

Worried? Need to talk?

*We are here
to help you*

Who can help?



Mr Walden
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Pastoral Care &
Safeguarding Lead
dwalden@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mr Clancy
Assistant Headteacher
Attendance
mclancy@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mrs Fletcher
PA to Safeguarding
wfletcher@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mr Cunningham
Pastoral Leader Year 8
ncunningham@avonvalleyschool.uk



Miss Partridge
Pastoral Leader Year 9
dpartridge@avonvalleyschool.uk



Miss Hicks
Pastoral Leader Year 10
lhicks@avonvalleyschool.uk



Ms Masters
Pastoral Leader Year 11
smasters@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mrs Bishop
Acting Pastoral Leader
ebishop@avonvalleyschool.uk



THE AVON VALLEY SCHOOL
AND PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE



A STUDENT GUIDE



Personal information

Name:

Tutor:

Head Of Year:

Pastoral Leader:

House:

My Notes:

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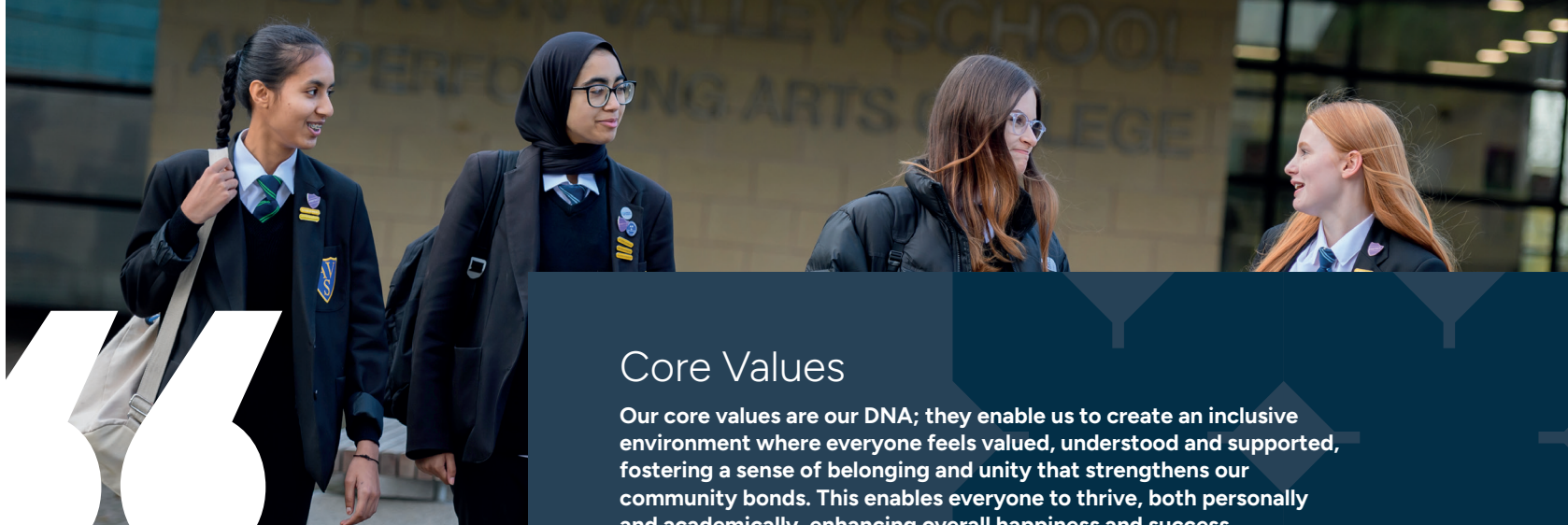
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Who Can Help

Vision

To inspire, advance aspirations, and cultivate a school community of limitless potential.



Mission

At The Avon Valley School and Performing Arts College, we aim to create an inclusive learning environment where everyone feels valued and supported. We believe in respect, being relentlessly ambitious, and looking out for each other. Our goal is to inspire each individual to chase their dreams and make a difference in the world around them. Through our belief in the limitless potential of every individual, we strive to inspire and equip everyone in our community to thrive and excel.

