TOGETHER for Children and Young People

Together we will make Cheshire East a great place to be young

Weekly Bulletin to Schools

09 November 2026

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Cheshire East School Services

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1. Strategic Information and Actions

1.1 Help shape the delivery of Cheshire East's Community Cohesion Strategy

Content	Audience	Purpose
Cheshire East Council is developing its Community Cohesion Strategy 2027–2031, which sets out our vision for stronger, more connected and inclusive communities. We are inviting VCFSE organisations and wider partners to help shape how the strategy should be delivered. A draft copy of the strategy is attached for context. Your school's experience of working with residents and communities will help us understand: • What people and communities are experiencing on the ground. • Where the main needs, barriers, and opportunities are; • What practical actions should be prioritised. • What existing strengths, assets and approaches could support delivery. • How the Council, partners and communities could work together. Your responses will be used to develop a high-level delivery plan to sit alongside the strategy. This will help identify priority actions, potential delivery partners, and opportunities for joint working under each of the strategy's five aims. The engagement form also asks whether your organisation has a relevant strategy, policy, evidence, or delivery plan that you would be willing to share. You will also be able to express an interest in becoming involved in future work to support delivery. **Complete the engagement form here:** https://submit.forms.service.gov.uk/form/267675/help-shape-the-delivery-of-cheshire-east-s-community-cohesion-strategy	Schools and Settings	For Information & Action

Please submit your response by **15 of November 2026**. Where possible, we would welcome one coordinated response on behalf of your school. The form will ask for your name, role, and organisation. This will help us understand the range of organisations and perspectives represented and allow us to contact you about relevant follow-up activity. Please review the attached draft strategy before completing the form. As this is a working draft, it may be updated following engagement and further development. If you have any questions or require the form or draft strategy in another format, please contact communitycohesion@cheshireeast.gov.uk Thank you for sharing your knowledge and helping us turn the strategy's vision into practical action. **Link:** Community Cohesion Strategy 2027-2031 Poster		

Contact: communitycohesion@cheshireeast.gov.uk

1.2 Allergy Safety in Schools: Allergy UK resources

Content	Audience	Purpose
Please find links below for useful resources from Allergy UK. These may support the requirement for schools to implement the new statutory requirements set out in the DfE's Allergy Safety in Schools Statutory Guidance, from September 2026. **Links**: https://www.allergyuk.org/schools/for-schools/ https://www.allergyuk.org/schools/for-parents/ https://www.allergyuk.org/schools/benedicts-law/ https://www.allergyuk.org/our-services/helpline/	Academy schools and Trusts	For Information

Contact: Lisa Rollinson:Corporate Health and Safety Manager:
Lisa.rollinson@cheshireeast.gov.uk

1.3 Schools' Forum vacancy: Academy representatives' other sector

Content	Audience	Purpose
The Cheshire East Schools' Forum currently has two vacancies for the Academy representatives' other sector. For info, the other posts are currently held by Ruth Livingstone from Bosley St Mary's CE Primary School, Kevin Simpson from The Aspire Trust (CEO) and Sarah Sproston from Excalibur Primary School. Please could any Headteacher/Principal share this information with their governors, CEO's and School Business Managers to see if they would be interested in putting themselves forward. If someone has an expression of interest for the role, please contact the Schools' Forum Clerk at schools.forumclerk@cheshireeast.gov.uk by **noon on Friday 16 November** to confirm as such. In the event that there are more than two school leaders wishing to stand, then an election to decide upon the successful candidates will be arranged. Nominees would then be required to complete a short supporting statement which would be published on the Schools' Forum web page. Further information on the role and membership of the Schools' Forum can be accessed here: Schools Forum (cheshireeast.gov.uk). There are four Schools' Forum meetings each academic year - these will be held online, 4:30pm-6:00pm. The remaining dates for 2026-27 are: • Thursday 11 February 2027 • Thursday 17 June 2027 If you have any queries in relation to the above, please don't hesitate to contact us. **Link:** https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/info-for-schools/schools_forum/schools_forum.aspx	Academy schools and Trusts	For Information & Action

Contact: Louisa Moseley: louisa.moseley@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 07794 429702

