

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to everyone following the Christmas break. We are looking forward to another busy term of hard work and exciting opportunities...

[Read key information for this term.](#)



## CALENDAR:

Y13 Practice Exams Begin, CCF Sunday Walk 2, ITT School Experience Day, Y11 Subject Parents' Evening, Y8, 10 & 11 Author Visit.

## CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES:

Choosing GCSE options webinar, Ask Me Anything About Engineering Apprenticeships, Local Hospital Work Experience, Nursing and Midwifery Open Day, ADVIZA - Industry Webinars, Pwc Flying Start degree programmes, Amazon's Apprentice programmes for 2023.

## VACANCIES:

Personal Assistant to Leadership Team Members and Technician: Audio Visual.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY DONATIONS:

As a School we raised an impressive £1737.56 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you very much for your contributions!



## MFL KARAOKE:

In the final week of term, classrooms were filled with the sound of foreign songs in preparation for the MFL Christmas Karaoke Competition!

## STUDENTS' LANTERNS JOIN PARADE:

Every year hundreds of people take part in Newbury's Lantern Parade in the weeks leading up to Christmas. This time St Bart's students joined in.



## KS5 AWARDS EVENING:

The annual KS5 Awards Evening was held on Thursday 15 December. The awards evening was opened by our Headteacher, Dr Fitter.

## WEBSITE UPDATES:

We have update the [Winter Weather Procedures](#) on our website.

## CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY PROJECT:

On Thursday 8 December, a number of students participated in a second community project at Whitelands Park Primary School.

## Y9 EVERS WIN THE ISLAM TROPHY:

Year 9 have been studying the beliefs and teachings of Islam this term as part of their GCSE course.

## KS4 & KS5 HOUSE CHESS:

The House Chess Competition for Years 10 to 13 took place in December.



## YEAR 7 CHRISTMAS PARTY REVIEW:

On Monday 12 December, Year 7 had their annual Christmas Party!

## PETER MURRAY'S NEW YEAR QUIZ:

Dust off your brain cells after the Christmas break and test your knowledge about our Patron of Reading, Peter J Murray. On our website is a [New Year's Quiz](#)

## WEST BERKSHIRE YOUTH SURVEY:

West Berkshire Council is keen to find out about the health and attitudes to health of young people in our area.

## YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS CONSENT REMINDER:

The Berkshire School-aged Immunisation Team will be offering Year 9 students immunisations in school. Consent must be given by **25 January 2023**.

## DONATIONS OF UNIFORM AND SHOES:

As the cost of living continues to make things more challenging for families across the country, we are keen to ensure that our second-hand uniform offer is as well-stocked as possible.

## SCHOOL NURSING NEWSLETTER:

You can now read the most recent School Nurse Newsletters for [parents](#) and [students](#) on our website.

## **ADMISSION POLICY CONSULTATION**

St Bart's is currently consulting on its draft **Admission Policy for 2024/25**. Details can be found at: [Admissions & Apply](#) The deadline for responses is **Tuesday 24 January 2023**.

## PE:

[U15 Girls Football](#)  
[West Berkshire Schools Basketball Festival](#)



## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to everyone following the Christmas break. We are looking forward to another busy term of hard work and exciting opportunities.

### **New staff and students**

A particular welcome to new students and staff: Mr Bandy, Head of Patterson House, Mr Anouar, Teacher of Mathematics, Mrs Clarke, School Counsellor and Mrs Gower, Teaching Assistant.



### **Events**

As usual, the calendar is very busy this term with a wide range of activities planned. These enriching opportunities, activities and trips are such a great way to broaden horizons, learn new skills and meet new people.

I would like to draw your attention to a number of important events for parents this half term.

For Year 11, there is a Parents' Evening on 17 January (remote) which is critical in supporting students to prepare for their final GCSE examinations in the summer.

Wednesday 25 January is a Training Day (INSET), so the school will not be open to students on this day.

