



Warwickshire Virtual School Enrichment Newsletter

WHAT TOOK PLACE LAST TERM

Podcast workshop

A small group of young people collaborated to create a fun informative podcast focusing on their personal experiences. Discussing family dynamics, Christmas and different traditions each young person has. Each personality shines through in the podcast and the young people couldn't wait to share it with their guardians and carers.

Your Future, Your Path!- Session 2

Big thanks to Think Active, Coach Core & Outdoor Partnership Coventry for inspiring young minds with career & apprenticeship routes in the leisure, Sports and Outdoor sector.



Me Zines at The Herbert

Lots of fun was had creating personalised mini magazines that featured the young person's alter ego, superhero style.



Hamilton educational performance

A small group of young people got to see Hamilton on the west end and were mesmerised by the performance. Followed by a Q&A session with the cast and crew, gaining valuable knowledge and insight about the theatre.



Orienteering & Hiking

Two events as part of our sport leadership course were accomplished last term with a group of our young people, with many more sports events coming up in 2026 for them to complete the course. They enjoyed putting their navigation skills to the test in orienteering and testing their endurance in hiking.



COMING THIS TERM!

WICKED WORKSHOP

Experience the magic of Wicked in an unforgettable two-hour musical theatre workshop, led by a cast member from the hit West

End show! This high-energy session will take you behind the scenes of Oz as you learn original choreography, explore character work, and discover what it takes to perform in one of the world's most iconic musicals.

Date: Friday 20th February

Time: 2-4pm

Venue: Kenilworth Centre, Abbey End, Kenilworth, CV8 1QJ

Ages 10- 18

BOOK NOW



Herbert

Art Gallery & Museum



Free Games Development Taster

23rd January 2026, 1 – 3pm

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum – New Media Studio Go from player to game developer as we teach you everything to bring your vision to life: design characters, animate movements, and code the rules of your unique 2D universe. Build any world you can imagine, from a fast-paced platformer to a quirky adventure.

For ages 14- 18.

Mainly aimed at those not currently in education but all welcome for young people currently in care.

If interested email:

jasminegillett-ohagan@warwickshire.gov.uk



Arts & Sports

Herbert

Art Gallery & Museum

Expressive journals ART WORKSHOP

Tuesday 17th February
10:30am- 1:30pm

Ages 11- 16

Herbert Art Gallery & Museum
Jordan Well, Coventry CV1 5QP

EXPRESSIVE JOURNAL WORKSHOP:

Join us for some experimental art making using a range of materials. Then use your artwork to make a journal which you can take home to continue your creative expression!

Arts Awards- Discover available!

BOOK NOW

VAMOS
THEATRE

VAMOS DRAMA WORKSHOP

Come along and take part in a drama workshop, spread across two separate days: 26.01.26 & 27.02.26

The workshop will focus on young people learning to use masks as part of telling a story. One or two young people will then be picked to be apart of the filming for a short film that will be made for West midlands Virtual Schools. More info coming soon-

email jasminegillett-ohagan@warwickshire.gov.uk

COMING THIS TERM!

HE & Aspirational programmes

YOUR FUTURE, YOUR PATH JLR Careers event

Thursday 29th January

5:00- 7:30pm

Year 10- 13's

Refreshment provided

The Council House, Earl Street,
Coventry, CV1 5RR

These sessions are designed to equip young people in care from

Year 10 to Year 13 with the knowledge and confidence to explore their post-16 options. Each term, we (WVS & CVS) will host engaging events featuring guest speakers from Apprenticeships, Higher Education and various employment sectors.

DISCOVERY DAY WITH SEVERN TRENT

TBC

CALLING ALL YEAR 11'S

We are working with Severn Trent to design a collaborative educational programme that supports a sustainable learning pathway, with clear progression opportunities.

CARE EXPERIENCE DAY

JLR SITE VISIT TO GAYDON

Wednesday 11th March -
More information to follow



Email: sabinamarsh@warwickshire.gov.uk for more information on any of the above



EXPERIENCE WARWICK PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME WITH WARWICK UNIVERSITY

A multi-year programme designed to raise aspirations and support progression for pupils in Coventry and Warwickshire:

Year 6/7: Reading Programme

Weekly one-to-one sessions with trained student ambassadors to boost reading skills and self-esteem.

Year 7: Campus Introduction

Pupils explore Warwick's campus and take part in a challenge activity to kickstart their journey.

Year 8: Academic Taster Days

Interactive sessions in Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and STEM to broaden subject awareness.

Year 9: Big Idea Workshop

Delivered by Talent Foundry, focusing on social issues, tech for good, and key employability skills.

Year 10: Student Experience Day

A hands-on visit including tours, Esports Centre activities, and insights into student life.

