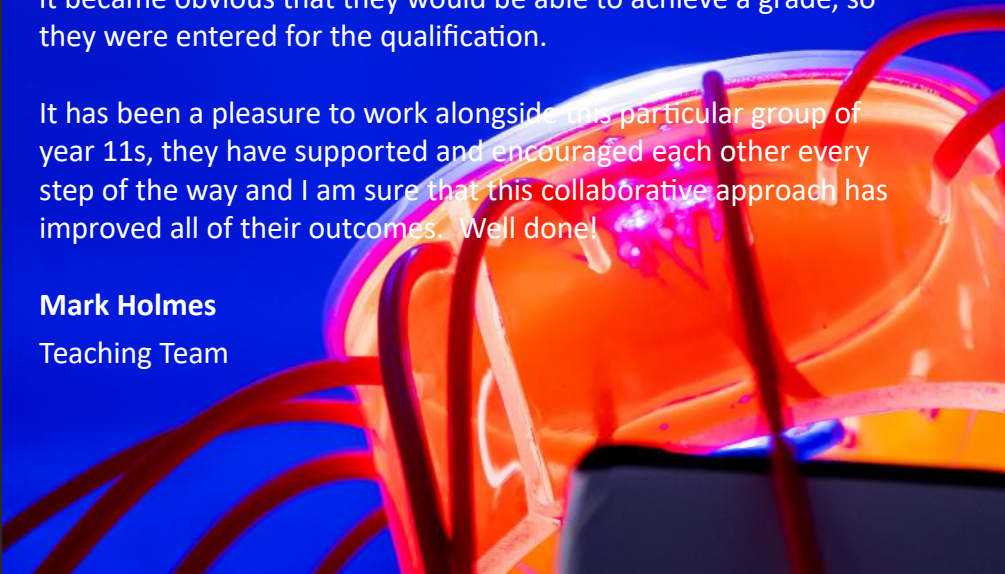
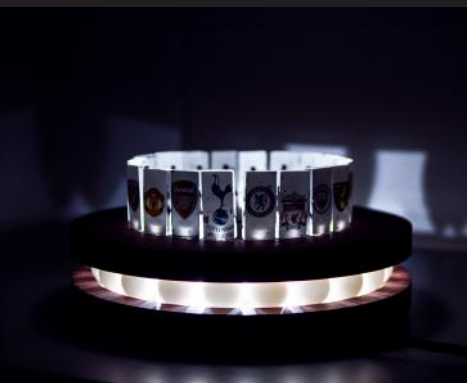
Cody worked doggedly, despite having to work around medical appointments. He actually completed both his practical work and the portfolio virtually unaided, despite temporarily deteriorating vision – a remarkable effort in the face of adversity.

