

HEENE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Headteacher's message

Date: Friday 23rd April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm sure the lovely weather has helped, but it has been fantastic to see the children engaging with their Opal play at lunchtimes this week! I asked some of the children their opinion on Opal and other aspects of the school and it was a pleasure to hear them say that playtime is fun now and it helps them want to come to school! As the weather continues to warm up, we kindly remind families to remember that maroon shorts are to be worn on PE days if they would like to wear shorts. Sun hats, water bottles and sun cream (applied at home) are also musts as the days get brighter!

This week in worship we have been thinking about the Holy Trinity – God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit – and how this links closely with the “together” part of our school vision, “Together in faith we love, grow and learn.” The Trinity reminds us that although we are all unique, we are strongest when we work together, support one another and play our part in a shared community. Just as the Trinity shows unity, love and cooperation, we are encouraged to live and learn together with kindness, respect and hope, valuing everyone's contribution.

Looking ahead to next week, we are excited to welcome Rock Steady into school. They will leading and assembly to inspire future musicians and help discover new talents and interests. We are working hard to extend our enrichment opportunities, so if you have any ideas (or hidden talents!), we would be really keen to hear about them!

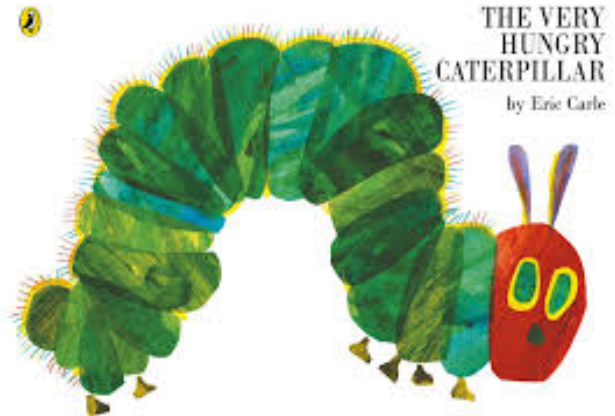
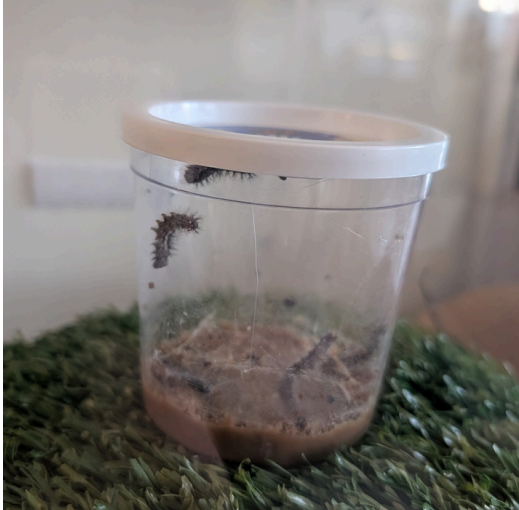
Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership with the school. We are very proud of how our children are living out our vision showing what it truly means to learn and grow together.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Laura Turner - Headteacher

Early Years

This week the children have enjoyed the book 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. We have our own caterpillars in class which we have been watching change over the past week. The children have already spotted that they have grown. In Drawing Club the children used their imaginations to think about what else the caterpillar could transform into.



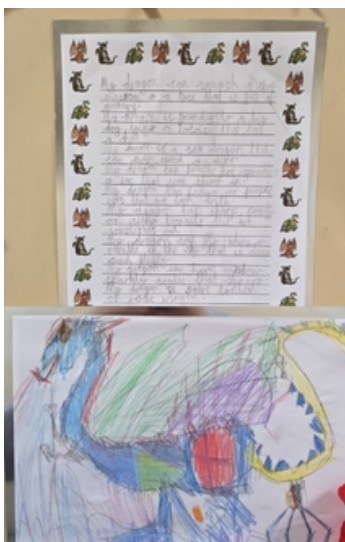
Year One

Year 1 have really enjoyed making their puppets in DT. They stitched and decorated their puppets based on a character from Room on the Broom. This inspired their writing, as they independently wrote their own instructions on 'how to make a puppet'. Their amazing work will be on display for everyone to see!



Year Two

Year 2 have been very hard at work using their descriptive writing skills to describe and create their very own dragons!



Year Three



This week in Year 3 we began a new topic about Plants and Nutrition. In our first lesson we reviewed the knowledge we already had from Year 2. Then, we began our first experiment to find out if leaves are important.

Year Four

We continued exploring our digestive system this week looking at what role our teeth play. We then explored our own teeth seeing what sort of teeth we had. Some of us were missing a few while we are waiting for are adult teeth to come through!



