

What has been happening in...

## art ?



MRS STOKES

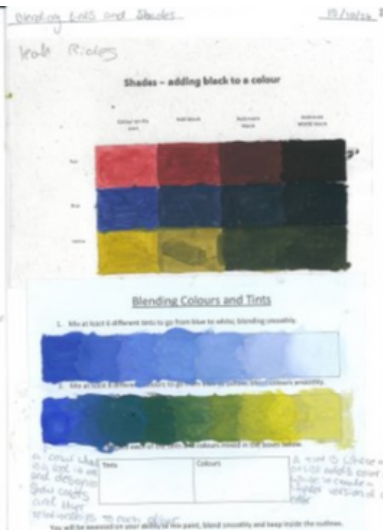


MRS KINNERSLEY



### Year 7

Year 7 students have been putting their painting skills to the test in Terms 1 and 2. Initially, students flexed their colour theory knowledge and paint mixing skills with the colour wheel. They then built on these skills to produce monochromatic work based on Picasso and his blue period. Some fantastic, vibrant work has been produced!



### Year 8

Year 8 students have been exploring all things creepy crawly! Working on developing their observational drawing and mark making skills, they had a go at a range of experimental drawing techniques. From continuous line drawings to non-dominant hand drawings, and even blind drawings, students have created a range of refined and experimental work. The most successful pieces have been presented beautifully in their sketchbooks. Well done Year 8!





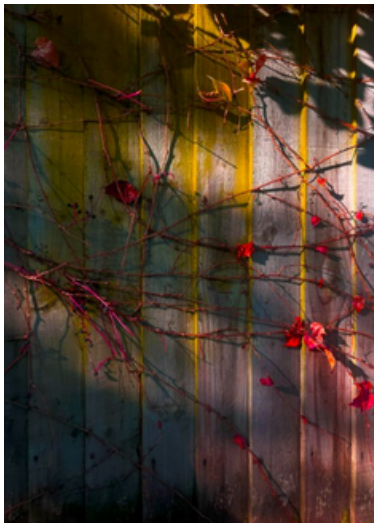
# Year 9

Year 9 students have been combining ideas about portraiture and diversity. To celebrate Black History Month, we introduced them to *The Seven Saints of St Paul's*, a project curated by local artist, Michelle Curtis. Her mural work celebrates the achievements of black men and women who fought for their communities in Bristol. Students learnt about these icons and created some beautiful pencil portraits of their own.



# GCSE Photography

GCSE photographers have been exploring ways of capturing the visual elements. With a focus on texture, shape, form and colour, they have produced some stand-out imagery.





# A Level Art

We have an extremely talented bunch of artists who have started studying A Level with us this year! They have begun by developing work along two pathways: Still Life or Portraiture. Challenged with producing a self-portrait every day for a week or producing their own elaborate still life compositions, they have produced a broad range of stunning work already this year.



# Art Club

This week we have been preparing for Christmas by making our own clay Christmas tree ornaments using different techniques. They will go into the kiln to be fired ready for next week's glazing session.





# NOTICES AND EVENTS



BFS\_Bristol



BFS\_Enrichment

## KEY DATES

### Monday 25 November

Y7 Football Festival

### Tuesday 26 November

Y10 BEP Student Leadership Training  
Y8 Flying Start Challenge (selected students)

### Wednesday 27 November

Y10/12 Business Students at Lancia Consult  
Business Competition

### Thursday 28 November

Y8 Rugby Festival  
U16 Rugby Cup Final

### Friday 29 November

Y10/12 RP Students trip to a Local Church

## QUICK LINKS

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Student/Parent Handbook](#)

[Past Newsletters](#)



## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please book medical appointments outside school hours where possible. If an appointment is unavoidably within school hours, please email proof of the appointment to [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) with the time that the student will be collected and returned to school.

Where possible, please give 48 hours' notice of appointments. We expect students to attend school as much as possible before and after appointments. Students with appointments should be collected from, and returned to, the car park gate. It is the responsibility of the student to sign in and out at Main Reception.

