

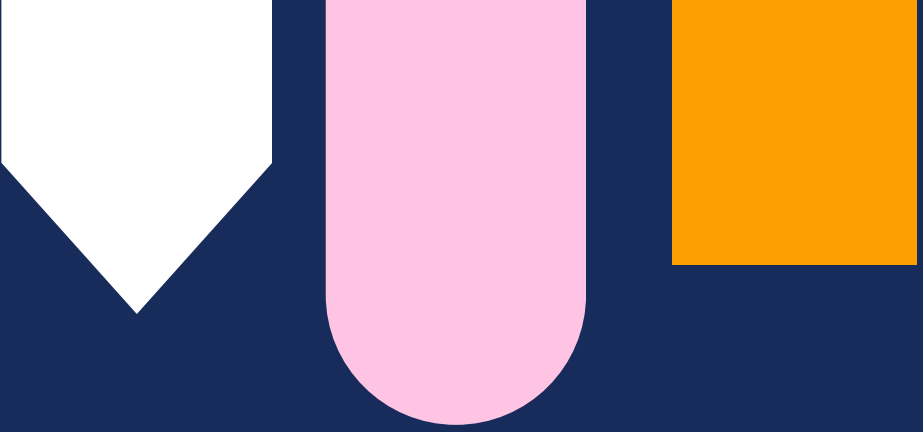
THE BURGATE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

**Welcome back
to the new
academic year
2024 - 2025**




Extra-Curricular





This year, every department will run its own extra-curricular clubs and activities. This will ensure students can explore a huge range of opportunities and develop new passions and hobbies. Students will also be awarded recognition points for their participation.

At The Burgate, curiosity is one of our three school values and we know that so much learning happens outside the classroom and the formal curriculum. We encourage all students to join a club or take part in an activity and start their extra-curricular journey this academic year!

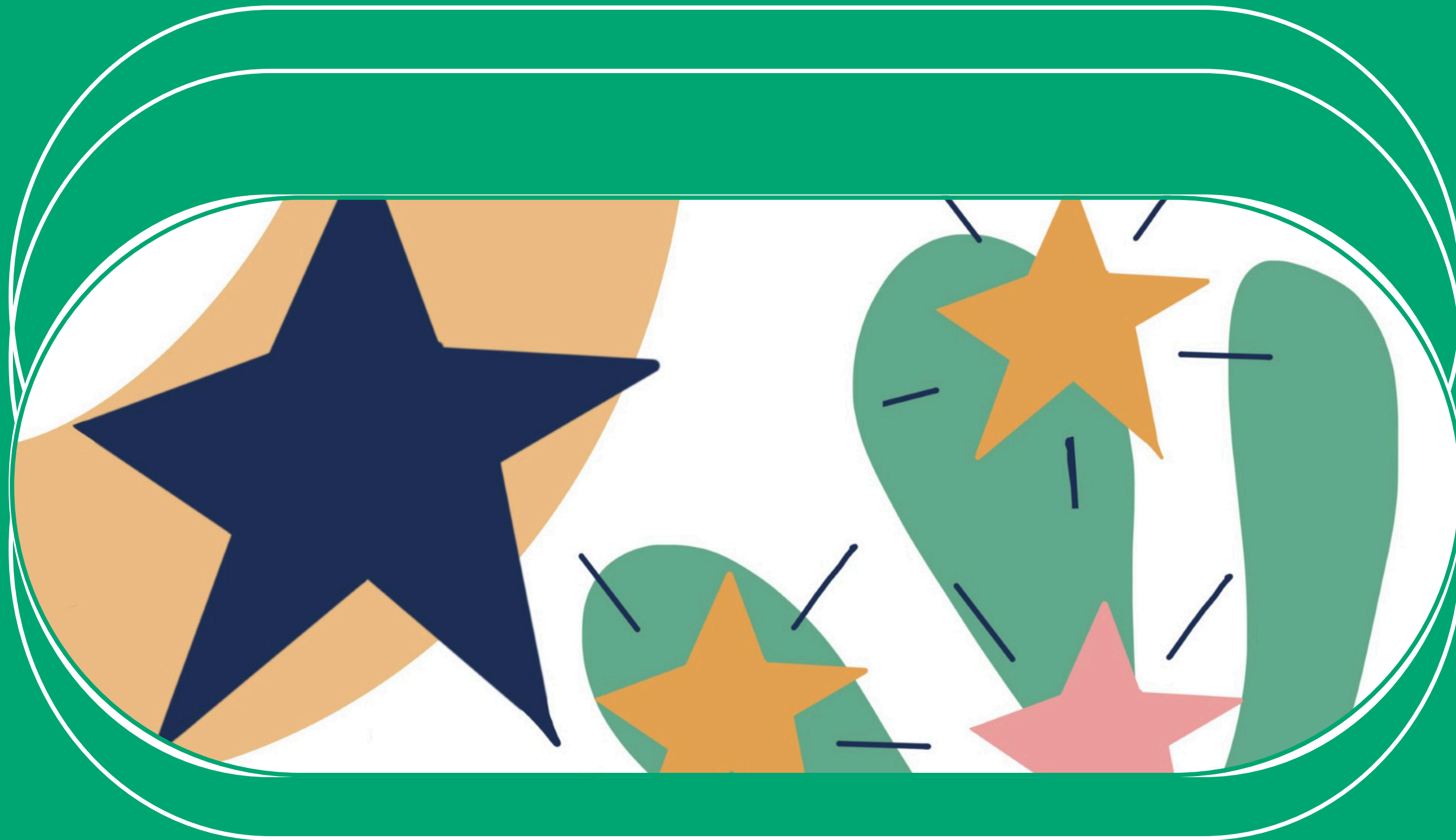




Please visit our website to view our live list of extra-curricular clubs and activities for this year.



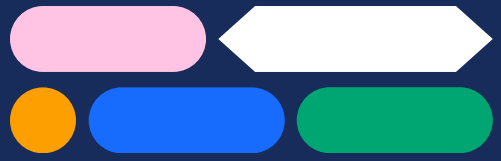
School Fund



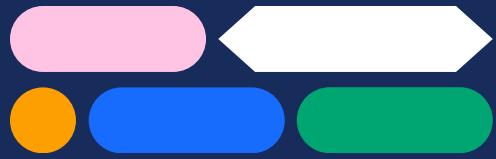
We are continually looking at ways to develop and improve the school and we are proud of the learning environment that we provide for our students; voluntary contributions from parents to the school can make a real difference to this.

This year, we are raising money for our IT resources which is a key objective of this year's school improvement plan. We aspire to develop our STEAM resources across the curriculum.





Science
Technology
Engineering
Art
Maths



Do remember that Burgate Artists are always keen to show you their projects on www.instagram.com/burgateartists.

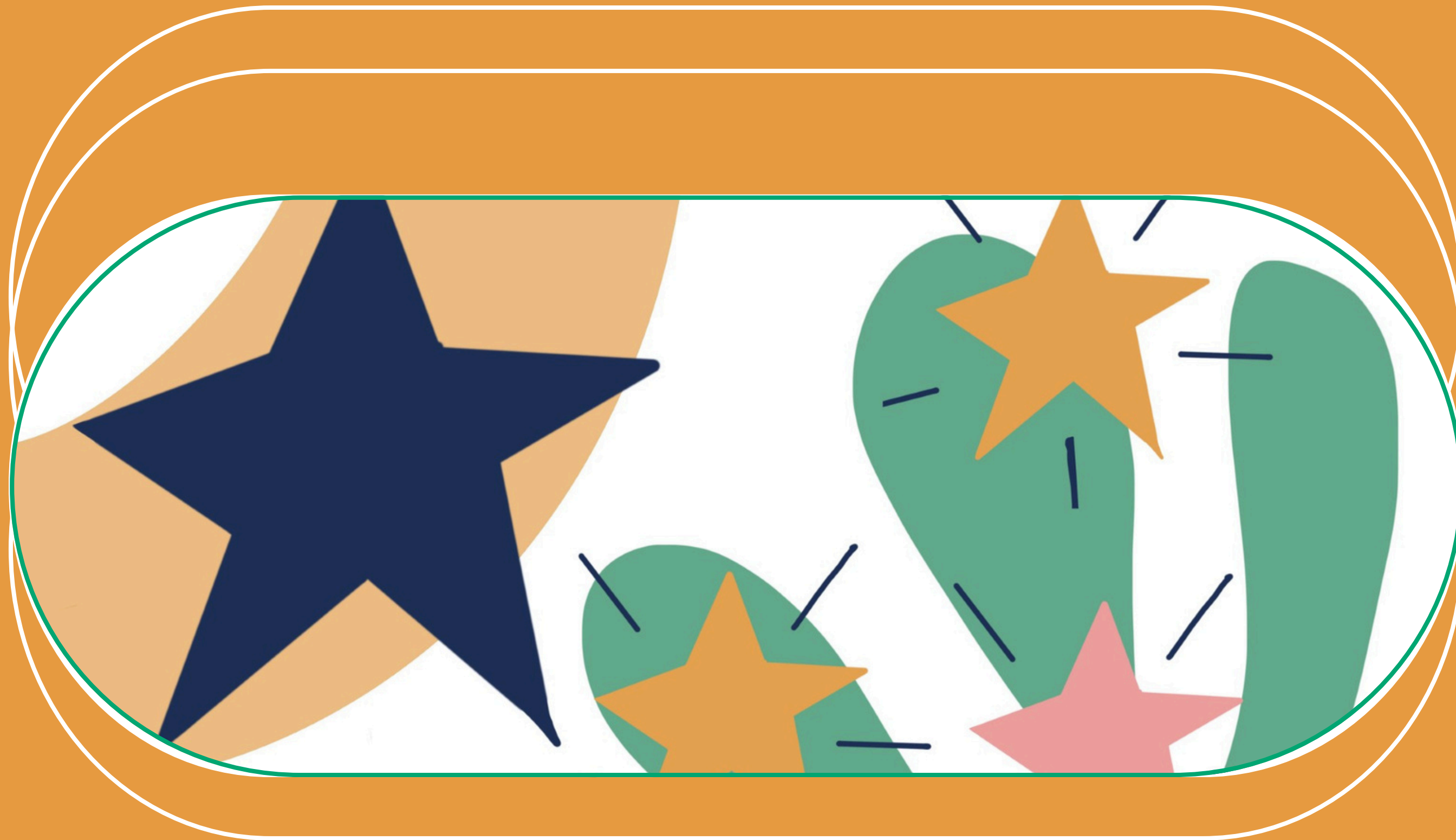
If you have not yet made a contribution this year and wish to do so, you can make a payment via the School Gateway. Alternatively, you can fill in the reply slip on page 14 of this newsletter and return it in an envelope clearly marked School Fund 2024/25 together with your child's name and tutor group.