Core Values

Our core values are our DNA; they enable us to create an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued, understood and supported, fostering a sense of belonging and unity that strengthens our community bonds. This enables everyone to thrive, both personally and academically, enhancing overall happiness and success.

Ambition

We inspire and challenge each person to strive for excellence, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and perseverance. This empowers everyone to push through their boundaries to unlock their full potential, and achieve remarkable things beyond what they thought possible.

Respect

We celebrate the diversity of our community and treat every individual with kindness, dignity, and consideration. By acknowledging the unique backgrounds and perspectives of each person, we create an environment where mutual understanding and acceptance flourish, fostering a culture of trust, inclusivity and unity.

Care

We cultivate an environment where compassion and empathy are paramount, nurturing the holistic well-being of every member of our community. By prioritising the emotional and physical welfare of individuals, we demonstrate a commitment to their overall health and happiness, fostering a supportive community where individuals feel valued, heard, and supported through life's challenges.

These core values underpin everything we do at The Avon Valley School, guiding us in our pursuit of excellence. Through teamwork, creativity, and unwavering support, we empower our students to embrace opportunities, overcome obstacles, and experience the joy of learning together.



The Avon Valley Way

'Our core values are our DNA'

The Avon Valley Way is simple

It is the key behaviours and attitudes that we want you to develop during your time at our school:

- **Doing your best**
- **Being proud of yourselves and our school**
- **Behaving well and being honest**
- **Showing respects and caring for each other**
- **Getting involved**

What does living our values look like for students?

We will expect you to display our values and qualities at all times. Our commitment to them will be used as a measure of our success on a day to day basis. We will challenge and support everyone to meet them; because displaying these values and qualities consistently will help you to advance your aspirations and realise your full potential.

Ambition

- We expect you to work hard and always do your best
- We expect you to be ready to learn by having the correct equipment
- We expect you to strive for excellence in everything you do

Care

- We expect you to be proud of yourself and our school
- We expect you to be dressed smartly wearing the correct uniform
- We expect you to treat the school building and surroundings with care

You are responsible for your own actions. No one else.

Respect

- We expect you to behave in a safe, respectful and responsible way at all times
- We expect you to be kind and respectful to everyone at all times
- We expect you to be on time for school and your lessons

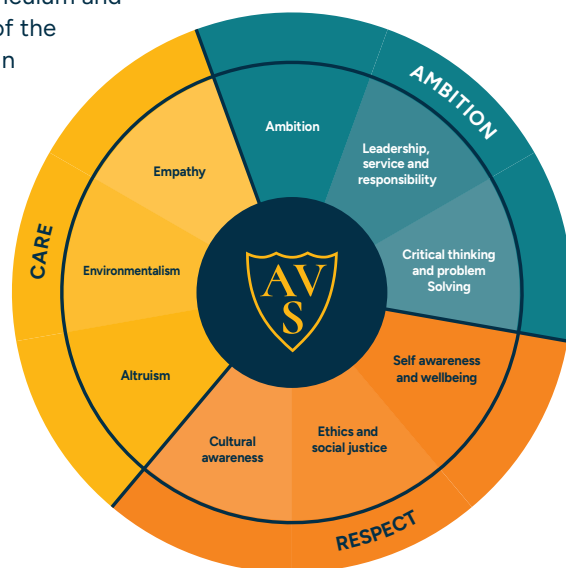
At times there will be difficulties and barriers to overcome; that is what we are here for.

If you commit to being the best that you can be, then we will ensure that you are provided with the guidance and support that you need to develop, flourish and succeed.

Our principles

The principles underpin our curriculum and are embedded across all areas of the school. They can be found within your lessons, across the PSHE curriculum, throughout your tutoring programme, and within all of your extra-curricular activities.

Ultimately, these principles are contained within everything that we all do.