Then on 30 January, we look forward to meeting Year 9 parents (Curnock/Davis at 6pm, and Evers/Patterson at 7pm) to go through the Key Stage 4 curriculum with you and the choices your child has in terms of Options for September 2023.

The Y9 Parents Evening (remote) is planned to follow the KS4 Information Evening, enabling further discussions about subject choices on 8 February.

Finally, the showpieces that are our House Evenings take place either side of the half term break. Evers and Davis join forces to entertain you on 9 February in the Hall at 6.30pm and Curnock and Patterson combine to showcase the immense talent of our students at the start of the next half term on 22 February.

### **Sixth Form**

We are pleased that many of our current sixth formers are receiving offers from their university applications, and acceptances have been secured. Year 11 have been busy placing applications for the Sixth Form next year and interviews for the Sixth Form will take place later this term.

### **Tablets (Y7 & Y8)**

In order for the tablets to be used effectively in class to enhance the learning experience, it is essential that they come to school fully charged. Please remind your child(ren) to charge up overnight so they can make full use of their tablet in lessons.

### **Uniform**

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask that you ensure your child(ren) wear appropriate uniform to school. The blazer is not an optional item. It must be worn, with or without the school jumper. Students who attend school without school shoes will be given a pair of school shoes to wear for the day. If there is a good reason why your child is without proper school shoes for a short period of time, please write a note to the House office.

## What do you think?

Finally, over the next month we will be asking all members of the school community to give their views on what St Bart's has to offer, what we do well, and how we make further improvement, through completing a questionnaire. We really value your opinions, as it helps us to continue to improve upon our many strengths to ensure the best provision for all our students. I thank you in advance for your time in completing this questionnaire.

Here's to another positive and productive term. Thank you for your continued support.

## Calendar

Y13 Practice Exams Begin	Thursday 12 January	Hall (End 17 January)
CCF Sunday Walk 2	Sunday 15 January	
ITT School Experience Day	Tuesday 17 January	
Y11 Subject Parents' Evening	Tuesday 17 January	Remote - 4.30-7.00pm
Y8, 10 & 11 Author Visit	Wednesday 18 January	Hall (11CD P1, 11EP P2, 10CD P3, Y8 P4, 10EP P5)

[View all school events in our online calendar, click here to go straight there](#)

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## CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

### Choosing GCSE options webinar

**TODAY!** Wednesday 11 January 6.00 – 7.00pm.

[Book via the Adviza Portal.](#)

### Ask Me Anything about Engineering Apprenticeships

Thursday 12 Jan 2023, 6.00 – 7.00pm

An hour long session to ask all your questions to top brands in the industry! Sign up [here](#).

### Local Hospital Work Experience

Interested in Radiography or Pharmacy work? We have details of work experience opportunities available locally. Please speak to Mrs Seward, [dseward@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:dseward@stbarts.co.uk)

### Nursing and Midwifery Open Day

Saturday 21 January 2023 from 11.00am to 1.00pm

Trust Education Centre, Reading.

Contact [workexperience@royalberkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:workexperience@royalberkshire.nhs.uk) to register

### ADVIZA - Industry Webinars

Aerospace - Tuesday 24 January 2023 – 6.00 to 7.00pm

Textiles - Tuesday 21 February 2023 – 6.00 to 7.00pm

Bookings are free and can be made via the [Events](#) page on the Careers Portal now.

### PwC Flying Start degree programmes

Fast-track your career while gaining a degree in Accounting or Technology

Apply [here by 25](#) January

### **Amazon's Apprenticeship programmes for 2023**

Applications will be opening on February 6 2023 to coincide with National Apprenticeship Week. Find more information [here](#).

Visit our [Y7-11 Careers Opportunities webpage](#) for more events. And a more comprehensive listing for older students is also available on the Sixth Form Hub: [Careers and Study Opportunities page](#).

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## VACANCIES

### **PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS**

**We are searching for a Personal Assistant to join us as soon as possible on a permanent basis.**

We are looking for someone to provide administrative support to the Business Manager, including diary management, arranging meetings, receiving visitors and responding to correspondence.

