



23/24



TORPOINT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INSPIRING
OPTIMISTIC LEARNERS

NEWSLETTER

Thursday 14th September 2023



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 28th September –
Y5/6 Open Evening 6pm-7.30pm

Friday 29th September Inset Day –
Staff Training Non-Pupil Day

Tuesday 3rd October Y12/13 University
Information Event 6-8pm

Wednesday 11th October – Tutor Support
Evening Years 7-11

Half Term October 23rd-27th

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24

Autumn TERM

Tuesday 5th September – Tuesday 19th December

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a new Academic Year and a very special welcome to all the new students that have joined us at the College and a particular warm welcome to our 133 year 7 students and their families and almost 40 students in Year 12 in the sixth form.

I hope you had a really enjoyable and relaxing summer break and are now back into a routine as we already work rapidly through the autumn term. The start of this term was hot with our Indian summer, and may I take this opportunity to remind students to bring a water bottle, on a daily basis, that can be refilled at our water fountains.

Students returned to the College with enthusiasm, energy and looking very smart and can I take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support with our College uniform policy.

May I introduce you to the following colleagues that have joined the College in September:

- Mr Richardson, Teacher of Geography and History
- Mr Ayles, Teacher of History
- Mrs Bolton, Pastoral Assistant with First Aid
- Miss Croce, Teacher of Design Technology and Art

I am sure you have heard a great deal of information in the media about the examination results nationally and of course more locally including press releases from Torpoint Community College.

A reminder for students old and new to TCC the timings of the day:



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Timings of the day.

Tutor	0845 - 0910 (25 mins)
Lesson 1	0910 - 1010 (60 mins)
Lesson 2	1010 - 1110 (60 mins)
Break	1110 - 1140 (30 mins)*
Lesson 3	1140 - 1235 (55 mins)
Lesson 4	1235 - 1330 (55 mins)
Lunch	1330 - 1420 (50 mins)*
Lesson 5	1420 - 1520 (60 mins)

* A bell will indicate when you should move to lessons after break/lunch.



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It is clear from the results that the classes of 2023 in both Year 11 and 13 were a very special group, students have much to celebrate and should be very proud of what they have achieved.

You will have also heard from the media that a number of schools have fully or partially closed at the start of this academic year as a result of guidance related to Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). This information came very close to the start of the term, however, based on a previous survey and another conducted just this week, it would appear that Torpoint Community College is not directly affected by RAAC, which of course is very good news!

Our first College event this year is the Open Evening that will take place on Thursday 28th September. On this evening we will welcome pupils in year 5 and 6 and their parents to the College to explore what Torpoint Community College has to offer. The College looks forward to seeing familiar and new faces to this event.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jeremy Plumb
Headteacher



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Update to homework policy

At Torpoint Community College we believe that homework is important as it ensures that students independently consolidate what they learn in class. We also understand that some of our students face more barriers to completing homework than others and we are committed to offering additional support to those students so that they have the same opportunities to succeed as their peers. We have therefore spent time evaluating and reviewing our home learning systems.

We consider that homework should:

- Build on things children have already learned in class. Their homework will always ask them to do something that they have had an opportunity to practise with the expert guidance of their teacher.
- Be manageable and accessible. We don't want students to have to spend hours at home completing tasks, so we ask teachers to set homework tasks designed to take about 30 minutes maximum.
- Be based on research from cognitive science. We know that repetition is the key to retention: if students have frequent opportunities to revisit the same content, they are more likely to remember it over time, so the homework set will facilitate this.

If you are able to, please watch this short video which explains our approach to homework: <https://youtu.be/wx-Ha3ecmUQ>

Below is an outline of our new system:

- All heads of department have created subject homework policies which set out specifically what types of tasks teachers should set and how frequently. All teachers in that subject team will follow that policy.
- Teachers will award points on Satchel One for all students:
 - One positive point if they complete the homework
 - Two positive points if they complete the homework to a good standard
 - Three positive points if they complete homework to an excellent standard
 - One negative point if they do not submit homework by the stated submission date. The system does not allow us to remove this point if the homework is submitted late.