'When we work together, support each other and listen to each other our potential is limitless'



ARC classroom routines

To inspire, advance aspirations and cultivate a school community of limitless potential

Ambition

- Be prepared to learn
- Write the date, title and complete the smart connect
- Produce neat, high quality work

Respect

- Be punctual to lessons
- Sit according to the seating plan
- Be respectful and contribute positively

Care

- Be helpful, kind and caring
- Ensure uniform is perfect and collect your house points
- Dismiss row by row and move around school sensibly



Positive behaviours

It is the school policy to recognise, acknowledge and reward positive behaviour and academic achievement that is in line with The Avon Valley Way. Achievement points are awarded via Class Charts and can lead to:

- Bronze Award (100 positive points)
- Silver Award (250 positive points)
- Gold Award (500 positive points)
- Platinum Award (750 positive points)
- Diamond Award (1000 positive points)

ARC Awards

*Ambition
Respect
Care*



The ARC Award is presented to those students who have fully committed themselves to the ethos of our school throughout each year, and who have actively participated in all the opportunities they have been presented with.

Year 7 ARC Awards

500 positive points (**Gold Award**), top attendance, positive ambition and effort

Positive participation in:

- House competitions
- Splash days
- Extra curricular
- School charity events
- Evening/external events

Year specific achievements:

- Eco litter picking programme
- Careers events

Year 8 ARC Awards

500 positive points (**Gold Award**), top attendance, positive ambition and effort

Positive participation in:

- House competitions
- Splash days
- Extra curricular
- School charity events
- Evening/external events

Year specific achievements:

- PiXL Edge
- Careers events
- Duty student

Year 9 ARC Awards

500 positive points (**Gold Award**), top attendance, positive ambition and effort

Positive participation in:

- House competitions
- Splash days
- Extra curricular
- School charity events
- Evening/external events

Year specific achievements:

- Careers events

Year 10 ARC Awards

500 positive points (**Gold Award**), top attendance, positive ambition and effort

Positive participation in:

- House competitions
- Splash days
- Extra curricular
- School charity events
- Evening/external events

Year specific achievements:

- Careers experience preparation
- Positive conduct in examinations
- Work experience

Year 11 ARC Awards

Year 7 Year 8 Year 9 Year 10 ARC Awards achieved

Positive participation in:

- House competitions
- Splash days
- School charity events

- Evening/external event
- Pre-public exams
- GCSEs

Negative behaviours

We have high expectations of students and their behaviour. The Avon Valley Way sets these out clearly for all students. We want you to be the best you can be and display this in the way you behave. Occasionally, students may fall short of our expectations. If this happens then clear sanctions will be used to challenge unacceptable behaviour.

We will communicate our expectations regularly to remind you of The Avon Valley Way. Our graduated response to challenging unacceptable behaviour can be seen over the next two pages.

Negative action

- Persistent defiance
- Refusal to handover mobile phone
- Refusal to remove piercing
- Swearing at a member of staff
- Multiple truancy
- Physical intimidation of staff
- Theft
- Physical violence
- Inappropriate sexual behaviour
- Bullying of another student
- Racist / Homophobic / Transphobic abuse
- Smoking / Vaping / Drugs / Alcohol on site

- Persistent refusal to work
- Persistent interruption of classroom teacher or another member of the class
- Persistent talking and interruption
- Refusal to comply with seating plan
- Verbal insults towards other members of the school community
- Truancy from lesson

- Poor language
- Late for the start of the lesson
- Poor uniform
- Lack of equipment
- Interrupting class teacher or another student
- Use of mobile phone in lesson (if seen phone will be confiscated)

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Negative outcome

- Faculty intervention
- Possible use of on-call
- Phone call / email home by classroom teacher / Head of Year / Pastoral Leader
- Possible SLT detention
- Removal of privileges
- Internal Isolation (IIU) / Removal room
- Fixed term suspension
- Issues raised with Deputy Headteacher / Assistant Headteacher
- Restorative practices will be used in response to all negative behaviours
- Off-site direction / Use of alternative providers
- Permanent exclusion

2

- Verbal warning with a positive target followed by phone call / email home (by classroom teacher)
- Log behaviour onto Class Charts
- Faculty detention may be required
- Faculty / AL Report Cards
- Removal of privileges
- Form Tutor / Head of Year / Pastoral Leader / Faculty Leader informed
- Restorative practices will be used in response to all negative behaviours in conjunction with SWL

1

- Verbal warning with a positive target
- Phone call / email home (by classroom teacher)
- Log behaviour onto Class Charts
- Informal break time / lunchtime detention
- Tutor / subject report
- Form Tutor / Head of Year / Pastoral Leader / Faculty Leader informed
- Restorative practices will be used in response to all negative behaviours in conjunction with SWL

Around school expectations



Movement around school

You are expected to move around the school in a quiet and purposeful manner. This means that you should walk in a calm, dignified, and respectful way. No student should be running, pushing, shouting or acting in a boisterous manner. Some staircases are only one way, please follow the signage.

