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#### **STUDENTS' ONCE IN A LIFETIME ADVENTURE TO CAMBODIA**

Last year, in conjunction with Challenges Abroad, St Bart's were successful in an application to the Department of Education's Turing Scheme, which offers education providers the opportunity for funding to support their students with study and work placements around the world. On securing the funding, our Sixth Form students were selected to be part of a global citizen project supporting the work of the Future Sense Foundation in the Supplementary Education Centre in Battambang, Cambodia, and, in



October, 30 of our Year 13 students set off on a 15-hour plane flight... read more.

CALENDAR:	Y12/Y13 Vodafone Practice Assessment Day, Spanish Immersion trip - parent information e Country Championships, Ten Tors Sunday Wa Courses Information Issued to Y9, Y11 Interna Association Meeting.	evening, The Berkshire Schools Cross lk 2, Y13 Practice Exams Begin, KS4
CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES:	James Cowper Kreston Apprenticeships	
Y10 BUSINESS CHRISTMAS MARKET:	Y10 Business studies were challenged to generate a business idea where profits were high and costs low – with all profits going to House charities!	
<u>GENERATE – STUDENT ART</u> EXHIBITION:	Don't forget to go and see nine of our talented students exhibited at GENerate 2025, located in The Base, Greenham.	
<u>PATTERSON HOUSE FILM</u> <u>NIGHT:</u>	On 13 December 2024, the Patterson House Film Night debuted in spectacular style, bringing students together for a web-slinging evening of cinematic fun.	
CANCER CARE HAMPERS:	Curnock Charity House Captain, Gen (13C3), and Mrs Whyatt safely delivered two large hampers of donations to Curnock's House Charity, Newbury Cancer Care	
AUTUMN BARTS BEE'S:	The Textile department has started the academic year off with a busy term. Year 7s and 8s have been making their felt monsters and cultural tote bags.	
<u>RISKING IT ALL – PARENT</u> <u>PERFORMANCE</u> <u>OPPORTUNITY:</u>	On 7 February, Year 9 students will attend 'Risking It All' in the school hall; innovative educational theatre, focusing on risk-taking behaviour.	
RAISING MONEY FOR MENCAP:	Kareena Govindji (10C1) tells us about Community Action's first term and the work they did with Mencap.	
HOUSE EVENINGS:	As is the tradition at St Bart's, the Spring Term will see the return of House Evenings!	
<u>PE:</u>	<u>Year 10 Rugby</u> <u>Well done Jack</u> <u>New Karate Club at St Barts!</u>	

#### STUDENTS' ONCE IN A LIFETIME ADVENTURE TO CAMBODIA

Last year, in conjunction with Challenges Abroad, St Bart's were successful in an application to the Department of Education's Turing Scheme, which offers education providers the opportunity for funding to support their students with study and work placements around the world. On securing the funding, our Sixth Form students were selected to be part of a global citizen project supporting the work of the Future Sense Foundation in the Supplementary Education Centre in Battambang, Cambodia, and, in October, 30 of our Year 13 students set off on a 15-hour plane flight.



St Bart's students were given the objective to plan and deliver workshops to Cambodian primary school children around the theme of the environment and recycling. Our



students were taught some basic Khmer in order to communicate with the children but they also had to be creative in delivering their workshops. Despite the language barrier, it was wonderful to see our students develop a special connection with the Cambodian young people, exchanging cultures and learning from each other. From dance to arts and crafts, students came up with many engaging ideas to deliver to the children of Battambang. Young people in Cambodia only receive half a day of funded state education, therefore it is up to charities like the Future Sense Foundation to deliver the second half of their education. This is why the work our students put in was so important.

As well as delivering workshops, our students experienced the culture, immersed themselves in the local community, met the monks, had a city tour of the capital, Phnom Penh, visited the Royal Palace, explored Battambang and learnt about Cambodia's ancient and more recent past. It was a truly humbling experience to learn about the tragedy of Cambodia's recent past and to visit the Killing Fields at Wat Samrong Knong. The cultural experience was topped off with a weekend excursion to Siem Reap to visit the famous Angkor Wat

temple at sunrise, considered one of the wonders of the world. Moving into the second week, students spent time in the famous Cambodian markets, visited the Bat Caves, meditated and played volleyball with monks and, of course, there was time for a game of dodgeball back at base camp. The magical two weeks closed with an Awards Night, at which students presented awards to our amazing hosts and the Future Sense Foundation staff. Teachers then took turns presenting students with personalised awards which ended with a karaoke marathon finale that went on into the evening.