1.4 Schools' Forum vacancies: Headteacher Representatives in the Academy Secondary School sector

Content	Audience	Purpose
The Cheshire East Schools' Forum currently has two vacancies for Headteacher representatives in the Academy Secondary School sector. For info, the third post is currently held by Emma Casewell from Shavington Academy. Please could any Headteacher/Principal interested in putting themselves forward for the roles contact the Schools' Forum Clerk at schools.forumclerk@cheshireeast.gov.uk by **noon on Friday 20 November** to confirm as such. In the event that there are more than two school leaders wishing to stand, then an election to decide upon the successful candidates will be arranged. Nominees would then be required to complete a short supporting statement which would be published on the Schools' Forum web page. Further information on the role and membership of the Schools' Forum can be accessed here: Schools Forum (cheshireeast.gov.uk). There are four Schools' Forum meetings each academic year - these will be held online, 16:30-18:00. The remaining dates for 2026-27 are: • Thursday 11 February 2027 • Thursday 17 June 2027 If you have any queries in relation to the above, please don't hesitate to contact us. **Link:** https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/info-for-schools/schools_forum/schools_forum.aspx	Secondary Academy schools	For Information & Action

Contact: Louisa Moseley: louisa.moseley@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 07794 429702

1.5 Schools' Forum vacancies: Headteacher representatives in the Academy Primary School sector

Content	Audience	Purpose
The Cheshire East Schools' Forum currently has two vacancies for Headteacher representatives in the Academy Primary School sector. For info, the third post is currently held by Janet Mackinlay from St Mary's Catholic Primary School. Please could any Headteacher/Principal interested in putting themselves forward for the roles contact the Schools' Forum Clerk at schools.forumclerk@cheshireeast.gov.uk by noon on **Friday 20 November** to confirm as such. In the event that there are more than two school leaders wishing to stand, then an election to decide upon the successful candidates will be arranged. Nominees would then be required to complete a short supporting statement which would be published on the Schools' Forum web page. Further information on the role and membership of the Schools' Forum can be accessed here: Schools Forum (cheshireeast.gov.uk). There are four Schools' Forum meetings each academic year - these will be held online, 4:30pm-6:00pm. The remaining dates for 2026-27 are: • Thursday 11 February 2027 • Thursday 17 June 2027 If you have any queries in relation to the above, please don't hesitate to contact us. **Link**: https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/info-for-schools/schools_forum/schools_forum.aspx	Primary Academy schools	For Information & Action

Contact: Louisa Moseley: louisa.moseley@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 07794 429702

2. Training and Wider Development Opportunities

2.1 Governor Training on Pupil Premium: 25 November 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
Places are available on our 'Pupil Premium' training for governors/trustees on **Wednesday 25 November 2026** at 6:00pm via MS Teams. Both Ofsted's and the DfE's **core focus** going forward is **inclusion** and the view that if schools get it right for their most vulnerable, they get it right for everyone. Pupil premium funding can therefore play a vital role in supporting and developing a school's **'vulnerable-first' approach** and helping schools close the gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. This course aims to guide governors through the purpose of Pupil Premium funding, who is eligible, the statutory requirements and the ways in which it can be used. Delivered by the Director of an EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) Research School, the session aligns with DfE guidance and current Pupil Premium strategies. Please consider whether this training would be valuable for members of your board to attend. For further details, or to book your place, please go to the 'Training' tab in GovernorHub or email schoolgovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk This course is **free to schools and academies that have purchased CPD Training and Development for Governors** via ChESS Hub. For **non-purchasing** schools/academies, the **charge** for this course is £75 per delegate	Headteachers; Chairs of Governors/ Trustees	CPD for Governors/ Trustees

Contact: schoolgovernance@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 0300 123 5036

