

Friday 17th October 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are well. We have had another busy and exciting time in school this week.



Friends of Connor Downs Academy Camel Trail Staff Sponsored Walk/Ride

Last Saturday, a brave group of Connor Downs Academy staff completed the huge challenge of cycling and walking the whole of the Camel Trail in both directions, a total of 36 miles!

It was a truly sterling effort from every member of staff taking part. These funds will be used to enhance our reading provision in school, by purchasing resources to help to create inviting and comfortable book corners within all classrooms to help nurture a love of reading.

The GoFundMe Page is now sitting at an incredible **£1,035**, so a huge thank you must go to all the parents/carers and community that have sponsored so far. If you would still like to support this important cause, please dig deep and use the link below to donate.

[Connor Downs Go Fund Me Page](#)



THANK YOU!

T: 01736 753135

E: hello@connordowns.org.uk

W: www.connordowns.org.uk

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Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD

Harvest Assembly – Thank you!



bringing in the harvest.

This week in school we held our Harvest Assembly. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the families who donated food items towards our collection that will be given to the Connor Downs Food Cupboard. We are delighted that our 'Connor Downs family' has come together to support each other and the wider community and to give thanks to our farmers for



Tempest Photos

Reminder: Tempest will be coming into school **next Wednesday, 22nd October**, to take individual and sibling photos. If you would like a sibling photo with siblings not attending Connor Downs Academy, **please arrive at the school office at 8:10am** to sign in. The photographer will be ready to take photos from 08:15am. You will be given a number and photos will be taken first to enable parents/carers to get younger/older siblings to nursery/school. Children with siblings within Connor Downs Academy will have their photos taken during the morning. Please can we ask that all children come to school on the day looking extra smart in their full school uniforms and black school shoes. Thank you.

Healthy Eating Workshop

This week, each class enjoyed a workshop provided by Healthy Cornwall. The KS2 classes learnt about healthy snacking and were encouraged to try new foods including beetroot, boiled egg, kiwi fruit and dried apricots. EYFS and KS1 learnt about keeping their teeth nice and clean. Thank you, Healthy Cornwall for your visit!



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Parent Consultations - Reminder

The booking portal for Parent Consultations, via the Arbor App, will **close at 7:00pm on Monday 20th October**. If you do not have access to the Arbor App, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk for a new link to be sent to you.

Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Parent Consultations are being held on **Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October 2025**. Appointments will run in 10-minute intervals with the first appointments at **15:30** and the final appointments at **17:50**. All appointments will take place in your **child's classroom**, with their books being available for you to review either while you wait, during the appointment or afterwards.

Year R only

For Year R, appointments with Miss Marshall will be held on **Tuesday 21st October only**. They will run in 10-minute intervals, with the first appointment being at **15:30** and the final appointment at **17:50**. All Year R appointments will take place in the **Year R classroom**.

Year 1 only

For Year 1, appointments with Miss Johnson will be held on **Wednesday 22nd October only**. They will run in 10-minute intervals, with the first appointment being at **15:10** and the final appointment at **17:50**. All Year 1 appointments will be held in the **Year 1 classroom**.

Please email hello@connordowns.org.uk if you encounter any difficulties. Thank you.

At the start of each parent/carer evening, Jana Cowan-Dickie, Family Worker for Cornwall Council, will be available to meet with parents/carers to introduce herself as the Family Support Link Worker for Connor Downs Academy. Please see information below. If you would like to book an appointment to speak with Jana, please email hello@connordowns.org.uk

Please also note that **Ms Scaife, our TIS Practitioner and Senior Mental Health Lead** will be available to any parents/carers on **Tuesday 21st October** during the parent consultation period from 3:30pm to 6:00pm.

Early Help - Family Support Worker



I need some support with my child's behaviour.

My family really struggles with bedtime.

I wonder if my child is struggling with anxiety.

I don't know what support I need. I just need some advice.

Where can I find help for my child?

I can't get my child to sleep at night.