"Our trip to Cambodia was a life changing experience that I will



never forget. Being able to work with the children at the Supplementary Education Centre, teaching them about the environment and recycling was my highlight - seeing how excited they were to learn and engage with us every day, that is something I will carry with me forever. We came together as a group and made friends for life. I learnt so much about myself, trying to fully immerse myself in the experience. Although it was challenging at points, I came away with a newfound perspective on what is important in life."

Ellie Upton, (13D2)

"We learnt all about the history of Cambodia by visiting temples such as Angkor Wat, which was beautiful



during the sunrise and full of intricate architecture and detailing which showed stories and myths from local history. We spoke to locals who could share their experiences about the recent events and visited the peace gallery where we learnt all about how Cambodians have recovered and found peace within their country, despite all the conflict. We were fully immersed within the Cambodian culture in many ways, such as learning traditional dances, going to local markets, working in the school and trying new foods. Overall, this is a trip that I will remember forever and will take the lessons I have learnt from this experience with me throughout my life."

Sophie Livingstone (13D2)

Mr Wilder, Co-Head of Sixth Form, said: "We are so proud of our students embracing the global citizen element

of this project and meeting every challenge with bravery and spirit. Each student brought their unique personality and had their own personal journey in different ways. It was a truly remarkable experience with memories that will last a lifetime. The joy of the Cambodian people will stay with us for a very long time. A huge thank you to the team at Challenges Abroad and the Future Sense Foundation for making this happen and sharing our vision."

As part of the Scheme and once again in conjunction with Challenges Abroad and Future Sense Foundation, St Bart's will run two further Sixth Form trips in 2025, visiting Tanzania and a return trip to Cambodia.



View more photos of this trip on our website.

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#### Calendar

Y12/Y13 Vodafone Practice Assessment Day	Wednesday 15 January	All day
Y12 Bath University - Visitor Talk	Thursday 16 January	Hall, 5.30pm
Spanish Immersion trip - parent information evening	Thursday 16 January	WCC, 5.00pm
The Berkshire Schools Cross Country Championships	Saturday 18 January	All day
Ten Tors Sunday Walk 2	Sunday 19 January	Newbury area, 8.30am-2.00pm

Y13 Practice Exams Begin	Monday 20 January	(End 24 January)
KS4 Courses Information Issued to Year 9	Wednesday 22 January	online
Y11 Internal Interviews	Wednesday 22 January	WCC, 1.00 – 3.00pm
Parents' Association Meeting	Wednesday 22 January	WCC, 7.00pm. See below.

View all school events in our online calendar. Click here to go straight there

#### Parents' Association Meeting - Wednesday 22 January



The next Parents' Association meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 January at 7.00pm in the Wormestall Conference Centre. All parents are welcome to join this meeting to discuss future events and the allocation of funds.

Plus, a date for your diary... the PA will be holding its popular annual Fish & Chips Quiz night on Friday 21 March



Commemorative Rose Planting St Bartholomew's School Friday 31st January 2025 ↔ 3.30 - 5.00pm

2024 was marked by the very sad loss of a number of distinguished ex-members of staff, Eric Danvers, Phil Gray, Elizabeth Hopper (née Hughes), John King and John Wright. All gave exceptional service to St Bartholomew's School and are much missed by our alumni and wider school community.

As a mark of our respect and appreciation, our Headteacher, Dr David Fitter, will be hosting a reception after school on Friday 31st January from 3.30pm to 5.00pm. A commemorative planting of a rose in our Heritage Garden will be followed by tea.

We would like to invite members of our community to join us in remembering the service our former colleagues gave to the school. No RSVP required.







ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL LUMINARIES ALUMNI, STAFF, PARENTS AND FRIENDS

UMNI, STAFF, PARENTS AND FRIENDS AD LUCEM - TOWARDS THE LIGHT



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#### **Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities**

St Bart's offers a huge range of co-curricular clubs and activities. From drama to sport, science to textiles, eco club to retro gaming, Dungeons & Dragons to Lego; the list is huge and there is definitely something for everyone. Our updated Clubs and Activities list has just been uploaded to <u>our website</u>.

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#### **CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES**

#### SPOTLIGHT: JAMES COWPER KRESTON APPRENTICESHIPS

James Cowper Kreston's (accountancy, tax and advisory services) three-year School Leaver programme offers the opportunity to combine on-the-job learning with structured, classroom-based training to achieve either the AAT accounting, or ATT tax qualification. Their first assessment day is 11 March and applications close on 31 May. Find out more <u>here</u>.

St Bart's Careers Education Programme is delivered through PSHE lessons, assemblies and a portfolio of careers events. <u>More information on the programme can be found on our website</u>. You will also find <u>Careers Guidance</u> and <u>Further Resources</u> on our website, in addition to information about how parents, carers and local businesses can <u>get involved</u> in our careers events.

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#### **Y10 BUSINESS CHRISTMAS MARKET**

Over the Autumn Term, Year 10 Business Studies students learnt about business plans as part of their GCSE course. Students were challenged to generate a business idea where profits were high and costs low – with all profits going to House charities! The students created a business plan outlining the various aspects of their business, from the idea to the financial viability of their business.

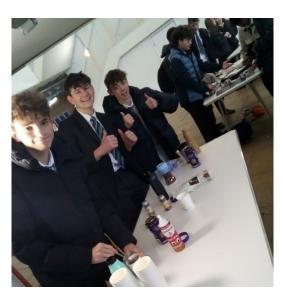
On Thursday 19 December, the students were part of a very festive Christmas market in the hub, where they were able to bring their business ideas to life. The students did an amazing job and there was a total of 12 stalls in the hub! The stalls



ranged from a festive tombola to hot chocolate and lots of treats and goodies in between! They raised an amazing **£273.74**, which will be split amongst the House charities. A massive congratulations to **ALL** students that took part; the effort, teamwork and dedication to this task was amazing! The students who raised the most money were Hala Alharbat, Divyanshi Malik, Aanya Dwivedi and Miraya Srivastava who have won themselves Amazon vouchers – Well done!

'I think the Market Day was really fun to do and it was a great experience to sell to students for charity. We worked really hard for it and we spent weeks planning. The students were really nice and thank you to everyone who bought from us on the Market Day.' - Hala Alharbat

'The Christmas market sale provided an invaluable opportunity for us as Business students to apply our



#### knowledge in a real-world setting. My team and I invested considerable time and effort in our project, and we were all pleased and humbled by our success. At the outset, we did not expect to win or generate a profit, particularly given the calibre of the other business ideas showcased. We are deeply appreciative of the support we received and extend our sincere thanks to everyone who made a purchase from us' - Aanya Dwivedi

'For me the market day was an enriching experience, where students were given a real-life experience, and I learned useful entrepreneurial skills. I was thrilled to see the enthusiasm in the students coming together to help and raise money for the charity. I would like to thank all of my friends, teachers and the school community for giving us this opportunity and I am proud to have contributed to such a meaningful cause' - Divyanshi Malik

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#### **GENERATE – STUDENT ART EXHIBITION**

Don't forget to go and see nine of our talented students exhibited at GENerate 2025 located at The Base, Greenham. Celebrating the imagination and creativity of young local artists, it features Rosie, Eugene, Elliot, Danielle, Alice, Bernadette, Lily, Lily and Tilly. It's ree to attend and will run until 26 January 2025. Opening hours are Tuesday – Sunday, 10am-5pm - for more information, please see the flyer on page 15.



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#### PATTERSON HOUSE FILM NIGHT

On 13 December 2024, the Patterson House Film Night debuted in spectacular style, bringing students together for a web-slinging evening of cinematic fun. The chosen feature? Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse - a multiverse masterpiece that had everyone laughing, gasping, and cheering.

