



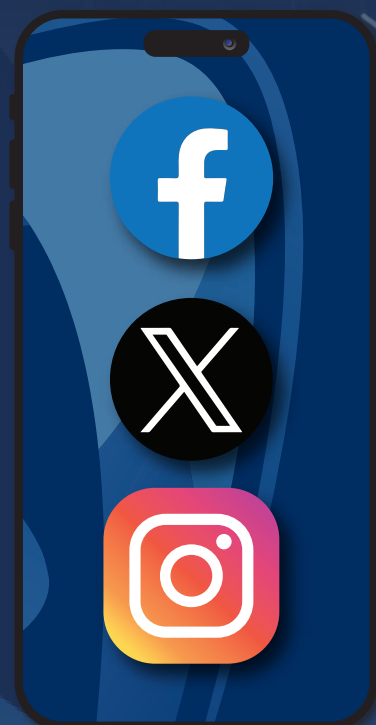
"Be The Best You Can Be"

# Weekly Newsletter

## 2025/26

Issue Number: 13

Date: 12/12/25





# END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

As we come to the end of a busy and productive term, we would like to remind families of our closing arrangements. On Friday 19th December, all students will be dismissed shortly after 12:30pm. Please ensure appropriate collection arrangements are in place for this earlier finish (taxi and buses).

The school will close from 2:00 pm on the same day and will remain shut throughout the Christmas break. We will reopen on Monday 5th January for an INSET day for staff only. Students will return to school on Tuesday 6th January.

We wish all our students, families and staff a wonderful, restful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.





# BOOK A TOUR TODAY!

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make. At The Abbey School, we provide a supportive, inclusive, and high-achieving environment where every student is encouraged to reach their full potential.

## What You Can Expect to See on Your Visit:

- Engaging Lessons & Inspiring Teaching – See our dedicated staff in action, delivering high-quality education.
- Excellent Facilities – Modern classrooms, specialist subject areas, a well-equipped sports hall, and vibrant social spaces.
  - Strong Pastoral Care – A nurturing and inclusive community where every child is supported.
  - Enriching Opportunities – A variety of clubs, trips, and extracurricular activities that enhance learning and personal development.
- A Safe and Welcoming Environment – High expectations, respect, and ambition at the heart of everything we do.

## Accessibility & Inclusivity

We are committed to making The Abbey School accessible for all visitors. Our site offers:

- Step-free access and wheelchair-friendly pathways.
  - On-site parking, including accessible bays.
- Easily accessible location with good transport links.

Come and see The Abbey School in action! Book a tour today and experience first hand why we are the perfect choice for your child's future.

If your child has an EHCP and you would like a tour of the SRP, please can you contact Mrs Holliday to book this: [kholliday@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:kholliday@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)


CLICK THE QR CODE BELOW TO BOOK YOUR TOUR!





# Christmas Food Bank Collection

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>  
December



- Chocolate
- Crisps
- Children's sweets
- Biscuits
- Cereal bars
- Hot chocolate
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned potatoes
- Tins of tuna
- Tins of carrots
- Gravy granules
- Stuffing mix
- Dried pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Long life milk
- Fruit juice
- Fruit squash

Thank you for your  
generous donations to help  
us support the Faversham  
community.



A photograph of two Year 12 students in a laboratory setting. They are both wearing white lab coats. The student on the left has curly hair and glasses, and the student on the right is wearing safety glasses and orange gloves, giving a thumbs up. In the background, another student is working at a lab bench.

## YEAR 12 SCIENCE TRIP

A-Level Biology practical session for Year 12 students, at Canterbury Campus on Wednesday, 10th December 2025. This trip is designed to support the A-Level curriculum and enhance students' required practical skills.

## CHRISTMAS PRIZE GIVING

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of all our students who have received an award for their outstanding effort this term!

Please see the timetable for our prize-giving celebrations below:

Monday 15th December – Form Time – Year 9  
Tuesday 16th December – Form Time – Year 10  
Wednesday 17th December – Form Time – Year 7  
Thursday 18th December – Form Time – Year 8  
Thursday 18th December – Period 1 – Year 11

Congratulations to all our award winners!





# IMMUNISATION SERVICE

The Immunisation Service would like to invite parents to book an appointment at one of their community clinics if your child missed the FLU vaccination during the recent school visit.

If you gave consent but your child was not immunised, you will have received an automated email with a link to book an appointment.

Alternatively, if you missed the opportunity for your child to be vaccinated at the school session you can complete a consent form via our website at <https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/> using the school code: KT149893 please contact the team directly on 0300 123 5205 option 1 for more information about community clinic availability & bookings.

If your child was vaccinated on their recent visit, you are invited to complete the following surveys [Parent / Carer Survey](#) or [Young Persons Survey 11-19 year olds](#).