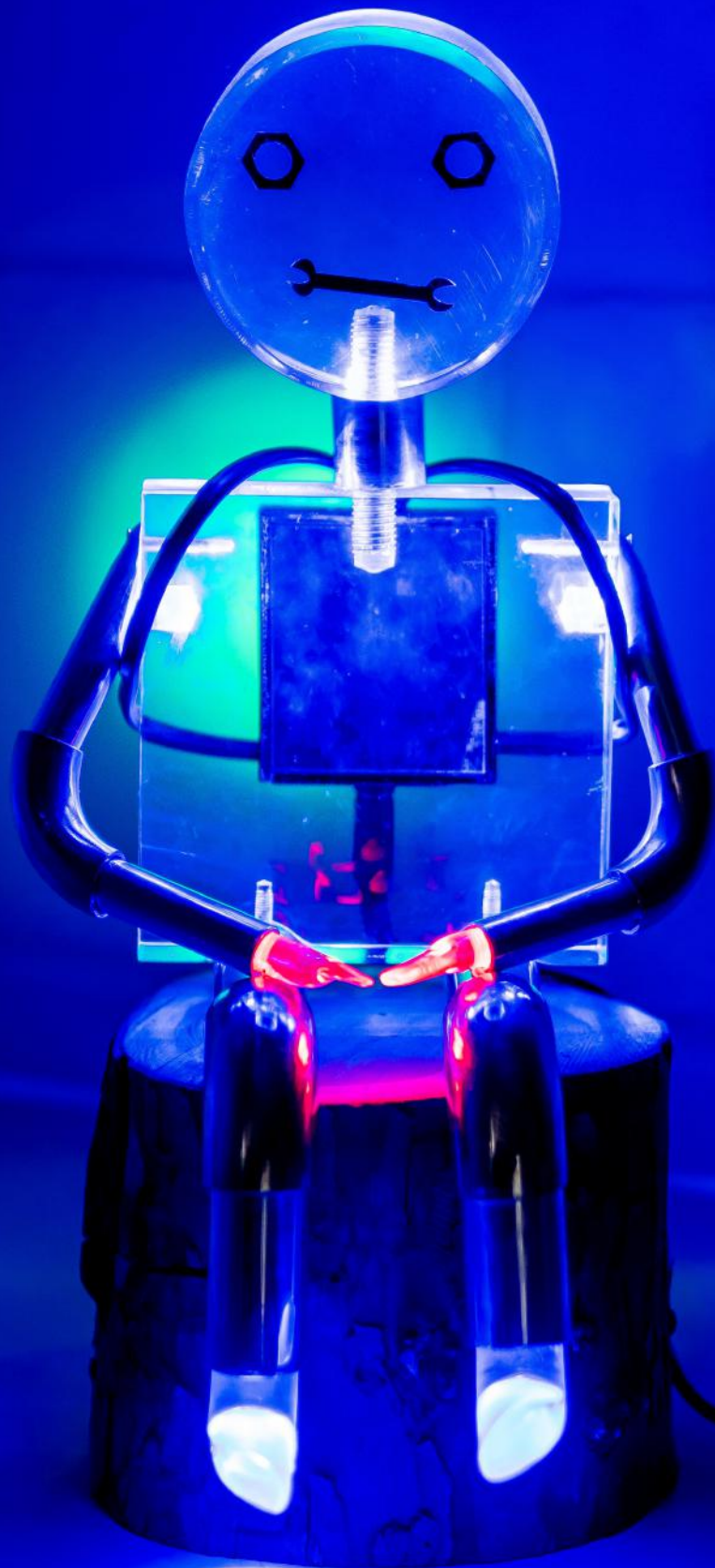
Alfie struggles with his literacy, but can talk about his work intelligently and lucidly. Speech to text software, which he was using in other subjects, is not available for PowerPoint so we were able to provide him a scribe for some of the time and particularly on Friday mornings when he gave up his activity time to work on his portfolio.

Zach and Shayne were not initially considered for GCSE, but when they saw the work the other groups were doing, they asked if they could make table lamps for themselves. As their work progressed, it became obvious that they would be able to achieve a grade, so they were entered for the qualification.

It has been a pleasure to work alongside this particular group of year 11s, they have supported and encouraged each other every step of the way and I am sure that this collaborative approach has improved all of their outcomes. Well done!

Mark Holmes
Teaching Team





VIKING Invasion at St Edward's

During the summer term, Middle School pupils studied the Anglo Saxons and the invasions of the Vikings as their History topic. They enjoyed learning about King Alfred the Great, an important figure in local and national history, as well as how Britain changed during these times because of the Viking invasions and settlements.

To bring this to life, the pupils engaged in a re-enactment lesson, led by our own resident history expert Mr Whelan. Pupils learnt about the battle strategies employed by Viking invaders and how the Anglo Saxons would have reacted to them at the time. Pupils also linked their learning to modern day Britain, comparing and contrasting life in the two eras - an important part of any learning in History.

Kinaesthetic learning activities aid pupils' ability to recall their learning and create a memorable experience for all, which they all engage in.

Andy Gradidge
Teaching Team





GCSE Art & Design - Fine Art

Finn worked incredibly hard on his GCSE Art and Design project. He achieved a very strong grade and produced a sublime personal project on a subject that he's passionate about - Dragons!

As you can see from the photo, Finn found ways of expressing his passion through sculpture, fine art and texture; showcasing a whole range of techniques that he had learnt on his St Edward's journey.

At St Edward's, we encourage all pupils to challenge themselves through expression and Finn should be very proud of his effort, determination and skill, just as we are all proud of him and the fantastic young man that he has become.

Fran Mathers
Teaching Team





'THE LAST SHOT'

BTEC CREATIVE MEDIA



A movie leaving you with unanswered questions. That was the brief. Our first BTEC Creative Media pupil Bailey has developed, directed and produced a short movie that has left his audience wanting more.

The idea for his short film was inspired by First World War film, 1917. He was moved to produce a film that showcased his new skills in filming and film production, first developing a storyboard and narrative for the sequences to plan his masterpiece.

