



Dear Parents, Family Members, and Community Members,

What an amazing first half term it has been at St. Joseph's! As we reflect on the past weeks, I am filled with a sense of pride at the achievements we have celebrated together. Some of the highlights for me have been when our children show support for one another, it is truly heartwarming, as exemplified during our recent school groups morning. This camaraderie and kindness among our pupils reflect the very essence of our school community. When Mrs. Wiltshire was named the best singer in the school! This accolade is a testament not only to her vocal talent but also to the joy she brings to our school environment. Additionally, our football team has demonstrated exemplary teamwork, achieving great success thus far this term. It is heartening to witness their dedication and passion on the pitch. Also, seeing our new reception children settle remarkably well and are swiftly becoming integral members of our St. Joseph's family.

As we entered this week, it certainly proved to be a busy one! Our worship session on Monday focused on our school mission statement: "We follow St. Joseph's footsteps, building a community of love, trust, respect, and learning." During this reflection, we considered the Gospel values embodied in our mission statement and explored how we can demonstrate these values in our daily lives.

Regrettably, the football tournament scheduled for Monday had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. However, we quickly shifted our focus to Wednesday, which was bustling with excitement as we hosted our first Open Day of the year. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our incredible Year 6 children who served as tour guides. The feedback I received was overwhelmingly positive, and they truly showcased the spirit of our school, proving to be a credit to us all.



That very evening, we held our PTA Spooky Disco. It brought me such joy to see so many of you come together in celebration, even if some of you looked a tad frightful! I trust that you all had a fantastic time, as it certainly appeared so when I dropped by several times throughout the evening. Well done to all the prize winners. I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the PTA who worked tirelessly to organise this delightful event, and a special thanks to Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Manley for serving as first aiders, ensuring a safe environment for our children.

On Thursday evening, I had the bittersweet privilege of delivering letters to the Year 6 applicants for the head boy and head girl positions. I fully understand that it can be disheartening not to receive the role that many of you aspired to. However, as I mentioned in the letters, we are immensely proud of each and every applicant. It is important to remember that there must be one head boy and one head girl, and the decision was far from easy. After considerable discussion, we reached the conclusion, and I would like to congratulate Thorin and Gracie on being appointed to these esteemed positions. I am confident that you both will excel in your roles, and I am eager to work alongside you.

As we look ahead to the first week back after the half-term break, I would like to remind everyone that it will be a busy time.

On Tuesday, our football team will be contesting at home against Chase Lane C team, and I encourage all of you to come along and support them - kicked off will be at 3:20pm.

On Wednesday, 5th November, we will gather to reflect on and honour all those who have given their lives for our country during our Remembrance Mass. I warmly invite all parents, carers, family members, and parishioners to join us for this significant occasion. The Mass will commence at 9 am in the school hall.

On Thursday some of our KS2 children will be participating in a cross-country event, representing our school with pride. Furthermore, we will be welcoming back our Year 6 children who have transitioned to Year 7 and 8 for a pizza evening, where they will share their experiences of life in secondary school.

As the autumn days continue to grow colder and we make our way into winter, I kindly request that all children remember to bring a coat to school, regardless of whether the sun is shining. The unpredictable nature of British weather can catch us by surprise, and it is best to be prepared.

Attendance Data

	Last week	This week	Late Marks
Class 1	99.05%	91.90%	2
Class 2	98.08%	98.46%	2
Class 3	96.88%	93.75%	9
Class 4	95.15%	93.33%	2

I wish you all a lovely and safe half term and look forward to seeing each of you back at school on Monday, 3rd November. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we can ensure that our children flourish and thrive in a nurturing environment.