You can also visit the Immunisation Service website for further details: <https://family.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms>

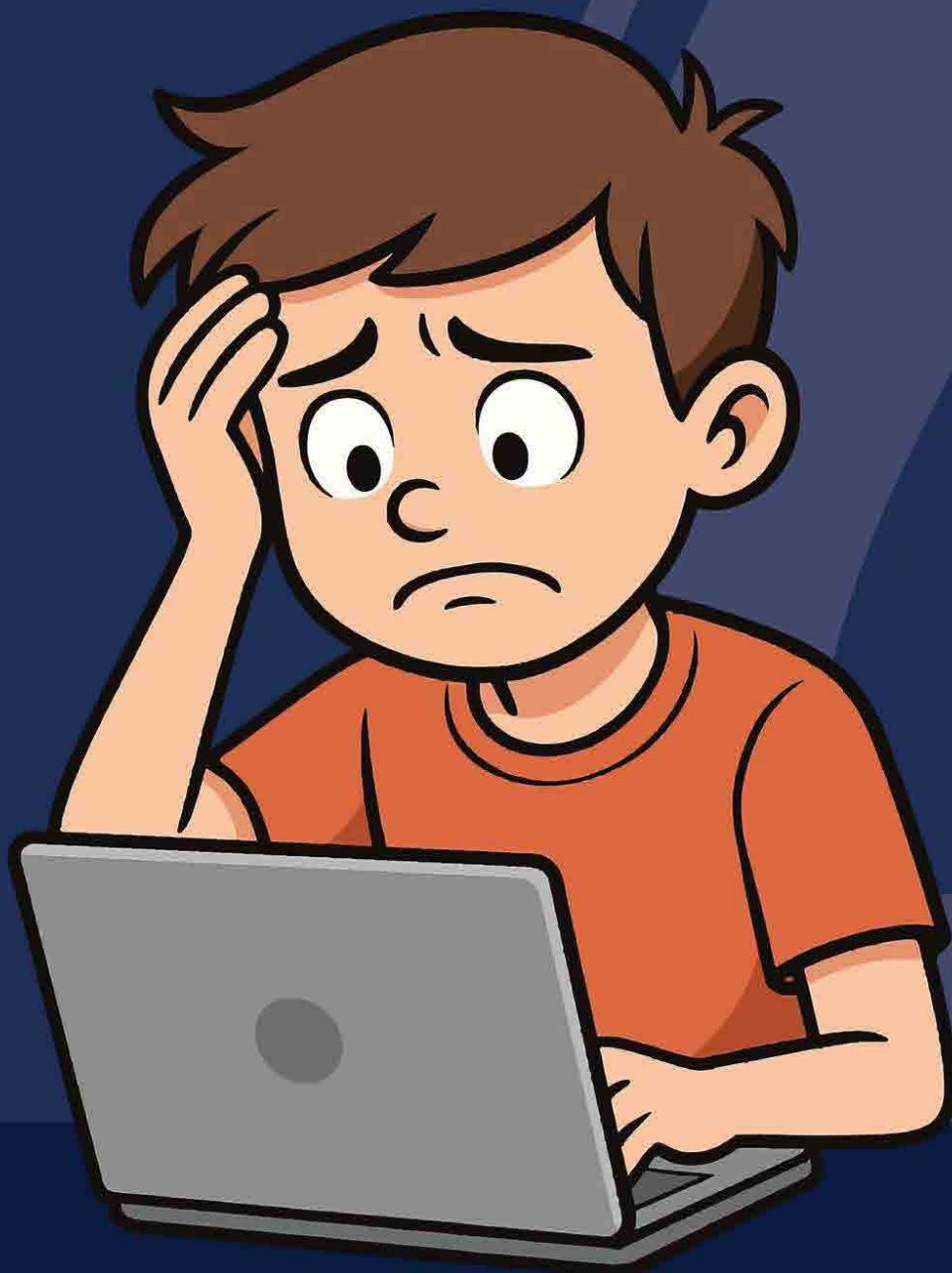
## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Massive thanks to everyone who took part in our Christmas Jumper Day. It was amazing to see so many staff and pupils taking part in this event!