## STUDENT GATE REMINDER

Please be reminded that the Student Gate entrance on Concorde Drive is not open during the day, other than at the beginning and end of the school day.

Students arriving late, or parents picking up/dropping off students during the day need to go to the staff car park entrance. Thank you.



## LOST PROPERTY

Please ensure all items of clothing are named. We are seeing increasing amounts of unnamed PE kit being left behind and have no way to return them to their owners. Lost property is kept at Student Services.



# SAFEGUARDING

All extra-curricular clubs or lessons provided for young people outside of school should have the following in place as a minimum:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures.
- A Staff Code of Conduct Policy (to include clear communication arrangements with parents/carers and young people).
- DBS Checks and safeguarding training for staff and volunteers.
- A Designated Person to oversee safeguarding arrangements for the setting.

This applies to all settings for children and young people including dance schools, tutoring provisions and sports clubs.

If you have concerns around the conduct of a professional working with young people outside of school, you can raise concerns with the setting directly via their Designated Officer and ask to see their Safeguarding Policies and Procedures. Alternatively, you can report concerns to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) through Bristol City Council who may decide to investigate further.

TELL  
SOMEONE

If you would like to share any concerns, the Bristol Free School 'Tell Someone' email address is available to parents, carers, and students: [tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk). Please note, this email address is not continuously monitored and should not be used for urgent enquiries.

# SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Anna Freud's Schools and Colleges Early Support Service supports our students to be mentally healthy with evidence-based clinical support and resources for students, staff, parents and carers.

Their online webinars for parents and carers will help you better understand and deal with common challenges your child may face. There are a range of webinars available over the autumn term. You can find all of these listed at the end of the newsletter. This month's webinars include:

## **Supporting your young person to navigate healthy friendships**

28 November, 12-1pm

You can sign up via this link: [Sign Up](#)

We would really encourage you to sign up for these webinars that are hosted on Zoom. To register, please follow the links. After registration, you will receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the meeting.



## Year 7 and 8 Accelerated Reader Balloon Race

Flying high in first place in the balloon race this week is class Shakespeare (Ms McMurdo's Year 7 class) and for Year 8, the top spot is held by class Dickens (Ms Bate's class). The scores are close though so keep reading and quizzing everyone.



## House Book Competition

Remember to come to the Library and take out a book or two. You could earn valuable House points!

Current leaders are Blaise, with Canford very closely in second place. Ashton take third place while Durdham has slipped to fourth.

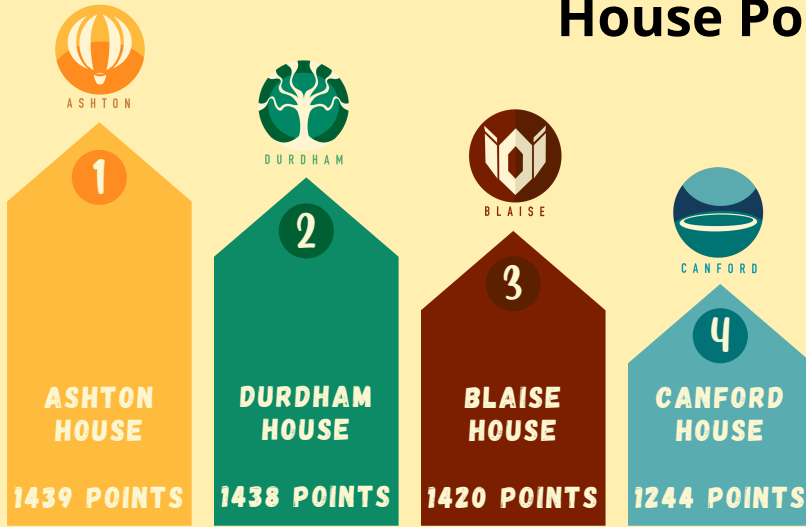




# HOUSE NEWS



## House Points



Well done to Ashton House for earning the most House points this week. It was a close week with Durdham House only one point behind!