It wasn't just about the movie magic, though. This was Patterson House's first ever film night, designed to raise funds for their house charity, Guide Dogs, whilst creating a fun, inclusive event for all students. The result? A blockbuster hit, with over £350 raised for a fantastic cause.

Of course, no movie night would be complete without the essentials - popcorn, snacks and fizzy drinks were flowing faster than Spidey can spin a web!

A massive thank you to everyone who came along to support the event and made it such a great night. Stay tuned, film buffs - another movie night is coming soon to a school hall near you!

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#### **CANCER CARE HAMPERS**

On Friday 20 December, Curnock Charity House Captain, Gen (13C3), and Mrs Whyatt safely delivered two large hampers of donations to Curnock's House Charity, Newbury

Cancer Care, specifically the Donnington Ward and Rainbow Rooms at West Berkshire Hospital. The Hampers were gratefully received and items were distributed to both staff and patients over the Christmas period.

Thank you for all the donations from Curnock students for these hampers.



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#### **AUTUMN BART'S BEE'S**

The Textile department has started the academic year off with a busy term. Year 7s and 8s have been making their felt monsters and cultural tote bags. We continue to celebrate their success by awarding 'Students of the Term', for each of our classes, with postcards home, certificates and prizes. Students were awarded the Barts Bee for their excellent achievement in lessons, their participation in class discussions and for always being prepared to learn and fully engage in their Textile lessons. These students have gone above and beyond to



produce some excellent written and practical work. Huge congratulations to all the students who completed their products this term.

This terms' 'Bart's Bee Awards', for being 'Student of the Term' in Textiles, have been awarded to:

7S TX1 – Mrs Davies Winner: Anaisha (7D3) Runners Up: Timothy (7C1), Elsie (7C2)



7S TX2 – Mrs Richardson Winner: Scarlett (7D1) Runners Up: Jimmy (7D2), Flo (7C2) and Sophie (7D2).



7T TX1 – Mrs Richardson Winner: Nina (7P3) Runners Up: Kitty (7E1), Honour (7P1), Barney (7E1).



7T TX2 – Miss Brock Winner: Olivia (7E1) Runners up: Isla (7E2), Elliot (7P3), Luke (7P2).



8T TX1 – Mrs Richardson Winner: Alex (8P1) Runners Up: Joe (8P2), Rosie (8E3) and Poppy (8E2).



8S TX2 – Mrs Richardson Winner: Evie (8D2) Runners up: Jacob (8D2), Ava (8C2) Tanishka (8D1).



8T Tx2 – Miss Brock Winner: Imogen (8E2) Runners Up: Lacey (8E3) Millie (8P2), Elliot (8P2).

8S TX1 – Mrs Davies Winner: Jayden Freemantle 8C1 Runners Up: Florence Carline 8D1, Alesha Bino 8C1

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#### **RISKING IT ALL – PARENT PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY**

On Friday 7 February, Year 9 students will attend a performance of 'Risking It All' in the school hall. This performance is part of an innovative programme of educational theatre, focusing on risk-taking behaviour and sponsored by West Berkshire Council, Building Communities Together Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). The interactive performance and workshop touches on many of the issues looked at in PDP lessons, such as exploitation, unhealthy relationships and drugs and alcohol.

As part of the programme, parents/carers are also invited to attend a free showing of this performance at the Arlington Arts Centre on Wednesday 5 February at 7.30pm. This is a great opportunity to learn about and to gain confidence to talk about issues that may affect young people. Professionals will be attending the performance in order to talk to parents about these issues. Tickets can be booked <u>here.</u> Please see the poster on <u>page 16</u>.

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#### **RAISING MONEY FOR MENCAP**

KS4 Extra gives students the opportunity to enrich their learning through a choice of activities. Students pick their KS4 Extra option in the Spring Term of Year 9 and commit to their choice throughout Years 10 and 11. One of those options is Community Action and here Kareena Govindji (10C1) tells us more about what this has involved so far.