# THE WORRY BOX

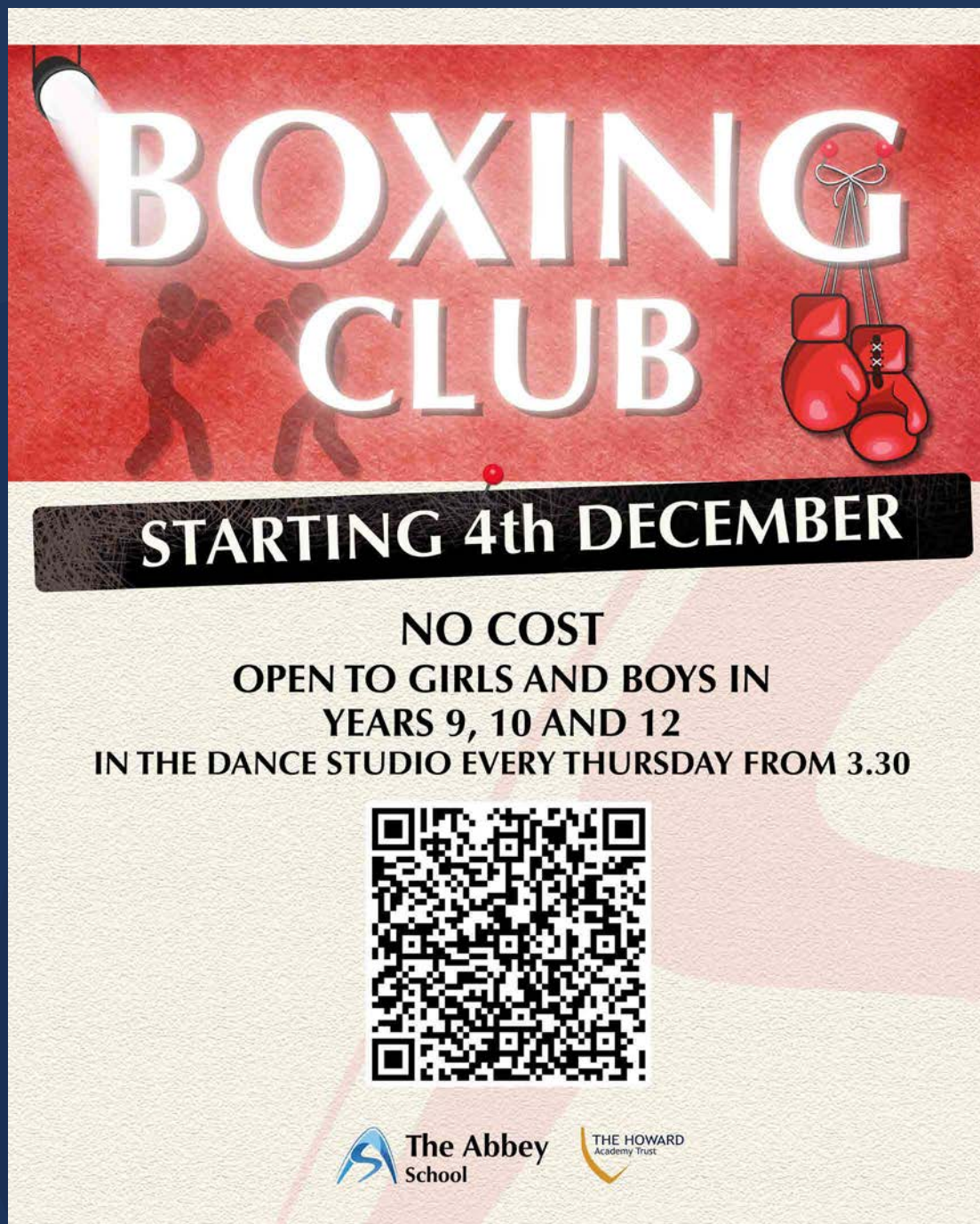


Checked daily during school hours  
[www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox](http://www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox)

Not checked at the weekends or evenings. For urgent help, contact  
NSPCC, Action for Children or Childline







We are excited to announce our new Boxing Club for students in Years 9, 10 and 12, starting on 4th December!

This is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, improve fitness and learn new skills in a supportive environment. Both boys and girls are welcome, and no previous experience is needed.

Sessions are completely free, so why not come along, give it a try, and discover a sport you might love?

Sign up by clicking the QR code



# 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Our 12 Days of Christmas celebrations have brought an incredible amount of joy, excitement and festive spirit to the school this week. Each day has offered something special, and both students and staff have embraced the activities with enthusiasm!

We kicked off the week by spreading a little seasonal kindness with every student received a candy cane at the end of the school day. It was a simple but heart-warming way to begin our festive countdown.

On Tuesday, the atmosphere buzzed with energy as students had the chance to earn golden tickets, each worth double their usual value for one day only. This created a brilliant incentive for positive behaviour, and many students rose to the challenge.

Wednesday was a day of celebration for those who demonstrated outstanding commitment. Students with 100% attendance and no C3 behaviour incidents were rewarded with Haribo treats or a festive selection box. It was fantastic to recognise their dedication and effort as the term draws to a close.

Thursday brought one of the most colourful and cheerful days of the week, Christmas Jumper Day! Staff and pupils filled the school with an array of seasonal jumpers, glittering designs, and plenty of sparkle. The sense of community spirit was wonderful to see as everyone joined in to make the day feel truly festive.

To round off the week, Friday featured a musical treat. Students enjoyed Christmas music in the canteen during lunchtime, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere as we edged closer to the holiday season.

This week has been a fantastic celebration of positivity, kindness, and school spirit. Next week promises to be just as exciting, with even more rewards and festive surprises on the way.

We can't wait to continue spreading Christmas cheer throughout our school community!



# WELCOME TO THE ABBEY SCHOOL

Click the image below to view our brand new promotion video!





## Growing Together in Kindness

We would like to remind parents and carers of who we are and what we stand for. We are proud to be an integral part of the Faversham community - some of our students' families have roots here going back generations. Though our buildings, uniforms, and staff may have changed over time, our core values remain steadfast and we believe they always will.