**#BFSCommunity**  
**#BFSOpportunity**  
**#BFSAmbition**

## Top House Point Earners

Congratulations to our top House point earners this week!

	Ashton	Blaise	Canford	Durdham
Year 7	Zelda, Hazel	Sophie R	Sophie M	Mollie
Year 8	Sam S	Daisy R	Noah S	Emily S
Year 9	Sophie	Jasmine	Harry, Barney	Betty
Year 10	Chloë H, Edie	Fiona, Amelia L	Caila, Oscar B	Aseel, Martha
Year 11	Theo B, Emlyn	Mylo	Esme	Ricky, Olivia
Year 12	Henry S	Caitlin O	Izabella	Mila
Year 13	Finley	Rans	Jemie	Mathew

## PE House Competition

Team PE are hosting a series of House competitions this term. Come along and get involved! Everyone is welcome and you could earn points for your House!

**When?** Year 7, 8 and 9 - Tuesday 17 December, 2.45-4pm  
 Year 10 and 11 - Monday 16 December, 2.45-4pm

**What?** Netball  
 7-side Rugby

**How?** Tutors will sign you up in tutor.  
 On the day, get changed at lunchtime and leave lessons at 2.45pm.



# House Parliament

The House Parliament recently invited Mr East (leading on Healthy Schools) and Cliff from INNOVATE, for a Q&A session all about catering at BFS. Here is a sample of some of the questions that were asked:

**Q: Could we reduce packaging. Is that possible?**

**A:** Lots of our food comes in bio-degradable packaging at present. We would like to move more towards a series of recycling stations, similar to what you would have at home.



**Q: Could there be a wider promotion of the meal deals / menu?**

**A:** Yes of course. We will look to put up more posters advertising the different meal deals and also the menus on offer. We will use tutor notices as another method of increasing communication too.



**Q: Sometimes the queues move slowly as students are checking their account balance before ordering. Is there a way to speed this up?**

**A:** We are exploring whether we could put terminals around the canteen that students could scan their thumbs on before queuing for food, so they know what is left on their account.

**Q: Puddings always seem to have custard. Is there a way to opt out of this?**

**A:** Yes! Just ask us and we will happily serve you a 'custardless' pudding.



# Reverse Advent

This festive season, BFS collected food items for the Bristol North West Foodbank, as part of their Reverse Advent event. On Wednesday we proudly donated 22 crates full of essentials and festive goodies. Thank you to everyone who donated items to such a great cause.





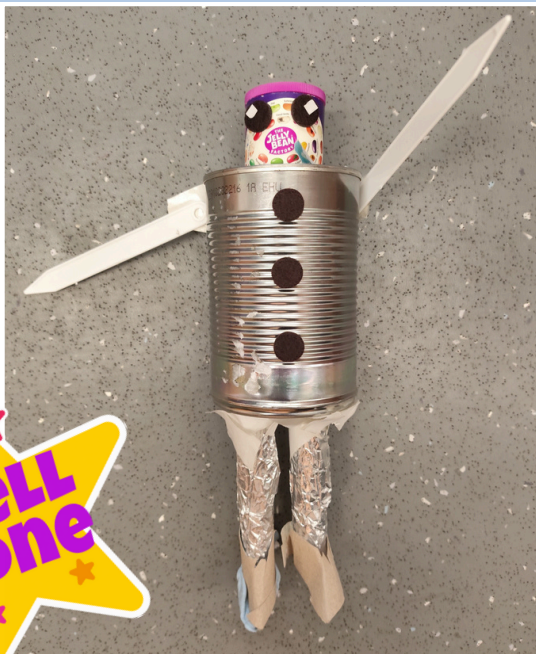
## Flipping Good Pancakes!

Muhammad S in Year 7 made pancakes! Although Muhammad brought many skills to the kitchen, we had fun learning how to flip these fluffy pancakes and developed his chocolate spread smothering skills. And even more impressive than the dollops of chocolate was his commitment to taking ALL pancakes home to share with his siblings - what a lush brother!