The process was carried out under exam conditions and his project was completed in 10 hours. He named his film, 'The Last Shot' as the central character is a soldier who is protecting himself in a wooded area from an unknown sniper. As the film progresses, you build an attachment to the character before a shot is fired in the final sequence. You are left with unanswered questions as to who fired the last shot and whether our protagonist survives.

A true suspenseful film crafted by a student at St Edward's School, who may well be developing the requisite skills to carve himself a career in this industry if he continues to commit himself as he has been.

Kristian Barton
Teaching Team



D

emocracy at St Edward’s School; Fundamental British Values and the Student Council

Earlier in the year, St Edward’s elected a new Student Council. All pupils were given the opportunity to stand and after sharing the candidates’ ideas, the whole pupil populace cast their votes in a ballot and the new Council was formed.

Since then, the Student Council have been meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team on a monthly basis. They have been working on ways to make sure everyone knows who they are and encouraging pupils to pass on suggestions and concerns to ensure every pupil’s voice is heard. The Council discuss a whole range of topics, from sausage rolls and Danish pastries, the number of pupils to a table in the Dining Room, to unconscious bias.

The brilliance of the Student Council is that not only do they reflect the diversity of the pupil cohort by the inclusion of members from each area of the school, but they actively embrace and value it. They have big plans, so watch this space.

Vicky Barnett
Teaching Team





Stewardship

Biodiversity at St Edward's School

In our Walled Garden, adjacent to the Middle School classrooms, we have begun several important projects. To date, we have planted nearly 200 mixed hedgerow trees in the shape of a Cross. Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Purple Beech, Elder, Rowan, Dog-Rose and Maple trees will eventually create a low-level hedge that will comprise different colours at different times of the year and will be a feature that can be enjoyed by the whole community.

We have purchased 16 new apple trees which will be planted in a new cordon and it is hoped the juice can be used in our own kitchens, with any surplus being sold to help finance our water project in Uganda. We are now planning to create a meditative labyrinth and a 'food-forest' walk around a central fire pit - facilities that can be used by pupils and staff to help with well-being and emotional regulation.

Stephen Whelan
Mission Ethos & Charity Lead

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

This term, our staff team organised the very first Outdoor Education Day at St Edward's School and luckily, Mother Nature was good to us and the inclement weather was kept at bay. That said, our pupils know that there is no such thing as bad weather - only inadequate clothing, and they were suitably attired and determined to show us their resilience!

The benefits of being outdoors are immense and range from enhanced personal and social communication skills to improved mental and spiritual health. We are blessed at St Edward's to be surrounded by so much green space; indeed, 180 acres of beautiful Hampshire countryside and our pupils took full advantage of that. Our own staff and visitors worked hard to organise different outdoor lessons, which were based around creativity, orienteering, problem solving and teamwork. It may have been our first, but it certainly will not be our last.

Dan Farr
Teaching Team





WALES

An expedition to Wales was the grand finale for our year 11 pupils. They embraced a multitude of challenges that included white water rafting, paddle boarding, high ropes, gorge walking and raft building. Every activity demanded a degree of perseverance, skill, communication and team-work. These attributes were in abundance and ensured success for our pupils. They all agreed however, that time spent relaxing at the camp, visiting the Brecon waterfalls and the lake at Pen Y Fan were the real highlights of the trip. It was an excellent way to end the pupils' time at St Edward's School.

We wish the leavers good luck, knowing that they are well prepared for the next chapter in their lives. However, 'Once a St Edward's pupil, always a St Edward's pupil.'

Expedition Team



Live the Adventure





CAREERS DAY

Thursday 23rd June was our first Careers Day at St Edward's and uniformed public services was the theme. We welcomed representatives from Hampshire Constabulary, the Army and Solent University into school. Pupils were able to participate in an Elite Skills Workshop with the Army, get 'hands on' with the Police and develop essential employability skills with Solent University.

The Army gave pupils a taste of essential teamwork and problem solving skills through a range of confidence building activities, in addition to information about career opportunities. Hampshire Constabulary engaged the pupils in two brilliant interactive workshops, sharing a wealth of information about working in the Police Force. Additionally, Solent University delivered 'Bags of Character' to our younger pupils; a series of activities to develop the essential employability skills of communication, teamwork and problem solving.