We are a school that lives by our motto: "Be the Best You Can Be." As a dedicated team, we strive to nurture in our students a strong sense of character and purpose. We promote values such as aspiration, curiosity, integrity, persistence, altruism, creativity, resourcefulness, and reflection - and, perhaps most importantly in today's world, a deep commitment to community and responsibility.

We teach our students to treat others with respect and compassion, regardless of background. Everyone deserves to feel they belong - no matter their race, nationality, religion, sex, gender, age, disability or any other aspect of their identity.

At The Abbey School, we see diversity and inclusion as strengths to be celebrated. Our aim is to prepare students not only for academic achievement but to become kind, empathetic individuals who make a positive difference in the world. Because in the end, isn't it kindness that matters most - that we look out for one another, no matter our differences?





# CELEBRATE TOGETHER

If your son or daughter achieved something special, we want to celebrate it!

Whether it's a sporting success, a creative project, volunteering, or a personal milestone, please send us the details (and a photo if you'd like!) so we can share their fantastic achievements.

Send us as much information as you like and we can post it on our socials so we can share the fantastic news with our community!

Email: [info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you!

#BeTheBestYouCanBe

# BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The Abbey School received a wonderful gift from Stephen Palmer, a War Memorials Register Volunteer with the Imperial War Museum.

Stephen generously presented us with a Book of Remembrance, a remarkable collection that tells the stories of local men who lost their lives in war. The book also includes photographs and personal details that help bring these stories to life.

We are incredibly grateful for this thoughtful donation, which will serve as a lasting reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of our local heroes.

Below is the link for the book!



A photograph of a young woman, Megan C, smiling and wearing a blue ruffled dress and a tiara. She is holding a wand with a star on top. The background is a painted backdrop of a kitchen with various items hanging on the wall.

## CONGRATULATIONS MEGAN C

Congratulations to Megan C (Year 12) who has just finished performing as the fairy godmother in Doddington's local pantomime Cinderella.

Megan performed in a total of 6 shows last weekend and has been rehearsing since September. This is her 9th year participating in the Doddington pantomime. Megan, we are so proud of you; you are a shining example of someone who has shown great commitment, dedication, and passion to pursue something you love to do.

We look forward to seeing your name in lights in the future!



## You can make a difference!

Are you passionate about making a difference in education and shaping the future of young learners? The Abbey School is seeking a dedicated **Parent Governor** to join our board and help support our school community.

*Interested in joining us?*

Email: [sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk](mailto:sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk)



## Become a Parent Governor

- Help shape meaningful decisions that truly impact young lives.
- Grow and develop new skills in a rewarding role.
- Be part of a supportive organisation that truly makes a difference.
- Help us remove barriers to education.

Email: [sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk](mailto:sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk)

## What we offer:

- Enjoy a flexible commitment that fits around your schedule.
- Access comprehensive support and training to help you thrive in your role.
- Take advantage of valuable professional development opportunities.



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS



## TIME LOST DUE TO LATENESS

AMOUNT	MINS LATE	HOURS MISSED END OF SCHOOL YEAR	SCHOOL DAYS LOST
1 LATE PER WEEK	10	6.5 HOURS	1.3 DAYS
2 LATES PER WEEK	10	13 HOURS	2.6 DAYS
3 LATES PER WEEK	10	19.5 HOURS	3.9 DAYS
4 LATES PER WEEK	10	26 HOURS	5.2 DAYS
5 LATES PER WEEK	10	32.5 HOURS	6.5 DAYS





## Secondary School of the Year

Recognising the exemplary use of STEER to proactively safeguard children and young people, and your role in supporting proactive safeguarding across your sector.

2025

Simon Walker  
STEER Founder



**The Abbey  
School**

Jo Walker  
STEER Founder

## SENECA CHAMPIONS

Well done to our Seneca Champions from this week!

Year Group	Learning Time	Average Score	Time Champion	Score Champion
12 & 13	2h 0min	86%	Chloe H	Oliver S
11	55h 16min	70%	Reuben M	Logan W
10	32h 6min	64%	Mia E	Ashley B
9	55h 42min	63%	Kieron B	Dimitar D
8	17h 9min	66%	Joseph N	Arabella S
7	26h 51min	69%	Austen C	Zoe G-S