Take care – God Bless- Mrs. Golding



Certificate Winners

Certificates Winners This Week:

Class 1: Ivan, Roux and Aviana

Class 2: Chikamso, Thomas and Patrick

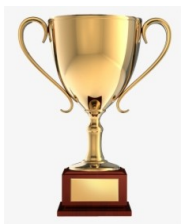
Class 3: Ellie, Lizzie, Coen and All of Class 3

Class 4: Aleks, Mia, Neve and Avery

**Mrs Golding's Headteacher Award: Amelia G,
Harper-Lillie and Veronica**

Whole School Attendance this week: 94.38%

Winning Class this week: Class 2 - 98.46%



Winning House Team This Week:
ST GEORGES

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Mon 3rd November	First Day back for Children after Half Term
Weds 5th November	9am Remembrance Mass at School Cross Country Details—Select Children
Thurs 6th November	Class 3 Swimming Football Match V Chase Lane C—Home—3.20pm Pizza and Catch up—Y7 + Y8 pupils
Weds 12th November	Class 4 Electric Palace—Crucial Crew
Fri 14th November	Children in Need
Tues 18th November	Class 3 + 4 Electric Palace Visit—details to follow
Weds 19th November	Open Day—Prospective Parents
Fri 21st November	Non Uniform Day—Sweets and Chocolates—Bazaar
Tues 25th November	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Weds 26th November	Class 1 + 2 Electric Palace Visit—details to follow Parent/Teacher Meetings
Thurs 27th November	Non Uniform Day—Bottles—Bazaar Book Fair—Opens at 3.20pm (Continues until Tues 2nd December)
Fri 28th November	Non Pupil Day—School Closed to Children
Fri 5th December	Christmas Bazaar—details to follow

First Holy Communion

Classes will begin in January 2026. Children will have the chance to learn together, make new friends, and grow in faith as they get ready for this special day. Children should be at least 8 years old by 31st August 2026 and baptised before receiving this special Sacrament. Registration forms are available in church or from St Joseph's School. For more information, please contact Jo Bowen on 07999 773191.

Week Beginning Monday 3rd November
Week 1 of the new menu.....

Autumn Menu - Week One

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pizza with Sweetcorn or Jacket Potatoes	Pasta Bolognaise Or Jacket Potatoes	Turkey Pin Wheel Or Jacket Potatoes	Sausage + Mash Or Jacket Potatoes	Fish Fingers and Chips or Jacket Potatoes
Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Cubed Potatoes Salad Bar	Salad Bar	Beans Salad Bar
Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt	Fruit and Yoghurt or Treat Friday

**Cool water, fresh fruit and yoghurt available daily*



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

St Joseph's are occasionally asked to promote activities from local groups, such as the Swimming Pool, the Sports Hall, Church Groups etc....

Such activities are not quality assured by the school and parents should be aware of the need to reassure themselves of the quality and safety of the services on offer, for example by visiting, looking at inspection reports etc.

Our website can be accessed at
<https://www.st-josephs->

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

**Open Days for Parents/Carers
Applying for Reception School Places to
Start School in September 2026**

Wednesday 22nd October from 10am to 4.30pm

Wednesday 19th November 1.30pm to 6.30pm

**Tours run throughout the day—Please call to book
your place. We look forward to seeing you.**



***Please email us to book at:
admin@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk
Or call 01255 503493***

**JOIN
THE
CLUB!**



OPEN TRAINING SESSION DATES

Sunday 26th October - 10am

Sunday 2nd November - 10am

Sunday 30th November - 10am

Sunday 7th December - 10am

**School Years Reception to Year 5
Boys & Girls of all abilities welcome**

Email us at hdrufc youth@gmail.com for more info.

**RUGBY'S VALUES OF
TEAMWORK, RESPECT,
ENJOYMENT, DISCIPLINE,
AND SPORTSMANSHIP
ARE WHAT MAKES OUR
CLUB SPECIAL FOR
THOSE WHO ENJOY THE
ENVIRONMENT AND
CULTURE THEY CREATE**