Year 11: Next Steps Conference

Guidance on Warwick's post-16 programmes and how to apply.

Email:
sabinamarsh@warwickshire.gov.uk for more information.

UNIVERSITY EXPLORERS

AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR YEAR 6
CHILDREN IN LOCAL AUTHORITY CARE

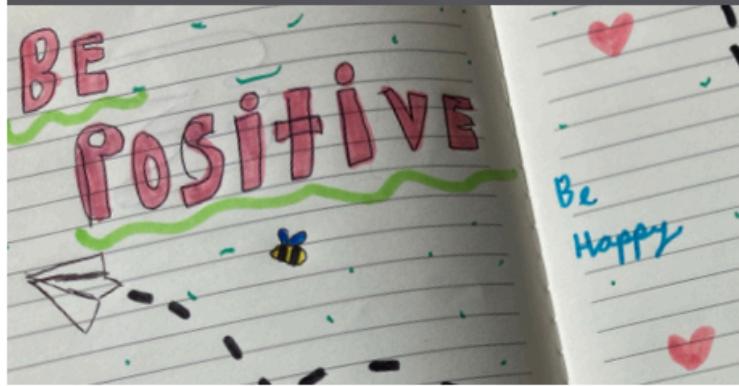


About University Explorers

University Explorers aims to support the educational progression of children in care, to help them develop a peer network, build confidence and resilience and empower them to recognise their potential. By targeting looked after children in Year 6, the project is also well-placed to support children with transition to secondary school.



University Explorers introduces care-experienced pupils to Higher Education through a varied programme of enjoyable and educational activities. The programme is a collaboration between The University of Warwick and the Virtual Schools in Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull.



Dates for 2026

This is a multi-day programme which takes place on campus at the University of Warwick. Participants attend all four days from 10:00 to 14:30. The programme concludes with a celebration with families. It is free of charge to attend.

Tuesday 3 February
Thursday 12 February
Thursday 26 February
Friday 6 March



Core Aims

- To introduce Higher Education and support pupils' aspirations
- To offer the opportunity for pupils to challenge themselves
- To provide a supportive and positive environment
- To deliver a positive feedback and self-reflection model to support participants
- To develop a range of key transferable skills, including communication and teamwork
- For participants to experience a positive interaction with education



UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



Email: sabinamarsh@warwickshire.gov.uk for more information



COMING SOON!



CARED FOR FREE EVERYONE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

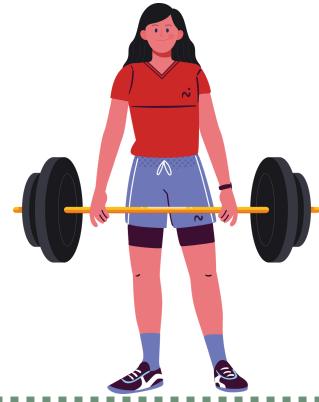
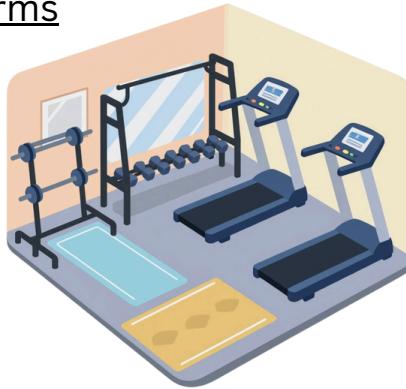
Everyone Active is working in partnership with Warwick District Council, to get more children and young people participating in sport and physical activity by offering a free membership that will give children and young people access to a range of facilities depending on their age, including gym, swim, soft play and group exercise.



For more information, follow the link-
[Everyone active- Cared for free membership](#)

To apply, you need a council family support worker or social worker to complete the referral forms and then the individual or nominated adult (if the referral is under 16) will receive an email detailing the next steps.

Referral forms- [Everyone active- Cared for children and young people referral forms](#)



West Midlands Children in Care Foundation



Stay up to date with all Arts and Sports enrichment offers around all West Midlands.

If your child/ young person currently in care is apart of Warwickshire's local authority but lives in another local authority within the West Midlands, they are entitled to attend any of the enrichment offers in their area.

Art offers- <https://www.wmvscicfoundation.org.uk/arts-events-what's-on>

Sport offers- <https://www.wmvscicfoundation.org.uk/active-now-events-what's-on>

Get in touch:

All our enrichment programmes are **available to children/ young people currently in care**. Any questions/ queries or for more information, please email Jaz or Sabina.



Arts & Sports- jasminegillett-ohagan@warwickshire.gov.uk

Higher Education & Aspirational programmes- sabinamarsh@warwickshire.gov.uk