## Design and Technology House Competition

Congratulations to Mia who has won the Year 7 Design and Technology House Competition. Mia used repurposed materials to build a very cool robot. Well done Mia!



## Big Bang Competition

Congratulations to Will in Year 8 who designed, researched and put together a presentation on *Microorganisms and Their Role in Ecosystems* for the Big Bang Competition. Will's presentation was so well-received that he was invited to showcase his work at the House of Commons on Monday of last week. In addition to sharing his findings, Will went on a tour of the House of Commons and chatted with MPs and industry experts - well done Will!







MS GRIFFITHS

# LIBRARY & READING



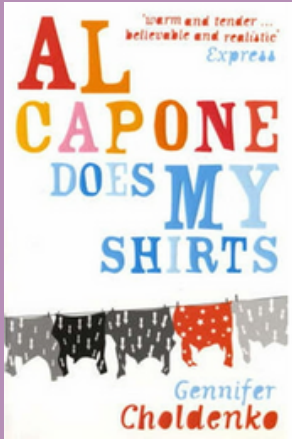
MISS MCMURDO

## Awesome Books Recommendations

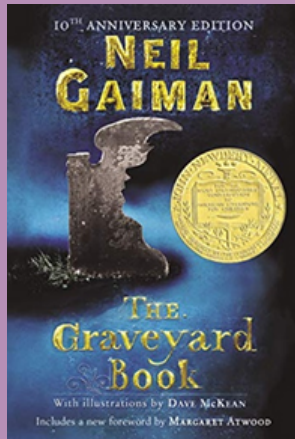
One of the most frequently asked questions in the Library is

“Miss, can you recommend a book please?”

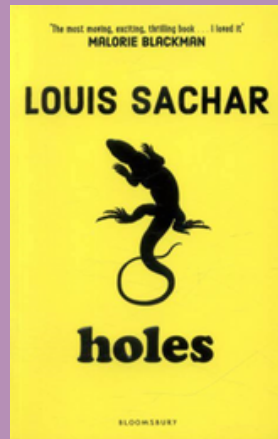
and the answer is always yes!



*Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko is a great read for red sticker readers.



*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman is a lovely book for green sticker readers.



*Holes* by Louis Sachar is a favourite for blue sticker readers.

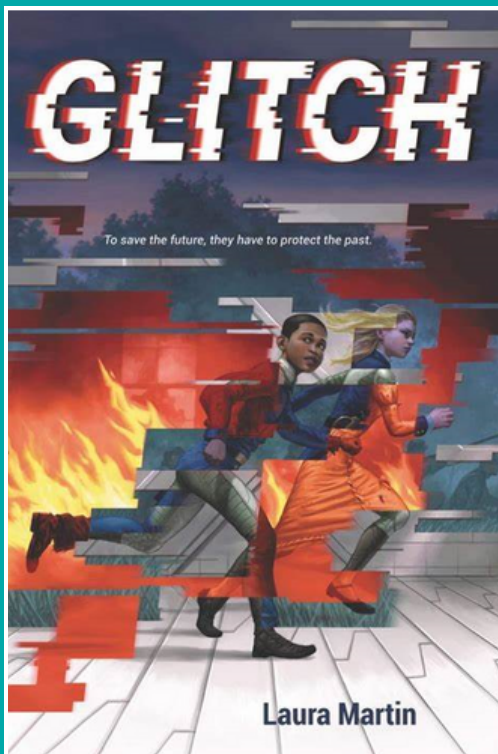


*Witch Child* by Celia Rees is a bewitching purple sticker book.

## Book Review

10 House Points!

**Glitch by Heather Anastasiu**  
Review by Sophie, Year 7



Glitch is a book about a girl called Izzy who has an addiction to video games. Her and her friend Erik both buy the new game 'Dungeon City'. Izzy makes a promise to Erik that she will wait until Erik's copy of the game arrives before Izzy plays it. When Izzy gets home she finds a package, opens it and finds that it is the game she was waiting for. After dinner Izzy decides to 'check that the disk works' but as she logs on she gets pulled inside the game! Inside the digital universe she meets a robot called Race. They raid dungeons together until their friendship gauge is full. In the end, Erik logs on to the game and goes in after her. They discover that Rae is trying to kill them and destroy the human world. Izzy and Erik must team up to stop Rae and get out of the game for good.