Using Satchel One will allow you to easily monitor whether or not your child is completing their homework. Many parents have told us that this is important to them. Please note, that behaviour points are recorded on sims and do not show on Satchel One. We consider that failure to complete homework is not a behaviour issue, but a learning need that parents/ carers/ teachers need to be aware of. This is why negative homework points are recorded on Satchel One and not behaviour points. Please note that we cannot remove points from Satchel One so if a student has a reason why they are likely to miss a homework deadline, they will need to let their teacher know before the deadline; if they tell us after the point is issued, we can't remove it.

- We will monitor how many points students are being awarded and intervene to reward and support. If students are acquiring a high number of points as they are not submitting homework, we will write to you, and offer the student an appropriate package of support for them to be able to complete the required work.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

Kind regards

Cheryl Lockett

Assistant Headteacher



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Rewards at TCC

We have made some changes to our Rewards System at TCC. We are still using Satchel One to award students their Kudos points but we have updated the categories. Students can now be awarded points for 'Personal Achievement Points' and 'House Points'.

We have also added a new award, the Very Impressive Pupil Award (VIPA). Teachers will nominate a student to receive a VIPA slip, this could be because of an outstanding lesson contribution, an act of kindness or overcoming a barrier to learning. Nominations will be gathered monthly and teachers will record their VIPA nominations on Satchel One. There will be a monthly prize draw to recognise our winners.



In addition to the Personal Achievement Points, students will be able to earn House Points by attending extra-curricular activities, completing tutor time activities or contributing to the College Community. This will add to the overall House Point total and will play a role in House vs House competitions (more information on this to come!). Students will also have the opportunity to earn their House Colours when they reach milestones in their own House Points.



We look forward to another fantastic year of Rewards at TCC!

Miss Lindup



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Instrumental Lessons at TCC

Calling all students who wish to learn an instrument at TCC!

If any student would like to learn a musical instrument in school, please collect a form and information from the school office or Mr Entwistle in SSC.



Apply for a Blue Peter Book badge

Are you aged between 11-15? Do you enjoy reading?

If so, you can apply for a Blue Peter Book Badge. Pop into TCC Library and ask Ms Hodgetts for an application form.

You will need to:

- Write about a book you have read and say what you enjoyed about it
- Draw, sketch or paint a picture of a character or scene from a story
- Tell all about other books you have read and authors you enjoy reading
- Ask your parent or guardian to help you fill out the form and return it to the library to be posted



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Torpoint Community College Press Release August 2023 – GCSE results.

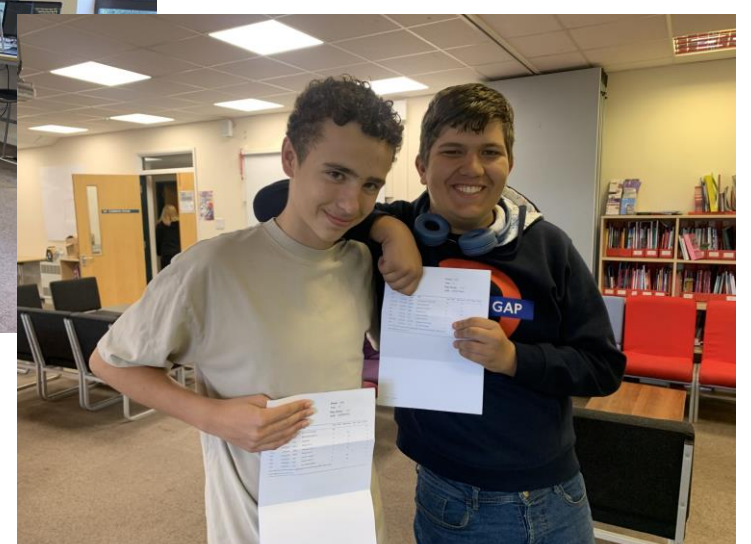
Torpoint Community College is an aspirational school, committed to our desire to “inspire optimistic learners”. We are therefore hugely proud of the students who achieved an array of outstanding GCSE and Btec examination results. It is worth remembering that this cohort of students experienced periods of remote learning during the pandemic, but the resilience and determination demonstrated by all students is to be much admired this summer.