Year Five



News from the flamboyance of Flamingos and pride of Peacocks



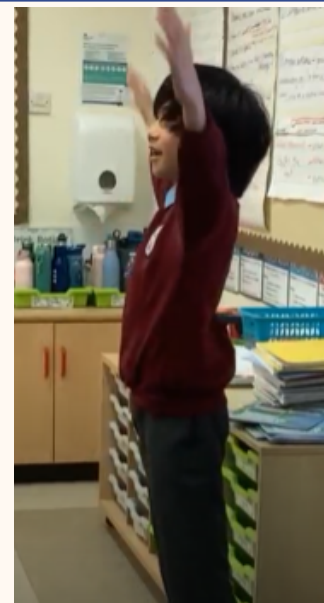
On Tuesday, we visited the Imam at Worthing Mosque. He taught us all about the holy building and how Tawhid creates a sense of belonging for all Muslims. We visited the Mosque's prayer room and the Imam showed us how his congregation gather together to pray. Imran, who visits the Mosque every week, stood up in front of us all and demonstrated the words he uses to praise Allah in Arabic. Well done Imran!



Year Six

Year 6 have been started learning about baroque style music this week.

They were given a key word to create lyrics for an opera presentation and they had a great time delivering their finished songs to the class confidently!



Attendance



Attend, Belong, Flourish:

Helping every child achieve their God-given potential

You are reading this as your child attends a DCAT school. At DCAT we are committed to helping your child achieve their God-given potential. We take school attendance very seriously.

We consider ourselves to be very supportive and approachable and as such our family of schools and will try to make considerations for pupils who need extra support, where possible.

We are, however, bound by law to ensure that every pupil attends.

Missing a few days of school here and there may not seem a major issue, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on your child's learning. It is a fact that children who miss school can fall behind their peers and struggle to catch up academically, socially and emotionally.

Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can not only lead to gaps in their learning, but also have an impact on their future options and opportunities.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school and beyond.

We also know that friendships can be affected by persistent absence.

Persistent absence is where a child misses 10% or more of school (the equivalent to one day or more a fortnight across a full school year). It can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates and this can affect a child's wellbeing.

At DCAT we know that good attendance at school is the single most important factor to ensure that young people have the maximum life chances - attendance is strongly linked to educational achievement. Promoting positive school attendance is everyone's responsibility.

- Pupils who miss school risk failing to achieve what they are capable of
- Figures have shown that 90% of persistent, poor or non-attenders fail to achieve five or more good grades at GCSE and approximately one third achieve no GCSEs at all
- Developing good habits of attendance and punctuality are key life skills
- When pupils miss school... they miss out!

Attendance

What to do if your child is unwell?

If your child is not well enough to go to school it is your responsibility to notify School before 9am on the day of absence.

How do I inform school?

Please ring school on 01903 201386 and leave a message on the absence line, state your child's name, Class and the reason for absence ie. Vomiting, diarrhoea, temperature, headache etc

Alternatively

you can now email us on:

attendance@heenepriamary.co.uk

Please state your clearly child's name, Class and the specific reason in the email. Many thanks

Focus on - Attendance Matters!

SCHOOL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

EYFS Goldfinch Class- Nelson + Nela
Year 1 Robin Class - Ikay + Jodie
Year 2 Blackbird Class - Mayokun+ Nyah
Year 3 Kestrel Class - Veronika + David
Year 4 Magpie Class - Livia + Harrison
Year 5 Peacock Class - Alfred + Melissa
Year 6 Buzzard Class - Sebastian + Ava

Hummingbird Class -Tiana + Timi
Starling Class - Lilly + Ralph
Puffin Class - Willow + Joshua
Nightingale Class - Gennaro + Freya
Kingfisher Class - Bruce + Christina
Flamingo Class - Benedict + Kumsal
Eagle Class - Felix + Valentina

Let your light shine

EYFS -	Jayden (Goldfinch Class)	David (Hummingbird Class)
Year 1 -	Princeton (Starling Class)	Mia (Robin Class)
Year 2 -	Violet (Blackbird Class)	Oliver (Puffin Class)
Year 3 -	Myra (Nightingale Class)	Sachin (Kestrel Class)
Year 4 -	Peterson (Magpie Class)	Kuba (Kingfisher Class)
Year 5 -	Michael (Flamingo Class)	Ava (Peacock Class)
Year 6 -	Jayden (Buzzard Class)	Ayaz (Eagle Class)

Headteachers Award - Blake

Attendance matters!