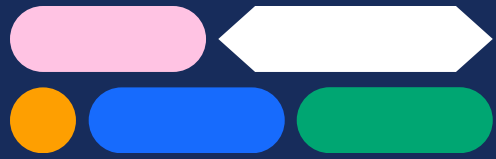
Under the Government's Gift Aid scheme, we are able to claim Gift Aid back from the Inland Revenue on eligible donations. If you are a UK taxpayer please complete a Gift Aid declaration. Every pound donated by you is worth £1.25 to the school, making your donation go even further.

We thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any additional ideas about how we can use the contributions from the School Fund to advance the school.



Calendar



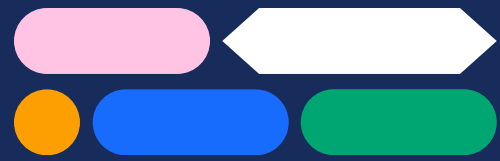


The holiday dates for 2024/25 can be found on the school website to help plan your holidays outside of term time. Holidays taken during the school term will not be authorised and parents may be fined in line with Hampshire guidance.



Attendance





School attendance is central to raising standards in education and ensuring all students can fulfil their potential. Therefore, students need to attend school regularly to benefit from the curriculum and lay solid foundations for future education, training and employment. School attendance is vital to the life chances of young people; being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation.

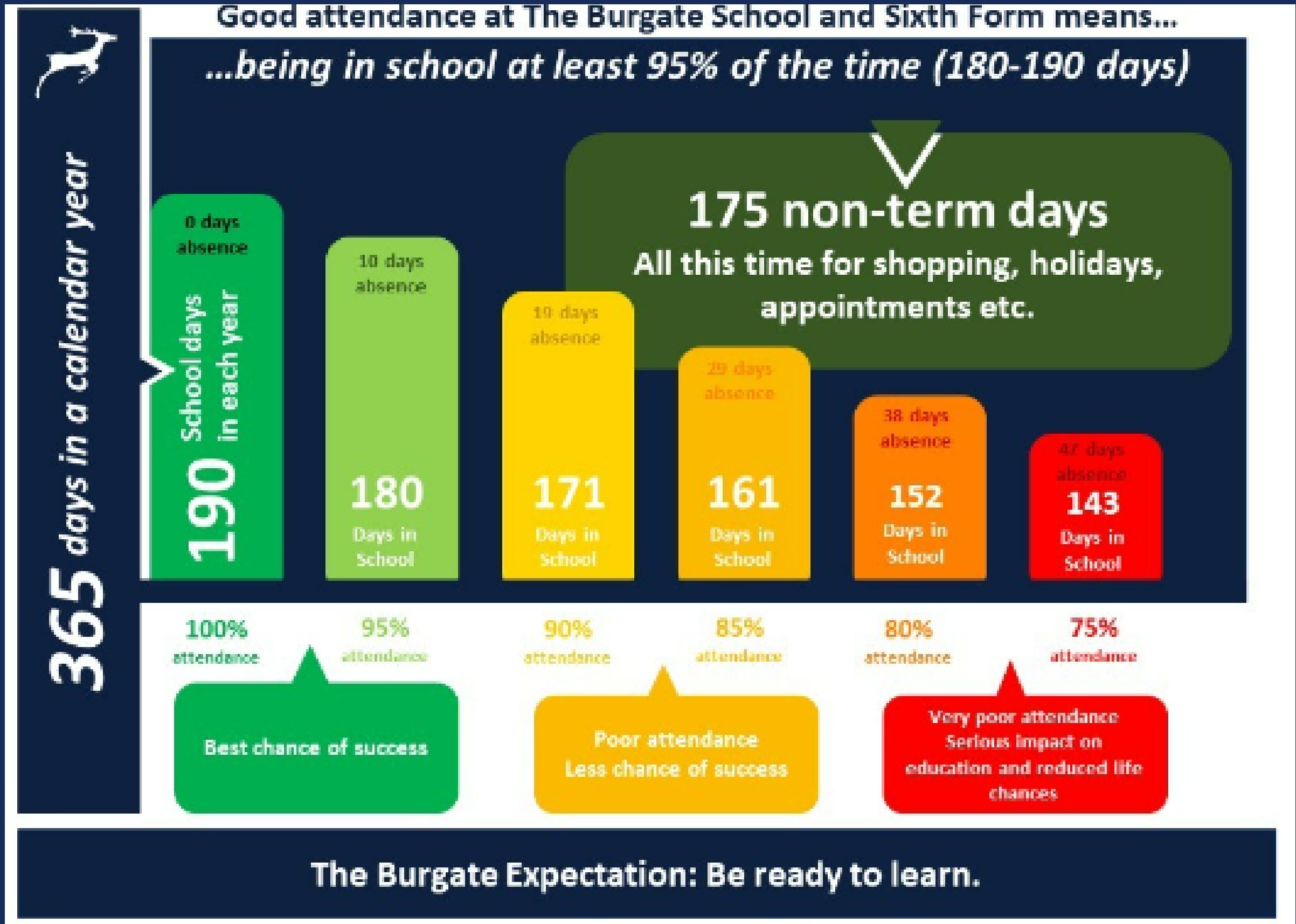
Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less both academically and socially. Regular school attendance and routines are also one of the best ways to protect a child's mental and physical health.

We actively encourage and expect parents to arrange appointments such as dental check-ups and non-urgent medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. Any time missed from school can disrupt learning. If it is an essential appointment, you must ensure the school is fully aware of the arrangements and collect your child in person. This is vital to safeguard your children. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