Hello my name is
Jana Cowan-Dickie
I am the Family Support Link Worker
for your school

If you need some advice or support for your family,
please talk to the school to find out when the next
Early Help drop in/coffee morning will be.

If you are really struggling and cannot wait, please ask the school to pass on your details and I will be happy to contact you.

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Connor Downs
Academy

Connor Downs Academy

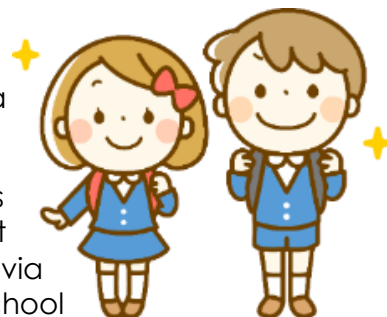
Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Pre-Loved Uniform

We believe that school uniform ensures all children are treated equally. Uniform still plays a vital role in promoting the ethos of a school, setting an appropriate tone for education and providing a sense of belonging and common identity regardless of background.

With this in mind, we run a pre-loved uniform shop through the Friends of Connor Downs Academy. The Friends will run pop up sales at various times throughout the year, but you can also contact them via their Facebook Page at any other time or you can come into the school office or email hello@connordowns.org.uk with your requirements.

Thank you.



Starting Secondary School – September 2026 –

Application Deadline 31st October 2025

 **CORNWALL COUNCIL**
not out of - never left

 **Together for Families**

Transfer to secondary school
September 2026

Applying for a place in year seven at a secondary school



The deadline for applications is **31 October 2025**

Information and guidance
Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Telephone: 0300 1234 101

 **scan me**

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



Applying for a secondary school place for September 2026

Special Educational Needs

If an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan has been issued for your child you do not need to complete an application form. Please contact the Statutory SEN Service for more information: Tel: 01872 324242 Email: statutorysen@cornwall.gov.uk

1 Decide on your preferred schools

You are strongly advised to name **three** preferences on the application form. Naming a second or third preference does not give you any less chance of getting a place at your preferred school. When making your decision you should...

...think about **how your child will get to school**. Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to home to school travel assistance.

...look at the **admission arrangements** on our website that will be used to allocate places for each school.

...consider naming your **nearest or designated school** as one of your preferences. You can find your nearest or designated school on our website.

...look at the detailed **admissions information** on our website, also available on request.

2 Submit your application by 31 October 2025

Apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

3 Wait to find out which school you have been allocated

If you applied on time you will be notified of your allocation on **National Offer Day: 2 March 2026. Apply on time!** Late applications will only be dealt with after National Offer Day and there may not be any places left at your preferred schools.

Photo © Adobe stock j02660988 06/23

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Starting School – September 2026 – Application Deadline – 15th January 2026

 **CORNWALL COUNCIL**
one and all - o'nys hagys

 **Together for Families**

Starting school
September 2026

Applying for a place in a reception class for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022



Attending a nursery or pre-school
You will need to apply even if your child attends a school's nursery or pre-school class. Please note that if a school is oversubscribed the fact that a child attends a school's nursery or pre-school, or a local nursery or pre-school, does not automatically guarantee a place at that school. The school's oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

Information and guidance
Application form and information: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions
Telephone: 0300 1234 101



scan me

www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



The deadline for applications is 15 January 2026

Applying for a **reception class** place for **September 2026**

Special Educational Needs

If an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan has been issued for your child you do not need to complete an application form. Please contact the Statutory SEN Service for more information: Tel: 01872 324242 Email: statutorysen@cornwall.gov.uk

1 Decide on your preferred schools

You are strongly advised to name **three** preferences on the application form. Naming a second or third preference does not give you any less chance of getting a place at your preferred school. When making your decision you should...

...think about how you will get your child to school. Go to www.cornwall.gov.uk/schooltransport for more information on whether your child would be entitled to home to school travel assistance.

...look at the **admission arrangements** on our website that will be used to allocate places for each school.