You will be the Central Administrator for the School Comms messaging and provide administration support to the Sixth Form as required. Additionally, you will support the Careers offering to students and oversee the administration of the Community Awards and Unifrog.

The position requires someone with a high level of accuracy and attention to detail, who is well organised and proficient in the use of IT, especially MS Word and Excel.

HOURS: 32 hours per week (with a degree of flexibility for the right person), term-time only, plus 5 training days pro rata.

SALARY: £21575.00 - £21968.00 gross pa (£11.18 - £11.39 per hour), pro rata for part-time, term-time. Starting salary equates to £15924.40 gross pa (for 32 hours).

### **TECHNICIAN: AUDIO VISUAL**

**We are searching for a full-time, term time only Technician: Audio Visual to join us as soon as possible on a permanent basis.**

As an Audio-Visual Technician, you will play a crucial role in supporting the Expressive Arts Faculty, Leadership Team, Teachers and the Marketing/Promotions Team. You will be involved in the combined elements of technical support and the development of audio-visual content across the school alongside opportunities to work directly with young people, supporting the development of technical skills. There is no requirement for you to have significant experience of lighting or sound desks. Where necessary, training will be provided in these areas, along with training on video production.

HOURS: 37 hours per week, term-time only, plus 5 training days pro rata. The role requires activity on approximately 5 or 6 evening events per half-term. In recognition of this, the post holder would be entitled to take time in lieu flexibly, in agreement with the line manager.

SALARY: £20812 - £21189 full-time equivalent gross pa (£10.79 - £10.98 per hour), pro rata for part-time, term-time. Starting salary equates to £17801.34 gross pa pro rata.

**For full details of both roles and to apply, [please visit this page](#).**





**Closing date for both roles: Sunday 15 January 2023**

All applicants shortlisted will be subject to an online search. Successful candidates will be subject to a DBS enhanced check along with other relevant employment checks.

Tel: 01635 521255 E-mail: [recruitment@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@stbarts.co.uk)

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY DONATIONS

As a school, we raised an impressive £1737.56 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you very much for your contributions!



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## MFL KARAOKE

In the final week of term, had you taken a walk down the Languages corridor you would have been forgiven for thinking you had walked into the French, German or Spanish version of the X-factor! Classrooms were filled with the sound of foreign Christmas carols, pop songs and well-known anthems. Why? Because the MFL Christmas Karaoke Competition rehearsals were in full swing and the MFL teachers take it very seriously!



On Friday 16 December, the annual MFL Karaoke Competition took place at activity time and was highly contested. There were 15 initial entries this year and the Foreign Language Assistants had the unenviable task of choosing the top 5 to go through to Friday's final.

The final was opened by Mrs de Casa's Y12 Spanish class who definitely got the party started with Shakira's 'Waka Waka', which was used to open the 2010 World Cup. The mood was then softened with a festive song by Mrs Seath's Y7P3 French class singing a very sweet version of 'Vive le Vent' (the French version of Jingle Bells) complete with props and acting. It was brilliant to see our youngest learners perform so well. They were followed by the Y13 German classes who provided live guitar playing, harmonies, acting, props and amazing story telling to the song 'Millionär' - this was going to be hard to beat!

Then came a combination of two of Mrs Clare's Y9 Spanish classes singing 'Subeme la Radio' by Enrique Iglesias. Despite the large group and tricky lyrics, they performed well with coordinated dance moves, a rap and great audience support. Finally came Mrs Tucker's Y9 German class who gave an extremely polished



performance of 'Wahnsinn' by Wolfgang Petry with impeccable dictation and timing as well as live guitars, props, dance moves and smiles all round. They provided the perfect finish to a fabulous Christmas concert.