2.2 Climate Action Planning in your education setting – free half day workshop: 18 November 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
Please come to the jointly run (by Climate Ambassadors, Nature Park, and Let's Go Zero), FREE, in-person workshop in Manchester to kick off your engagement with their sustainability support programmes – no matter where you are on your sustainability journey. How can your nursery, school or college save money, prepare for future heatwaves and become a healthier, more comfortable place to work and learn? This event is for all education setting staff and governors – covering everything you need to know to get started or make progress with a climate action plan. You'll join other education settings in your region for an interactive afternoon of sessions from the DfE's Sustainability Support Programmes - National Education Nature Park, Sustainability Support for Education and Climate Ambassadors, working with Let's Go Zero to provide hands-on, tailored support in the North West. We'll cover the ABCDs of climate action — the four pillars of a climate action plan — and start developing a plan (or refine an existing one) that is tailored to your setting, ambitious enough to make a difference and realistic enough to put into practice. **You'll explore how sustainability can help your setting:** • Save money by reducing energy use and identifying practical efficiency measures • Prepare for heatwaves and extreme weather, making your buildings, grounds and operations more resilient • Create healthier, more comfortable environments for pupils and staff • Support learning, wellbeing and inclusion, including creating better environments for pupils with SEND • Bring climate and nature education into your curriculum	All education setting staff and governors	For Information

You will have time to network with fellow local education settings, as well as connect to the DfE-commissioned organisations, working on the ground to support climate action planning across the education sector. • **Date and Time:** 18 November, 1:30pm – 5:30pm • **Location:** Manchester Met **Book your place here:** https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sustainabilitysupportprogramme/2406978		

Contact: Dr Cormac Lawler, Climate Ambassadors Northwest Regional Hub Manager, Research Associate (Carbon Literacy), c.lawler@mmu.ac.uk

2.3 Headteacher Briefing - Teacher Assessment Moderation and National Test Monitoring Service (TAMNT) 2026/27: 24 November

Content	Audience	Purpose
In preparation the 2026-27 cycle, Cheshire East's Acting Moderation and Monitoring Manager, Mike Thompson, is holding a KS2 Assessment and Moderation ONLINE briefing on **Tuesday 24 November, 9:30am-10:30am**. The briefing is part of the service offered under Teacher Assessment Moderation and National Test Monitoring Service (TAMNT) and will provide key information for leaders around assessment including how KS2 Writing Moderation will be organised. It is important that either you or the relevant leader attends given that there are changes moving forward and this session will clarify certain points. Those new to headship or new to KS2 leadership are strongly advised to attend. Please copy the Teams link below into your diary. There is no charge for this event. *Please note: For Headteachers that attended the Maintained Schools Network on 22 October this is a repeat of those messages. You are, of course, welcome to attend or, alternatively pass to your Year 6 Teacher(s).* **Microsoft Teams meeting** **Join:** https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/3473642179758656?p=sbr9BjYANUzc2PDqt2 Meeting ID: 347 364 217 975 865 6 Passcode: FJ3GG2Vf	Headteachers, KS2 Leaders and Year 6 Teachers	For Information & Action

Contact: Mike Thompson, Acting Moderation and Monitoring Manager for Cheshire East, CEModeration@lancashire.gov.uk

2.4 Education Library Service Reading Leads CPD Programme: 19 November

Content	Audience	Purpose
Each term the Education Library Service will invite a guest speaker to share their knowledge and expertise of children's books and literacy. This term, we're delighted to welcome publisher liaison lead for Inclusive Books for Children Reading development and children's book consultant, Jake Hope. Jake will explore how children can build a connection with books. He will discuss the importance of providing inclusive books within the classroom and the curriculum, ensuring children and young people can access stories that both reflect and expand their worlds. Jake will introduce the Inclusive Books for Children website, an essential resource for teachers and families. The session will take place at 1:30pm on Thursday **19 November** and you can choose to attend online via Teams or in person at ELS. If you have signed up to our Gold package, you can register using the link below. **Link:** https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/SkRnDmxihM	Primary school reading leads	For Information/ CPD

Contact: Alex Bamford: alexandra.bamford@cheshiresharedservices.gov.uk ☎ 01606 275801

2.5 Workshops for High Schools – North: 17 November 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
This training takes place on **17 November 2026**, 9:00am – 12:15pm at Macclesfield Town Hall. It will cover Adaptive Teaching, Inclusion and Re-integration and Autism and Anxiety. Delegates will have a deeper understanding of how to motivate, support and engage autistic pupils. **Link:** https://chesshub.co.uk/Training/Event/311874	SENCOS, Teachers	For Information

Contact: Clare O'Connor: Theautismteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 01270 685960

