

DOWNHAM MARKET  
ACADEMY

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**Athena**  
Sixth Form College



**Newsletter**

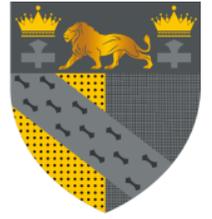
2 March 2026

Check out our new Student Council initiative supporting the local Foodbank, please do support this venture if you are able. Also, I hope you enjoy finding out about the new Ancient Civilization Club started by Mr Butler; he has lots of exciting activities planned!  
Best wishes for the coming week,  
Natalie



# Upcoming events & Notices

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## DMA PRE LOVED DONATIONS

9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY-11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026

DOWNHAM MARKET ACADEMY  
PE389LL

TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR 2026 PROM WE WOULD LIKE TO  
ASK FOR ANY DONATIONS OF CLOTHES, TOYS ,HATS ,SHOES OR  
ACCESSORIES YOU NO LONGER WANT OR LOVE. WE CAN THEN

SELL ON TO NEW LOVING OWNERS

PLEASE DROP OFF AT RECEPTION

ALL PROFITS WILL GO TOWARDS DOWNHAM 2026 PROM  
ALSO HOPING FOR PROM DRESS AND SUIT DONATIONS



hello@reallygreatsite.com | www.reallygreatsite.com | +123-456-7890

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	PSHE focus
			Year 9 parents evening (online)		National Careers Week – What do employers really look for?

## Notices

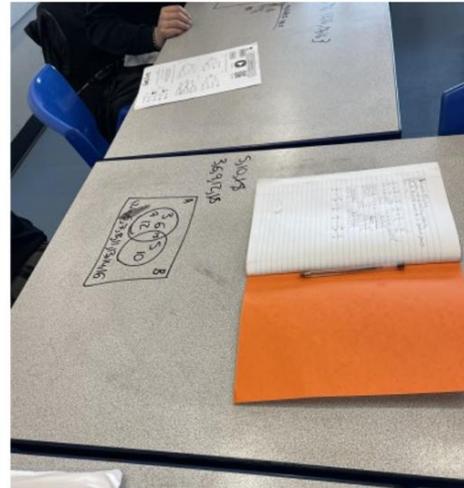
Don't forget DMA is a **nut free school**; please ensure packed lunches don't contain any items containing nuts.

# Work of the Week

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Using chalk and hoops to create Venn diagrams  
Followed by paired work around the room.  
Using space and having a movement break as well.  
10x4 were fab!



# The student council

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On Friday 27th, we met Chloe from the food bank in Downham Market. She explained to us what the food bank provides to our community and we will be collecting items and donating our time to this worthwhile cause. Thank you to our student council for their contributions.

Please see the March shopping list below, any of these items would be brilliant if you could kindly donate them. Children should bring in their donations and put in their form donation box.

- Sponge puddings
  - Tinned vegetables
  - Jam
  - Noodles
  - Spaghetti in tomato sauce
  - Tinned tomatoes
  - Toiletries
-

# Apprenticeships in STEM subjects

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We are delighted to welcome to Athena, a guest speaker, Paul Hunt who will outline for us some of the available routes to employment in STEM subjects through apprenticeships.

The talk will be for all Athena year 12 students, on March 11th, at the beginning of periods 3 / 4.

Teachers have been asked to register classes and bring everyone to the hall [hall 1] promptly.

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# Celebrating success

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## Year 7

A busy first week with visits to our PD Forms from our school Council representatives to speak about our drive to support the Foodbank. If you and spare any items; the Foodbank is a very worthy cause which helps our extended community.

Thank you for any items that you may be able to donate.

## Year 8

Lovely to see you all back after a well earned break. We discussed National Apprenticeship Week in Assembly last week, this weeks topic is National Careers Week.

Our student council are visiting all forms to talk about the Downham Market Foodbank.

If you have any items that you can spare at home, please bring them in and place in the box within your form. This would be amazing and so supportive for our wider community.

## Year 9

We are now back for the Spring 2 term, already halfway through the academic year. With options submissions now closed, we will begin working on timetables for next year.

We also have an exciting careers trip on Wednesday, where you will have the opportunity to explore your interests and ask questions to representatives from colleges and universities about your future pathways.

## Year 10

It has been a lively start to the term for Year 10. It was lovely to see many of you engaging in lessons and settling back into routines quickly after the break.

This is an important stage in your journey, and I am looking forward to seeing you channel that energy and enthusiasm in a positive way as the term continues.

## Year 11

Well done to Year 11 students. The first week of Mock exams have run really smoothly. One more week before we move onto MFL Oral Exams and PE Practical Exams. Please remember DMA Preloved - we are looking for items to sell on on March 11th. We have some beautiful prom dresses and suits ready to sell as well as some shoes, but we still need more so please have a spring clean and donate some of your loved items you no longer need.



# Club info

## ANCIENT CIVILIZATION CLUB

**Tuesday lunchtimes in N4 with Mr Butler.**

Beginning week: 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026.