Mrs Robertson, Head of Expressive Arts, very kindly agreed to be the judge. Mrs Robertson gave a review of the strengths of each performance and was able to make the difficult decision as to who was going to win. Drum roll.....a huge well done to the Y13 German classes and to Mrs Tucker and Miss Prior for their input! The musical talents of the students shone through, and they were worthy winners of the trophy.

There was also one entry into the solo category and, as Mrs Wood said, the prize would not have gone to this student had she not truly deserved it. Hanika Prashanth Kunder from 7C1 sang in Hindi and it was beautiful. Next year, it would be lovely to see some more students be

brave enough to enter the solo round.

A huge thank you to Mrs Robertson for judging the final, to the Foreign Language Assistants for the initial round of judging, to Mrs Wood for organising and coordinating the event and finally to all the students who participated and who made it such a fun and rewarding occasion.

*Mrs Clare.*

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## STUDENTS' LANTERNS JOIN PARADE

Every year, hundreds of people take part in Newbury's Lantern Parade in the weeks leading up to Christmas. The Corn Exchange runs workshops to allow locals to make their own lanterns prior to the parade.

Mr Axten and some of his art students made their own amazing lanterns from willow and tissue paper in school. They joined the parade and shared their stunning creations with the crowds. Well done to Casper Nolan, Yasmin Agodzo, Beatrice and Hermione Cratchley, Gabriella Lungu, Olive Muir and Holly McClellan, some of the students involved.



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## KS5 AWARDS EVENING

The annual KS5 Awards Evening was held on Thursday 15 December. The awards evening was opened by our Headteacher, Dr Fitter. We were lucky enough to have the singer songwriter, Miranda Hall, as our guest speaker, who attended St Bart's in 2006. Miranda performed a beautiful, moving song she had written, 'The Fall', during the evening, which was very special. During the evening, over 100 prizes were awarded to last year's Year 13 students to celebrate their fantastic achievements. Subject prizes were given as well as 21 major awards for contributions to many aspects of school life outside the classroom. We celebrated the success of 41 students who received special prizes for academic achievement at A Level. It was wonderful to welcome back prize winners, nominees and their parents to celebrate an outstanding group of students.



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## WEBSITE UPDATES

We have updated the [Winter Weather Procedures](#) on our website.

Crucially, should extreme conditions necessitate a closure on health and safety grounds, or a later start to the school day, information will be provided as quickly as possible via:

- The school email system
- St Bart's website [www.stbarts.co.uk](http://www.stbarts.co.uk) (homepage).

Please read the [updated procedure](#) for the full information.

The Spring Calendar and Clubs Schedule are now also online.

[School Calendar - Spring Term 2023](#)

[Activity Time Clubs - Spring Term 2023](#)

[After School Clubs - Spring Term 2023](#)

[Support Sessions - Spring Term 2023](#)

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## CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY PROJECT

On Thursday 8 December, a number of students participated in a second community project at Whitelands Park Primary School. We volunteered our time to make sure that young children were able to have a wonderful festive experience; helping children wrap their gifts for the parents and win a prize from the chocolate tombola. This was a wonderful opportunity to see the joy and magic in young children's faces. Miss Marshall provides these opportunities so that we can work on our own self-confidence and leadership skills. This is part of the 'Stretch and Challenge' opportunities, which anyone can get involved in at our school. We thank Miss Marshall for organising the event and looking after us



while we got involved and supported our local community. St Bart's School is willing to support any local primary school, so please get in touch with Miss Marshall if you would like some support with your own PTA events. Well done to: Irina Pop, Ellie Bosley, Amie Smith-Mas, Rosie Rust, Pippa Owen, Vedha Aveen Krishnan, Luca How, Juliet Kielbon-Noakes, Alex Cattanach, Teddy Brennan, Sid Karra, Kaiden Bailey and Miraya Srivastava.

*Amie Smith-Mas (10C3)*

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## Y9 EVERS WIN THE ISLAM TROPHY!