We were also thrilled to welcome back two former pupils to talk to us all about their experiences whilst at St Edward's and their lives since leaving. Sam, who has now realised his ambition and is now an Officer in The Metropolitan Police and Daryl, who has built his own very successful roofing company, Roofing Matters. The opportunity for our pupils to hear directly from Sam and Daryl was incredibly powerful, we are very grateful for their support and hope to welcome them back soon.

Vicky Barnett
Careers Coordinator



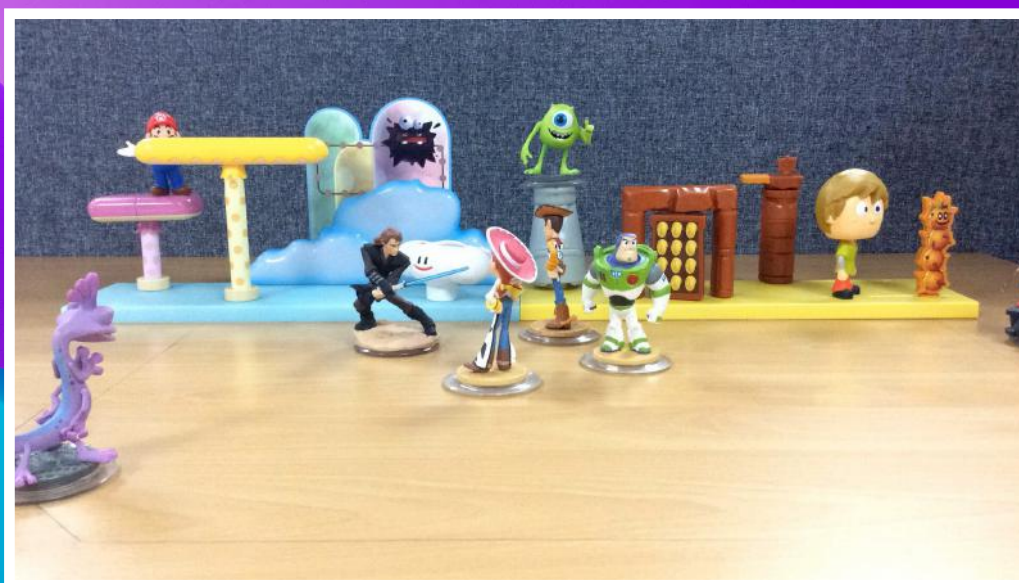
STOP MOTION ANIMATION CLUB

Some pupils in Middle School have chosen to widen their horizons during their daily rewards, by learning how to create short films using stop motion animation. Chicken Run, Wallace and Gromit and Lego Movie are all examples of this particular type of animation.

Our pupils here at St Edward's have used their resilience, patience and teamwork skills to produce short films that have starred the popular video game and cartoon duos, Mario and Luigi, Sonic and Tails, and Scooby Doo and Shaggy.

Pupils have the opportunity to use their own imagination and create their own story lines but to give you an insight into the world of animation, a 45 second film requires roughly 300-350 small movements and photos!

Stuart Green
Teaching Team



ST EDWARD'S SCHOOL

SWIMMING GALA

Community

There were no signs of cooling off for the pupils during the UK heatwave, as they brought the heat to the St Edward's School Swimming Gala. During the past few months, pupils have been working tirelessly at enhancing and developing their skills during their weekly swimming lessons. The hard work from all the boys really was evident and the performances from each pupil that took part was fantastic and one that they should each be proud of.

The gala had 22 thrilling and hard fought races, which were carried out with sportsmanship and commitment from every single competitor. Every swimming discipline was represented - front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke, as pupils put all their recent training to the test in a pulsating sporting event.

The finale, that the pupils seemed most excited about, was the relay race. Since the inaugural Swimming Gala, the staff team have remained unbeaten, which according to the team captain Marc Mitchell, is something he is extremely proud of and was planning on speaking of his teams' heroics for years to come. Until this year, which saw for the first time ever, a pupil team win the relay race! This remarkable triumph was summed up by team captain Cameron who stated, "It was about time and I knew we would win easily".

The action in the pool was accompanied by the vibrant sounds of our school DJ at poolside. With the atmosphere being colourful and jubilant around the pool, even the pupils and staff who did not take part were adding their touch to the event.

Overall, the pupils' engagement and the staff support once again made this whole school event a great success and will hopefully drive pupils to want to compete again this time next year.

Craig Vigar

Teaching Team



SURF'S UP!