Mobile devices

Mobile devices and headphones are not allowed inside or outside whilst on the school site. If seen, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. If this becomes a regular occurrence, individual plans may be put into place to support you in making the right choice.

Assemblies

Students need to walk to assembly in silence and in alphabetical order. Uniforms will be checked before entering the theatre.

Fire alarms

In the event of a fire alarm, students must head to the meeting point on the playground, where they will queue up in alphabetical order with their tutor group. Students should remain silent and move in an orderly manner at all times to ensure everyone is safe and messages can be communicated by staff during an emergency.

Lockdown

In the event of a lockdown (code red), students need to remain in the classroom. Students should follow the directions of their teacher and try to conceal themselves from view by moving away from doors and windows. Students need to wait in silence until they hear the code green signal. If a lockdown occurs during social times, or during a change of lesson, they need to go to the nearest classroom with a teacher. If outside, students need to follow directions from duty staff, move to the school field, and make their way to Riverside Academy.

Social areas

The Avon Valley Way expectations extend to every area of our school, including the canteen and canopy areas.

You must:

- Behave in an appropriate manner and follow staff instructions
- Queue in an orderly manner and show respect to others in the queue
- Sit at a table to eat or take your food outside before eating your food
- Place your bags and coats so that they do not create a tripping hazard
- Leave the tables and floor clear at the end of your meal, putting your rubbish in the bin

You must not:

- Use your phone or headphones anywhere on the school site
- Wear outdoor coats or hoodies inside the building during lesson changeover P1-2 and 3-4

Students can pre-order lunch from the canteen from 8.20. Pre-orders can be collected from the Theatre at lunchtime.



Google Classroom

Here at Avon Valley we use Google Classroom to set homework and assignments to help you with your learning. It may also be used to set work and stream live lessons when there are school closures. Google Classroom is part of the G-Suite range of applications that the school uses from Google.

These include:

- **Classroom**
- **Docs (Google version of Word)**
- **Sheets (Google version of Excel)**
- **Slides (Google version of Powerpoint)**
- **G-Mail**

All of these are free to use and are available across PC, Tablet and Mobile Phones (IOS and Android).

When requested, your parents will receive daily or weekly updates via email on work that is set on Google Classroom. When you join the school you will be given your login details and you will be shown how to use the Google platform.

Class Charts

Class Charts allows you to keep track of your achievements, behaviour, scheduled detentions, view your timetable, check your attendance, create wellbeing submissions and view announcements from the school.

Class Charts for students can be accessed via our website, or by our iOS and Android apps.

You will be given your individual Class Charts code by your tutor when you join the school. If you forget your login details, speak to your tutor who can reset them for you.

You can access the student website and links to the student apps at:
<https://www.classcharts.com/student/login>

Uniform

'Without question, we expect all of our students to adhere to our uniform policy all of the time'



Hair

Hair should be of a suitable, neat style. It should not be excessive and should have a natural colour/tone. Extreme hairstyles or colours, as decided by the school, will not be acceptable in any circumstance.

This will include hair that has had patterns or lines shaved into it and hair cuts of an excessively short nature (such as those where the whole head has been shaved).

Hoodies

Hoodies are not part of our school uniform and must not be worn in the school building.

Students found to be wearing hoodies in the school building will have them confiscated.

Jewellery, nails and makeup

- One pair of earrings are permitted in the lower ear lobe. Small plain studs only
- No other piercings of any kind are permitted including eyebrow, nose, tongue and lip
- No other jewellery of any kind may be worn in our school
- No nail varnish or false / acrylic nails may be worn in our school
- No false eyelashes
- Minimal facial make-up is permitted provided it is subtle and discreet

Wearing our school uniform gives you a sense of belonging and pride. Wearing our uniform also helps everyone to feel part of our community by reducing inequality. In school, or out of school, when you wear our uniform you are an ambassador of the school in the local community. How you behave and communicate with others reflects on you and our school.