Year 9 have been studying the beliefs and teachings of Islam this term as part of their GCSE course. To finish the term, they were visited by Kareem, a member of the West Berkshire Muslim Centre. They were quizzed on what they have been learning in class and **EVERS** came out on top! They receive the Y9 2022 Islamic Quiz trophy. Well done!



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## KS4 & KS5 HOUSE CHESS

The House Chess Competition for Years 10 to 13 took place in December. It returned, after several years without a competition, demonstrating the popularity of Chess across all years in the school. Each House puts forward a team of 4 players, with each team playing the other three Houses over three separate days. The matches were fiercely contested between all four Houses and, before the final

	Game Wins
Patterson	9
Davis	8
Evers	4.5
Curnock	2.5

matches, any one of Davis, Evers or Patterson could have won. Four players were undefeated in the competition: Nakabale Lule, Ollie Steele (both Davis), Will High and Johan Giaever-Enger (both Patterson). The final result is shown on the left.



Year 7 to 9 House Chess will take place in June 2023, when Davis will defend their 2022 title. Many thanks to all of the players for their consistent effort and Mr Bell for running the competition.

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## YEAR 7 CHRISTMAS PARTY REVIEW

On Monday 12 December, Year 7 had their annual Christmas Party! The Year 10 Foundation Learning group had spent some time planning and preparing for the party, to make sure that they had the best party possible! The class made posters and decorations which were set up in the hall, ready for the students. As the Year 7 students arrived, they were really surprised to be greeted by a red carpet and made their way down to their event.

During the party, Year 7 played lots of games such as the 'Iceberg Game' and a game where they had to pass the balloon over and under. The Year 7s needed some guidance when it came to the Macarena and our Foundation Learning students were happy to lead the way with their teachers!



As the party came to a close, some of the Year 7 students said, "This was the best party ever, thank you for planning it". It seems like the Year 7's had a wonderful time!

*Aaron Miranda-Hickey (10E3)*

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## PETER MURRAY'S NEW YEAR QUIZ



Dust off your brain cells after the Christmas break and test your knowledge about our Patron of Reading, Peter J Murray. Many of our students have been enthralled by his storytelling in person when he visited us last year, and through reading his books. Now is the time to work out how much you know! On our website is a [New Year's Quiz](#) all about Peter Murray and his books. Please have a go at answering the questions. Answers can be submitted neatly on a sheet of paper with the student's name and tutor group and handed into the Library. Or you can email your answers to [library@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:library@stbarts.co.uk). The deadline is Friday 20 January. There will be a prize for the most correct answers. Good luck and happy guessing!

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## WEST BERKSHIRE YOUTH SURVEY

West Berkshire Council is keen to find out about the health and attitudes to health of young people in our area.

**We have shared a link to the survey via Satchel:One, for all St Bart's students to be part of this process and we really hope they will take this opportunity to share their views.**

On completion of the survey, West Berkshire Council will share the analysis with services and parish councils to help shape services and responses to young people in this area, and will also provide school specific data to help us plan Personal Development lessons and Enrichment.

[You can complete the survey here.](#)

Thank you to students for taking part in this important research.

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## YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS CONSENT REMINDER

The Berkshire School-aged Immunisation Team will be offering Year 9 students the Meningococcal ACWY & Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio Booster immunisations in school on Thursday 26 January 2023.

We wrote to Year 9 parents on 6 January to ask you to complete the consent form for your child **before 9am on 25 January 2023** (24 working hours before the session date) if you would like your child to receive their immunisation at school. If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child, please select the no consent option on the form.

Any queries or questions should be raised with the Immunisation Team [westschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:westschoolimms@berkshire.nhs.uk) or by telephone on 0300 365 0077.

Please ensure your child wears either a short-sleeved shirt or their PE short-sleeved polo shirt on the day.

If you cannot find the original letter in your emails, please contact your child's House Office.