This summer, a group of pupils from St Edward's School headed to North Devon to take part in a water sports expedition. The group departed school for Combas Farm in Putsborough, on the beautiful, idyllic Devon coastline. Sally, the farm owner, welcomed our pupils to an enormous field where we set up camp for the week ahead. We are extremely thankful for Sally's hospitality as she provided the site to us free of charge.

Our pupils took part in thrilling surfing activities under the expertise of Nick Thorn Surfing. We surfed, snorkelled, body-boarded, played games on the beach and shared wholesome campsite fun.

Watch our film on the St Edward's School YouTube channel, that captures some of the special moments shared amongst the group. Lasting memories were made and we are sure that Lincoln, James, Joe, George, Jake and Bailey will have long lasting tales to tell of their wonderful experiences, especially swimming with jelly fish!

Expedition Team



SURF

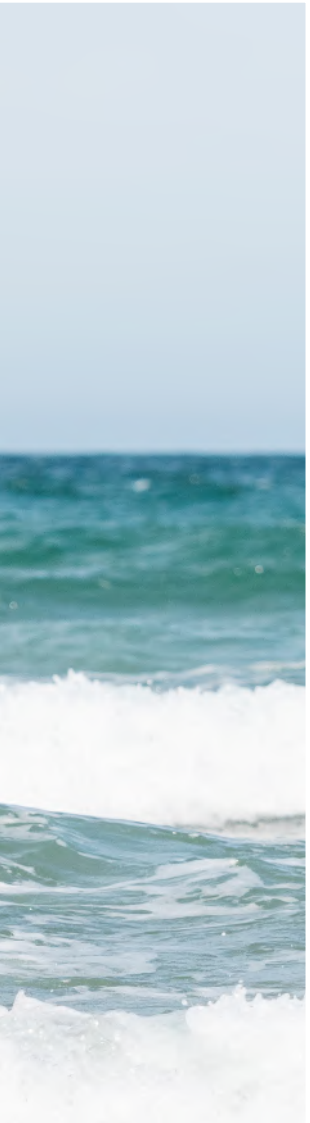




BODYBOARDING



SNORKELLING



THE MELCHET CUP

It was that time again! The yearly tradition of the Melchet Cup - the football match that sees us bond as a team of pupils and staff to compete against a local men's 11-aside football team.

This year was set to be a real test, as lining up against the St Edward's team was no other than ex-professional footballer, Danny Butterfield formally of Southampton, Crystal Palace and Exeter.

St Edward's had found ourselves one goal down in the early stages of the game, however it was the pupils who showed outstanding resilience to help us begin to control the game. Feeling inspired by the pupils' attitudes and work rate, the Head of Physical Education, Mr. Payne received the ball outside the box, with a fantastic assist from Alfie and released a fierce strike into the top right corner of the opponents' net. Game on!

Both pupils and staff displayed excellent teamwork, communication skills and technical ability throughout the game. All of these skills had clearly been developed over the academic year within a variety of subjects. The hard work and determination of the St Edward's team paid off with only ten minutes remaining. A combination of passes was cleverly converted by Alfie into the bottom right hand corner, giving St Edward's a 2-1 advantage.

With the game looking all set, the opposition team got themselves into a very promising position. With the last couple of minutes of the game counting down, a deflected shot narrowly beat the St Edward's keeper, tying the score line at 2-2. The match was going to be decided on penalties!

The St Edward's staff took a back seat, allowing pupils to demonstrate their well-honed skills. This 'tactical move', as some staff have called it, resulted in St Edward's retaining the cup after every pupil who bravely stepped up to take a penalty converted them!

A stand out performance once again from the St Edward's goalkeeper, James, who saved three of the opposition penalties, as well as a number of shots throughout the match. All pupils who participated in the event should feel proud. Well done boys! I am already looking forward to next year's match.

Martyn Payne
Teaching Team



A footballing tradition



Turn Down the Heat!

St Edward's School, Romsey leads the way.

On a wet and windy October afternoon, St Edward's School welcomed Bishop Declan Lang of the Clifton Diocese to open the school's new education building. The event was supported by governors, local head teachers, clergy, friends of the school, current and former staff members and our Student Council.