Compulsory uniform items for all students

Blazer

AVS logo on a black blazer

Shirt

White standard school shirt

Trousers

Black school trousers. Denim, cords, leggings and tight fitting trousers are not allowed.



Tie

AVS clip on tie with House colours

Footwear

Non-branded, plain black (leather or leather appearance). Canvas trainers, pumps or boots are not allowed.

Socks

Plain black

Other branded completely optional items are available for all students regardless of gender from the school uniform provider (Webb Ellis) website.

School equipment

All items of equipment should be kept in a clear pencil case or your school bag

- Pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser

- Sharpener
- Calculator
- Colouring pencils / felt tips

- Protractor
- Compass
- Highlighter pen
- Reading book

Support at AVS

Student services

Student Services is open to students from 8.30 to 15.30.

Students can be seen for any first aid or medical issues, request copies of their timetables and borrow spare uniform. Confiscated items such as mobile phones and headphones can be collected from here at the end of each school day.

Inclusion

Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENCO), Mrs Bearpark, leads the Inclusion Team which is based in The Hub (English Corridor) and The Hive (outside near to the school field). The team are committed to providing an inclusive education, supporting you to access the curriculum and participate fully in the life of the school. They are a dedicated team who will always offer you a warm and professional welcome.

The Bridge

Mrs Ogden leads the support in The Bridge. This is a dedicated setting that helps students who might find certain aspects of school challenging.



Wellbeing

Here at Avon Valley, we pride ourselves on giving you the best possible pastoral care as we know that with support in place you will be more able to succeed. Our Head of Pastoral Care, Mr Walden and the Head of Inclusion and Attendance (Mr Clancy), lead our supportive Avon Valley Pastoral team. We are all here to help you if you are worried and need to talk. No issue is too small or too big and we will always make time to listen. There are lots of ways that you can access support:

- Offices – Mr Walden, Mr Clancy and the Year Group offices are all based on the lower floor, come and see us before and after school or during break and lunch time. Mrs Bearpark is based in The Hub on the English corridor
- Online – you can use our dedicated QR code at the bottom of this page to report concerns about Bullying or Sexual Harassment or Sexual Abuse



Senior Leadership Team



Mr B Francis
Headteacher



Mr D Pearson
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum
Teaching Subject – MFL



Mr D Walden
Deputy Headteacher
Pastoral, Safeguarding
Teaching Subject – Geography



Mr M Clancy
Assistant Headteacher
Inclusion, Attendance, Designated Teacher CLA
Teaching Subject – Health and Social Care / PE



Mrs K Collins
Assistant Headteacher
Teaching and Learning, Initial Teacher Training,
Newly Qualified Teachers
Teaching Subject – Geography



Mr L Hawkins
Assistant Headteacher
Personal Development, Pupil Premium, Exams
Teaching Subject – Computer Science



Mrs T Thomas
School Business Manager
Finance, Estates

'Our SLT team is dedicated to supporting and guiding every member of our school community'

Pastoral Team



Mr Walden
Deputy Headteacher
Head of Pastoral Care and
Safeguarding Lead
dwalden@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mr Clancy
Assistant Headteacher
Attendance
mclancy@avonvalleyschool.uk



Mrs Bishop
Home/School Link Worker



Mr Bonser
Pastoral Mentor



Mrs Fletcher
PA to Safeguarding



Miss McSweeney
Attendance Officer



Mrs Ogden
The Bridge Coordinator



Mrs Bearpark
SENCO

Heads of Year



Head of Year 7
Mr Phelan
dphelan@avonvalleyschool.uk



Head of Year 8
Mr Duke
aduke@avonvalleyschool.uk



Head of Year 9
Mrs Owen
lowen@avonvalleyschool.uk



Head of Year 10
Ms Labreize
clabreize@avonvalleyschool.uk



Head of Year 11
Mr Hartfield
chartfield@avonvalleyschool.uk



Acting Pastoral Leader Year 7
Mrs Bishop
ebishop@avonvalleyschool.uk



Pastoral Leader Year 8
Mr Cunningham
ncunningham@avonvalleyschool.uk



Pastoral Leader Year 9
Miss Partridge
dpartridge@avonvalleyschool.uk



Pastoral Leader Year 10
Miss Hicks
lhicks@avonvalleyschool.uk



Pastoral Leader Year 11
Ms Masters
smasters@avonvalleyschool.uk

Attendance and punctuality

'80% of success is showing up...on time'



