

Teddy Centre Ear Clinic Visits Pulham Primary Academy

Mistletoe Class at Pulham Primary had a fantastic and inspirational visit from The Teddy Centre recently.

They came to explain and show us how we can support our friends and family members by being deaf aware. 'I AM JUST RIGHT' is their inspirational quote.

One of the visitors, Paris, is deaf herself. She had beautiful purple-coloured hearing aids fitted, as well as a cochlear implant. She explained that she had been deaf all her life. Because she had her aids to support her, this meant that it did not impact her life in anyway. If anything, she felt that she had a superpower and she could help other children understand.



All the children had an appointment with their VIP (bear from home) at the Audiologist clinic. They tested their bear's hearing. Each VIP bear had their own hearing device fitted and decorated with gems, just like Paris.

Children also learnt the skills to become deaf aware. Using sign language is not the only tool, but lip reading and making eye contact is just as important.

Finally, we had the chance to sign part of our class Christmas song we had been learning. We were also given some lovely gifts to help remind and support us in the future.

Mrs Harriet Beckett
Headteacher



B-Comms is the fortnightly newsletter for Church of England schools who are Members of St Benet's Multi Academy Trust:

Acle Primary, Alburgh with Denton Primary, Catfield Primary, Dickleburgh Primary & Pre-school, Diss Junior Academy, Diss Infant Academy & Nursery, Garboldisham Primary, Happisburgh Primary, Harleston Sancto Academy, Hickling Infant, Little Plumstead Primary, Morley Primary, Newton Flotman Primary, Pulham Primary, Scole Primary, St Mary's Junior, St Mary's Primary, Sutton Infant and Tacolneston Primary

DoNESC Updates

St Benet's Updated Policies

- The Admissions Policy has recently been reviewed, updated and approved: S07 St Benet's Admissions Policy 2027-28
- S28 Speak Up Policy has been updated to reflect that Rachel Beeson has taken on the role of Speaking Up Trustee for St Benet's. There are no other changes to the policy.

These policies have been uploaded to the St Benet's website (<https://stbenets.org/about-us/policies/>) and recently circulated to academy Headteachers and offices via iAM Compliant. Please ensure that all staff are aware that these policies have been updated and are now in circulation.

If you have any queries on this, please contact the Governance Team via the DoNESC Helpdesk.

Tara Burrows

Governance Officer/Trust Clerk

Adverts in YouTube Videos

Concerns have been raised by school staff about adverts in YouTube videos that are used and streamed in lessons. These adverts can cause a disruption to the flow of the lesson.

Extensive research has been carried out by our broadband providers, Rydal (who look after Smoothwall permissions) and OfficeXpress to see if there is a way of blocking these adverts. Unfortunately, it is not possible for these to be universally blocked.

The only way around this is to purchase a license for each user and this would be cost prohibitive at £12.99 per month per user. **Note this is per user and not per school.**

It is set up this way by YouTube as the adverts are what pays for this free resource.

Louise Veeren (Head of Safeguarding) is in agreement that though these adverts can be annoying and inconvenient, they are not dangerous or a potential safeguarding threat so there is no requirement to block school staff from using YouTube.

Other streaming services are available and each option has different features around security, ease of use and cost :-

1. **Vimeo** - Offers ad-free video hosting with privacy controls and the ability to embed videos securely.
2. **Wistia** - Designed for professional video hosting, with no ads and strong customisation options.

However, YouTube is the recognised powerhouse of streaming and most likely to fulfil the requirements for schools.

The best suggestion to minimise the inconvenience that these adverts cause would be to consider downloading videos in advance (where licensing allows).

Wendy Allsop

DoNESC Contract Manager

DoNESC Updates

Nourish - would you like any menu changes for your school?

If there is anything on the current menu that you would like changed, please don't hesitate to contact your Area Manager or Sally Anne Avis via sallyanneavis@nourishcc.co.uk / 07652 950173 to discuss, and they will do their very best to accommodate your requests.