Overall, I think that it is a brilliant book and helps people realise that if you like a video game so much you can miss out on what is happening around you.



MS SLATER

## Year 8 and 9 BFS Sport Leader Programme



Are you in Year 8 or 9? Are you interested in developing your leadership or coaching skills through sport? Do you have previous experience of leadership, or do you want to gain the experience?

Then our Sport Leader Programme might be for you! We have the opportunity for 20 Year 8 and 9 students to take part in our Sport Leader Programme this year!

You will need to commit to attending 12 weeks of training on Mondays (3.15-4.15pm) in Term 3 and 4, where you will learn how to develop yourself into a great Sport Leader! You will then organise and lead sports days at local primary schools and support in the organisation of House events for Year 7 at BFS!

If you are interested, please collect an application form from the PE Office from 9am on Monday 25 November. Deadline for all applications is Monday 2 December, with interviews taking place the week of Monday 9 December. Successful candidates will be informed during the week commencing Monday 16 December.

**Be a leader!**

## Swimming Gala

This week we took our amazing swimmers to Clifton High School for a gala. There was an extremely high standard of swimming, and it was so lovely to see all of our students cheering on and supporting all year groups.

For some students it was their first competitive gala, and they did the school proud. Well done to Emma W and Tom F for winning their 50m butterfly races. Despite working our socks off and making all races extremely close, we lost out on points to Clifton High School overall. We hope to compete in another gala next term.

**WELL DONE!**



### UPCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 25 November	Y7 Girls 7-a-side Football Tournament	Imperial Sports Ground
Thursday 28 November	Y8 Rugby Festival	Redland Green School (Kellaway Avenue)
Thursday 28 November	U15 Rugby Cup Final	North Bristol Rugby Club

# Year 7 Boys Rugby Festival



# Fantastic

The Year 7 Rugby Festival, held at Redland Green School, was a thrilling showcase of talent and teamwork, with BFS emerging as the stand-out team of the day. In their opening match against Oasis Academy Brightstowe, BFS won convincingly, demonstrating their skill and determination on the field.

The second match posed a slightly harder challenge against St. Bede's Catholic College, but BFS showed great resilience. After trailing for part of the game, they made a remarkable comeback, capped off by a fantastic try from Cian, which secured their victory.

In their final game against the hosts, Redland Green School, BFS dominated throughout, showcasing their strength in both offence and defence. With three wins out of three, BFS proved themselves to be the team to beat at this year's festival, leaving a lasting impression on players and spectators alike.



MS JEROME

# PERFORMING ARTS



MS KENNARD

## BFS DRAMA & MUSIC *Winter Showcase*



BFS are proud to present their annual Winter Showcase

Oatley House Hall, St Monica's Trust, Cote Lane  
Tuesday 17 December at 6.30pm

A BFS SCHOOL PRODUCTION BY ARRANGEMENT  
WITH THE REALLY USEFUL GROUP LTD.

THE NEXT GENERATION

# SCHOOL *of* ROCK

THE MUSICAL

WEDNESDAY 29, THURSDAY 30 & FRIDAY 31  
JANUARY 2025

SAVE THE DATE

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE

MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER      BOOK BY JULIAN FELLOWES      LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER



## Employer Talk



**Highgrove**  
CHURCH

Charli Williams, a Youth Minister at Highgrove Church, spoke to students about her career to date and what it is like to work with young people. She started by asking us which job we wanted to do when we were six years old (six year old Charli wanted to be a pathologist). Most students agreed they wanted to do something different now. "We often end up doing different jobs from what

we wanted to do when we were younger, which is fine because we're always changing" Charli said. "It's also ok not to know what you want to do in the future, in fact, it's exciting because there are so many opportunities open to you". She also advised students to bear in mind the expression 'Perhaps you were made for a time like this', if they find themselves doing a job they do not enjoy. She explained how, when she was working on the tills at a supermarket, she developed many skills she still uses today.

