

Parent Carer Bulletin

Autumn Term Dates

Non-pupil days, 1 & 2 September

Autumn Term Starts, 3 September

Half Term, 27-31 October

Non-pupil Day, 21 November

Christmas Break, 22 December – 2 January 2026

Non-pupil Day, 5 January 2026

Events this September & October

Saturday 20 & Sunday 21

September, Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Thursday 25 September, Post-16 Evening, 5-7pm

Sunday 28 September, Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Lavenham, 10:30am-12pm

Tuesday 30 September, Year 11 Geography trip to Walton on the Naze, 8:30am- 3pm

Tuesday 30 September, Year 11 Geography trip to Walton on the Naze, 8:30am- 3pm

Wednesday 1 October, GCSE Art trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge, 8:30am-3pm

Wednesday 1 October, Year 8 Smashed Workshop

Thursday 2 October, ***school day ends at the earlier time of 2pm***

Thursday 2 October, Year 6 Open Evening, 6-8pm

Friday 3 October, Years 7-11 Flu vaccinations (1st session), 9am-2pm

Tuesday 7 October, Guided Tours, 9:15am and 2:15pm

Wednesday 8 October, Guided Tours, 9:15am and 2:15pm

Wednesday 8 October, GCSE Art Gainsborough Etching Workshop, 8:50am-1:15pm

Thursday 9 October, Guided Tours, 9:15am and 2:15pm

Friday 10 October, Years 7-11 Flu vaccinations (2nd session), 9am-2pm

Thursday 23 October, GCSE History residential visit to the Netherlands

Thursday 23 - 25 October, GCSE Drama Quay Theatre trip, 7:30-10:30pm

Friday 24 October, final full school day before Half Term

Dates for your diary week commencing 22 September:

- **Thursday 25 September - Post-16 Evening, 5-7pm**
- **Sunday 28 September - Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Lavenham, 10:30am-12pm**

Jeans for Genes

Thank you to the school community for your support with our first non-uniform day of this academic year. We have raised a total of £390.75 for this charity so far! *We really appreciate your generosity.*

GCSE Art Trip to The Fitzwilliam Museum - 1 October

This trip is available to Year 10 and 11 GCSE Art and Year 11 GCSE Photography students. The option to make payment is live on ParentPay, please note that Mrs Mayes requires completed consent slips as soon as possible.

GCSE Art Gainsborough House Artist Workshop - 8 October

Workshops will take place during lessons for Year 10 and 11 GCSE Art students.

Year 10 GCSE Art students: periods 1 and 2

Year 11 GCSE Art students: periods 3 and 4

Art Club

We are pleased to confirm that Art club is running weekly on Friday lunchtimes in G7, and weekly on Thursday afterschool (*please note, the afterschool club is cancelled on 2 October due to Open Evening*).

VIVE Canteen Reminder

Please may we kindly remind parents and carers to ensure their child(ren)'s lunch accounts are at sufficient funds, thank you for your support in this matter.

Open Evening & Guided Tours



STOUR VALLEY

COMMUNITY SCHOOL



SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2nd October 2025 | 6-8pm

"Central to our vision is the belief in the uniqueness of every student, and that every young person has gifts to discover and share with others."

Rachel Kelly, Headteacher

SCHOOL OPEN EVENING & GUIDED TOURS

SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

An opportunity to meet the staff and to see our fantastic facilities.

Presentations by Mrs Rachel Kelly, the Headteacher at 6.15pm & 7.00pm in the Main Hall.

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2nd October 2025
6.00 - 8.00pm

GUIDED TOURS

Please join us on one of our guided tours and see the school in action.

Please call the school office (01787 279324) to book onto a guided tour.

GUIDED TOURS

7th, 8th and 9th October 2025
9.15am and 2.15pm

For further information please call **01787 279342** or email info@stourvalley.org
Or visit www.stourvalleycommunityschool.org.