2.6 Autism Workshops for High Schools – South: 01 December 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
This training takes place on **01 December 2026** in the Municipal Buildings, Crewe, 9:00am – 12:15pm. It will cover Adaptive Teaching, Inclusion and Re-integration and Autism and Anxiety. The cost is £55 per delegate. **Link:** https://chesshub.co.uk/Event/313299	SENCOS, Teachers and LSAs	For Information

Contact: Clare O'Connor: Theautismteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 01270 685960

2.7 Autism Workshops for Primary – South: 01 December 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
This training takes place on **01 December 2026** in the Municipal Buildings, Crewe, 1:00pm – 4:00pm. It will include; Total Communication, SCERTS/NEN progression framework and Masking - understanding and identifying masking in autistic children. The cost is £55 per delegate. **Link:** https://chesshub.co.uk/Event/313300	SENCOS, Teachers and LSAs	For Information

Contact: Clare O'Connor: Theautismteam@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 01270 685960

2.8 Unlocking Reading: DFE Funded CPD Programme

Content	Audience	Purpose
What is Unlocking Reading? The Unlocking Reading programme is designed to build confidence, capability and knowledge for schools to support secondary-aged pupils with reading needs. Funded by the DFE, it has been developed by FFT and Royal Holloway, University of London in partnership with a network of schools and other academics. Following on from in-person training sessions through Spring and Summer 2026 for all secondary state schools in England, schools can access a range of online training modules. The online CPD programme is tailored for teachers, teaching assistants and school leaders and will support struggling readers, embedding a whole-school approach to improving reading and attainment. To hear from staff who have taken part, and from the people delivering the training, read our Unlocking Reading blogs. **Link:** https://fft.org.uk/literacy/unlocking-reading/	Secondary	For Information

Contact: Kerri Hall: khall@laceygreen.cheshire.sch.uk ☎ 01625 783335

2.9 Free Training: Cheshire Water Safety Champions Programme

Content	Audience	Purpose
Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner Dan Price is committed to helping keep young people safe through the Cheshire Water Safety Champions Programme, delivered in partnership with Water Safety Matters. The training is the first of its kind in the UK and is supported by the Royal Life Saving Society UK's (RLSS UK). Your school is invited to nominate **1 member of staff and 2 pupils** to attend a **FREE day of water safety training**. These individuals will become your school's Water Safety Champions, sharing vital messages and encouraging safer behaviours amongst their peers. This is more than just another water safety campaign. We recognise the power of peer-to-peer influence and believe that empowering young people to educate and inspire one another can create lasting behaviour change and ultimately save lives. Upcoming training dates: • **Tuesday 10 November** – Macclesfield Leisure Centre • **Thursday 12 November** – Northwich Leisure Centre • **Tuesday 17 November** – Alsager Leisure Centre • **Wednesday 18 November** – Widnes Leisure Centre The day includes engaging classroom activities and practical water safety training in the pool. Please register your school's interest and secure your places using the link below: **Link:** https://watersafetymatters.co.uk/school-registration/	Schools	For Information & Action

Contact: Louise Johnson: watersafetymatters@gmail.com

3. Traded Service Information

There are no items in this section.

4. General Information

4.1 Your Future - SEND Careers Fair: 25 November 2026

Content	Audience	Purpose
Following the fantastic success of Cheshire East's SEND Careers Fair last year, we are delighted to announce the return of the Your Future's event this November. • Wednesday, 25 November at Congleton Leisure Centre – 9:00am-2:00pm. This event mirrors the format of universal careers fairs, with a key focus on inclusivity. Support services, educational settings, and employers attending will be showcasing how they champion inclusive practices and support young people in their journey to adulthood. Educational settings are invited to book slots throughout the day to bring students. Parents, carers, and professionals are warmly welcome to also attend. This is a brilliant opportunity to explore adult support services and discover how we're preparing young people for their future. Please share widely across your networks and we'd love to see you there. **Link:** https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/asset-library/school-bulletins/Documents-for-bulletins-2026/send-fair-2026.jpg	SENCO and Careers Leads	For Information