Good attendance and punctuality to school is vital if you are to succeed and reach your full potential. Every day that you are late impacts on your learning time in school. We will monitor your attendance and punctuality very closely to ensure that you arrive to school on time, ready to learn. Arriving to lessons on time is equally as important. Detentions are set for students who are late to their lesson with no valid reason.

We expect you to be in school each day by 8.40 so that your tutor can take the register promptly at 8.45. If you arrive in your tutor base after 8.45, you will be marked as late (L) to school. You will then be issued with a same day break time detention (15 minutes). If you fail to attend the break time detention you will be placed in internal removal for the afternoon (lunchtime and P5, followed by a 30 minute detention after school).

If you are unwell at school you need to inform a member of staff. We will then arrange for you to be assessed by a first aid officer who will decide on the appropriate action.

If you arrive late to school during tutor time, you must head straight to your tutor base.

If you arrive late to school after tutor time has finished, you must sign in at the attendance office.

If you need to leave school for any reason, such as for a medical appointment, you must get a slip signed from your

tutor or your house leaders and sign out at the attendance office.

Missing lessons or days at school can have a big impact on your ability to achieve well at school. Poor attendance is linked to a lower chance of high achievement in your GCSEs. The table below outlines the impact poor attendance can have:

Minutes late per day	Days lost
5	3.5
10	10.5
15	14
20	7
30	21

% Attendance	Days lost
100	0
95	10
90	20
85	30
80	40

Category	Attendance figure	Weeks per year	Days per year	Chance of getting 5 x grade 5-9 GCSEs
100% attendance	100%	0	0	95%
Excellent attendance	98% - 99%	3 days missed	3 days missed	95%
Risk of underachieving	97% - 97.99% 95% - 96.99%	1 week missed 1.5 weeks missed	5 days missed 7.5 days missed	74%
Serious risk of underachieving	93% - 94.99%	2.5 weeks missed	12.5 days missed	60%
Severe risk of underachieving	90% - 92.99%	3 weeks missed	15 days missed	35%
Extreme risk of underachieving	89.99% and below	3.5 + weeks missed	17.5 days missed	27%

Although we want every student to achieve 100% attendance, we understand that there are times when you may be unable to come to school (e.g. due to illness). If this happens it is vital that your parents or carers let the school know by either telephoning the school, emailing absences@avonvalleyschool.uk or reporting your absence on the ClassCharts app.

If at any time you feel that you need support with your attendance or punctuality then you must talk to us. Your teachers, tutor, Heads of Year and Pastoral Leaders are here to support you throughout your time in school.

Good attendance is celebrated at Avon Valley through a variety of rewards for form and year groups as well as individual rewards throughout the year.

Trips, visits and activities

'Exploring all that the world has to offer'



'We are committed to giving students life-changing opportunities to experience new cultures and adventures at home and abroad'

Whilst you are at Avon Valley we offer all students the opportunity to take part in a wide range of trips and visits. We want to give you the chance to engage with other cultures, the arts, sport, politics, stem events, careers event and several residential trips both within England and abroad.

Though the trips offered do vary each year, the following residential trips have been popular in recent years and are expected to continue to run in the future:

- Year 7/8 Paris trip
- Year 7/8 PGL adventure
- KS3 PSV Eindhoven football trip
- KS4 Science trip to Wales
- KS4 French Language trip for GCSE French students
- KS4 German trip to Cologne
- Outdoor adventure trip to the Ardeche



Payments

We use a 'cashless' system at Avon Valley, so when your parents or carers need to pay for food at breakfast, break or lunchtime, or for trips, visits or non-uniform days, they can do this by using the Iris Plus Pay.

Your parents will receive information about how to access the Iris Plus Pay online or they can download the app from their app store (Android or iPhone).

When you join the school you will set up a digital fingerprint that you can use to pay for food and drinks in the canteen and canopy.

Times of the school day

School is open to students from 8.20 each day. Breakfast is available to purchase in the canteen from this time. Extra-curricular activities and detentions run after school, starting from 15.10.



Students on site	8.20 – 8.40	School open and students on site to holding areas
Tutor time	8.45 – 9.15	All students on site by 8.45
Period 1	9.15 – 10.15	
Period 2	10.15 – 11.15	
Break Time	11.15 – 11.35	Y7 and Y8 Canteen Y9, Y10, Y11 Canopy
Period 3	11.35 – 12.35	
Period 4	12.35 – 13.35	
Lunch Time	13.35 – 14.10	Y7 and Y8 Canteen Y9, Y10, Y11 Canopy
Period 5	14.10 – 15.10	

Break and lunch time locations

- Year 7 – Canteen
- Year 8 – Canteen
- Year 9 – Canopy
- Year 10 – Canopy
- Year 11 – Canopy

Tutor time activities

Our comprehensive Tutor Programme is founded on our AVS Principles. These are the key behaviours and attitudes that we aim to develop in you during your time at The Avon Valley School. Our Tutor Programme is based on a weekly schedule of 5 set activities and compliments the taught curriculum to help you develop into good, all-round citizens.

Guided reading time

10 minutes reading in tutor time for all students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10

Assembly Topical based assembly following the schools 'Theme of The Week' itinerary	Current Affairs The latest news and information from around the world is shared and discussed with students	English/Maths Year based English and Maths work is tailored to support the curriculum. See next page for more information	Getting Involved A year based programme to encourage our students to work on their personal development through programmes such as PiXL Edge and the AVS Cultural Capital	TOTW Our Theme of the Week programme runs throughout the year, inline with the schools' wellbeing calendar and links local, national and international issues to the tutor and PSHE programme
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Student Leadership

The aims of the Student Leadership Programme (SLP) at The Avon Valley School is to provide you with a variety of opportunities to develop your personal skills, whilst developing your leadership credentials both inside and outside the classroom.

When you are involved in the Student Leadership Programme, you will be able to develop your:

- Leadership skills (leading on projects)
- Communication skills (leading assemblies, tours of the school and presentations within tutor time)
- Organisation skills (organising projects, charity work and in school events)
- Social skills (meeting new people)

Leadership responsibilities include:

- Year 11 Senior Prefects and ARC champions
- Year 10 Faculty Prefects
- Year 9 PiXL Edge Leaders
- Year 8 Transition Buddies
- Year 7 Open Evening Representatives
- School Council Members, Wellbeing Leaders, and Eco-Committee Leaders (Years 7-9)

Wellbeing Council

Our AVS Wellbeing Council is at the heart of our student voice. Students from across years 7 to 11 form part of our Wellbeing Council and it's four sub-groups:

- Anti-Bullying
- Anti-Racism
- LGBT+
- Eco

The Wellbeing Calendar is linked to everything we do including our comprehensive tutor and PSHE programmes.

September
The Avon Valley Way

October
Black History Month

November
Anti-Bullying

December
The Gift of Giving

January
New Year, No Need for a New You

February
This is Me

March
International Women's Day

April
Sustainability

May
Mental Health Awareness

June
Pride Month

July
Active Citizen

Curriculum

'Our curriculum includes everything you will study whilst you are at Avon Valley'



Year 7-9 (Key Stage 3)

You will study a wide range of subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Art
- Performing Arts
- Computing
- Humanities
- Technology
- Modern Foreign Languages
- PE

As we are a performing arts school you will also have lessons in the following subjects:

- Dance
- Drama
- Music

Year 10-11 (Key Stage 4)

You will start your Level 2 options choices as well as continuing to study the core subjects of mathematics, English, science, physical education and PSHE/RE.

Qualifications offered

- English Language
- English Literature
- Mathematics
- Combined Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Art
- Computer Science
- Creative iMedia
- Dance
- Design Technology
- Drama
- Enterprise and Marketing
- Geography
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Hospitality and Catering
- Media Studies
- MFL: French
- MFL: German
- MFL: Spanish
- Music (Technology)
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Sports Studies
- Textiles