# FOOD BANK DONATIONS

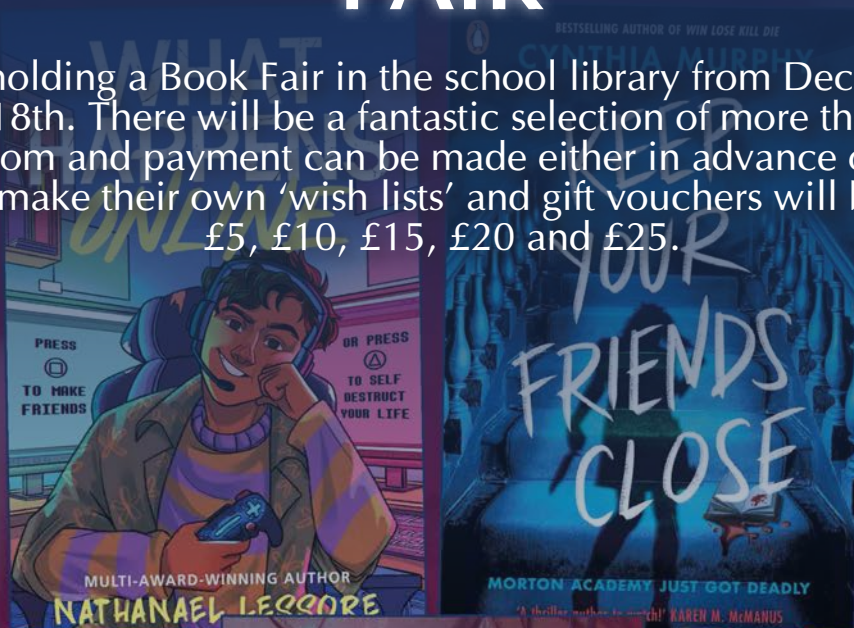
Massive thank you to all staff and students for donating to our Food Bank. Your generosity will make someone's Christmas so much brighter! We still have over two weeks left to donate and every contribution, big or small, will make a huge difference to someone in need this Christmas.

Thanks to all the students below for donating!

Kieron B  
Toby B  
Lacey F  
Marcus G  
Jacob C  
Harper C-F

# BOOK FAIR

We will be holding a Book Fair in the school library from December 15th to December 18th. There will be a fantastic selection of more than 200 books to choose from and payment can be made either in advance or on the day. Students can make their own 'wish lists' and gift vouchers will be available for £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25.





# LOCKDOWN PRACTICE DRILL

Ensuring a safe environment for every student at The Abbey School is at the heart of everything we do. As part of our commitment to safeguarding, we regularly practise our responses to a range of emergencies, including those that are highly unlikely to occur.

On Tuesday 16th December 2025, we will be carrying out a lockdown drill during Period 2.

Before the drill, staff will talk with students about the purpose of lockdowns and the procedures involved, emphasising why these practices matter. After the drill, teachers will reassure students and remind them that these exercises are simply part of our ongoing preparation to keep everyone safe.







# GIRLS GYM DEVELOPMENT

Fresh paint, a new ceiling and major progress all around! The transformation is looking amazing so far.

Work is scheduled to be finished by the end of the week, so stay tuned for the final look!

# SPOTLIGHT ON.... PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

'Personal Development' is a term we hear often these days - both in schools and in the workplace. But as parents, you might wonder what it really means and how it impacts your son or daughter.

In line with government expectations, Personal Development is the part of the school curriculum that goes beyond academic, technical, or vocational learning. It's about helping students grow as individuals - supporting them to develop the knowledge, skills, and values they need to thrive in all areas of life.

At The Abbey School, our Personal Development curriculum encourages students to explore important themes such as equality, respect, relationships, online safety, mental and physical health, and preparation for adult life. These lessons are designed to help students build confidence, resilience, empathy, and independence as they progress through school.

The key takeaway is that Personal Development is made up of many connected parts, all working together to help each student reach what we call their BIG END GOAL. (We use capitals because it's an important one!) By the time students leave The Abbey School, we aim for them to have developed the knowledge and attributes that support their own and others' wellbeing and success, and to become happy, confident adults who make a positive contribution to society (Secretary of State, 2021).

Of course, achieving this goal involves many different elements working together. To help explain this, we use the analogy of a 'School Backpack', which represents the various components that make up each student's Personal Development journey. You can see the illustration below and it can also be found in your son or daughter's planner

We are also fully aware of the updated 2025 RSHE guidance and are currently reviewing our curriculum to ensure that all new recommendations - including those relating to online safety, consent, mental health, and respectful relationships - are reflected in what we offer. Our goal is to make sure The Abbey School continues to provide a relevant, inclusive, and up-to-date Personal Development programme that prepares every student for life beyond school.

If you would like further information on anything that you have read above, please get in touch via The Abbey Helpdesk using the subject line: Personal Development.

This finally leads to sharing with you what is being delivered to your son or daughter in PSHE/RSE during Term 2, either during tutor time or in Core Lessons for Sixth Form students. We will give you a termly update of what is being covered so that you can continue to support their learning and discussions at home.