Year R - 95.58%

Year 1 - 94.31%

Year 2 - 91.43%

Year 3 - 97%

Year 4 - 96.81%

Year 5 - 97.86%

Year 6 - 94.66%

We aim for 96% attendance or above.

This week our whole school attendance is 95.34%

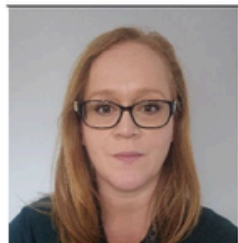
Academic year to date 93.67%



Key Dates - 2026

- 28/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 04/05 BANK HOLIDAY - School closed
- 05/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 07/05 Whole class photo
- 08/05 FOHPS Fun Run (details to follow)
- 11-14/05 Year 6 SATS week
- 12/05 Year 3 - Nightingale Wild Beach
- 14/05 Year 1 - Museum trip
- 18/05 FOHPS Summer disco (details to follow)
- 22/05 INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
- 25-29/05 HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED
- 01/06 INSET DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS
- 02/06 All children back to school
- 22/06 Year 6 Leavers Service - Lancing College
- 22/06 Year 6 Leavers Service - Chichester Cathedral
- 26/06 Year 5 taster at Worthing High School
- 27/06 FOHPS Summer Fair (details to follow)
- 07/07 Year 5 taster at Davison High School
- 13-22/07 NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
- 15-17/07 Year 6 - Lodge Hill Residential
- 22/07 Last day at school

Back to School - Thursday 3rd September



Head of School DSL
Laura Turner
lturner@heeneprimary.co.uk



Family Liaison & Attendance Officer DDSL
Clare Christian
cchristian@heeneprimary.co.uk



Assistant Head + SENDCO DDSL
Laura Dobson
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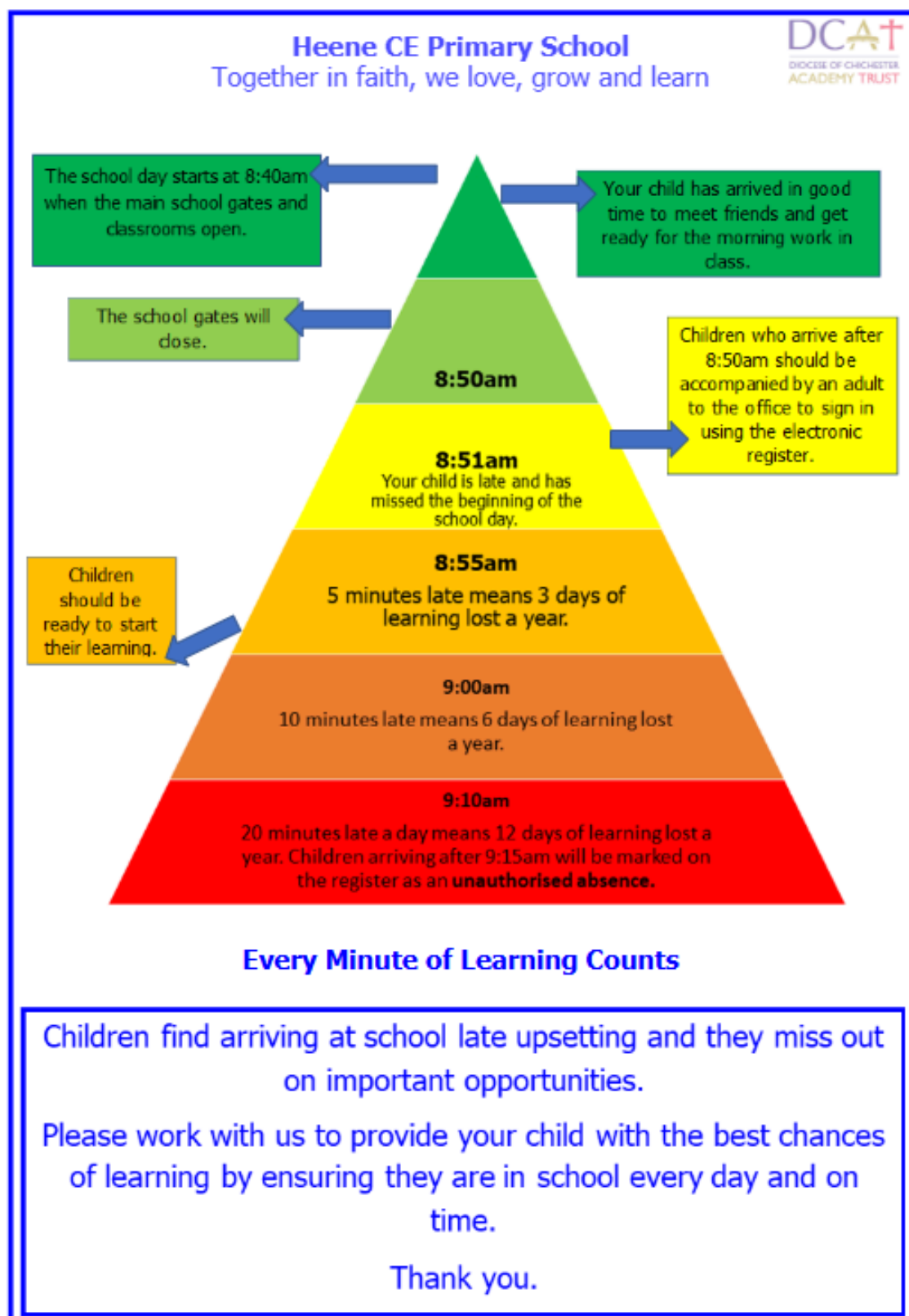