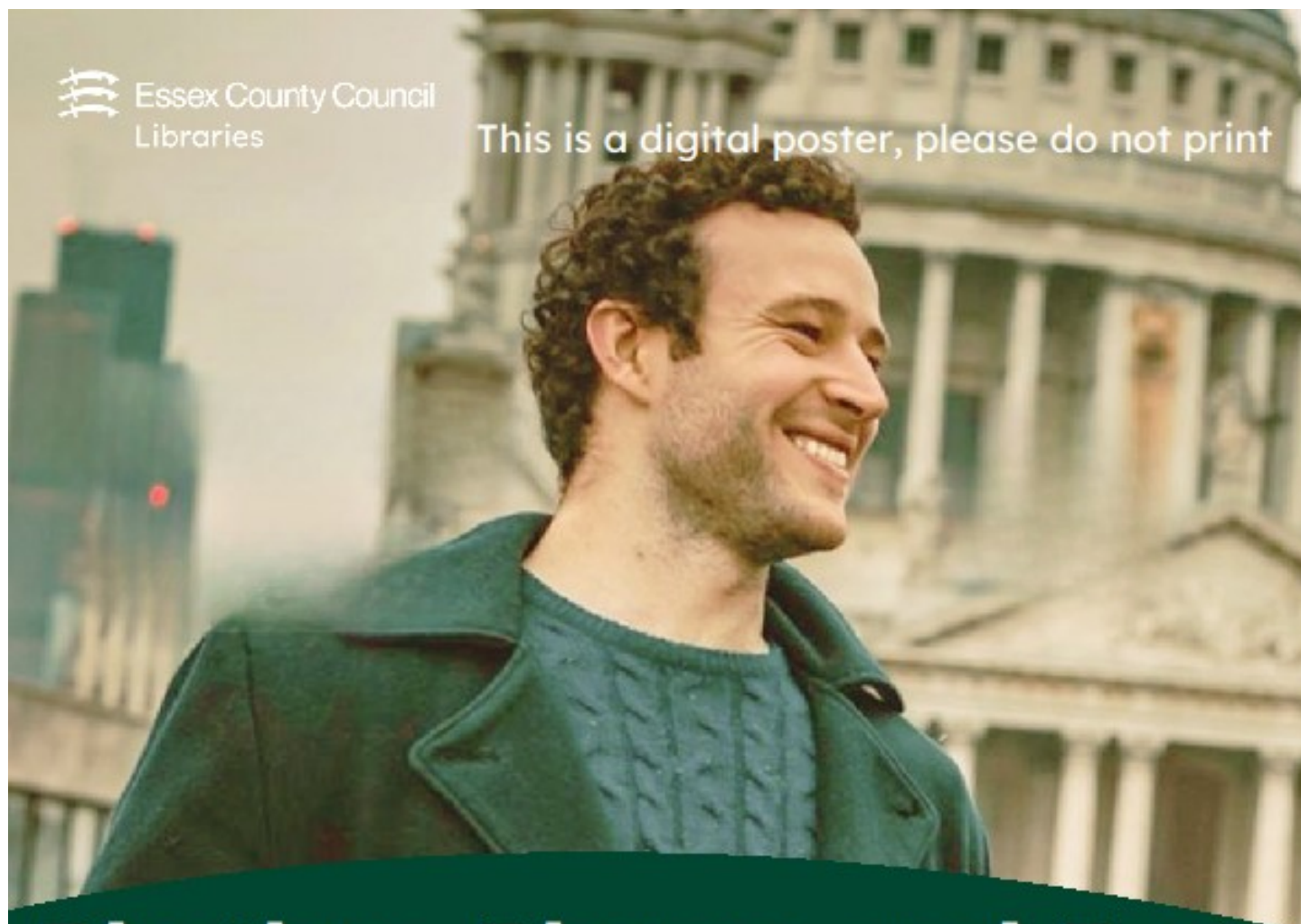
**HARWICH & DOVERCOURT RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB
SWIMMING POOL ROAD, WICK LANE
HARWICH
CO12 3TA
WWW.HDRUFC.COM**





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Libraries

This is a digital poster, please do not print



Rhythm, Rhyme and Rap with Christian Foley

for ages 10 plus

Harwich Library

Saturday 25 October 12 noon to 1pm

This dynamic session from the author of *Moving Up* is perfect for older children and teens looking to express themselves through words and rhythm.