[curnockoffice@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:curnockoffice@stbarts.co.uk)  
[davisoffice@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:davisoffice@stbarts.co.uk)

[eversoffice@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:eversoffice@stbarts.co.uk)  
[pattersonoffice@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:pattersonoffice@stbarts.co.uk)

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## DONATIONS OF UNIFORM AND SHOES

As the cost of living continues to make things more challenging for families across the country, we are keen to ensure that our second-hand uniform offer is as well-stocked as possible. Please can we ask you to donate any uniform to the school that is no longer used, and is in good condition. This also includes school shoes that are in good condition. Thank you for your support.

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## BERKSHIRE HEALTHCARE SCHOOL NURSING NEWSLETTER

You can now read the most recent School Nurse Newsletters for [parents](#) and [students](#) on our website.

### ChatHealth

You can now just send a text message to our school nursing service for confidential help and advice. If you are aged 11-19, you can use our new ChatHealth confidential and anonymous texting service. We can offer advice and support on many topics like sleep, low mood, self-harm, body changes, relationships, emotional health & wellbeing, smoking, healthy eating, anxiety/stress, drugs & alcohol and bullying.

**Text: 07312 263266**

This service runs 9am-4.30pm Mon-Fri (excluding bank holidays).

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## PE

### U15 Girls Football

Well done to the U15 girls' football team who braved the cold to play their 5th round tie in the English Schools National Cup at the end of last term. This is the furthest a St Bart's girls' team has ever got in this competition.

We played Piggott School away on a 4G pitch. Isla hit the bar in the first minute and Mya was through on goal in the fifth minute but it wasn't to be our day. The final score was 5-1 to the opposition. Meg scored our goal. Isla Clare was awarded player of the match.

We are very proud of the whole team for their achievement in this tough competition



## West Berkshire Schools Basketball Festival

### KS3

Well done to the 19 KS3 students who represented St Bart's at the West Berkshire Schools Basketball Festival at Trinity School before Christmas.

St Bart's entered four teams, and each one performed really well, some winning all of their matches.



### KS4

Our KS4 mixed Basketball teams also took part. They had 4 teams who all played some excellent Basketball and a lot of fun. A great way to finish the term - well done all!

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## STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST

*You must have the following items with you in school at all times.*

**Pens:** 2 x black  
1 x blue  
1 x green



**Pencils x 2**



**Ruler**



**Eraser**



**Pencil Case**



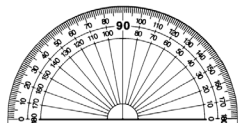
**Pair of Compasses**



**Calculator**



**Protractor**



**Reading Book**



**Glue Stick**



**Highlighter**



**Equipment must not be shared between students and staff will be unable to issue any missing equipment.**

Click and find us:



facebook



# House Art 2022- 23

All students are invited to create and enter an Art piece based on the theme...



Points awarded will contribute to the House Championship Competition.

Taking place this half term and next!

Ask your Art, Graphics, Textile teachers for information on how to enter.

**Deadline: 20 January 2023**

**Happy Creating! THE VISUAL ART TEAM 😊**

# Whose story will you inspire?

## Train to Teach Career Information

### Wednesday 25th January 2023 at 6pm



## Every Lesson Shapes a Life

If you are considering a career in teaching, join us online at our information evening to find out about our primary and secondary training programmes with places available from September 2023.

The Downland Alliance is a school direct training partnership with secondary trainees based at The Downs, St. Bartholomew's and Kennet School. Primary trainees are based at one of our school direct partnership primary schools in the local area. Our courses are accredited by Oxford Brookes University—so you get the best of both worlds—school led training with a renowned university.

So whether you are a teaching assistant, a career changer or you graduate in the summer of 2023 and would like to train to teach because you want to make a difference to young people's lives, training to teach could be the next career move for you.

**Downland Alliance**

Call us on 01635 270096 Email us [itt@downlandalliance.org.uk](mailto:itt@downlandalliance.org.uk)

[www.downlandalliance.org.uk](http://www.downlandalliance.org.uk)



**Wednesday 25th January**

**6pm—7pm**

**Online**

**Register now**

**Register in advance [here](#)**