Year Group	Topic
7	<b>Living in the wider world</b> Equality Act 2010 – Learn how the law protects people from unfair treatment. Courts & Tribunals – Find out how legal disputes are settled fairly. Making Sense of Money – Understand how money works in everyday life. Budgeting Basics – Learn how to plan your spending and save wisely. Bank Accounts – Discover how to use different bank accounts safely. Smart Saving – Pick up tips on saving money and reaching your goals.
8	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Sharing Information Online – Learn how to stay safe and protect your privacy when posting online. The Limitless Internet – Explore how the internet connects people and ideas all over the world. Viewing Harmful Content – Understand what to do if you see something upsetting or unsafe online. Gender-Based Discrimination – Learn why everyone deserves respect, regardless of gender. Racism and Discrimination – Understand the impact of racism and how to challenge unfair treatment. Homophobia – Learn about inclusion and why it's important to respect everyone's identity.
9	<b>Relationships and Sex Education</b> Safe & Healthy Sex – Learn how to make safe, responsible choices in relationships. Sexually Transmitted Infections – Understand how STIs spread and how to protect yourself. Reproductive Health – Find out how to look after your body and understand how it works. Pregnancy Choices – Learn about the options and support available during pregnancy. Forced Marriages – Understand why consent matters and how to get help if you're worried. Respecting Transgender Identities – Learn about gender identity and the importance of respect for everyone.
10	<b>Relationships and Sex Education</b> The Spectrum of Relationships – Learn about different types of healthy and respectful relationships. Recognising Signs of Coercive Control – Understand how to spot and respond to controlling or harmful behaviour. Sexting – Find out how to stay safe and understand the risks of sharing images online. The Distorted Reality of Pornography – Learn how porn can give false ideas about relationships and consent. Fertility & Reproductive Health – Understand how the body works and how to look after reproductive health. Self-Examination and Screening – Learn how to check your own health and the importance of regular screenings.
11	<b>Exam Stress</b> Fertility & Pregnancy – Learn how pregnancy happens and how to make informed choices. Forced & Arranged Marriages – Understand the difference between the two and why consent is essential. Contraception Considerations – Find out about different contraception methods and how they work. Sex & Substances – Learn how alcohol or drugs can affect decision-making and consent. Safe Relationships Online – Understand how to build healthy, respectful connections in digital spaces. Sexual Violence & Abuse – Learn what consent means, how to get help, and how to support others.
12	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Caring for Your Mental Health – Learn ways to look after your wellbeing and manage stress. Optimism – Discover how a positive mindset can help you face challenges. Exploring Emotional Intelligence – Understand your emotions and how to respond to others with empathy. Help-Seeking and Peer Support – Know when and how to ask for help, and how to support friends. The Science of Flow – Learn how focus and enjoyment can boost motivation and performance. Navigating Conflict – Explore healthy ways to manage disagreements and find solutions.
13	<b>Health and Wellbeing</b> Substance Use & The Law – Learn about the effects of drugs and alcohol and the laws around their use. Overcoming Mob Mentality – Understand how group pressure can influence behaviour and how to make your own choices. Criminal Exploitation – Learn how some people take advantage of others and how to stay safe and seek help.



**“Out of all of the Open Evenings  
we have done, this one was by far  
the best one we’ve attended!”**

Parent Survey  
Open Evening 2025



**The Abbey  
School**



**THE HOWARD  
Academy Trust**





# THE ABBEY LESSON

## THE ABBEY CLOCK: HOW WE HELP STUDENTS LEARN WITH PURPOSE

At The Abbey School, every lesson follows a clear rhythm designed to help students remember more, understand deeply and make strong progress. This structure, known as The Abbey Clock, ensures the learning journey is consistent, ambitious and supportive for all students.

### Starter Slide

At the start of each lesson, students connect previous learning to the new knowledge they will explore.

This moment helps them understand:

- What they are learning
  - Why it matters
- How today's learning builds on earlier content

### Students are expected to:

- Write the date and Big Question/title
- Open their Knowledge Organiser on the correct page
- Listen carefully to understand "why this, why now"
  - Make links to prior learning

### End Slide

The End Slide brings the lesson full circle.

### Students:

- Reflect on what they've learned
- Check their understanding against the success criteria
  - Identify strengths
- Notice what they need to revisit or revise

This supports long-term progress and helps teachers respond quickly to learning needs.

Knowledge Organisers (KOs)  
Knowledge Organisers sit at the heart of learning at The Abbey School.  
Students must have them on their desks every lesson.

KOs help students retrieve key facts and vocabulary, complete home learning and prepare for assessments.

Every KO includes RAG boxes so students can traffic-light their confidence:

**Red** – I don't understand yet  
**Amber** – I understand some parts  
**Green** – I'm confident

Students use these RAG ratings to track what they know and what they need to revise or ask about. This builds independence and a clear sense of progress.

### Stamps & House Points

During lessons, teachers circulate to check work and give quick, targeted feedback. Students receive stamps when:

Work has been checked  
Effort is strong  
Learning is accurate  
Misconceptions have been addressed

### To reward consistency:

3 stamps on a page = 1 House Point (KS3/4)  
Stamps encourage effort, pride and progress, and help students build a clear record of their learning.

Together, these routines help every student learn with purpose, clarity and ambition, preparing them for life, not just exams.