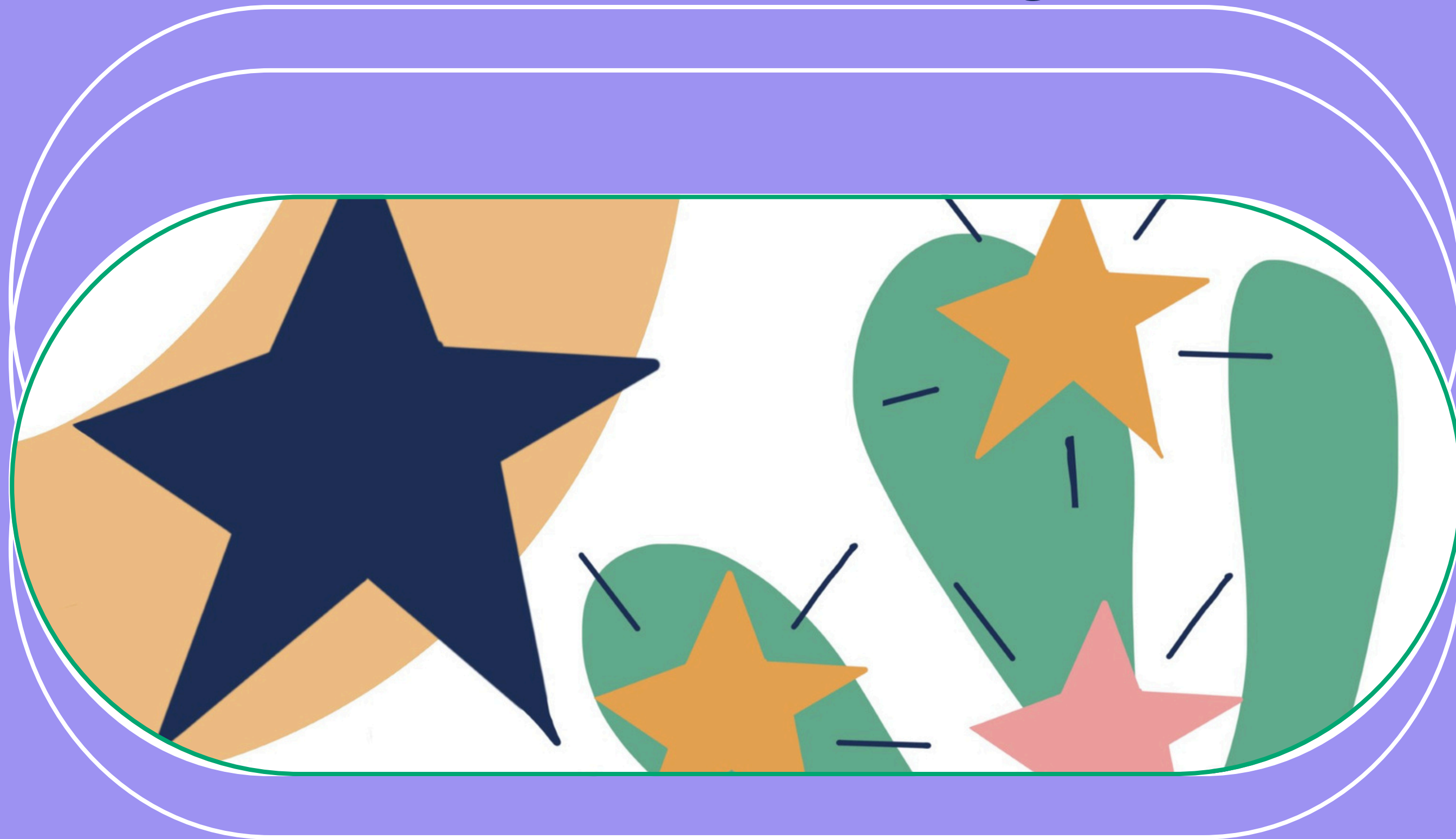
Reporting any absence from school is easy. Either call the school office on 01425 652039, or email attendance@burgate.hants.sch.uk.

We are always striving to maximise attendance at school. If your child wakes up feeling poorly, but feels better as the morning goes on, please don't hesitate to send them in halfway through the day.

At The Burgate, every lesson counts.



Student Wellbeing



Our wellbeing team is well resourced and thoroughly trained, collaborating with highly qualified, experienced and specialist members of the pastoral team. Collectively we work with young people and their friends and families, where appropriate, to support their everyday emotional needs.

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance. This is a really important first step. They will guide you to the best person to help you or your child.

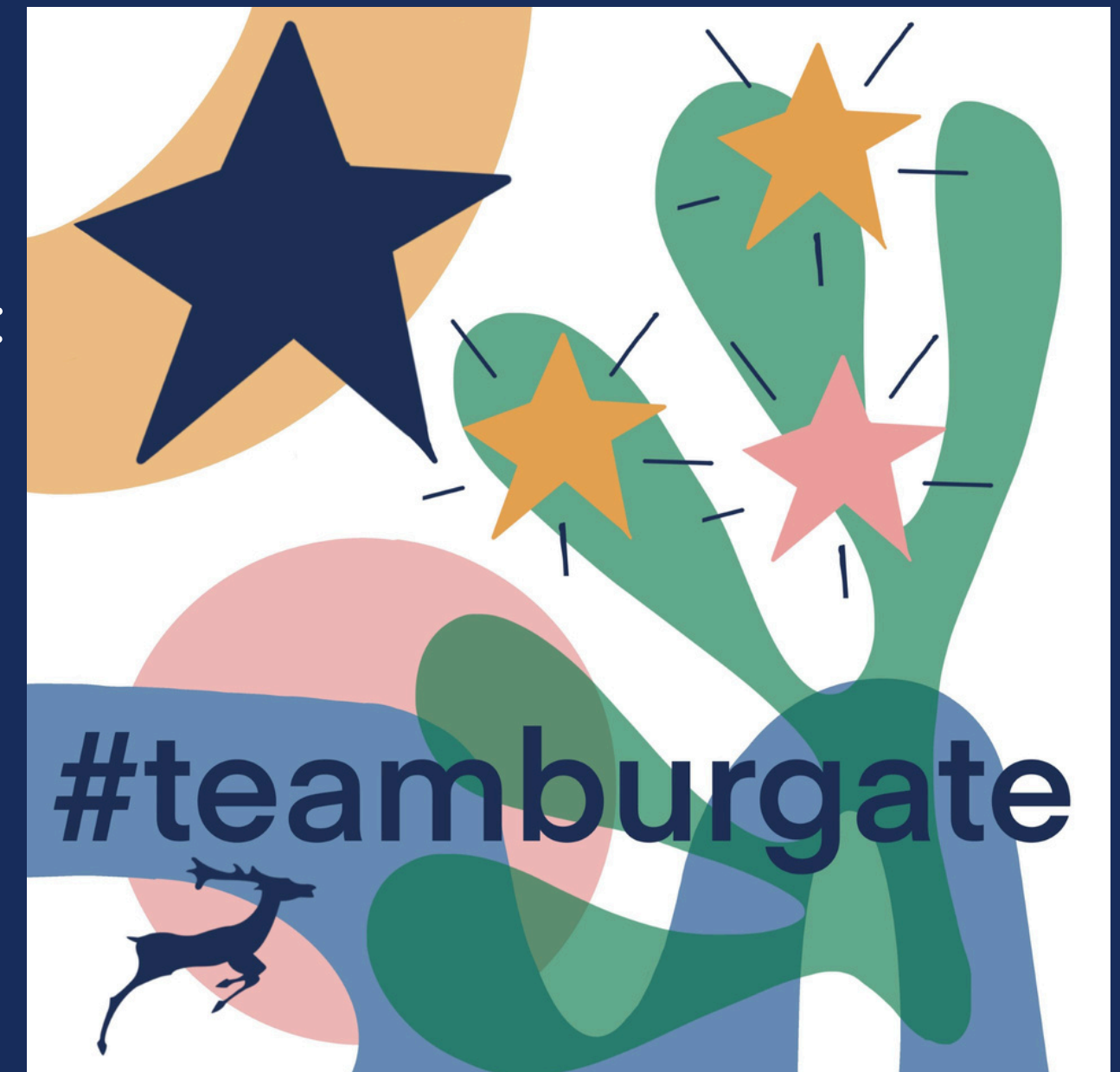
For Head of Year 7 contact HOY7@burgate.hants.sch.uk

For Head of Year 8 contact HOY8@burgate.hants.sch.uk etc.

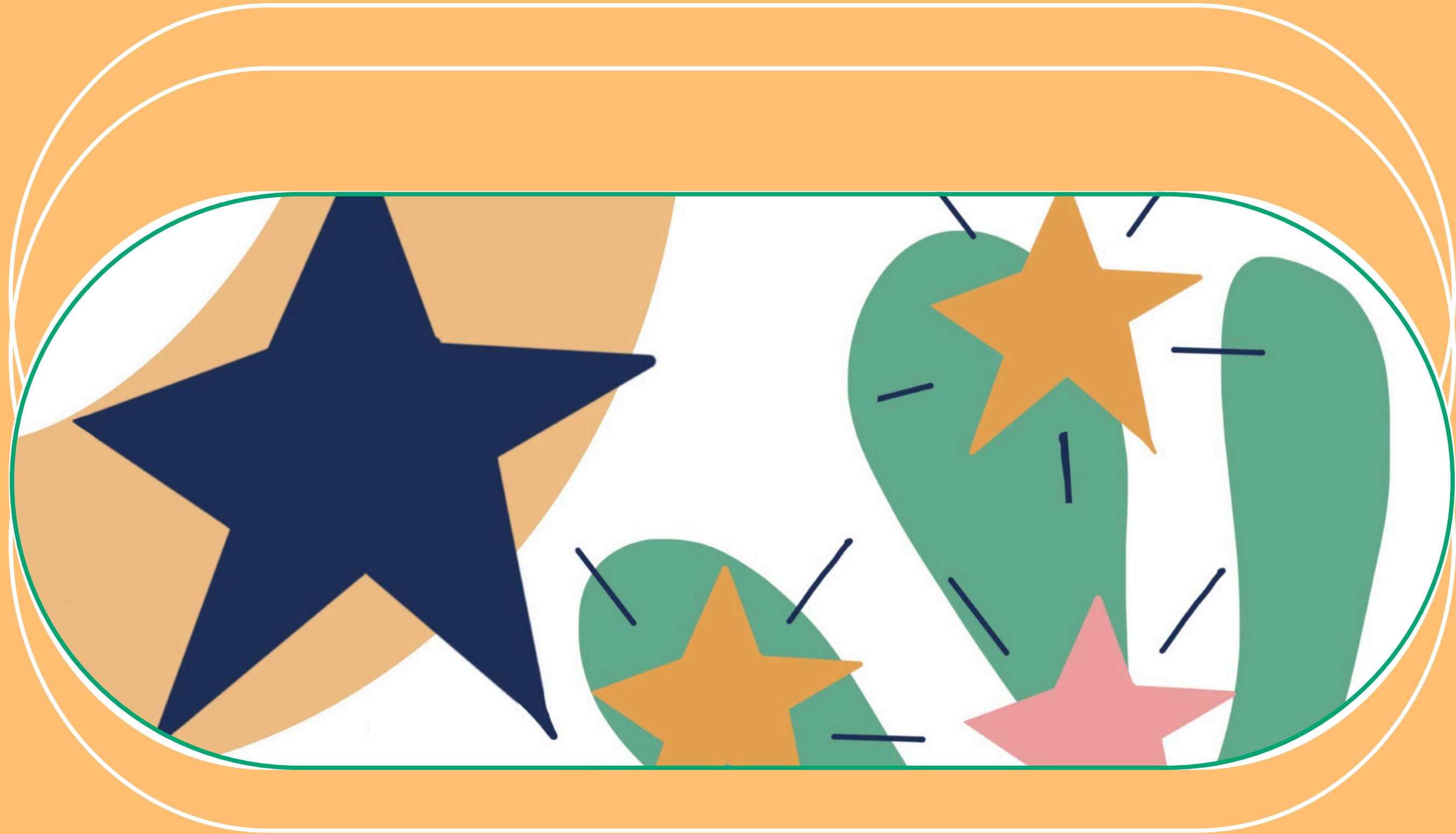
For Sixth Form pastoral contact:
sixthform@burgate.hants.sch.uk

