

16 October 2026

Whole School Drop Down Day - Monday 19 October

Please see the attached letter from Mr Verniol, Deputy Headteacher.

Polite Reminder to Parents/Carers - Requesting Meetings with PCS Staff

It is not possible to speak to any staff member without appointment, inclusive of the Senior Leadership Team.

If you have not made an appointment, please either speak with someone at Reception or email us at pcs-enquiries@swale.at to let us know who you would like to speak to and the nature of the meeting. An appointment will then be made for you as soon as possible.

Dyslexia Friendly Communications

If you would like to be emailed a 'dyslexia friendly' version of letters that are sent out by PCS, please email pcs-enquiries@swale.at and we will send you this version separately moving forward.

Celebrating Student Success Outside of School

We are always delighted to hear of our student's interests and achievements outside of school, and we always aim to celebrate these alongside in school events.

If your child has participated in any activities that you would like us to share with the wider community we would love to hear from you. Please send a write up, and a picture if you would like us to share it, to PCS-Studentachievement@swale.at - this will then go onto our Instagram page and our website.

(Please note - if your child does not have publicity consent in our system, we will not be able to publicise the information you provide.)

The Big Future Survey - Final Chance for Students to Have Their Say! Message from Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England

The Big Future is my final national survey of children and young people as Children's Commissioner for England. It is a vital opportunity for pupils to tell me what matters to them, what they want for their futures and what they believe needs to change.

I want to hear from children in every part of England, from every background and in every type of school. We cannot achieve that without your help.

The survey can be completed here: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture/>

Boardgames & Film Clubs - Message from Ms Osborne, Teacher of English

Please see the attached 'MOB Clubs update' document for more information.

New Half Term Soccer School at Palatine Park, Worthing! Message from Brighton & Hove Albion Foundation

New Half Term Soccer School Location! Come and join us at Palatine Park, Worthing 28 & 29 Oct

We are delighted to announce our new location for our Worthing half term soccer schools.

There are 2 sessions this October half term, Wednesday 28 and Thursday 29 and these are being held at Palatine Park in Goring By Sea.

*Suitable for **boys and girls of all abilities aged 5-13** these sessions run from 9am to 3pm on both days and are a fantastic way for children to have fun, improve their football skills and make new friends.*

We still have places at our other locations across Sussex, so book your child's place now for some half term footballing fun!

***NEW! Worthing [28-29 Oct](#)
Brighton [26-28 Oct](#)
Eastbourne [29-30 Oct](#)
Hassocks [29-30 Oct](#)
Uckfield [26-28 Oct](#)
Uckfield Girls [28 Oct](#)
Lancing Girls [26-27 Oct](#)***

Chelsea FC | Player Development Programme Trial Opportunities - Message from Sussex Development Team

Chelsea FC Soccer Schools are pleased to be running free trial sessions across our Player Development Programme in Sussex providing opportunities for boys and girls of all abilities to experience our coaching and development pathway.

We are committed to providing young players with a fun, inclusive, and high-quality football environment where they can develop their skills and passion for the game under the guidance of our UEFA-qualified coaches.

Please see the attached poster for more information.

Polite Reminder - Reception / Student Support Desk Areas

We ask students to please go to the **Student Support Desk** at Reception if they have any queries during the school day, and not to the front desk area as our office staff are often very busy greeting visitors.

The Student Support Desk opening times can be found displayed at Reception.

FAO Parents/Carers of Year 8-11 Students - Message from Peacehaven Town Council

Peacehaven Town Council is looking for passionate, driven individuals aged 13 to 17 who live in, or within 3 miles of, Peacehaven, to step up and become the next Youth Mayor, and Deputy Youth Mayor.

To facilitate this, Peacehaven Town Council is holding a free information evening on **Friday 16th October at 7pm in Community House, Peacehaven**, where there will be the opportunity for those interested in the roles to meet the current Town Councillors, learn exactly what the role entails, and discover how to get involved.