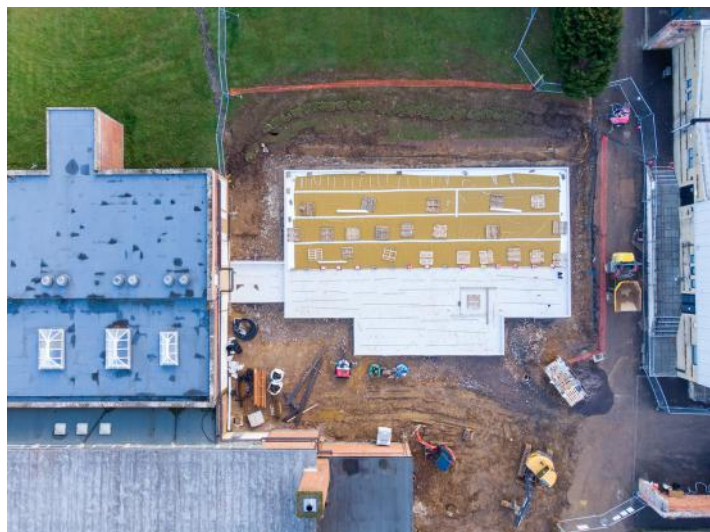
The building was constructed by the Darwin Group in collaboration with the St Edward's Development Team. It was important to create a building that was sympathetic to the school's environmental policy. The building is 'passivhaus' and has a net zero carbon footprint. The building was also designed to be low arousal, meeting the requirements of pupils with sensory needs. Construction began in November 2021 and was completed in July 2022. The school praised the Darwin Group for their professionalism and quality of work. Special thanks goes to Russ Collier, the Darwin Site Manager.

Headmaster, Graham Maher, thanked the Chair of Governors, Michael Tennant, for the support of the Board in facilitating this project. He also thanked the pupils for their well-delivered comments. St Edward's is a Catholic school, providing specialist compensatory education, social care and therapeutic services to local authorities for pupils experiencing social, emotional and mental health difficulties. The school is situated in a substantial park on the edge of the New Forest in Hampshire. It benefits from extensive grounds, a wide selection of specialist buildings and workshops together with excellent sporting facilities. It now enjoys the new addition of the Declan Education Building.

Sally Webb

Director of Development





Safeguarding Your Young Person at Home

Online Porn

We work hard at St Edward's to educate our pupils about staying safe online. One topic that the Headmaster has spoken to Upper and Middle School pupils about recently is online pornography. It can be hard to know how to talk to your child about the risks of watching online porn. This advice from the NSPCC can help you explain the risks to your child, prevent them from watching porn, and know what to do if your child has seen explicit or upsetting content online. Working collaboratively and with transparency with the school will help us all to keep your young person safe.

Why children watch porn online

It's normal for young people to be curious about sex and relationships and sometimes they may search online for information or answers to questions they have. They may also do this if they're worried or embarrassed about asking their parents or guardians.

Some of the reasons children and young people watch or search for porn online include:

- to learn about sex and sexual identity
- for sexual arousal and pleasure
- curiosity
- for "a laugh"
- break the rules
- to be disgusted
- to "freak out" their friends
- peer or relationship pressure.

Risks of children watching online porn

Children and young people who watch porn or sexually explicit content are at greater risk of developing:

- unrealistic attitudes about sex and consent
- more negative attitudes about roles and identities in relationships
- unrealistic expectations of body image and performance.





"I've been watching a lot of porn recently – it's become a bit of an addiction. I think about sex all the time.

Whenever I see a girl I fancy I think about how it would be to sleep with them and do the stuff I've seen in porn films.

I can't help it even though I know it's inappropriate."

Boy, aged 12-15

How to talk to your child about online porn

It's natural to feel anxious or unsure about talking to your child about online porn, but being open and honest can help them to understand the risks and feel more comfortable talking to you if they've seen something that's worried or upset them online.

If you discover that your child has been watching or sharing explicit content online, you might feel a lot of different emotions. These could include feeling disgusted, shocked or like their childhood is slipping away.

But it's really important that you think carefully about how to react. Children watch porn for all sorts of reasons, including by accident, and you need to make sure that they can come to you for help and advice when they need it. You may like to discuss the following:

- healthy relationships, consent and personal boundaries
- that sex in porn isn't like in real life and often blurs lines between consent, pleasure and violence
- peer pressure
- porn addiction and feelings of guilt or shame
- tell them about Childline and other websites (check the school website).

For more details follow

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/inappropriate-explicit-content/online-porn/>

Jim Fenemore

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead





St Edward's School
HAMPSHIRE