Book using this link

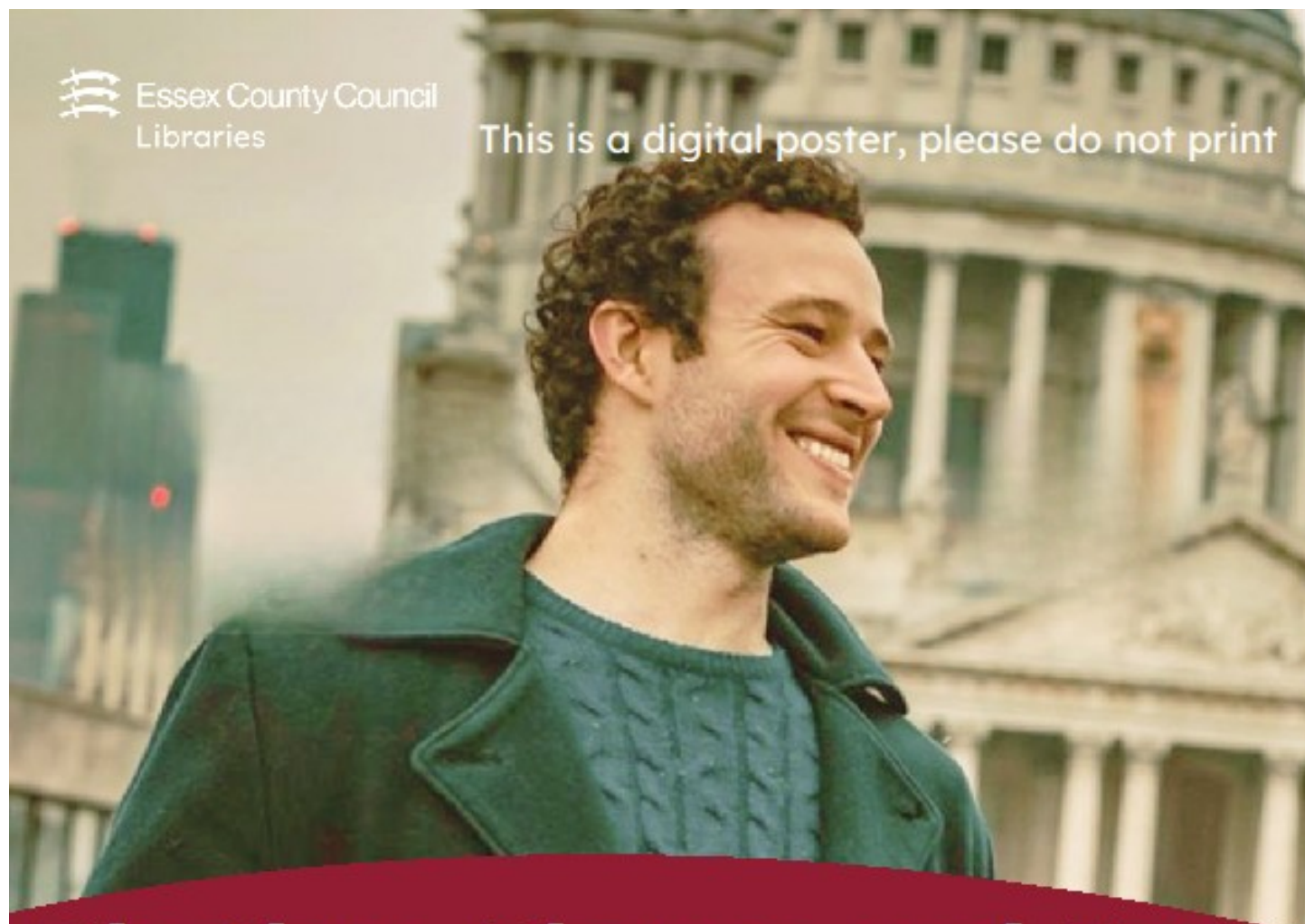


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Essex County Council
Libraries

This is a digital poster, please do not print



Rhythm, Rhyme and Rap with Christian Foley

for ages 5 to 9

Harwich Library

Saturday 25 October 10am to 11am

Step into a world of imagination with this free family session! This fun-filled hour led by the author of The Oddsocktopus blends poetry, freestyle rap, and storytelling to spark creativity. Book using this link.



libraries.essex.gov.uk



Harwich Library
Saturday's 2.30pm-3.30pm



Ask us how to book a session!