The percentage of students attaining GCSE grades of 4 or above, identified as the standard pass, in both English and mathematics was 60%. Dr Jeremy Plumb, Headteacher said “This achievement across the College is a reflection of each and every inspired individual learner, together with the support and encouragement of their families.

Congratulations to all students for their individual achievement and praise to all staff who have steered the students through the courses and examinations. The College is looking forward to welcoming a significant number of these students into the hugely successful Sixth Form at the College which again this year also celebrates good results and sees every student move successfully to their next step”.

At this early stage of examination analysis, with several results yet to come in and the array of changes to courses, examinations and GCSEs, 54% of students gained a minimum of 5 or more GCSEs grade 4 or above including English and mathematics. Students achieved the highest grades of 9 or a Distinction in a number of their GCSEs and Btec courses. There were several students who excelled academically this year and there are many students who should feel hugely proud of what they have achieved.

It is clear from the results, that the class of 2023 was a very special group and whilst students celebrated their achievements, individual subject areas celebrated student successes with above average pass rates in an array of different curriculum areas. Dr Jeremy Plumb, Headteacher at the College said “All the staff and Governors at the College are extremely proud of our students’ achievements and are looking forward to watching them continue to achieve and inspire others in their chosen journey after GCSEs and Btecs. The resilience that the students have demonstrated under such conditions, because of the pandemic, is remarkable. You are all exceptional, inspiring and talented young people, and we couldn’t be prouder of you. Well done”.





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Torpoint Community College Press Release August 2023 – A level results.

Staff at Torpoint Community College would like to say a huge congratulations to all our students who collected their final A Level and CAMTEC results today and have done so well. The experience for this cohort of students was unique, as this was the first time they experienced formal public examinations, as their GCSE examinations were cancelled due to COVID.

We are very pleased to be celebrating some superb achievements with a higher-than-normal number of students applying for University. Over 70% of this year group applied for University this year with a significant number achieving their first-choice place. We are proud that all our students are either going on in education or taking up employment through apprenticeships. Some students have achieved particularly well this year. Alex and Rosie both achieved Double Distinction* in CAMTEC Sport: Alex also achieved an A grade in Chemistry and a B grade in Geography; Rosie achieved B grades in both Chemistry and Geography. Molly achieved B grades in both Art and Design and History and there were outstanding personal achievements in several other subjects.

Many of our students reached or exceeded their targets and should be extremely proud of what they have achieved, and we are so pleased to have so many get into their University places and Apprenticeships. Overall, the College is delighted.

Retiring Head of Sixth Form, John Golding said, "At the end of another very challenging year, I am incredibly proud to be part of such an amazing Sixth Form with such wonderful students, parents and staff. This cohort of young people have shown remarkable resilience and positivity to keep working hard in the most difficult of situations. Many of them have coped with huge personal challenges and I am delighted to see them being rewarded today. It has been a real privilege to have this cohort of students as my final Sixth Form group."

We are one of the smallest school Sixth Forms in Cornwall and yet our students are now ready and willing to take their places on the world stage. They are confident to stand heads and shoulders with the best and have the necessary skills and expertise to flourish in their chosen careers. Best of luck to the next generation of lawyers, scientists, computer programmers, physiotherapists, teachers, nurses and so much more.

The College would like to thank each and every student for working so hard over the last two years and also thank the parents and carers of our students who have given them such unwavering support. The College Leadership Team would also like to thank each member of staff for going the extra mile to support our students"





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Sixth Form 25th Anniversary

This Sunday 17th September marks 25 years since the opening of the Sixth Form at Torpoint Community College. It was a very special occasion with British Yachtsman Pete Goss as our guest and carrying out the official opening. Our Sixth Form was very much wanted at the time and remains an extremely important part of our College. It has seen many students through their A Level courses onto Higher Education and into exciting careers.

Throughout this anniversary year we will be celebrating our Sixth Form and continuing to develop it to support our students in achieving their best. If you are an ex TCC Sixth Form student and would like to share your story since leaving, please get in touch via email;

bell.L@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

A level students in 2009 painting a timeline of art in the Sixth Form stairwell.