Be Kind


Be Brave



Be Ambitious


Collaborate


Stour Valley Educational Trust



Post-16 & Careers Evening



Stour Valley Community School

Post-16 and Careers Evening

25th September 2025 5-7pm

Welcome and information at 5pm – Assistant Headteacher Nathan Sims
Followed by:

Representatives from the following establishments will have stalls for you to visit and ask questions until 7pm:

G1 – Eastern Education Group: West Suffolk College and Abbeygate Sixth Form

G2, G3 and G10 – Careers in STEM representatives (Siemens, Institute of Engineering and more!)

Heartspace - Thomas Gainsborough School
Heartspace - St Benedict's Sixth Form
Heartspace – Samuel Ward Sixth Form
Heartspace – WS Training
Heartspace – Stoke College

Library - Suffolk Constabulary
Library – NHS
Library – Army
Library – Department for Work and Pensions

Prospectuses from other establishments not able to attend will also be available.

Please do your best to attend any part of this evening and make the most of the opportunity to speak to all representatives. You never know what you might find out!

Fundraising Event - Custard Comedy Nights

This term we are delighted to announce that Custard Comedy Nights will be coming to Clare, using the school hall as a venue to bring some big names to Suffolk's smallest town. This promises a brilliant night out on your doorstep - with three quality acts that you would usually expect to travel to see!

Custard Comedy is a very experienced comedy promotions team holding events all over the UK - with many in Cambridgeshire and surrounding counties in particular. We work with a number of incredible comics and have seen many use this grassroots network to help break their careers.

On 11 October we are thrilled to have the very funny writer, comedian and broadcaster, Bob Mills as our headliner as well as opening sets from Jules O'Brian and David Luck.

There will also be a fully stocked bar and a pizza food truck! Tickets are on sale now from: [Custard Comedy in Clare Tickets, Sat, Oct 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Please do come and support our comedy nights which will be raising money for the school. Tables and group bookings are available.



A promotional poster for Ipswich School's Sixth Form Open Evening. The poster features a black background with a faint, large crest in the background. At the top, the school's crest and name 'IPSWICH SCHOOL' are displayed. Below this, the title 'Sixth Form Open Evening' is written in a large, serif font, with 'Open Evening' in a gold color. In the center, four students (three boys and one girl) are standing and smiling. They are dressed in formal attire: the boys in dark blazers over light-colored shirts, and the girl in a dark blazer over a white shirt. Below the students, the text 'Meet our *expert* teachers, explore the subjects you *love*, and discover how this could be the *perfect* next step!' is written in a serif font, with the words 'expert', 'love', and 'perfect' in gold. Below this text, the date 'Tuesday 23rd September' is written in a serif font, with a small gold crest icon to the left. At the bottom left, the text 'Book your place [here](#)' is written in a serif font, with 'here' in gold. At the bottom right, there are three small social media icons: Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Important Notices

- **SVCS Uniform Donations**
We would be very grateful to receive any surplus or outgrown SVCS uniform that you would be happy to donate to the school. Donated items will be added to our Nearly New Stand in order to supply second hand uniform to students where needed.
- *As a polite reminder, students are not allowed to use their mobile phones during the school day. If they are feeling unwell or need to contact home, they must visit reception. Likewise, if you could please contact reception if you have any messages you would like to be passed on.*
- *Your child's form tutor should be your first point of contact for any concerns or issues. They will be able to deal with your enquiry or will pass it on to the most appropriate member of staff who may contact you. If the matter is directly related to a specific subject, the subject teacher or head of department is the best contact. All staff email addresses are on the website (a link here): [Staff Contacts - Stour Valley Community School](#)*

If you call the school, you will appreciate that staff also have teaching commitments which means they may not always be available to take your call immediately. Also, please do not turn up at the school expecting to see a member of staff without a prior appointment.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Important Letters and Information

- [Years 7-10 Uniform Changes 2025 1.pdf](#) - *Years 7-10 Uniform changes letter*
- [Vive Price List - SEPTEMBER 2025.pdf](#) - *Vive Canteen Price Guide*
- studentabsence@stourvalley.org - *Stour Valley Community School Attendance reporting email address*
- safe@stourvalley.org - *Stour Valley Community School Safeguarding email address*

Stour Valley Community School

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