Charli explained how the connection between all the jobs she has done since leaving school had one common thread – her love of working with people. She explained how that interest had shaped her A Levels choices and the degree she chose to study (a BA in Education with Psychology and Counselling followed by an MSc in Psychology of Education). She gave students lots of fascinating insight into the variety of activities she is involved in as a Youth Minister, from youth sessions and mentoring to running assemblies and well-being groups in schools.



Charli left students with some useful careers advice:

- Start with something you are passionate about, even if you do not know what you want to do.
- Knowing what you are good at helps narrow your options.
- Do not be afraid to give things a go. It is ok to try lots of things.
- Do not compare yourself with others. We are all different and we will all have different career paths - one is no better than the other.
- Get work experience to develop your transferable skills.

## Resources

Discover more about local careers in Sport and Fitness with this useful [guide](#) from [Skills Connect](#), which has lots of useful information about opportunities for a career in the sport and fitness sector.

## Coming up...

**29 November**

Real Estate: Savills Estate Agents

**13 December:**

Sport and fitness: Bristol City FC women's first team

## Connect With Us



Connect with us on LinkedIn! @Bristol Free School. Join in the conversation and help us if you can

- work experience
- employer talks
- careers day

## Rolls Royce

Rolls Royce open evenings coming up:

### Bristol Open Evening

Tuesday 3 December,  
[5pm](#) / [6pm](#) / [7pm](#) (click to sign up)

### Bristol Future Females Evening

Wednesday 22 January  
[4pm](#) / [5pm](#) / [6pm](#) / [7pm](#) (click to sign up)

## Apprenticeship Opportunities

**Airbus** - Level 4 Manufacturing Engineering Apprenticeship.

Start Date: September 2025

Location: Newport

[Apply](#)

**Rolls Royce** - Engineering Degree Apprenticeship

Other degree apprenticeships also available, [see 8 Nov newsletter](#)

Start Date: September 2025

Location: Bristol

[Apply](#)

**Morgan Stanley** - Technology Professional Degree Apprenticeship

Start Date: September 2025

Location: London

[Apply](#)

**EY** - Audit Apprenticeship Programme (Degree Apprenticeship)

Start Date: September 2025

Location: Nationwide

[Apply](#)

## Theatre Experience

This is a free day of backstage workshops at Bristol Old Vic for 15-18 year-old budding backstage theatre technicians. The day, on Saturday 14 December, will be led by industry professionals and facilitators, and will include workshops on Lighting Design & Operating, Set & Costume Design, Stage Management, and more.

Apply here: [Technical Training Programme](#) | [Bristol Old Vic](#)

Also, a fantastic seven-month Technical Youth Theatre programme (Monday evenings January to July 2025) for 15-18 year olds. This free programme will take place on-site at Bristol Old Vic, where participants will attend weekly sessions covering a range of skills with the aim of giving them a pathway into production-based roles. Apply here: [Technical Youth Theatre](#) | [Bristol Old Vic](#)

## University Experiences

**University of Bristol: [Insight into Bristol Summer School 2025](#)**

Eligible students interested in applying to attend the Insight into Bristol summer school in July 2025 can complete an [Expression of Interest form](#) to receive an email reminder when applications open in January 2025. This free Summer School provides Year 12 students from Asian, Black and other Global Majority backgrounds the opportunity to experience life as a student at the University of Bristol.

**Interested in studying in the US?**

The Sutton Trust Fulbright US programme gives state school students the chance to explore studying in the US. Applications for the explore programme (which includes a fully funded week at a US university) are open until 14 January. [Find out more](#) about the programme and how to apply.

## Work Experience

Global consulting firm, Aon, is running a [Work Insights Programme](#) in February half-term in Bristol. Open to Year 12 and 13 students, you will spend three days participating in a structured week of interactive learning and engagement, to understand more about the world of business, Aon and possible career paths for your future. [Apply](#).