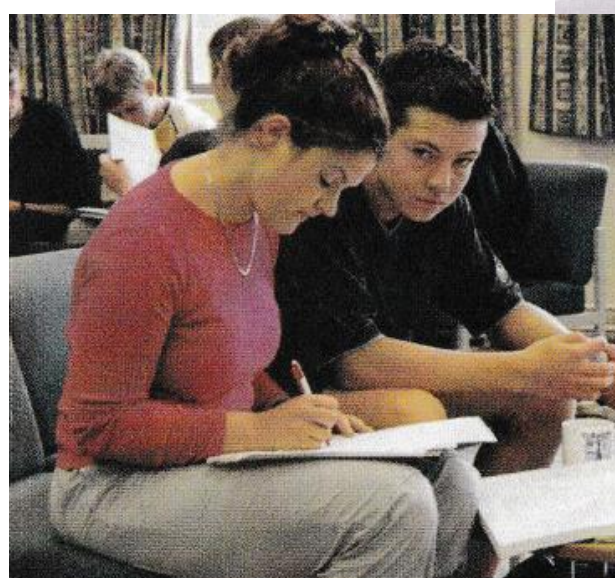


Above: A level results day 2013.

Below: A level results day 2007.



Images from
2003 Sixth Form
prospectus.



British
yachtsman
Pete Goss
opened the
Sixth Form in
1998.





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HMS RALEIGH

FREEDOM OF TORPOINT PARADE

Sunday 24th September 2023



The parade starts at 10.30am
from Thanckes Park car park
heading to the Ferry Lanes
for an inspection and short service.



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**Students, Parents/Carers, members of
the community,**

**You are invited to join us for our
coffee and cake day.**

You'll have an opportunity
to meet some of our staff
and students and enjoy some
coffee and cake whilst raising
money for this amazing charity.

Thursday 28th September

Torpoint Community College

Main Hall

10:30am-11:30pm

then

2:30pm-3:30pm

***Students will be able
to access the hall at
breaktimes and lunchtimes.***



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YEARS 5/6 OPEN EVENING

*Come and find out what
Torpoint Community College can offer you!*



THURSDAY
28th SEPTEMBER
2023
6:00-7:30_{pm}



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Post 16

Going to University

Information Evening



**Next Steps
South West**

Tuesday 3rd October

6pm- 8pm

in the Sixth Form Common Room



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TCC
PERFORMING
ARTS



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Production**



BE A PART OF IT!

AUDITIONS START SOON.



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Welcome Year 12 Art Students !

Our Year 12 art students are off to an amazing start to their course with some fantastic pieces being created.