This is a free event; however, booking is essential for all attendees, including parents and carers. Tickets can be obtained here:

<https://www.ticketsource.com/peacehaven-tc/peacehaven-youth-mayor-information-evening/2026-10-16/19:00/t-ejzkloo>

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/peacehaven-youth-mayor-2027-8-have-you-got-what-it-takes/>

Those who can't attend the event, but would like to apply can email us at info@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Student Leadership at PCS

We are delighted to announce that after rigorous campaigning and a well attended round of hustings our year 11 Student Leadership Team will be headed up by six exceptional students.

PCS President - Taylin

PCS Vice Presidents and Heads of Year 10 Students - Kayden and Charlie

Head of Year 9 Students - Jacob

Head of Year 8 Students - Abi

Head of Year 7 Students - Madison

We would like to remind all students that applications to become a Student Leader and take on one of the many ambassadorial roles close today. Students can apply through their year group PDI Google Classroom. Please encourage your child to get involved. Student Voice is a very valued part of school life.

Food Hall Student Card Payment - Update

Further to our recent communications regarding the option for students to pay for items in the Food Hall with a payment card, we can confirm that this will now **not** be an available option for students.

The reason for this is due to the system not being able to pull through a student's allergy/dietary information if they were to be processed as a card payment transaction. It is of course extremely important that this information is viewable by the Food Hall staff, to ensure that students are not sold incorrect items.

If the system is updated in the future to allow card payments to be taken (alongside viewing allergy/dietary information) we will communicate this to you.

Exciting Holiday Activities Available This October Half Term - Message from ESCC Children's Services

A programme of free holiday activities for children and young people across East Sussex is available this October half term.

Funded through the **Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF)**, the programme provides eligible children and young people with a food offer and develops their resilience. It gives them a chance to try new activities, make friends and gives parents and carers the confidence that the children they care for can have cost-effective engagement during the school holidays.

Who can take part?

The programme is available to children and young people who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Receive benefits-related free school meals (including both the new "targeted" and "expanded" categories)
- Have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Are a young carer
- Are on a Child Protection Plan
- Are a Child in Need (CiN)
- Are a child we care for
- Have been referred to CAMHS
- Have low school attendance
- Are a Ukrainian guest living in East Sussex

Note: These additional locally-determined categories of children continue to change as we consider priority groups of children. We will let families and professionals know as soon as there are any changes.

Changes to free school meals eligibility

Families may be aware that national changes to benefits-related free school meals came into effect from September. There are now two categories of eligibility: **targeted** and **expanded**. However, for this October half-term programme, **we are pleased to be able to offer places to children and young people who are assessed as being in either category** of benefits-related free school meals, alongside some other locally determined groups of children.

If families would like more information about free school meals eligibility, they can visit the East Sussex County Council website [Free School Meals | East Sussex County Council](#) or contact the HAF team at HAF@eastsussex.gov.uk

Please see the attached poster.

Family First Autumn '26

Here's your free copy of the UK's largest parenting title - Enjoy!
<https://familyfirst.co.uk/magazines/family-first-issue-4-2026/>

Fireworks – Staying Safe - Message from East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

For Key Stage 3 & 4 students the main safety messages are:

- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- When you are watching fireworks, always stand well back
- Never go near a firework when it has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors

Safety Messages for Parents/Carers Setting Off Fireworks

- Only buy fireworks marked with the British Standard mark, BS7114
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box
- Follow the instructions on each firework by torchlight, not a naked flame
- Fireworks should be lit at arm's length, using a taper
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Keep pets indoors

What does the law say?

The Fireworks Regulations 2004 make it an offence to:

- Sell fireworks to people under 18 years of age
- Possessing fireworks in a public place, if you are under 18 years of age
- Throw a firework in the street or public place
- Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11.00pm

Further information on staying safe can be obtained from the following websites and may be useful for teachers and students:

- [https://RoSPA- Firework safety tips | RoSPA](https://RoSPA-Firework%20safety%20tips%20RoSPA)
- <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/fireworks.html>
- <https://www.fireservice.co.uk/safety/firework-safety/>

On behalf of East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, thank you for your support.