Contact: Rachael Pickles: rachael.pickles2@cheshireeast.gov.uk ☎ 07816 144386

4.2 Invitation for pupils to contribute artwork to Cheshire East's climate action resources

Content	Audience	Purpose
At Cheshire East Council, we are working towards our carbon neutral ambitions as part of the boroughwide target to become carbon neutral by 2045. We are also supporting schools and education settings to respond to the Department for Education's Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. To help with this, we have developed a toolkit to support schools in creating their own climate action plans. The toolkit is currently being piloted with a range of education settings and is planned for wider release in January 2027. As part of these resources, we would like to showcase artwork created by primary school pupils across Cheshire East. We are inviting pupils to respond to the question: *"What will the world look like when we have solved climate change?"* Artwork can be produced using any artistic medium and should be submitted as a JPEG image. A selection of artwork will be chosen for inclusion in climate action plan resources and related communications materials. Where artwork is used, we may acknowledge the school and, where appropriate, the pupil's year group. We are not asking schools to provide pupil names or ages as part of the submission process. Before submitting artwork, schools should consider whether parental consent is required and ensure that parents or carers are informed about how the artwork may be used, including potential inclusion in publicly available resources and communications. Please email submissions to carbonneutral@cheshireeast.gov.uk by **Friday 11 December 2026.** We look forward to seeing your pupils' creative ideas for a more sustainable future. If you have any questions, please contact carbonneutral@cheshireeast.gov.uk.	Primary Schools	For Information & Action

Contact: Evie Davis: carbonneutral@cheshireeast.gov.uk

4.3 Education Library Service Reading Champions KS2 Book Award

Content	Audience	Purpose
If your school is subscribed to our Gold package, you can now register for to take part in the Reading Champions KS2 Book Award for 2027. It's a great way of helping your pupils discover new books and authors and promoting reading for pleasure in your school. Every school who participates will be invited to a special award ceremony in the summer term, where pupils will get the opportunity to meet some of the shortlisted authors. You can register using the link below. **Links:** https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/SkRnDmxihM Reading Champions 2027 Poster Reading Champions 2027 Flyer	Primary Schools	For Information

Contact: Alex Bamford: alexandra.bamford@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk ☎ 01606 275801

4.4 Young Rock Stars Academy

Content	Audience	Purpose
The Love Music Trust's Young Rock Stars Academy gives children from Year 3 upwards the chance to learn an instrument and experience the excitement of playing in a real band! **Instruments include:** • Guitar • Bass Guitar • Drums • Keyboard • Vocals Children receive tuition on their chosen instrument while developing the skills, confidence and teamwork needed to play together as a band. Parents simply sign up with the Love Music Trust directly so there is no cost to the school. Give your pupils the opportunity to discover their musical talent, make new friends and rock out together! For more information, please follow the link below or contact Stephen Clay - sclay@lovemusictrust.com **Link:** http://www.lovemusictrust.com/yrsa	All Cheshire East Schools and Academies	For Information

Contact: John Barber: Jbarber@lovemusictrust.com ☎ 01270 766214

4.5 Beaver Trust: Free writing competition is now open

Content	Audience	Purpose
This November, we're launching *Words of the Wetlands*, our national youth writing competition celebrating creativity, nature and the incredible wildlife found in beaver wetlands. We're inviting children aged 5-11 across England, Scotland and Wales to share their poetry skills by creating a handwritten acrostic poem inspired by beavers and the amazing wetland wildlife they support. Through imagination, curiosity and storytelling, we hope to give young people a chance to connect with nature and to use their voices to speak for our precious wetlands. The competition is open from **01 November to 31 December** and entries can be submitted through our education website, where you'll also find lots more information, including downloadable resources and a full lesson plan and slides. We have designed this writing task to be meaningful and able to be completed in a single writing lesson in participating schools. We have partnered with celebrated children's author and former children's laureate, Joseph Coelho, to launch this inspiring (and completely free!) writing opportunity. Joseph will be judging the entries and his passion for poetry is the perfect thing to get your children writing. There are some fantastic prizes on offer for the most creative and inspiring poems, including poetry writing workshops for the winning school or group with Joseph Coelho, mega book bundles for libraries, certificates and the chance to have a winning poem published in our digital anthology! So, pick up a pencil, get creative and use your poetry skills to speak for the wetlands. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us at competition@beavertrust.org and we'll be happy to help. Best of luck and we can't wait to read your poems!	Primary	For Information & Action

Contact: Oscar Chambers-Smith: competition@beavertrust.org