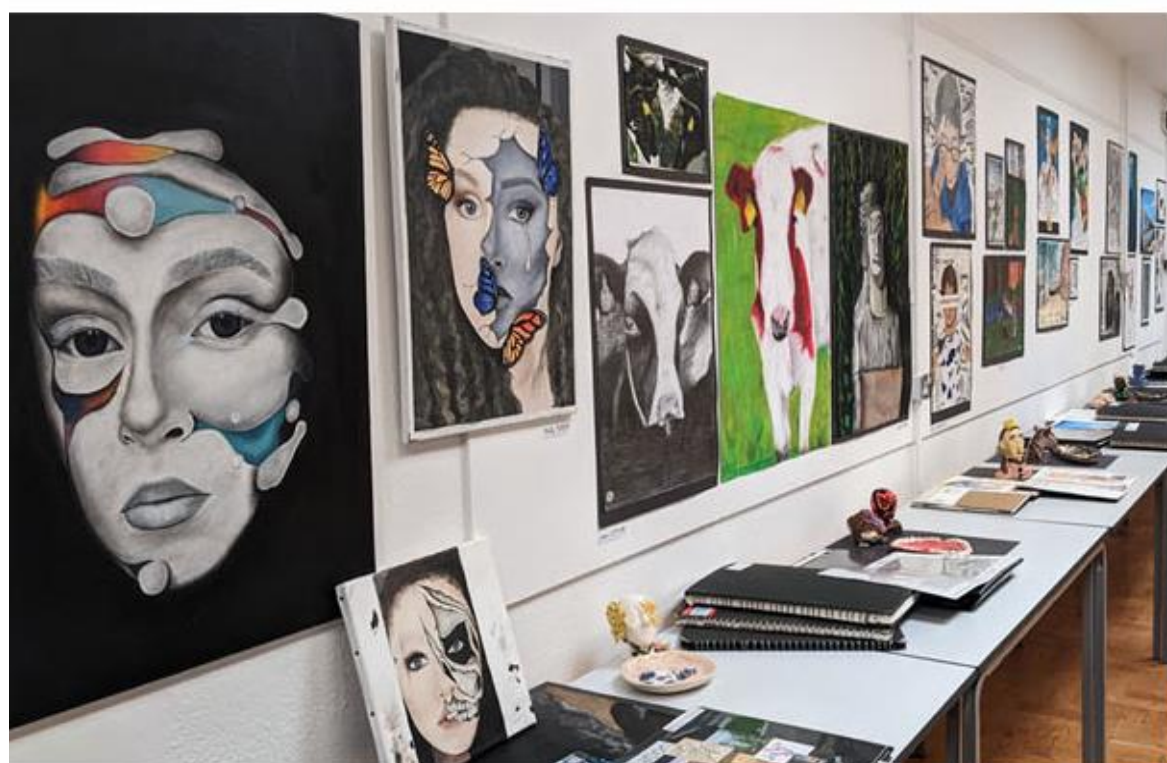
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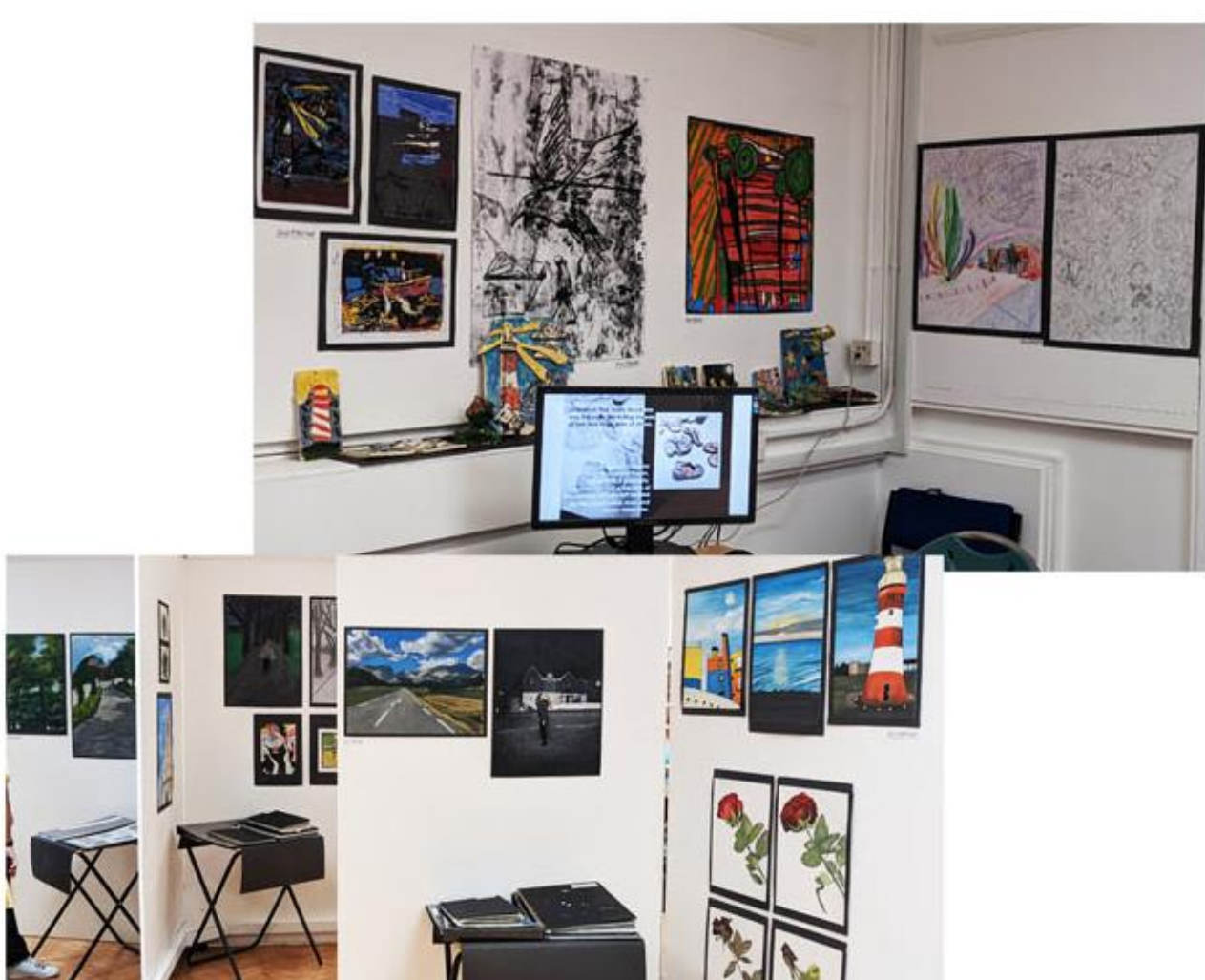
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GCSE Art