On Friday 13 September, we went to West Berkshire's Mencap, for our first session of Community Action. We didn't know what it would be like to help the community since we had never had this experience in KS3. However, I was glad that I had the opportunity to work with Mencap since at the end of our time there, I overcame one of my fears: communicating with other students within my school, even if I had never seen them before.

Throughout September and October, we chatted with Suzie, who is a fundraiser for Mencap, and learned about what she did for Mencap and how she was able to fundraise by hosting a golf event, even though the weather was gloomy. Although I was nervous to do our own event, since I had never really helped the community much, I slowly got more comfortable with the experience and was excited to come to the centre every two weeks. Despite the fact that we took things at a gradual pace, I found that working like this was less stressful for me and I could be elated to help the people within our society who don't get to live the life that we mostly take for granted.

In late November, we discussed plans for a bake sale at our school for the 13 December: our last time with Mencap in Year 10. We went into town and asked for prizes from some businesses. We were delighted to find that the businesses were incredibly charitable and joyfully gave us lots of prizes. We also took raffle tickets home to sell to adults and students who were interested in buying them.

After 4 months of working with Mencap, we hosted a bake sale at which we sold cakes and biscuits, along with any remaining raffle tickets. The students at our school purchased plenty of cakes and raffle tickets and after the bake sale, we revealed the winners of our raffle.

At the end of the day, we had counted up our money and we found out that we had raised an astonishing £287 for Mencap!

In conclusion, we have had an exciting yet challenging time with Mencap. We had also learned that there are people in our society who have learning disabilities and yet not many charities support people with them in the UK, so we are glad that Mencap exists to support those with learning disabilities and their families.

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#### **HOUSE EVENINGS**

As is the tradition at St Bart's, the Spring Term will see the return of House Evenings! These are delightfully entertaining occasions, showcasing students' talents from dance and musical performances to hilarious sketches and teacher cameos, aiming to raise funds for our fabulous House Charities:

Curnock: Newbury Cancer Care Evers: Mencap Davis: Swings and Smiles Patterson: Guide Dogs



On both occasions there will be a raffle. If you would like to donate a prize, maybe you have some unwanted Christmas gifts needing a home, please do bring them into school, either via Reception or the House Offices

If students want to take part, they can sign up their act now, either individually, or with friends, on the sheets posted outside their House Office. Audience tickets are £2.00 each and are available now on ParentPay.

	Rehearsal	House Evening
Davis and Evers	Wednesday 5 February, 3.15-5.15pm in the Hall	Thursday 6 February 6.30pm in the Hall
Curnock and Patterson	Friday 7 February, 3.00pm-5.00pm in the Hall	Tuesday 11 February 6.30pm in the Hall.

#### Year 10 Rugby

After their strong showing against Redlands in the previous round, the Year 10 rugby team made the journey to St John's School, Leatherhead for the last 16 of the National Vase. The boys were undaunted by the impressive venue and large crowd to play their part in a very competitive and close game. St John's put Bart's under pressure early, moving their ball using their strong back five to attack the wider channels. While conceding field position, the boys tightened up defensively in the



red zone with some excellent cover tackles and turnovers at the breakdown, which we held the edge in all game. This defensive hard work paid off after 20 minutes, when St John's made a rare handling error, allowing winger, Ed Hancock, to scoop up the ball and race away from 60m to put Bart's in front. St John's came straight back on the attack, however, through a dangerous kick return from the back three, and eventually the pressure told, with the captain and number 8 battering over from close range to make it 5-5. The boys grew into the game ball in hand, and after some sustained possession from St Bart's, just before half time, St John's then scored again with a well-constructed maul from 20m out to take a deserved lead at the half 10-5.

The boys responded brilliantly after half time and the second half was a back and forth affair. On the back of a dominant scrum, Bart's went on the attack with strong carrying from James, Josh, Antonio and Raul and the St John's defence started to show some glimpses of slowing down. Antonio Valdivia took advantage to use his pace and power to beat three defenders from 50m out and Deacon Cullen slotted the conversion from wide out to put Bart's into a 12-10 lead going into the last 15 minutes. From here, St John's piled the pressure on, but Bart's continued to hold on, particular thanks to Henry Wilson's superb work at the breakdown throughout the game. Sadly, the pressure told and St John's scored two tries in the last 12 minutes to put the game away, with a final score of 20-12. The boys can be very proud of this cup run and the fact that they pushed a very strong St John's team to the limit, and we look forward to seeing this team's continued progression into senior school rugby in the future.