OCTOBER HALF TERM FAMILY WARM HUB

St Clare's Primary School
Cloes Lane, Clacton CO16 8AG

Wednesday 29th October
10am-1pm

Free

- Breakfast/ lunch and refreshments
- **Local information and support for families**
- Winter Warmers
- **Smoke alarms**
- School Uniform bank
- **Baby bank**
- Library services
- **Children's services and activities**

All families welcome
(children must be accompanied)

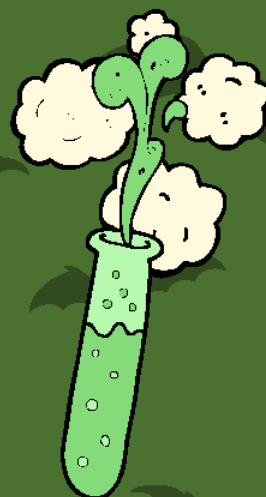


Freaky Science

Harwich Library

Friday 31 October, 10:30am to 12pm,
1pm to 2:30pm

- Join us as we bring science alive with the joys of Halloween!
- Suitable for ages 6-11
- Free event
- Booking essential



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ENGLAND**



A MULTI-SENSORY STORYTELLING EXPERIENCE FOR under 5's

Open the pages of imagination as we explore books and stories through singing, performance storytelling, phonics, british sign language, and a HUGE range of weekly play activities such as messy play, mark making, sensory play, small world, numeracy and SO much more!

We explore a new theme and book every week. Our classes are perfect for individuals or siblings, we have something for everyone!

Run at various time and locations across the Tendring District.

To enquire please call Lauren on 07543 487 341 or email tendringdistrict@storyimaginary.co.uk or visit

WWW.TENDRINGDISTRICT.STORYIMAGINARY.CO.UK



BRINGING STORIES TO LIFE...

FOLLOW US FOR NEWS, OFFERS AND CLASS UPDATES...



STORY IMAGIN-ORY TENDRING DISTRICT



@STORYIMAGINARY_TENDRING



Charity
**Victorian
Christmas
Market**

Saturday 15 November 2025
9.30 am – 3pm

Princes Theatre, Station Road,
Clacton on Sea, CO15 1SE

£1 per person
(under 16s are free)

- Father Christmas
- Queen Victoria and her entourage
- Christmas cards & decorations
- Jewellery, candles, gifts
- Crafts, toys, tombolas
- Books, fair trade goods
- Stocking fillers, preserves
- Refreshments, lunches and cakes

All proceeds to charities attending





Community & Family Learning Courses

Online Courses

<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>START DATE</i>	<i>END DATE</i>	<i>START TIME</i>	<i>END TIME</i>
<i>FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS</i>	<i>30/10/2025</i>	<i>30/10/2025</i>	<i>19:00</i>	<i>21:00</i>
<i>FL UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S ANXIETY</i>	<i>31/10/2025</i>	<i>31/10/2025</i>	<i>12:00</i>	<i>14:30</i>

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website aclessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

aclessex.com
0345 603 7635



Hasty's Pumpkin Event

BOOK ONLINE NOW

WWW.HASTYS.CO.UK



Scan here for all the info!



25th Oct-1st Nov

Half Term Pumpkin Trail

Join us for half term fun this October.
Explore the garden to find the hidden
pumpkins.
Kids go free!



Book admission online
www.bethchatto.co.uk/entrance



HALF TERM SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

In Tendring

**For free activities happening in tendring for
families over the half-term holiday,
please visit**

www.cvstendring.org.uk/school-holiday-activities/

OR SCAN OUR QR CODE





Community & Family Learning Courses

COURSE TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL UNDERSTANDING NEURODIVERSE CHILDREN	03/11/2025	08/12/2025	12:30	14:30
FL SUPPORTING FAMILY MATHS	04/11/2025	11/11/2025	09:30	11:30
FL POSITIVE PARENTING	04/11/2025	09/12/2025	09:30	11:30
FL FAMILY WELLBEING	04/11/2025	09/12/2025	13:00	15:00
FL SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ATTEND/ENJOY SCHOOL	04/11/2025	09/12/2025	18:00	20:00
UNDERSTANDING ADHD AND ASD IN CHILDREN	04/11/2025	09/12/2025	19:00	21:00

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website aclessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box