Our in-school Wellbeing team offers a range of support strategies, including well-established links with external and independent charities and agencies.

If you have any concerns about your child's emotional health and wellbeing, please email wellbeing@burgate.hants.sch.uk



Reading & Literacy



At The Burgate, we know that regular reading and strong literacy skills underpin not only our students' academic progress but also their communication skills, empathy and wellbeing. Studies have shown that spending just twenty minutes reading a high-quality text each day can be transformative for children, opening their eyes to new ideas and vocabulary, and setting them up for success. Teachers receive regular training to ensure that they understand how to broaden and strengthen students' vocabulary and build their reading skills in lessons. Students also have more opportunities than ever to engage with reading for pleasure:

“Drop Everything and Read” (DEAR) continues in tutor lessons every Friday afternoon with tutors choosing a class reader to enjoy with their groups.

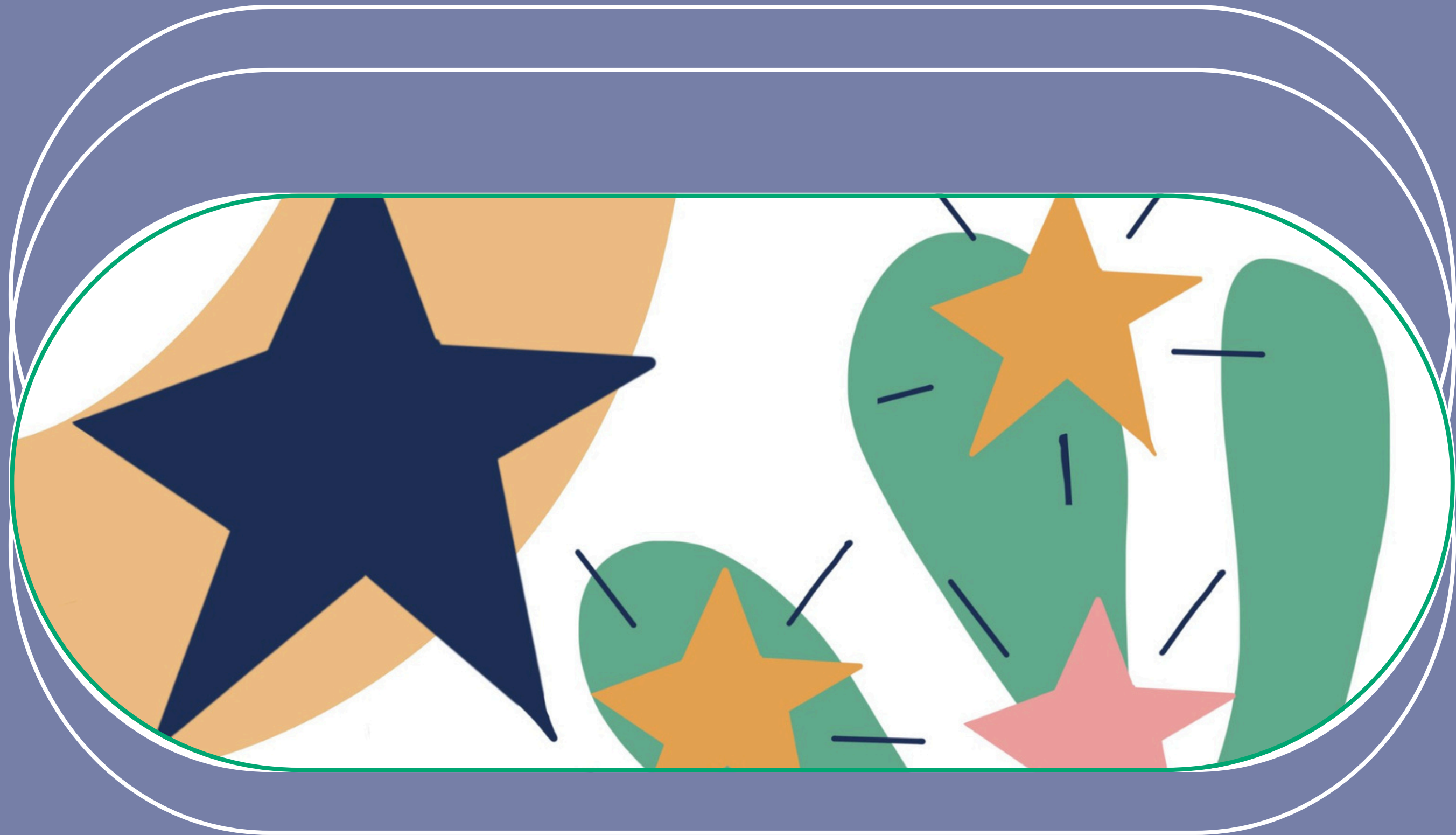
The Year 7 English curriculum continues to go from strength to strength and includes exciting, diverse, and engaging class reader texts that complement each topic.

A new reading for pleasure strategy will also be launched this term to encourage students to visit the library, choose a book that suits their interests, and log their progress.

Whatever you like to read (whether it's fiction, non-fiction or even a graphic novel or two), being a reader opens a lifetime of learning. So, find a quiet spot, turn off that screen for twenty minutes and immerse yourself in a good book.



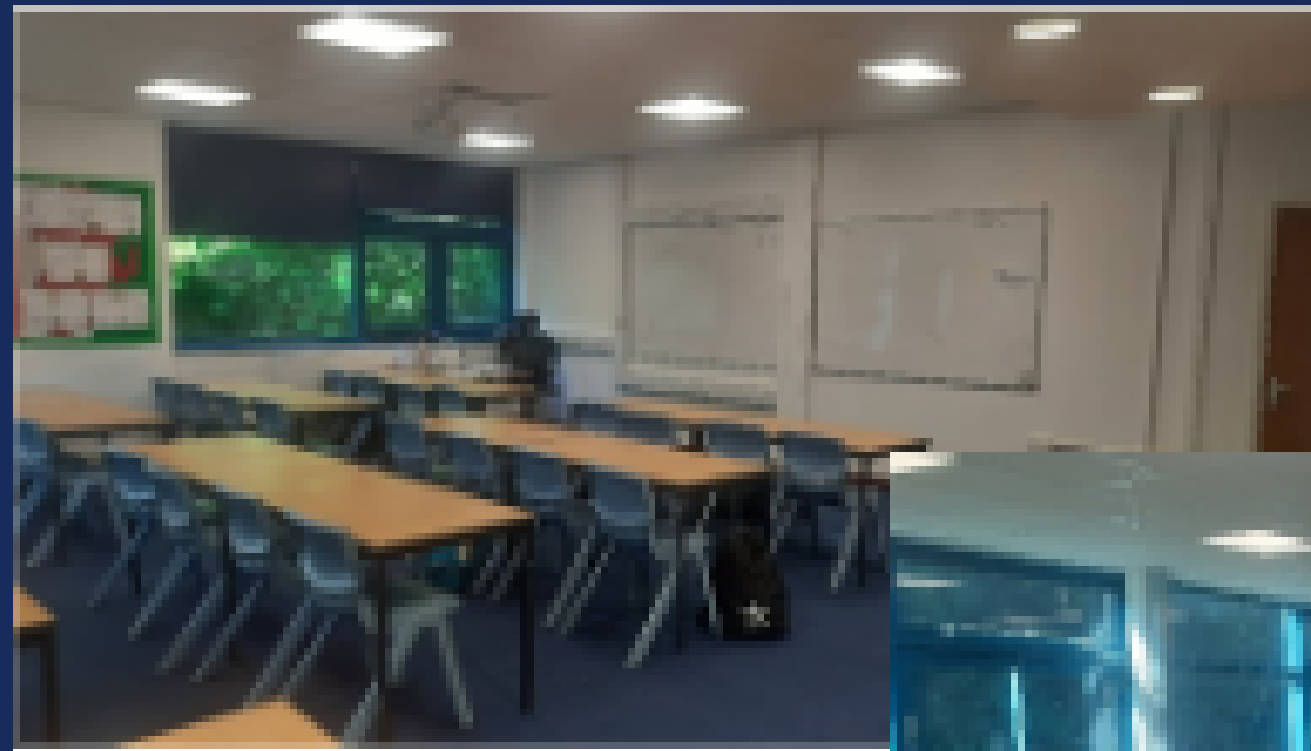
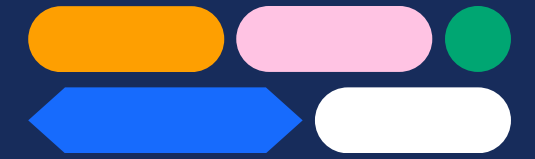
Site Works