Office Manager DSL
Sarah Turnbull
officemanager@heeneprimary.co.uk



Chair of Governors
Jenny Barnard – Langston
j.barnard@dcac.academy

HEENE PRIMARY SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Makaton- Sign of the Week



Learn



Makaton



signs

and



symbols.

Sign of the Week - try again



Remember - with Makaton sign language, we say the word at the same time as signing it.

Attendance - Illness

It is your responsibility as a parent/carer to make contact with school by leaving a message on
01903 201386
or sending an email to
attendance@heenepprimary.co.uk
before 9am on each day your child is unwell, giving a specific reason for absence ie. diarrhoea, vomiting, headache etc

01903 201386

attendance@heenepprimary.co.uk



REMINDER

Please order your child's hotmeal at home. You can order a whole term ahead, this in turn helps us with ordering the ingredients that will be needed to fulfil the advertised menu. There are so many children whose parents are not ordering - which is resulting in menu items running out. We cannot predict in advance what is required if you don't order.

If you need help setting up your account or with the ordering system please come to the school office who will be happy to help.

To set up your parent account, simply go to the link below:

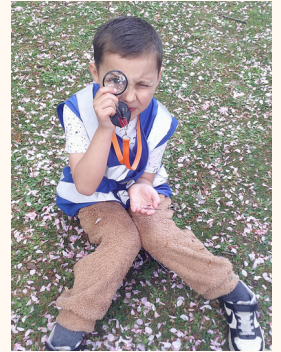
<https://relishschoolfood.co.uk/parents>

We also have a step-by-step guide to help you set up your account should you need it.

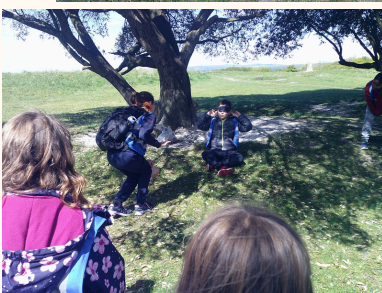
Eco trip to Highdown

On Monday, members of Environment Club and all the Eco Councillors went on an amazing school trip with Miss Luke that was organised by the lovely Mrs Usher! Pupils enjoyed a brilliant day at Highdown and the South Downs National Park, taking part in outdoor learning activities that encouraged curiosity, teamwork and connection with nature.

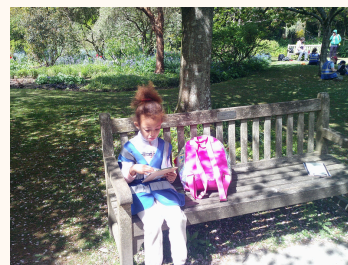
Pupils enjoyed a brilliant day at Highdown and the South Downs National Park, taking part in outdoor learning activities that encouraged curiosity, teamwork and connection with nature.



The day included a guided walk exploring the area's chalk landscape, wildlife and history, hands-on habitat investigations, and sensory nature activities.



Pupils also explored Highdown Gardens, created nature art using natural materials, and reflected on what they had learned. It was a memorable day of learning, wellbeing and discovery in our local environment.



A massive thank you to Miss Barton, Mrs Cosgrove and all the excellent parent helpers who supported us with this trip!