November Book Fair!

Our Scholastic Book Fair is nearly here! It will open in the library between Monday 16 and Thursday 19 November, 8am-4pm, so come along to find the best new books and help to earn free books for our library!

Please see the attached poster.

Messages from PCS Careers Team



Open Events - Message from East Sussex College

A reminder about our upcoming Open Events:

- Hastings (Station Plaza and Ore) - Tuesday 13th October & Thursday 19th November
- Eastbourne - Wednesday 14th October & Thursday 19th November
- Lewes - Thursday 15th October & Thursday 19th November

Please see the attached poster for more information and to register your place.

Discover Plumpton College Open Events for 2026/27!



Time: 9am - 2pm

Location: Plumpton College, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 3AE

Dates available



Saturday 21st November 2026



Saturday 16th January 2027



Saturday 13th March 2027



Wednesday 16th June 2027

[Book Now](#)

Understanding T Levels: Free Webinar for Parents & Carers - Message from Amazing AppsUK

As National T Levels Week 2026 approaches, we're pleased to be hosting a dedicated webinar for parents and carers to help them understand T Levels including what they involve, how they differ from other post-16 options, and the progression opportunities they can lead to. We will be joined by David Scott, T Levels lead at the Department for Education, along with parent Victoria, who will share her experience of T Levels from a parents' perspective.

T Levels Week Parent and Carer webinar: Understanding T Levels

Tuesday 20th October 2026, 18:30 – 19:15 [Register here:](#)

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/events/t-levels-week-parent-and-carer-webinar-understanding-t-levels/>

Please see the attached poster.

Upcoming Key Dates (PCS School Calendar)

- **Monday 19 October** - PCS Drop Down Day!
- **Tuesday 20 October** - INSET Day (No students on site)
- **Wednesday 21 October to Sunday 1 November** - Half Term Break
- **Monday 2 November** - First Day of Term 2 (All students)
- **Tuesday 3 to Friday 13 November** - Year 11 Mock Exams
- **Wednesday 4 November** - Rampion Offshore Wind Trip (Selected students)
- **Wednesday 4 November** - Parent/Carers' Voice, 5-6pm
- **Thursday 5 November** - East Sussex College Trip (Selected students)
- **Thursday 5 November** - Year 9 & Year 10 Netball Fixture at Seahaven (Selected students)

PCS Vacancies

Current vacancies at PCS are outlined below and can be found on [our website](https://www.swale.at/vacancies)
(<https://www.swale.at/vacancies>).

(NO CURRENT VACANCIES)

2 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

On **Monday 19 October**, our school will step off-timetable for a Drop Down Day, a full-day experience of immersive learning, practical challenges, and teamwork designed to equip our students with essential real-world skills.

For now, we are keeping the exact workshops and challenges under wraps. However, we can promise a dynamic, fun, and memorable day that looks and feels very different from standard desk-based lessons. We already have some external professionals booked in to deliver some bespoke sessions.

To ensure students have a fantastic experience, we have added several features to the day:

- **Non-uniform day:** Students are invited to attend in comfortable, appropriate casual clothes suited for practical activities and team challenges.
- **Special canteen menu:** Our catering team is preparing a specially curated, upgraded lunch menu to give the day a fun, celebratory feel.
- **Recognition and rewards:** Every student who fully completes the day's activities will receive an official Certificate of Achievement to add to their personal development records.

While the format is interactive and fun, Drop Down Day is a vital, compulsory component of our curriculum and assessment framework:

- **Year 11 focus:** For Year 11, this day includes an essential Lead Lesson in which students will complete a piece of marked and assessed work that directly contributes to their GCSE preparation.
- **Attendance matters:** Because these immersive sessions, guest activities, and marked assessments are collaborative and one-off, they cannot be caught up or replicated later. Full attendance is expected for every student.