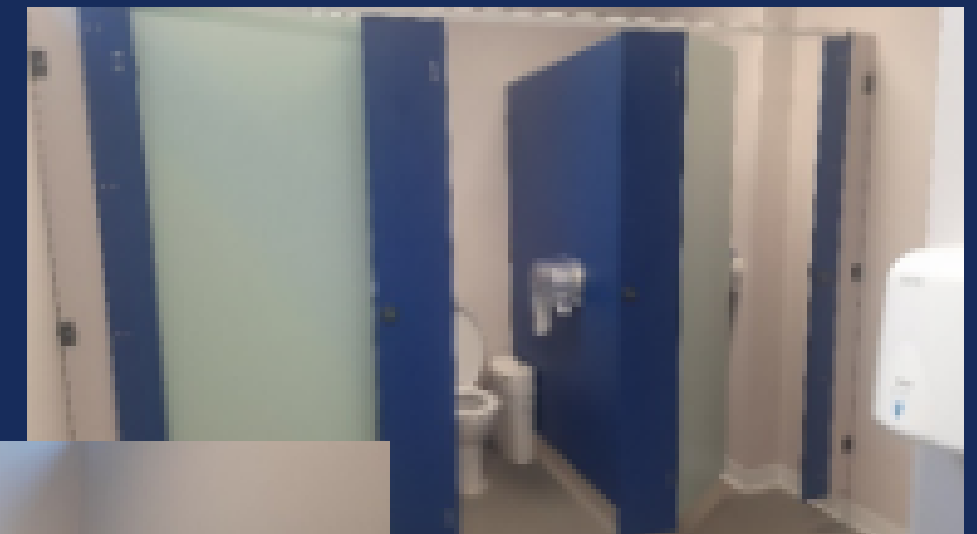
Work continues across the school site on a full electrical rewire and a new hardwired fire alarm system.

During the summer holidays, extensive work was completed in the technology and humanities departments. This included new lighting and decorative upgrades to multiple rooms.

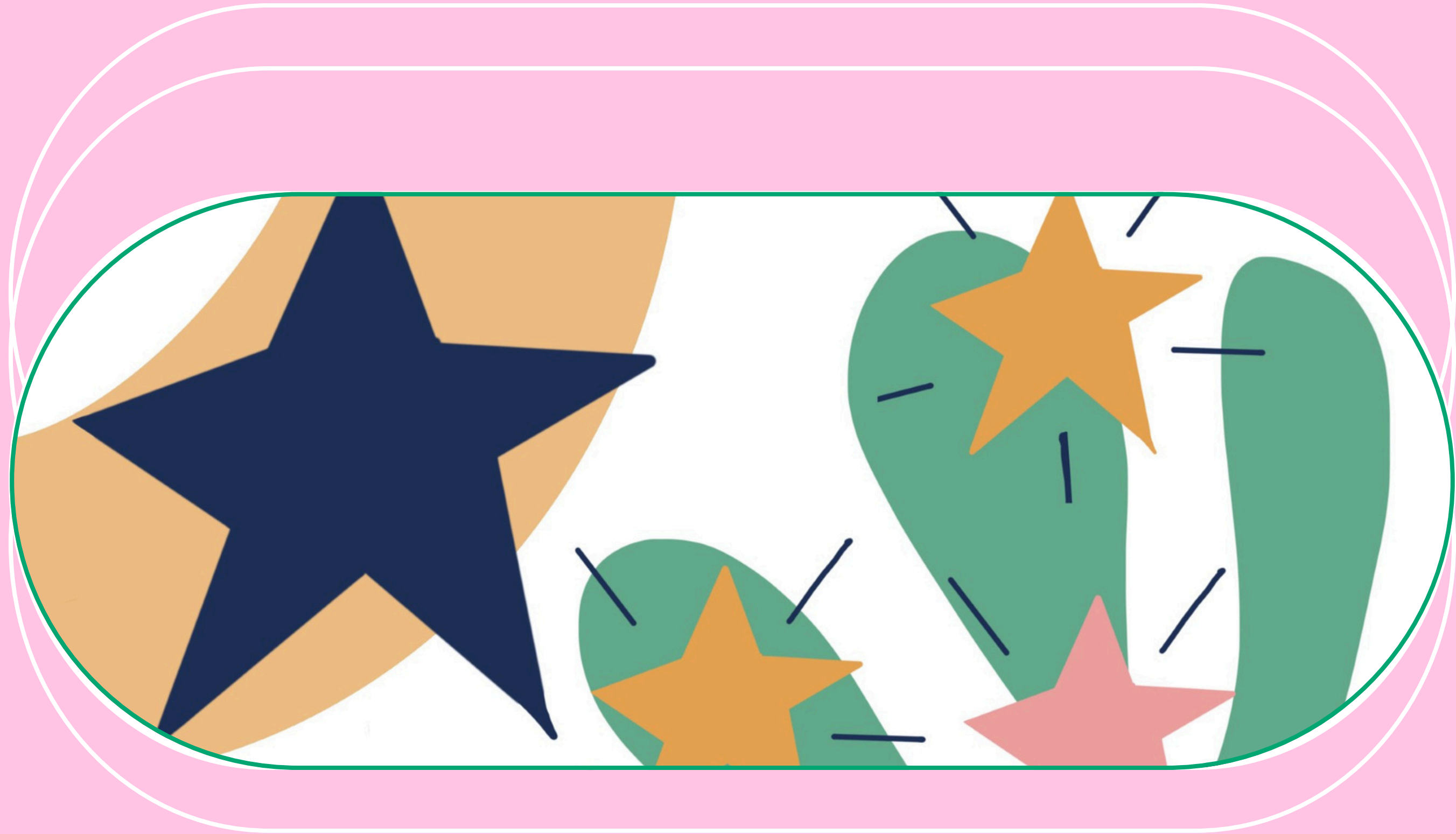
The project will continue through the main school and is expected to last until early to mid-2025.



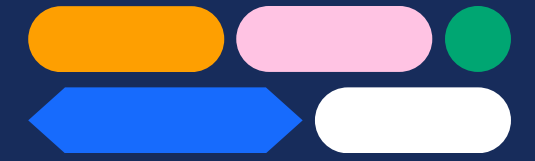
Elsewhere, we were delighted to proceed with the refit of our Year 11 girls' toilets. Many students were involved in the new layout and design, even choosing the final colour scheme. The new space has been very positively received and we thank all those who shared their feedback with us.



Careers



Here at The Burgate we aim to provide our students with the knowledge and experience to make informed decisions about their future choices regarding higher education, apprenticeships, training or work. From the beginning of Year 7 we begin that journey and support our students to develop their employability skills, such as communication, teamwork and motivation. As our students move through the school and into our sixth form we actively encourage and support them to engage in work experience, volunteering and leadership opportunities.



All students have access to Unifrog, a great careers platform, which helps them log careers-related activities and research future pathways. Careers Week takes place every March, which sees a range of talks, workshops, and a Future Pathways Evening, all aimed at helping students be better informed about their future decisions.

If you would like any advice or guidance, please email careers@burgate.hants.sch.uk



Hampshire Safe is an initiative developed by the headteachers of New Forest schools, which is now widely adopted across Hampshire and beyond. The strategy involves continuously working with students to raise further their awareness of the impact of substance misuse. As part of this anti-drug strategy, drug detection dogs will periodically be deployed in school to help ensure our premises are drugs free.