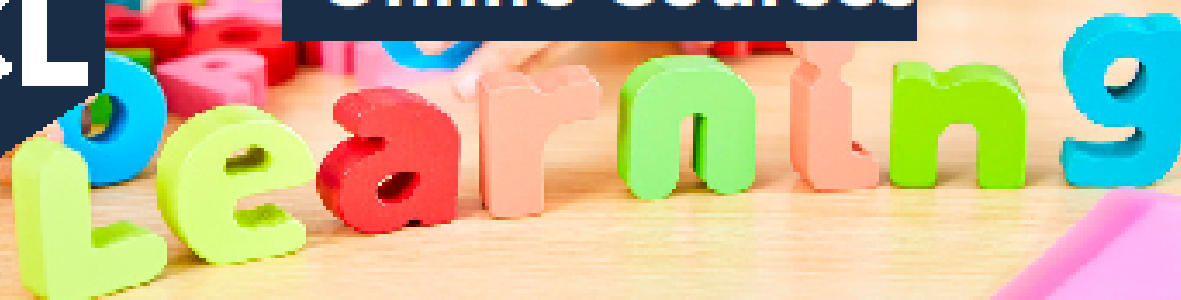
Community & Family Learning Courses

COURSE TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ATTEND/ENJOY SCHOOL	05/11/2025	10/12/2025	09:30	11:30
FL ESOL FOR FAMILIES	06/11/2025	11/12/2025	09:30	11:30
FL ASSERTIVE PARENTING	06/11/2025	11/12/2025	09:30	11:30
FL RAISING BOYS	06/11/2025	13/11/2025	19:00	21:00
FL SEND SUPPORT	06/11/2025	11/12/2025	10:00	12:00
FL ZONES OF REGULATION	07/11/2025	07/11/2025	12:30	14:30
FL ESOL FOR FAMILIES	08/11/2025	13/12/2025	18:00	20:00

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website aclessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

The logo for ACLESSEX, featuring the letters 'ACLESSEX' in white on a dark blue background.

Online Courses

A photograph of colorful wooden letters spelling out 'Learning' on a wooden surface. The letters are in various colors including green, red, orange, and blue.

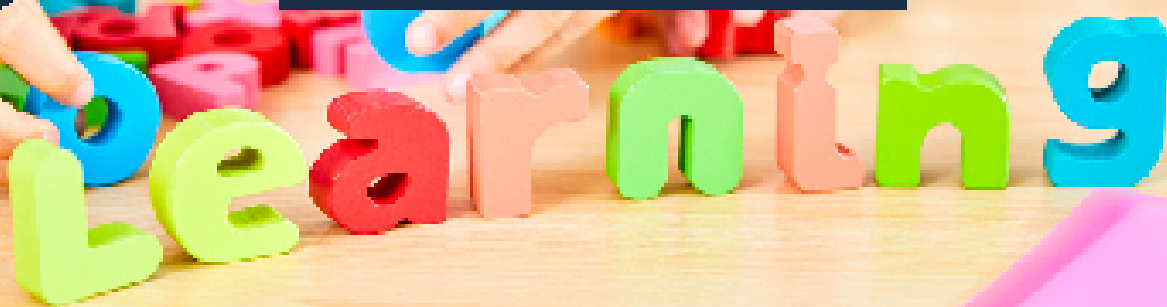
Community & Family Learning Courses

COURSE TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL SUPPORT SEND CHILD MANAGE BIG EMOTION	11/11/2025	18/11/2025	12:30	14:30
FL MANAGING ANGER IN YOUNG PEOPLE	11/11/2025	18/11/2025	18:00	20:00
FL SEND SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES	12/11/2025	17/12/2025	18:00	20:00
FL SLEEP WORKSHOP	13/11/2025	13/11/2025	13:00	15:00
FL INTERVIEW SKILLS FOR PARENTS	14/11/2025	14/11/2025	12:00	14:30
FL TALKING SO CHILDREN WILL LISTEN	14/11/2025	21/11/2025	09:00	11:30

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Community & Family Learning Courses

COURSE TITLE	START DATE	END DATE	START TIME	END TIME
FL RAISING GIRLS	20/11/2025	27/11/2025	19:00	21:00
FL SETTING BOUNDARIES	20/11/2025	27/11/2025	18:00	20:00
FL SETTING BOUNDARIES	21/11/2025	21/11/2025	12:00	14:30
FL MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS	25/11/2025	02/12/2025	13:00	15:00
FL SIBLING RIVALRY	28/11/2025	28/11/2025	12:30	14:30

If you would like to enrol on to a FREE course please Visit our website aclessex.com and type the course title in the 'Find a course...' box

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