Eco trip to Highdown



READING recommendations



Week ending Friday 24th April



Top Rockstars in each year group

Year 2: Catherin, Nikola and Harrison

Year 3: Eleanor, Matvii and Hafiz

Year 4: Jakub, Demilade and Aaleyah

Year 5: Dotty, Alwin and Freddie

Year 6: Stanley

Winning Class: Magpie



**Week ending
24th April. Well
done everyone!**

Top Spelling Shed Groups¹

#	Group	Score
1.	Flamingo	36,336,166
2.	Magpie	5,883,388
3.	Blackbird	5,571,768
4.	Kestrel	4,534,122
5.	Nightingale	3,048,322
6.	Puffin	2,498,500
7.	Buzzard	1,448,010
8.	Peacock	1,114,244
9.	Eagle	540,284
10.	Kingfisher	147,504

Top Spelling Shed Pupils

#	Avatar	Pupil	Groups	Score	Total Score
1.		Edward	Flamingo	20,112,080	169,551,356
2.		Antonia-Grace	Flamingo	14,657,480	223,367,994
3.		Jayden	Kestrel	2,999,560	266,049,965
4.		Rishi	Blackbird	2,916,322	241,773,220
5.		Keeley-Rose	Magpie	2,291,408	18,214,900

YOUTH DROP IN

The Youth Drop-In is a safe, fun and welcoming space for young people in school years 7-13 to come and unwind with friends after school.

school year 6 welcome in summer term!



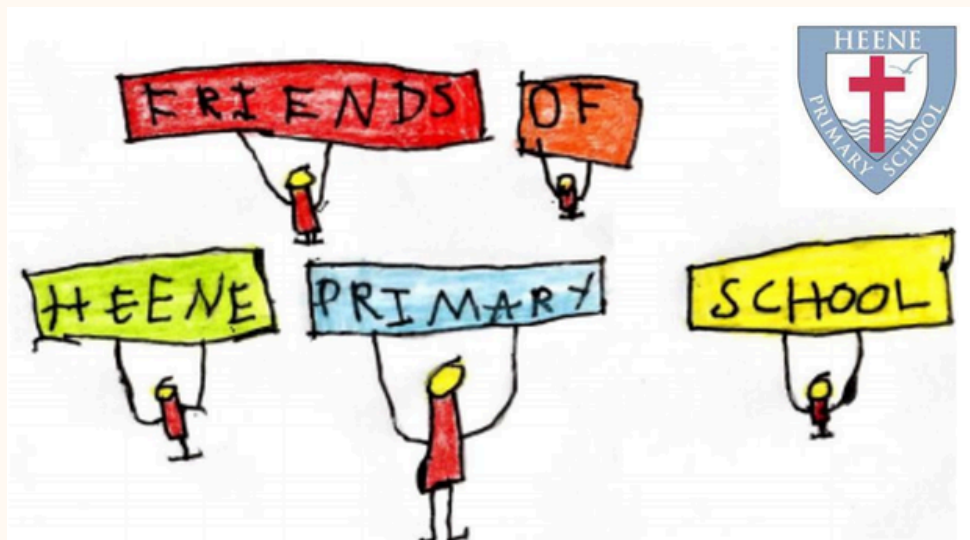
*we meet here at the Youth Lounge!
(plus a large hall for sport)*

TOAST
BOARD GAMES
POOL
FOOTBALL
TABLE TENNIS
NINTENDO SWITCH
CARD GAMES
SOFAS

Tuesdays

3.15-4.45pm (term time)

Youth Lounge, St Matthew's Church



This term we are holding our 4th sponsored fun run on Friday 8th May during the school day. We are asking the children to come to school dressed as their sporting heroes or in sports clothes and collectively run an ultramarathon.

We are raising money for new outdoor play and learning equipment. We would be really grateful if you could help us by collecting sponsorship money from family and friends. Please fill in the form that your child was sent home with this week (spares in the office!) and return to school with sponsorship money by Friday 8th May. Payments can be made in cash or via bank transfer (please use the child's surname as a reference).

Acc. nos. 43031314. Sort code: 20-12-80

Many thanks for all your support,
Friends of Heene Primary School



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

MATCHFIT



MONDAY

**PALATINE
PARK**

WEDNESDAY

**DAVISON'S
HIGH SCHOOL**

**SEPTEMBER-
JULY
5-6 PM**

ENQUIRE TODAY VIA EMAIL



MATCHFITFOOTBALLACADEMY@GMAIL.COM

WEST WORTHING CLUB

FAMILY FUN DAY

& CLUB OPEN DAY

SUNDAY 17 MAY
10.30AM - 2.00PM

TRY TENNIS, PADEL, SQUASH
& ALL OUR SPORTS FOR FREE

PREMIUM FACILITIES
EXPERT COACHING

Book here



BARCLAYS

BIG TENNIS

WEEKEND

LTA

www.wwc.org.uk | info@wwc.org.uk