We wish to reassure you that the dogs will be deployed to search a whole building and not individuals. However, during their search the dogs may detect drugs on students or in property belonging to students. Should that happen, anyone suspected to be in possession of illegal substances may be searched. Police assistance will be provided where necessary and parents informed at the earliest opportunity. Additionally, students and families affected would be signposted to counselling and family support services.

We believe that by working together we can not only raise awareness of the impact of substance misuse but also put measures in place to stop it from happening at our school and college. This year the Hampshire Safe initiative will be extended to tackle the issue of vaping, which is a current challenge faced by secondary schools.



Emergency Contact Details

It is important that we have at least two emergency contact numbers for every child and that contact details are accurate and up to date, particularly if there have been any changes of parental responsibility.

All data submitted regarding parental contact is used for 'School Comms' purposes. 'School Comms' is our electronic system for contacting parents via email or mobile phone. We recommend you download the SIMS Parent app.

This app will enable you to keep track of your child's behaviour and recognition points and attendance. If you believe any of your contact details are incorrect or no longer in use, please contact the school immediately and we will update this. If you have any questions or problems with this app please email ictsupport@burgate.hants.sch.uk



Student Profile



Parents will have direct access to Student Profiles via the SIMS Parent app. Parents will be able to respond directly to the School Comms e-mail with any queries they may have, and all responses will be monitored and passed on to the relevant member of staff.

Please contact assessment@burgate.hants.sch.uk should you have any further questions. If you wish to receive paper copies of all assessment information, please advise the school accordingly.

Each student receives three Student Profiles per year: two termly reviews and one annual review. These reports include progress expectations for Year 7 – 8 and current working grades for Year 9 – 13 along with our Engagement in Learning scores for all students. This score will show if your child is:

Beyond expectations

Meeting expectations

Working towards expectations

Working below expectations

The report also contains descriptors explaining the criteria students have fulfilled and what they need to do to move to the next level.



Parents Evening

Our virtual Parents' Evenings are conducted through School Cloud. Parents will be contacted through School Comms with log in details the week before their child's evening to enable them to book appointments.

Year 7: 1/4/2025

Year 8: 29/4/2025

Year 9: 20/5/2025

Year 10: 11/6/2025

Year 11: 15/1/2025

Year 12: 11/12/2024

Year 13: 27/2/2025



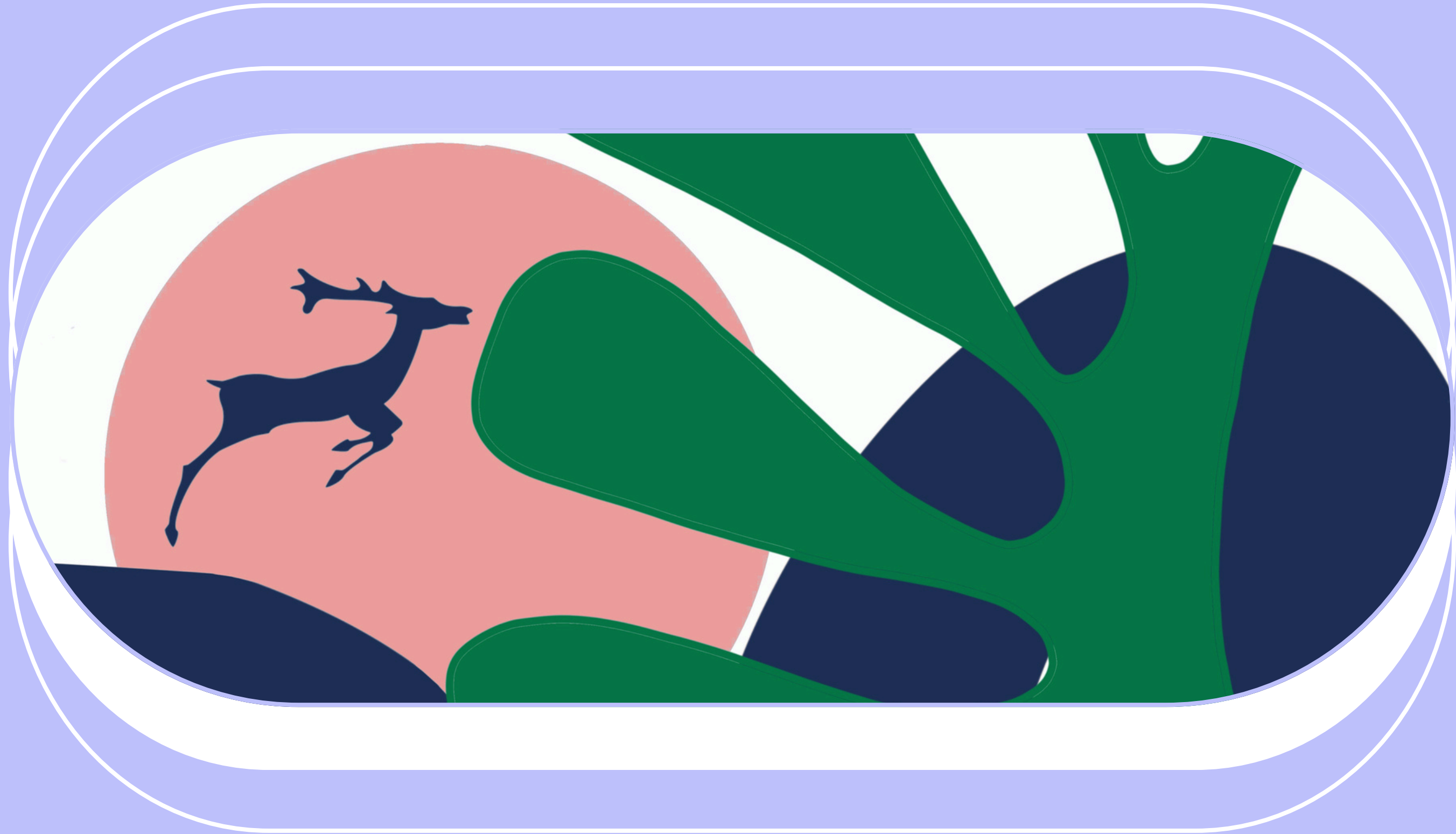
Emergency Closure Procedure



If it is necessary to close the school and/or the college for any reason, up to date information will be posted on the school website and parents will be messaged through School Comms. Students will also be notified through Microsoft Teams. Provided a member of staff who lives locally can get into school, the school answer machine message will be updated and if appropriate the phone will be operated.

Please assume that the school will be open and running normally unless you receive confirmation of closure from one of these sources. In the event of possible closure, due to the large distances some students and staff travel to school, and to aid our parent body, we endeavour to make any closure decision as early as possible.

Uniform



Main School Uniform

We have begun the year with our expectations assemblies focusing on our school vision, expectations and values. The majority of our students have begun with exceptionally smart uniform and a positive “ready to learn” attitude. Spare uniform can be loaned where possible from student reception, for students who come to school without items such as ties or blazers. False nails and eyelashes are not for school and students will be asked to remove them. Please support us by ensuring these are removed immediately. Uniform will be checked every day by tutors to ensure our students are ready to learn. We greatly appreciate your continued support in making sure all our students come to school in the correct uniform to ensure a positive start to their school day.

School Uniform

- Burgate blazers are to be worn by all students at all times
- Skirts are to be the Burgate skirt with the Deer logo or a black pencil skirt. Skirts are to be worn at a suitable length. Tube stretch skirts are not accepted.
- With skirts, tights must be worn in winter and black trainer socks in the summer (no white socks)
- Trousers should be black and trouser material (not jean or chino)
- With trousers, black socks must be worn (no white socks)
- White shirts can be an open neck blouse or a button shirt. If buttoned, a Burgate tie must be worn
- Year 11 have blue shirts with silver and blue tie
- Shoes must be black leather with a black leather sole (no air cushioning or fabric trainers can be worn)

Optional items of school uniform

- Burgate School jumper (no hoodies will be allowed in school)
- Black school suit shorts (available from Price and Buckland and our school website). These shorts are the only acceptable variety. Chinos and sports shorts are not permitted.

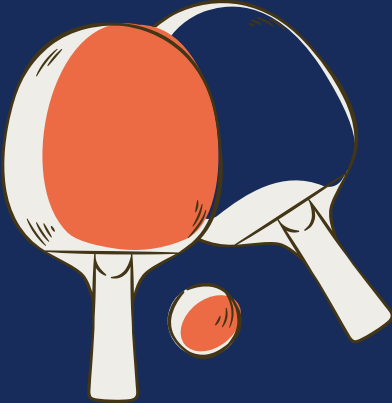
Jewellery and Makeup

- Hair should be a natural colour and not extreme in length or style
- Piercings must be studs with only one set in the ears
- One nose stud is permitted but this must be healed in order to be removed for PE. Students must wear a small clear stud in school
- No bracelets or any other jewellery is to be worn unless a medical talisman or watch
- Acrylic nails are not allowed due to health and safety
- False eyelashes are not to be worn to school

PE kit

- Burgate blue polo top
- Burgate skirt or shorts
- Blue rugby socks and white sports socks
- Trainers/ Astro footwear
- Burgate branded tracksuit bottoms only
- Blue or Black plain base layers or Burgate versions
- Gum shield/shin pads





PE Department Update

PE lessons have started well with fantastic engagement in both lessons and extra-curricular clubs. All PE uniform can be ordered directly via the link on the school website. If you prefer to buy non-school branded shorts/leggings/socks/tracksuit trousers, please ensure that shorts/leggings/tracksuit trousers are navy blue or black with no logos or contrasting colour design. Socks must be white sports socks or long royal blue football socks. All students will require studded footwear for either Football and/or Rugby lessons, with shin pads and gumshield strongly recommended.