The school day will run at the normal times (8.35am – 3.10pm).

We look forward to a vibrant and inspiring day across the entire school. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child arrives on time, ready to get involved.

Best wishes

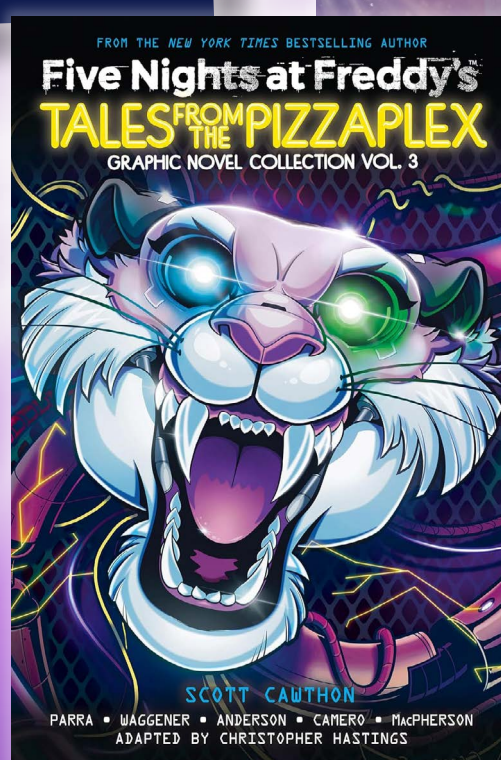
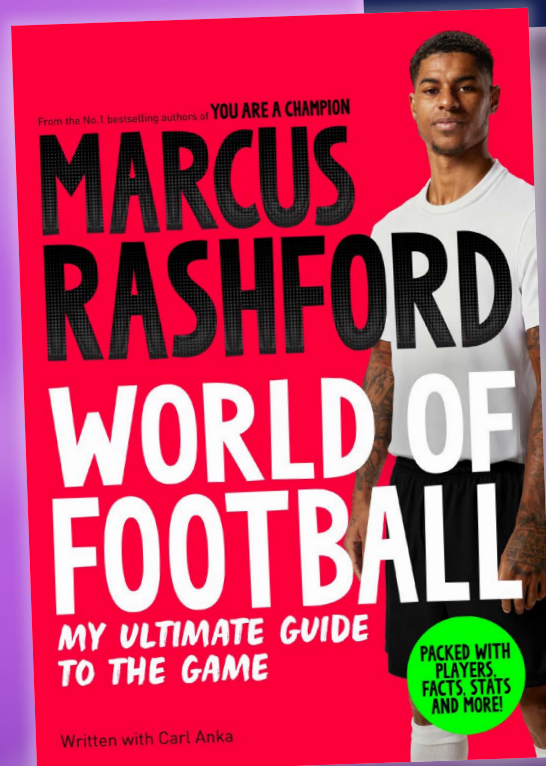


Mr M Verniol
Deputy Headteacher - Quality of Education / DDSL

YOUR NEXT FAVOURITE READ IS WAITING



OVER 200 BOOKS TO CHOOSE FROM



DATE: Monday 16th - Thursday
19th November 2026

TIME: 8:00am - 3:30pm

LOCATION: Peacehaven Community School Library

**GO
ALL
IN.**

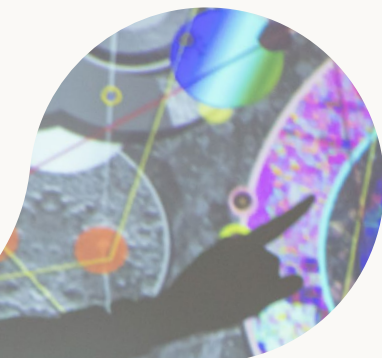
National
Year of
Reading
2026

OPEN EVENTS

2026

For year 10s & 11s

Explore our campuses, meet our tutors and
discover your next step!