# THE ABBEY CLOCK

30





# WHY DO WE FOLLOW STAR?

The Abbey School, like many other schools, uses STAR because all students deserve the chance to learn and enjoy their lessons without disruption. STAR makes it possible for our students to get it right all of the time. This means they are in lessons working towards being the 'the best you can be'.

A call for STAR behaviour is the verbal prompt for students to show they are ready to listen, learn and be respectful towards others.

## Star



*Sit Up Straight*



*Track The Teacher*



*Always Address  
The Teacher  
With  
Hands Up*



*Respect  
Through  
Silence*

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT THE ABBEY SCHOOL

You may have noticed that we've have started using our new Attend system more regularly to communicate with you about your child's attendance. These updates are designed to keep you informed about your child's attendance percentage, celebrate positive attendance, and let you know how many more days are needed to reach the next attendance milestone.

Our goal is to make it easier for parents and carers to stay up to date and to identify any issues that may be affecting your child's attendance. If you have any concerns or circumstances you'd like us to be aware of, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our attendance team.

## Attendance Contacts:

Miss L. Thomson (Attendance Manager) – [lthomson@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:lthomson@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Miss I. Streatfield (Attendance Officer) – [attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

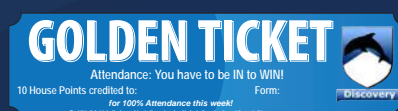
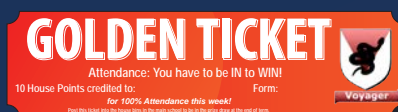
Miss K. Rickard (Attendance Officer) – [attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

## Attendance Golden Tickets

At The Abbey School, we love celebrating great attendance! Every student who attends school for a full week receives an Attendance Golden Ticket. Each ticket earns them an entry into our end-of-term prize draw, meaning the more full weeks they attend, the greater their chance of winning!

This term's prizes: Four lucky students will each win a £50 Amazon voucher — simply for being in school!

Remember: You've got to be in to win!





## Weekly Attendance Rewards

We've listened to our students' feedback and have introduced more frequent, smaller rewards to recognise consistent attendance and progress toward individual goals. Each Friday during afternoon line-up, we'll hand out fun prizes such as pens, sweets, motivational notepads, squishes, and other treats!

Winners will be selected from those with 100% attendance for the week and students who have achieved their attendance milestone.

## 100% Attendance – End of Year Rewards

We're thrilled to announce this year's 100% attendance rewards! Students who achieve full attendance for the entire academic year will be entered into a special prize draw to win:

A brand-new PlayStation 5  
A brand-new Laptop  
A brand-new Tablet

We may even add more prizes later in the year!

We also recognise that some students have medical conditions that may require unavoidable absences for appointments. These students will still be included in our prize draws where appropriate.





# Abbey School Sixth Form

Passionate about golf?  
Join our Sixth Form and play alongside your studies!

Come and join our success story!



[www.theabbey-that.org.uk](http://www.theabbey-that.org.uk)

Faversham Golf  
*Academy*



The Abbey  
School





# YOU SAID WE DID

We have worked with you  
**listened to your ideas and made lots of changes**  
over the last few years.

**You asked.....**

*"Can you make the toilets better?"*

**We did.....**

*"All toilets have been refurbished and now have floor to ceiling doors.  
Staff supervise toilets at lunchtime and also in C block between lessons to line students up.*

*You asked for single sex toilets which we have provided, and more blocks of toilets are available at busy times.*

*The cleaners check and clean the toilets between every lesson and during the lunch breaks."*



## COLD WEATHER REMINDER

As the weather has turned colder and temperatures continue to drop, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat each day. We want all children to stay comfortable and safe during their time at school.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.



# PASTORAL SPOTLIGHT ON.... IS YOUR CHILD A YOUNG CARER?

At our school, we know that some children take on important caring roles at home - supporting a family member who may be unwell, disabled, experiencing mental health difficulties, or facing challenges with day-to-day tasks. These young people show incredible strength, responsibility and compassion.

**We want every Young Carer in our school community to feel seen, supported and understood.**

## **What Is a Young Carer?**

A Young Carer is a child or young person who helps to care for a parent, sibling or relative. This may include:

- Helping with household tasks
- Providing emotional support
- Looking after siblings
- Helping someone manage an illness, disability or additional needs

## **Support Available in School**

We are committed to making sure Young Carers have space, understanding and time for themselves during the school week. Here's what we offer:

### **Thursday Drop-In Sessions**

Every Thursday afternoon, we run informal Young Carer drop-ins. Children can come along for a chat, support or just a moment of calm.

### **Weekly Meet-Ups**

A member of our pastoral team meets weekly with some of our Young Carers on a rotation basis, ensuring everyone has regular time to talk and feel supported.

## **Are You Registered with Imago Young Carers?**

If your child is not yet registered with Imago Young Carers, please consider signing up. Registration can open the door to additional support, activities and guidance designed specifically for Young Carers and their families.

## **Please Let Us Know**

If you think your child may be a Young Carer please contact us. The information you share will be treated sensitively and will help us support your child in the best possible way.