The next new menu will be issued around Easter.

Nourish would like to thank everyone for their support in 2025 and hope that the festive fayre was enjoyed by all.



Governance Bulletin

The latest Governance Bulletin is available here: [Governance Bulletin - 13 January 2026 - Governors' Scheme of Delegation Special Edition](#)

Training/CPD events for the next half-term

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19.01.26	T&M Fed ARM (09.30-11.30); Beacon Fed ARM (14.00-16.00)	Diss & Scole ARM (09.30-11.30); AwD ARM (14.00-15.30); CUSP Access Subject Leads-online (15.45-16.45)	Swallowtail Fed ARM (09.30-11.30)	DSL Network-online (15.45-16.45); Christianity as a Global Faith-online (16.00-17.00)	
26.01.26		Lighthouse Fed ARM (09.30-11.30); CUSP Primary Reading Leads-online (15.45-16.45)	RE Network at NF Primary (15.30-17.00)	NF ARM (09.30-11.00); St Mary's Jnr ARM (11.30-13.00)	
02.02.26	Acorn P'ship ARM (09.30-11.30); Pulham ARM (14.00-15.30)	Diocesan Collective Worship Network-online (15.30-17.00); CUSP Primary Writing Leads-online (15.45-16.45)	Sancroft Primary ARM (09.30-11.00); Sancroft Secondary ARM (11.30-13.00)		

Rollout of Juniper MIS across St Benet's

As the two Juniper Sonar training sessions have now taken place, we are moving our focus to the rollout of the MIS software across the Trust's schools.

Rosemary Ison (DoNESC Operations Manager) and Juniper are preparing a phased rollout implementation plan for the MIS software. This will involve in-person and online training sessions for admin staff members which will be scheduled a number of weeks ahead of your school's actual rollout date.

The MIS rollout programme started in October with Tacolneston & Morley Primaries and our remaining schools will follow on a phased basis after the January census.

Pupil Asset will continue to run alongside Juniper for a period of time as the new system beds in.

If you have difficulty logging into SONAR and the 'forgotten password' link is not working, please contact the Juniper support desk via: sonartrackerhelp@junipereducation.org or use the link here: <https://help.junipereducation.org/>



Diocesan Prayer Diary

The Diocese of Norwich have a Prayer Diary, which can be accessed [here](#).

The Church of England have a Time to Pray website [here](#).

Central Team Contact Details

The Diocese of Norwich Education Team (St Benet's, DNEAT, DoNESC) are based at Orchard House, Hall Lane, East Tuddenham, Norfolk NR20 3LR. This is also the registered address for St Benet's MAT.

The central phone number for St Benet's is 01603 550147 or you can email the Central Team via info@stbenets.org.



Press & PR

Please contact 01603 550147 or info@stbenets.org with any press/media enquiries.

Diocesan Communications

We welcome Chris Allen to his new role as Diocesan Director of Education.

Footprints magazine and Flourishing Together are circulated to all Diocesan schools. The latest editions can be read [here](#). If you would like your school to be featured in either please contact Jodie Ballard, PA to the Diocesan Director of Education, at: jodie.ballard@dioceseofnorwich.org.



It is the responsibility of the Diocesan Board of Education to oversee the strategic direction for all schools and academies within the Diocese of Norwich. That's 107 schools in total across St Benet's, DNEAT and LA-maintained schools. The DBE has just published its next Strategic Plan covering the period 2024-2030. We encourage you to have a look [here](#).

Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: www.stbenets.org



**Don't forget you can apply for funding from the Immeasurably More project
or submit an entry for an Immeasurably More award
or Champion of Change award.**

"Immeasurably more than we can imagine"



The St Benet's Immeasurably More Project aims to actively promote, encourage and facilitate aspirational learning experiences across all the schools within the Trust, celebrating equality, diversity, belonging, inclusion and justice at every opportunity.