HASTINGS

13TH October
19TH November

EASTBOURNE

14TH October
19TH November

LEWES

15TH October
19TH November

3:45 - 6:45PM



Scan the QR code
to register your place!

ESCG.AC.UK

ONE GIANT LEAP TOWARDS YOUR FUTURE.

OPEN EVENTS



LEWES - BN7 2XH



EASTBOURNE - BN21 2UF



HASTINGS

**ORE VALLEY
- TN34 3SU**

**STATION PLAZA
- TN34 1BA**

**SEE WEBSITE
FOR COURSE
INFORMATION
& CAMPUS
LOCATIONS.**



Student Support & Apprenticeships will be available at all campuses.

COME HAVE FUN WITH

PEACEHAVEN
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD GAME CLUB



YOU CAN FREELY PLAY GAMES FROM THE PCS
COLLECTION, OR FEEL FREE TO BRING YOUR
OWN GAMES FROM HOME TOO!

DATES TBC AND ADVERTISED
IN NEWS IN BRIEF (NIB)

WHERE? EN6 WITH MS OBORENE
WHEN? ONCE TERMLY

Do you like:

- Monopoly?
- Twister?
- Exploding Kittens?
- Cluedo?
- Dungeons and Dragons?

If so, join us for an afternoon of meeting other board game fans. Bring your own games and/or use the board game clubs library!

When: Monday - [12/10/26]

Time: 3:10-4:30

Where: En6 with Ms Osborne



Peacehaven Community School FILM CLUB

ONCE TERMLY ON
TUESDAYS AFTER
SCHOOL, DATES TBC IN
NEWS IN BRIEF (NIB).

IN EN6
WITH MS OBORNE

Do you like:

- Action?
- Horror?
- Comedy?
- Animated films?
- Science fiction?

If so, join us for an afternoon of meeting other film fans and watch a movies together! Bring your own snacks!

When: Monday - [19/10/26]

Time: 3:10-4:50

Where: En6 with Ms Osborne



Peacehaven Community School FILM CLUB

ONCE TERMLY ON
TUESDAYS AFTER
SCHOOL, DATES TBC IN
NEWS IN BRIEF (NIB).

IN EN6
WITH MS OBORNE



<https://www.intofilm.org/films/17644>



<https://www.intofilm.org/films/17644>

**Missed the first session of the
Japanese Anime and Culture Club?**

No worries!

**Join our google classroom to stay up
to date as well as checking NIB for
updates!**

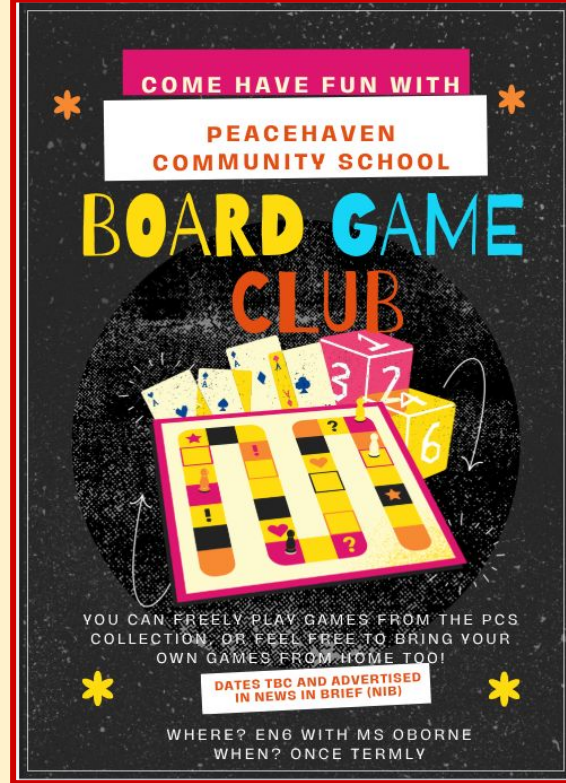
fu5ycaup

Japanese & Anime Club JACA

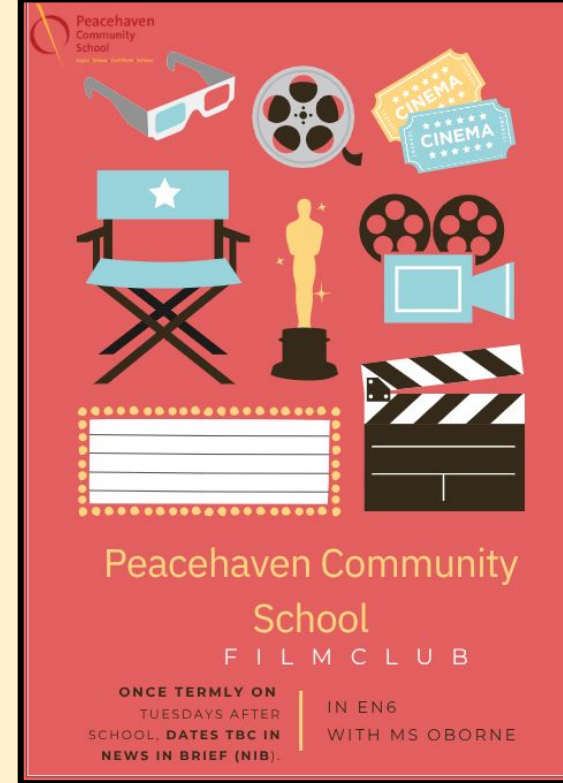
With Ms Osborne (En6)



**COMPLETED -
TERM 1**



Monday 12th October
En6 - Ms Osborne
3:10-4:30



Monday 19th October
En6 - Ms Osborne
3:10-4:50

OCTOBER HALF TERM CLUBS FOR CHILDREN RECEIVING FREE SCHOOL MEALS

A variety of free clubs – including

- sports
- games
- arts
- drama
- music

and a
free meal
each day



for ages 5-16

- Free for benefit related free school meal (FSM) families – (both targeted and expanded groups qualify in October)
- Plus a small number of places available for other eligible groups.
- Please contact HAF@eastsussex.gov.uk for info to book visit the event list [@www.eequ.org/escchaf](https://www.eequ.org/escchaf)



UK Government



October groups
funded by the crisis
resilience fund



PEACEHAVEN YOUTH MAYOR

**Have you got what it takes to be a
Youth Mayor?**

***Are you aged between 13-17 & live in or within 3 miles
of Peacehaven?***

Come along on
Friday 16th October to find out more about the role
& meet the Town Councillors

Be the Voice for Young People in Our Community

- **Represent Your Peers:** Collaborate directly with the Town Council to ensure youth perspectives are at the heart of community decisions.
- **Build Your Future:** Gain incredible leadership, public speaking, and political experience that will make your CV or college/university application stand out.
- **Develop New Skills:** Step outside your comfort zone and learn how local governance works from the inside.



When: Friday 16th October

Where: Community House,
Peacehaven BN10 8BB

Time: 7pm

Book your FREE place or to find out more either:

- scan the QR code
- visit: <https://bit.ly/4jgmFHP>
- telephone: 01273 585 493
- email: info@peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk





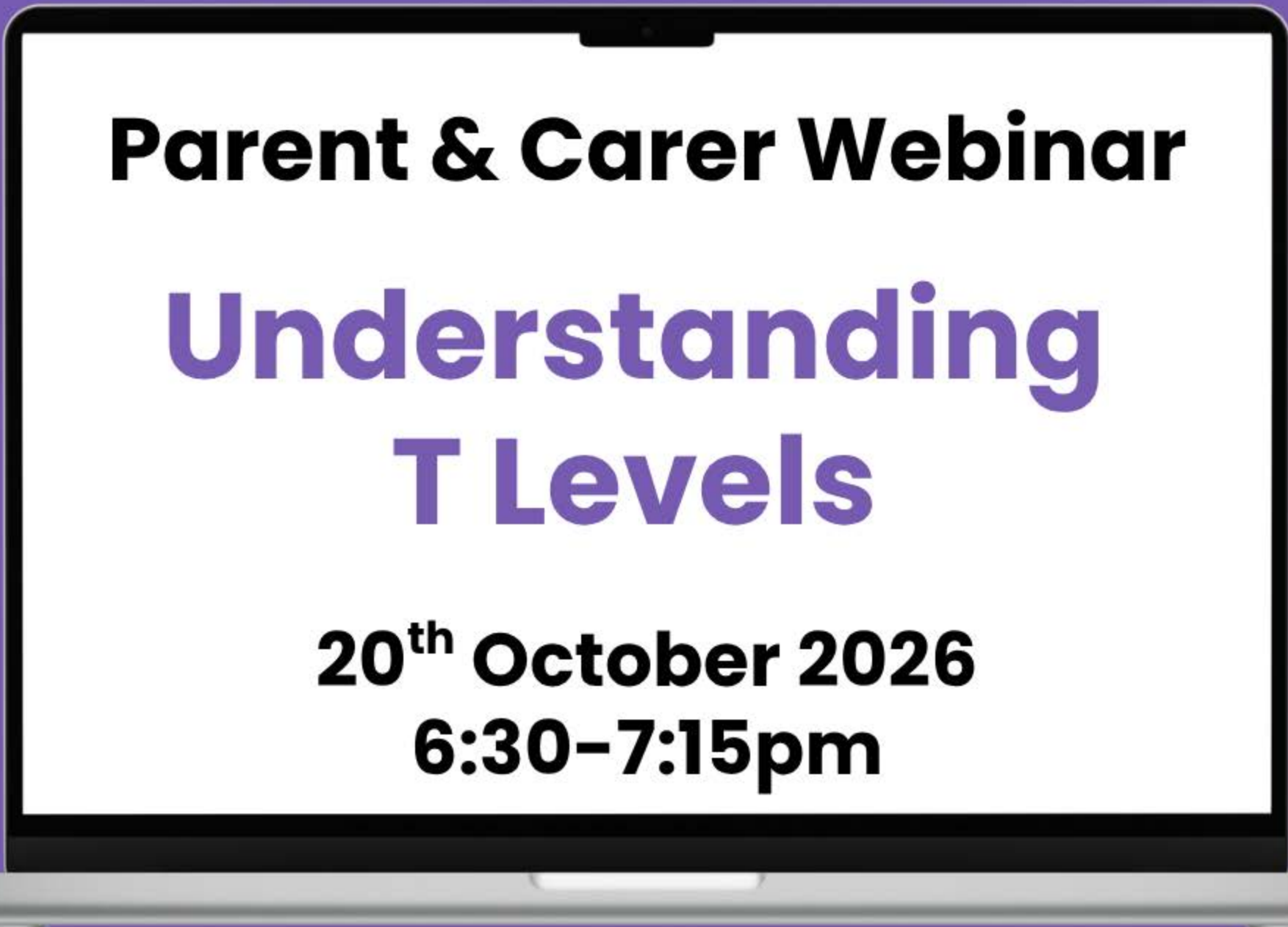
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Player Development Centre Trials give young players the chance to showcase their skills and join one of our local centres. Successful players will be invited to join our Player Development Programme (PDP).

- Price:** Free to attend
- Age groups:** Under 6 – Under 16 (Boys & Girls)
- Locations:** Chichester, Crawley, Cuckfield, Horsham, Haywards Heath, Lancing, Littlehampton, Ringmer and Steyning

Scan the QR code to view the full list of trial sessions taking place near you and register your child today!





Parent & Carer Webinar

Understanding T Levels

20th October 2026
6:30–7:15pm

REGISTER NOW

[amapps.uk/t-level-](https://amapps.uk/t-level-parent-carer-webinar)
[parent-carer-webinar](https://amapps.uk/t-level-parent-carer-webinar)