Last year, we proudly opened the new 3G pitch, a major investment for the school and local community. Please ensure your child brings footwear suitable for use on astroturf as detailed on the next two slides. Please also note that in PE, all students must remove all piercings and all jewellery at the beginning of every lesson. Plastic retainer items such as clear piercings must also be removed as they pose the same risks as metal items. Taping over jewellery is not an appropriate mitigation under recent national health and safety guidance. Thank you for your continued support and please keep an eye out for all our enrichment opportunities throughout the Autumn Term.





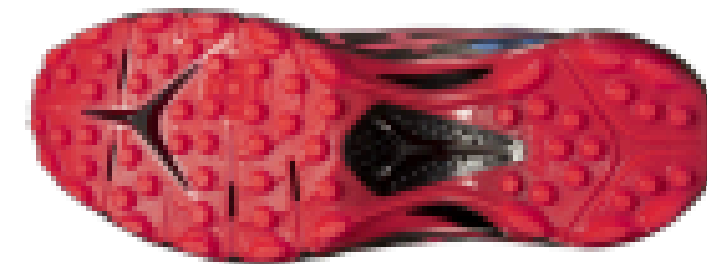
TigerTurf

Appropriate Footwear
for a TigerTurf 3G Pitch

Use round plastic-studded footwear only
(no metal studs)



Do not use dimpled or flat soled shoes



Footwear should always be clean and in good condition

Homework

Homework continues to form a crucial part of our students' learning at The Burgate. All homework will be set on Microsoft Teams which will allow teachers, students and parents to share homework and to communicate effectively. Students will be given a week to complete homework tasks. There are three main objectives for homework: firstly, to help students progress through the curriculum; secondly, to reinforce the learning that has already happened; finally, to encourage independent learning.

Homework club takes place Tuesday - Thursday (15.00 - 15.45) in the Learning Hub to support any student who needs it or to offer a place where students can complete some homework independently before leaving school. Access to computers is available during these sessions.



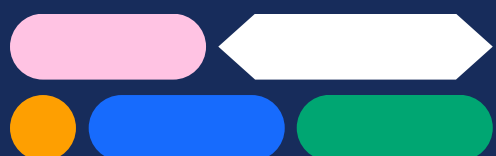


School Gateway



Our method of payment is via the School Gateway. If you have not already accessed the School Gateway please visit the homepage on our website and click on the 'SCHOOL GATEWAY' link or download the app.

Enter the email address and mobile phone number that the school will contact you on and a pin number will be sent to your mobile number to enable access. If you need any further support, please email: ictsupport@burgate.hants.sch.uk



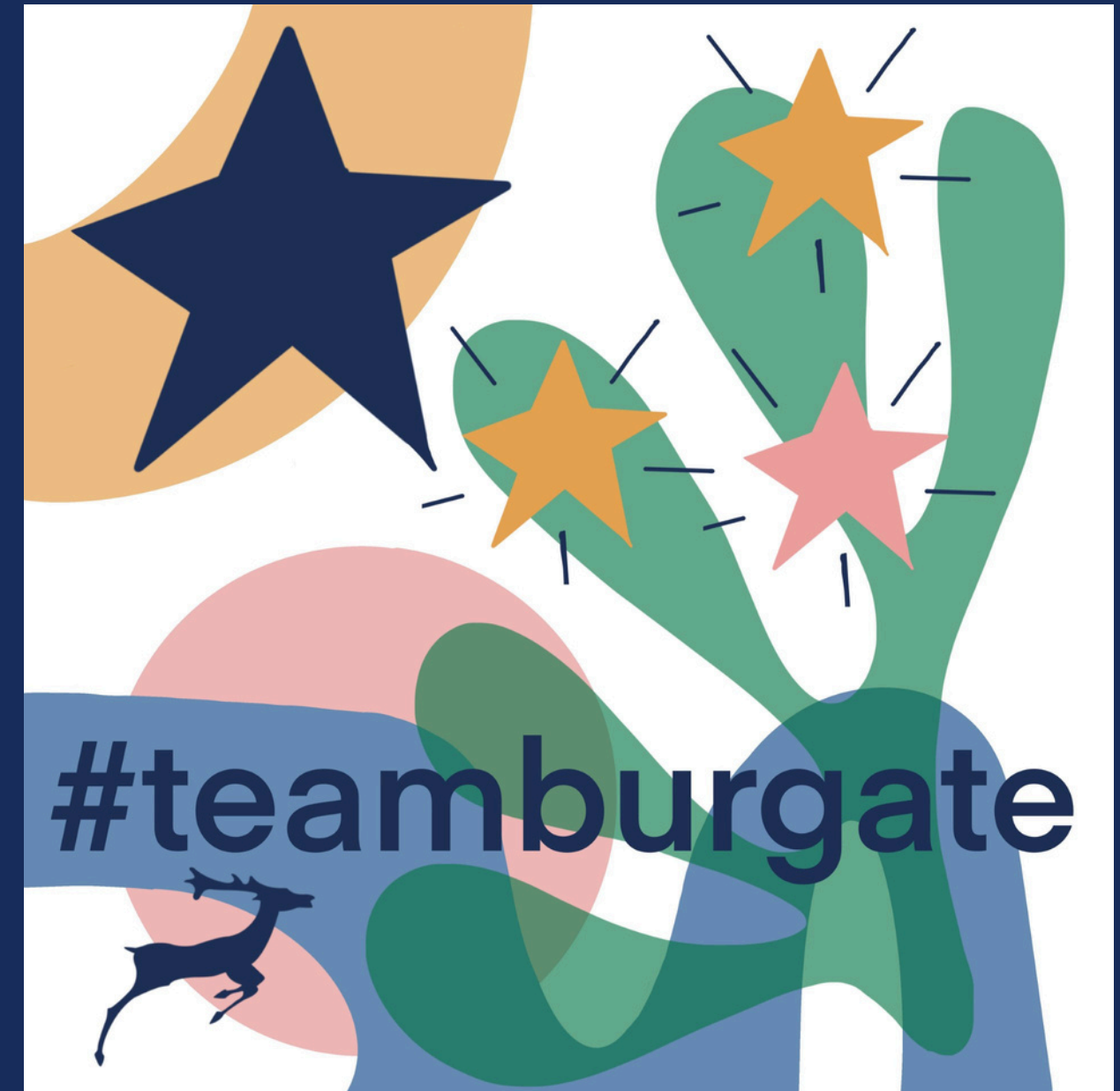
Pupil Premium/Bursary Students

In order to support all of our students fully it helps the school enormously if eligible families register their child for Free School Meals.

The Government is giving more money to schools to help children from lower income families to do their very best (this funding is called the 'Pupil Premium').

Please read the attached information to see if you qualify and to make sure your child does not miss out on extra funding for their education. Please be reassured that this information is treated with total confidentiality.

The school is also eligible to receive Pupil Premium Plus funding for adopted children. If your child is adopted from care and you have not yet informed the school but would like to do so, please email Mrs J Price at jprice@burgate.hants.sch.uk



Registering for Free School Meals

You can register your child for Free School Meals if you are in receipt of one or more of these benefits:

- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit - In England, if you apply on or after 1 April 2019 your household income must be less than £7400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get). If your child is currently eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish their current phase of schooling (primary or secondary) on 31 March 2025.

Students can also register for Free School Meals if they get any of these benefits themselves.

Registering is straightforward – if you think you qualify go on-line for an immediate decision by using the new online Free School Meal Eligibility Checking Service. Hampshire County Council Catering Services (HC3S) has launched a new online service so parents can check their eligibility for free school meals themselves.

This self-service option is at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>



Please note that the criteria for free school meals is the same, regardless of the method of checking eligibility, but for the online service all you need to do is enter your name, national insurance number or asylum number, your address and your child's details. Press 'submit' and you will find out if you are eligible.