Opportunities for Schools

- ◇ Apply to the Immeasurably More Fund for money to support with financial barriers for specific projects focused on social change
- ◇ Apply for an Immeasurably More Than Award, in the following categories:
 1. Immeasurably More than just Pupil Leadership (inc Courageous Advocacy)
 2. Immeasurably More than just Celebrating Difference
 3. Immeasurably More than just Music and the Arts
 4. Immeasurably More than just a Curriculum
 5. Immeasurably More than just a School (once all above are achieved)

Opportunities for Pupils

- ◇ Schools will be able to nominate pupils to be a "St Benet's Champion of Change", awarded for instigating and following through with their own projects which are focused on issues of justice, responsibility and courageous advocacy



Did you know...

St Benet's pays for all its employees to have free access to the Spectrum.Life employee wellbeing service. If you haven't registered yet, follow the simple instructions below to sign up online.



The online platform is accessible from this link:

<https://donesc.spectrum.life/login?org=DoNESC>

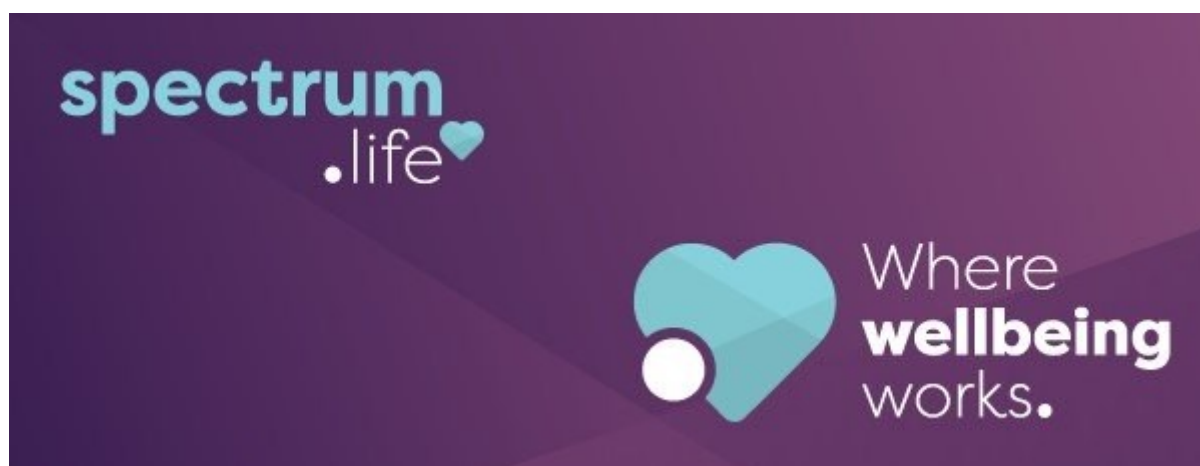
On the home page you will be asked to enter your name and email address, create a password and choose who you work for from a drop-down menu (you should choose St Benet's) and this will then take you through to the welcome page. If you download the app it will ask for your Organisation Code which is DoNESC. If you have any problems registering, please contact **wendy.allsop@donesc.org**

The Spectrum.Life service also includes access to 6 free counselling sessions (virtual or face-to-face) via the Employee Assistance Programme, access to a Discount Marketplace, advice on fitness, nutrition and many articles, videos and audios around wellbeing.

There are weekly running guides, advice on stress, diabetes, sleep, menopause, heart health, exercise videos and much more.

B-Comms will focus on some of these specific areas in future issues and your Headteachers will be receiving some promotional material to share with you.

We encourage you to sign up and make use of Spectrum.Life; it's there for your benefit!





Our Values

Honesty (n. Being honest; truthfulness)

I have chosen the way of truth.

Psalms 119:30

Courage (n. Bravery, boldness)

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Compassion (n. A response to other people's suffering which goes beyond sympathy and is expressed in taking action to help)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

Hope (n. Expectation and desire combined; feeling of trust)

But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Romans 8:25