James Dearing Deacon Cullen Josh Burgess Finn Watrus Harry Fenner Jacob Tang Joe Richards Bartosz Opitek Freddie Robertshaw Raul Filimon Henry Wilson James Wheeler Antonio Valdivia Sidney Bloodworth Will Mason

Lucas Bailey Ed Hancock Iggy Duly Freddie Fuller



#### Well done Jack

Congratulations to Jack (12D2) who competed in the Berkshire Cross Country Championships and has qualified to represent Berkshire at the National Competition for Cross Country in March.

#### PE

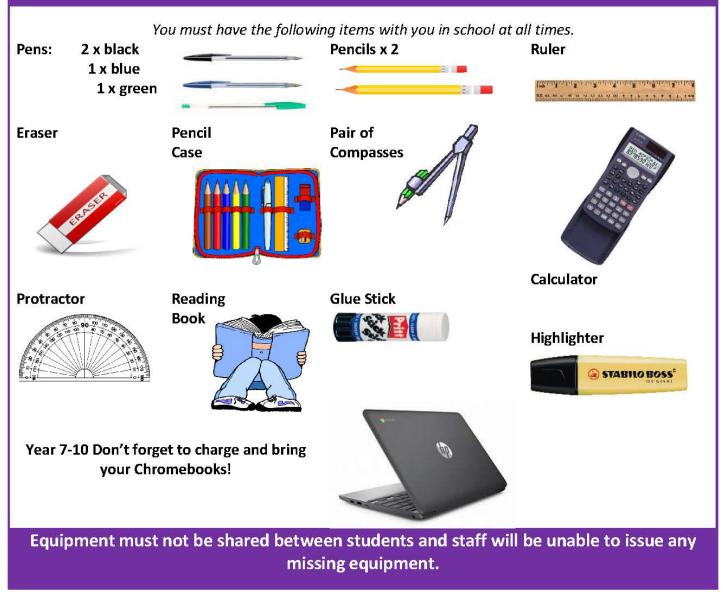


#### New Karate Club at St Barts!

Karate is great exercise and can improve coordination and self-confidence. Come along and have a go! This exciting new club runs on a Thursday 3.20 – 4.20pm in the Gym with an external instructor. See Mrs Leach or <u>page 12</u> for further details.

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#### **STUDENT EQUIPMENT LIST**







## ST BART'S KARATE CLUB

Karate is great exercise and can improve coordination and self confidence. Come along and have a go!

This exciting new club runs on a Thursday 3.20 – 4.20pm in the Gym with an external instructor.

See Mrs Leach in PE for further details.

## DAVIS & EVERS HOUSE EVENING

### THURSDAY 6 FEB | 6.30PM

MAIN HALL

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON PARENT PAY RAFFLE AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SWINGS & SMILES, AND MENCAP

# CURNOCK PATTERSON HOUSE EVENING

### TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2025 6:30PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE VIA PARENTPAY

RAFFLE AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS HOUSE CHARITIES

GUIDE DOGS

NEWBURY CANCER CARE

# GENERATE

10 – 26 JANUARY

### OPEN TUE - SUN, 10am - 5pm STUDENT ART EXHIBITION

ADMISSION FREE Suggested donation at the door

THE BASE

COMMUNICATIONS ROAD GREENHAM BUSINESS PARK THATCHAM, RG19 6HN



The Base is a registered charity (1199188)



#### Wednesday 5 Feb 7:30pm

Arlington Arts Centre, Mary Hare Newbury, Berkshire RG14 3BQ

Risking It All, a powerful theatre production based on real-life accounts of young people affected by grooming and criminal exploitation.

Created for schools and supported by West Berkshire Council, this public showcase invites parents and the general public to witness and engage with the realities teenagers face. Through immersive storytelling and facilitated discussion, Risking It All helps audiences spot the signs of exploitation

https://arlingtonarts.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows