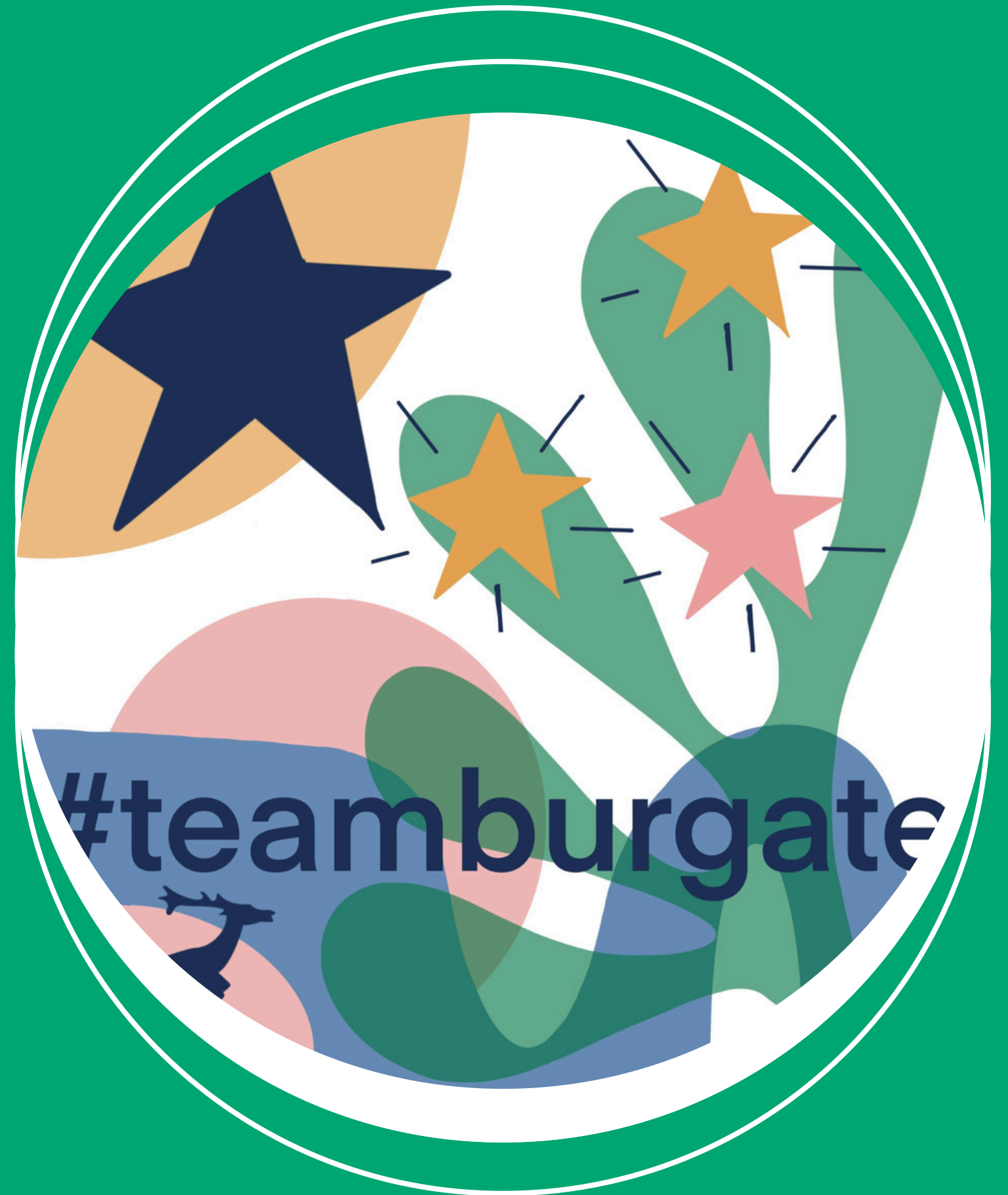
If your result comes back 'found', this means your child is eligible for free school meals and the system automatically tells your school.

If your child is eligible to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime – they will receive the free meal and the school receives £1035 additional funding. With this money we will buy new lesson resources for the classes that your child is in. This could be new text books, IT equipment or other special subject resources. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get, for example, money towards school uniform costs or help with costs of educational school trips.

If you don't want your child to have a free school meal, you can apply as normal – as long as you qualify and are registered, the school will still receive £1,035 funding.

For more information or help with registering please contact Mrs J Price on 01425 652039 or jprice@burgate.hants.sch.uk

School Improvement Plan

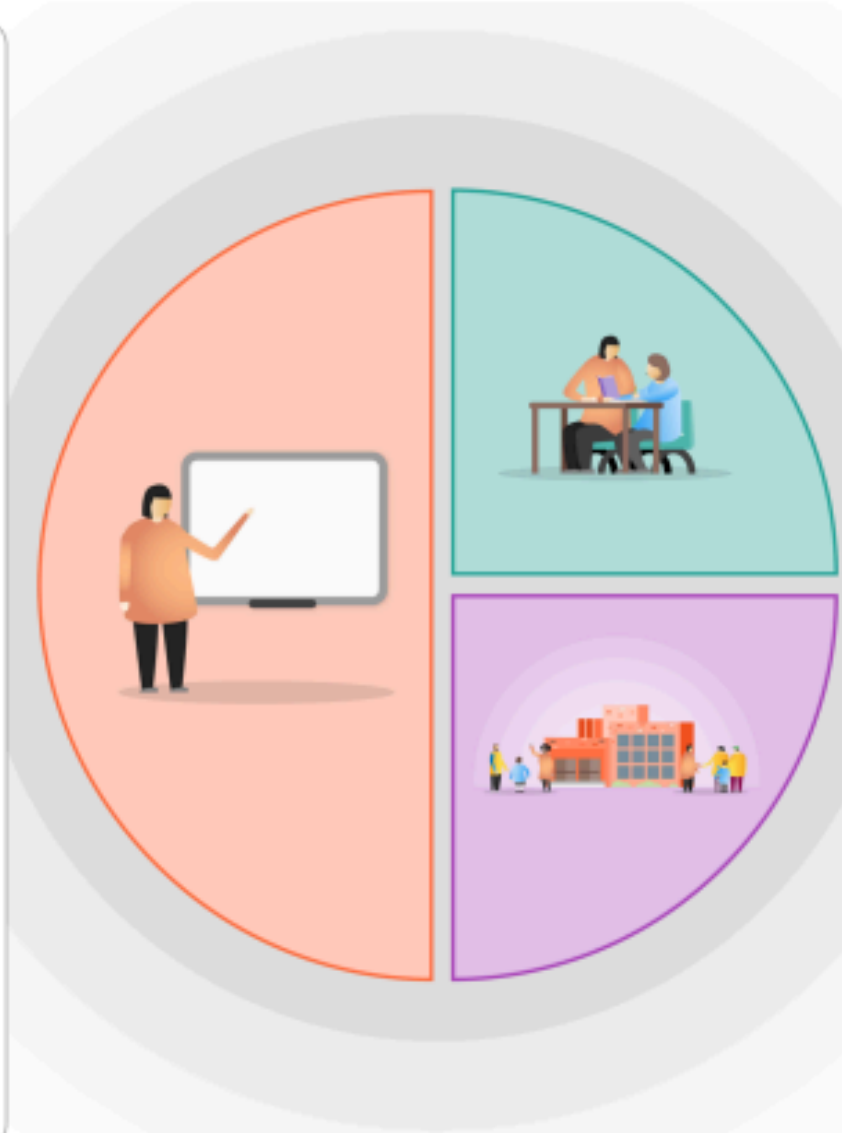




Implement a new learner focussed integrated curriculum with effective pedagogy:

1 Teaching and Learning

- Develop adaptive teaching to suit the needs of all learners
- Develop students' skills and their application of knowledge
- Develop students' engagement
- Improve students' oracy and literacy
- Improve social/emotional learning to support mental health and wellbeing



2 Targeted support for

- Disadvantaged
- (P)LAC
- SEND
- Poor Attendance

3 Complementary strategies

- Develop meaningful links between the curriculum and careers
- Improve wider/extra-curricular opportunities (cultural capital)
- Improve CPD to deliver effective T&L



THE BURGATE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM

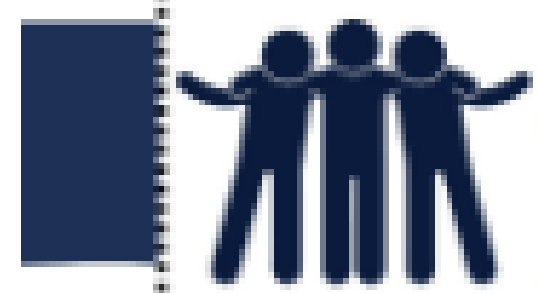


Vision

We want every student to enjoy their learning and feel valued for who they are.

Expectations

- Be Safe
- Be Respectful
- Be Reday To Learn



Our Values

- Kindness
- Curiosity
- Ambition



The Burgate Expectations

Be safe

If you see or hear something that doesn't feel right...

Tell someone!

Friendship problems?

School work worries?

Worried about a friend?

Are you being, or have you seen someone being bullied?

Has something happened to you or a friend outside of school?

Has someone posted something unkind online?

Has someone asked you to send them an explicit picture of yourself?

Tell Someone!

Tell a member of staff

Email: wellbeing@burgate.hants.sch.uk

Do you need to speak to someone right now?

You can call Childline 0800 11 11

Or visit www.childline.gov.uk

If you are in immediate danger please call 999