...consider naming your **nearest or designated school** as one of your preferences. You can find your nearest or designated school on our website.

...look at the detailed **admissions information** on our website, also available on request.

2 Submit your application by 15 January 2026

Apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

3 Wait to find out which school you have been allocated

If you applied on time you will be notified of your allocation on **National Offer Day: 16 April 2026. Apply on time!** Late applications will only be dealt with after National Offer Day and there may not be any places left at your preferred schools.

Photo © Adobe Stock j0866988 00/25

Friends of Connor Downs Academy

Thank you to those who attended The Friends of Connor Downs Academy AGM last Monday. We have secured an interim Treasurer, but if there are any parents/carers who might be willing to take on this role, please come and have a chat with Mrs Gallagher in the school office. A knowledge of accounts/finance would be beneficial, but it is not essential as training will be given.

The Friends are also looking to recruit some new members, to help in arranging and facilitating fundraising events to be able to support the children in our school with resources and opportunities. With ever decreasing budgets in all schools, it is becoming even more important for charities like the Friends, to be able to help schools to support a variety of ways to extend the opportunities available to all children.

If you are interested in the Treasurer role, or becoming a committee member, or even just offering your support for certain events, in the first instance, please contact the Friends via Mrs Gallagher in the school office or by emailing hello@connordowns.org.uk. Thank you.

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Attendance

Attendance		
Our school target for attendance is 97%		
1 st Place	Year 5	98.9 %
2 nd Place	Year 6	98.7 %
3 rd Place	Year 2	98.1 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 17th October 2025

*We are delighted to be able to invite the parents/carers of the winners below to join us at our next Shine assembly of the autumn term, on **Thursday 23rd October 2025** to see their child receive their certificate.*

*Please come along to the main reception **no earlier than 2:35pm**. A special well done to:*

Year R – Florence

For showing resilience in your learning and trying new things. Florence is a kind friend and is always helping others. Well done, Florence!

Year 1 – Reiley

For being a kind and considerate member of the class who always thinks of others. Reiley always show great behaviour for learning and is a wonderful role model to her peers! Well done, Reiley!

Year 2 – Alexis

For being so helpful and thoughtful in the classroom. Alexis' confidence and personality shines though, epitomising the school motto 'Open spaces, open hearts, open minds'. Well done, Alexis!

Year 3 – Maeson

For his super effort and improved attitude to complete his work in maths and English. Well done, Maeson!

Year 4 – Emilia

For her beautifully drawn and coloured illustration of a flower. Emilia used great observation skills to produce some lovely tone and colour. Well done, Emilia!

Year 5 – Imogen

For completing 4 of the Year 5 homework grid tasks. Mr Pascoe loved the sewn bag! Well done, Imogen!

Year 6 – Daniel

For a superb effort reading every single night. Daniel is sometimes reading over 100 pages! Well done, Daniel!

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Writer – Hugo (Year 3)

For the super effort he is making to improve his joined handwriting and letter formation. Well done, Hugo!

EYFS/KS1 Reader – Noah (Year 1)

For brilliant work during phonics. Noah is blending really well, which is helping hugely with his reading. Well done, Noah!

KS2 Reader – Amelia (Year 5)

For her great VIPERS skills and her confidence when reading to the class. Well done, Amelia!

Mathematician – Ailla (Year 2)

For her incredible work on inverse operations. Ailla showed her ability to use a hundred square independently and also how to use number lines to prove her answers. Well done, Ailla!

Numbots/Rock Star – Ava R (Year 2)

For her superb recall on the 2's, 3's, 5's and 6 times tables supported by her activities on Numbots! Well done, Ava!

Performer – Jacob M (Year 6)

For bringing in his items from WW2 and presenting to the class so confidently and informatively. Thank you. Well done, Jacob!

Character – Lyla (Year 4)

For always being a fantastic helper around the classroom and for always approaching every task with a smile. Well done, Lyla!

Kind Regards,



Mrs Eddy
Head of School