Open to Years 7 – 11.

A scenario-based history, debate, and RPG club.

Explore the culture, history, art, and language of the ancient world through narrative scenarios and challenges.

Builds skills in debating, scenario-based thinking, historical criticism and cultural awareness.



# Local Area Events

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Session and session title	Presenter	Audience	Registration link
<b>Session 9.</b> Behind the Mask: Thinking about why children mask and how home and school can work together	<b>26th Feb</b> 1000-1100  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 9</a> 
<b>Session 12.</b> Plan Bee Taster: Understanding and Supporting Neurodivergence at home and at school	<b>3rd March</b> 0930-1100  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Norfolk PINS 2026: Session 12</a> 
<b>Session 14.</b> A Low Demand Approach - Looking at demand anxiety and strategies to help	<b>5th March</b> 1000-1100  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 14</a> 
<b>Session 17.</b> Plan Bee Taster: Understanding and Supporting Neurodivergence at home and at school	<b>10th March</b> 1530-1700  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent /Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 17</a> 
<b>Session 18.</b> Anger or Anxieties? Thinking about emotional distress and how it can present.	<b>12th March</b> 1000-1100  <b>Family Action Norfolk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 18</a> 
<b>Session 20.</b> Masking - What It Looks Like, Why It Happens, and How We Can Support (evening)	<b>12th March</b> 1900-2030  <b>Dr Pooky Knightsmith</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> <li>• SLT</li> <li>• SENDCO</li> <li>• Teachers</li> <li>• Parent/ Carers</li> </ul>	<a href="#">NORFOLK PINS 2026: Session 20</a> 



## Free Online Parent & Carer Webinars

Free Online Webinars: Feb - March 2026

### Join Our Spring Term Webinar Series!

The PINS Spring Webinar programme offers a series of free, supportive online sessions designed to help families better understand and support neurodiverse children — both at home and in school.

These sessions are part of PINS (Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools), a Norfolk programme working alongside families and schools to create inclusive, understanding learning environments for every child.

- ✓ Free to attend
- ✓ Online – join from home
- ✓ Welcoming and practical
- ✓ No diagnosis or prior knowledge needed

### When?

Understanding neurodiversity in school

- Social communication and friendships
- Masking and emotional wellbeing
- Behaviour as communication
- Inclusive school cultures
- Working positively with families
- Supportive learning environments

### Who is it for?

These sessions are designed to be supportive, practical and understanding. Whether you're just beginning to explore neurodiversity or looking for new ideas, you'll find insight, reassurance and encouragement.

All sessions are free and delivered online via Microsoft Teams. Joining links are attached with QR codes as an option. Join as many sessions as you like — even just one can make a difference.

## Hear for Norfolk



Supporting people with hearing loss and related conditions

We are your local charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing, aiding communication and enhancing the quality of life for people with hearing loss and hearing related conditions.

We provide support through the following range of services:

**Aural Care** - removal of earwax using microsuction

**Audiology** - NHS funded hearing assessments and fitting of hearing aids for people ages 50+, and privately funded hearing assessments and fitting of hearing aids for children aged 7+ and adults of all ages

Both services are delivered by trained, registered and experienced nurses and audiologists

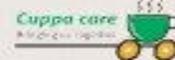
**Hearing Support** - maintenance of NHS issued hearing aids

**Otoscopy Clinics** - screening of ears for the presence of earwax

**'Cuppa Care' Project** - emotional and wellbeing support, information and advice to people of all ages

**Hearing Loss Awareness Training**

Our services are available from our community-based and mobile clinics, and domiciliary/care home visits for people who are housebound.



Please call us on 01603 404440, email us at [nda@hearfornorfolk.org.uk](mailto:nda@hearfornorfolk.org.uk) or visit our website at [www.hearfornorfolk.org.uk](http://www.hearfornorfolk.org.uk) for more information



Hear for Norfolk is the operating name of Norfolk Deaf Association (NDA), a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England & Number No. 07666428. Registered Charity in England & Wales No. 1146260.

# ELA recruitment

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- ELA Active is the subsidiary company of Eastern Learning Alliance, providing leisure facilities open to the public across a number of our school campuses, including Chesterton Sports Centre, Impington Sports Centre, Witchford Village College, and Girton Glebe Primary School swimming pool.
- We are currently recruiting a number of positions across the facilities and are looking for talented and enthusiastic individuals to join our teams as a Duty Manager, Shift Leader or Leisure Assistant. If you or anyone you may know is interested, please do get in touch. All of our jobs are advertised on our website - [Vacancies - Eastern Learning Alliance](#)

[ELAA-Casual-Shift-Leader-Advert-Witchford-Jan-2026.pdf](#)

[ELAA-Duty-Manager-Advert-Jan-2026.pdf](#)

[ELAA-LA-Advert-Jan-2026.pdf](#)

[ELAA-Shift-Leader-Advert-Jan-2026.pdf](#)

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