Now that the results are out, we can share with you some images from the GCSE Art exhibition which was displayed in our gallery in May.

A huge well done to last year's Year 11 art students on their hard work and creativity. We are very proud of them all!





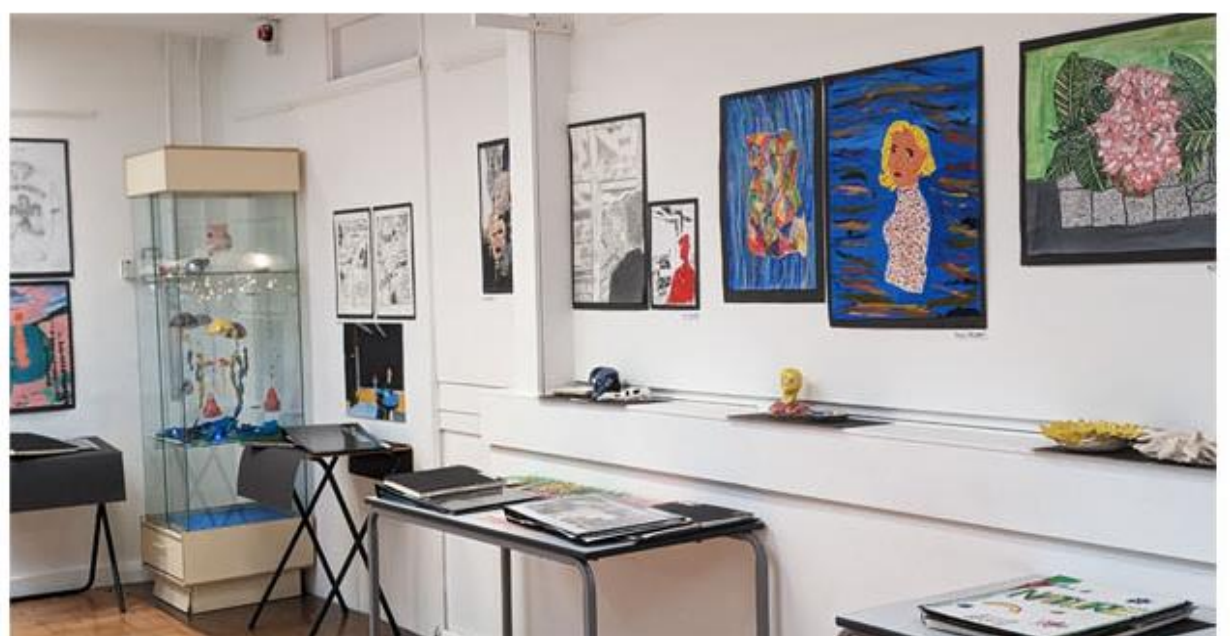
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SAFEGUARDING YOU

worries@torpoint.cornwall.sch.uk

Our main
priority is that
students feel
safe and
happy.

Email any worries to the above
email address OR
leave a note in our

worry box.

You can find it outside the
library.

Dr Plumb



*If you have any concerns or
worries, please speak to
one of the child protection team.*

Or speak to a member
of staff you trust and feel
comfortable
with.

Mrs Lear



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