**Webinars** **A Day-in-the-Life of an Accountant:** Tuesday 3 December, 6.30pm. You do not have to be good at maths to be an accountant! Explore accountancy careers with the ACCA and hear from a range of speakers to inspire your accountancy journey. [Register](#).

**The Future of STEM is Female!** Tuesday 26 November, 6.30pm. Join a live Q&A with current female apprentices and explore careers in STEM at BP.

# COMMUNITY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Girlguiding

28th Bristol Brownies - Westbury on Trym

## Volunteer with us



'I enjoy it so much. The girls are lovely and I feel I'm doing something worthwhile. It's amazing!'  
Tayba, leader

Take a break from your normal routine and spend some time laughing, playing and being inspired by the incredible girls and young women in Girlguiding.

It's totally flexible. You can volunteer in a group or use your skills behind the scenes. You don't need any guiding experience to join in the fun.

[girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer](http://girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer)



**Brownies**  
Girlguiding in Westbury on Trym needs volunteers to help  
7 to 10 year old girls know they can do anything

Email us to find out more  
[28thbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:28thbrownies@gmail.com)

use the  
QR code



Or find us on Facebook:  
**Girlguiding Bristol West**



## Cycle Training for Schools



Bristol City Council Bikeability Programme offers schools and youth groups cycle training and activities for all ages and abilities.

### Bikeability cycle training for schools & youth groups

- Balance – balance bike training for ages 3-5 builds confidence and balance on 2 wheels at Bristol Family cycling Centre using imagination games. £5.50 per rider.
- Learn to Ride – teaching children to ride without stabilisers. All Ages. £5.50 per rider.
- Level 1 - for ages 7-9 (Year 3 & 4) introduces basic cycling skills through fun activities in the playground. £5.50 per rider.
- Level 2 – for ages 9-11 (year 5 & 6) teaches "on-road" skills to enable children to make local cycle journeys. £11 per rider.
- Level 3 – for ages 11+ (Year 7-13) develops advanced road-riding techniques to enable riders to cope in all road conditions. £11 per rider.

Free cycle hire available for those without bikes to take part – booking essential.

These courses can also be delivered at Bristol Family Cycling Centre with free bikes and helmets hire included.

Watch our short video about Bikeability [https://youtu.be/c1\\_16Mr1IOI](https://youtu.be/c1_16Mr1IOI)

### Inclusive Bikeability at Bristol Family Cycling Centre

Inclusive cycling sessions are designed to make cycling accessible to all, whatever their age, abilities or needs, by providing a range of specialist cycles, dedicated support and training at a purpose built cycle centre with a 400m athletics track and traffic free paths on site.

<http://www.betterbybike.info/start-cycling/get-confidence/family-cycling-centre-hengrove>



For enquiries and bookings  
Please contact Emma Downey

[emma.downey@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:emma.downey@bristol.gov.uk)



# Free support sessions

Bristol Parent Carers offer a range of free support sessions designed to support parents and carers of children with SEND.

It's easy to book - [click here!](#)



Join us for free information and support sessions covering a variety of topics both in person and online. Or pop along to a peers support session (children welcome!) to find hints and tips on how best to support your family. No diagnosis is needed to access these sessions.

## PEER SUPPORT SESSION ONLINE



PEER TO PEER SUPPORT WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS.

JOIN US FOR A WARM AND WELCOMING ONLINE SUPPORT SESSION WITH PARENT CARERS.





## Transport-Home to School Travel Rights

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND GELDARDS SOLICITORS



## Epilepsy Peer Support Session

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND YOUNG EPILEPSY



## An introduction to Makaton

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND ALI PENNINGTON



## Supporting your young carer

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND CARERS SUPPORT CENTRE



## Transition to adulthood - Financial Planning

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND RHIANNON GOGH



## How to be a strong advocate for your child

WITH BRISTOL PARENT CARERS AND LISA BAKER-MURRAY



## Peer support sessions Greenway Centre & Inns Court