# Writing your UCAS personal statement



UCAS: Personal statement guidance

1

## Why do you want to study this course or subject?

- Refer to the **specifics of the course or subject** to explain what motivates you
- **Give examples** of how your interest has developed (role models, lectures, books/authors, podcasts, super-curricular activities) & what have you learnt that you find interesting
- Consider how the course/subject **links to your career plans**

2

## How have your qualifications & studies helped you to prepare for this course or subject?

- Discuss relevant subjects you are studying & the topics that have motivated you to study them at uni, & why
- Note the **skills** you have which make you suitable for university study; give examples to prove you have them
- Describe your **academic achievements**, & why they are relevant to higher education study

3

## What else have you done to prepare outside of education, & why are these experiences useful?

- Work experience, volunteering, hobbies, or extra- or super-curricular activities can give you **relevant knowledge** or show your **genuine interest** in a subject or topic
- They can also demonstrate work & study **skills**
- Use **specific examples** to demonstrate them, & reflect on why you're including it

log in to learn more at [www.morrisby.com](http://www.morrisby.com)







# EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME TERM 2

This term, our extracurricular programme is full of exciting opportunities, with something to suit everyone's interests. There are sports, creative clubs and new activities to try out. Joining in is not just about fun, it's also a chance to discover new talents, meet different people, and grow in confidence.

Trying new things is especially valuable because it helps you step outside your comfort zone. You may uncover hidden skills you didn't know you had, or find a passion that could shape your future. It also teaches resilience, problem-solving, and teamwork skills that are useful both in and out of school.

Most importantly, extracurricular activities bring balance to your life. They give you a break from classroom learning while still helping you develop in meaningful ways. Whether you continue with something familiar or try something completely new, you'll gain experiences and memories that will last well beyond this term.

Click the image below to see what is happening this term!





# ATTENDANCE MATTERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT IN A SCHOOL YEAR	ATTENDANCE RATE %	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE	LESSONS LOST
0	100%	190 DAYS	0
10	95%	180 DAYS	50
20	90%	170 DAYS	100
30	85%	160 DAYS	150
40	80%	150 DAYS	200



**ABOVE 95% ATTENDANCE =**  
VERY GOOD CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

**ABOVE 94% ATTENDANCE =**  
GOOD CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

**ABOVE 92% ATTENDANCE =**  
FAIR CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

**ABOVE 90% ATTENDANCE =**  
LESS THAN 50% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

**88% ATTENDANCE =**

LESS THAN 35% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

**LESS THAN 85% ATTENDANCE =**  
LESS THAN 30% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs



# CHRISTMAS DANCE-A-THON

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

Periods 4 and 5

Please see Miss Nunn if you wish to sign up for some festive fun of singing and dancing!



# Work Experience Programme for Year 10 Students 2026

We are pleased to announce that our Work Experience Programme for Year 10 students, taking place from Monday 29th June to Friday 4th July 2026. This compulsory, week-long placement gives students the opportunity to step away from their usual school timetable and gain invaluable first-hand experience in the world of work.

To introduce the programme, we will be holding an assembly for all Year 10 students, where they will receive clear guidance on how to source, apply for, and follow up on work placements. This session will also offer practical advice on approaching employers and making the most of this experience.

## Why Work Experience Matters

At this important stage of their education, work experience plays a vital role in helping students:

- Explore potential career paths and industries of interest
- Build independence and confidence through real-world experience
- Enhance CVs and future applications for sixth form, college, apprenticeships, or university
- Develop transferable skills, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving

Students are expected to arrange their own placement, ideally in a field that interests them. This process not only gives students a sense of ownership over their future, but also helps them develop essential skills for future job searches and applications.

## Supporting Your Child

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to actively pursue a placement that aligns with their interests or future aspirations. Whether it's in healthcare, business, the arts, engineering, education, or another field, every experience will help broaden their understanding of the working world.

Students will be guided through the process in school, and I will be available to offer support and advice as needed.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain meaningful insight into the world beyond school, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on their confidence, motivation, and future goals.

*Mrs Priestley*  
*Careers Support Co-ordinator*





# The Abbey School

is proud to be a part of  
**FAVERSHAM'S STORY!**



We are **proud** of our strong connections with the community of Faversham and our involvement in local life.

Through partnerships with local organisations and participation in community initiatives, we encourage all of our students to **grow, contribute and succeed.**







# CAREER SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK: THE ENTREPRENEUR

## Subject Spotlight: Business Studies

Have you ever had a brilliant idea and thought, “Someone should make this!”? Well, entrepreneurs are the people who do! They’re the creative risk-takers who turn clever ideas into real businesses whether it’s a small online shop, a local café, or the next big global brand.

### What is an Entrepreneur?

Entrepreneurs are opportunity-spotters. They notice a problem, create a solution, and build a business around it. This takes courage, creativity, and a LOT of determination. Sometimes things go wrong but successful entrepreneurs learn, adapt, and keep going.

### What Skills Do They Need?

- To grow a successful business, entrepreneurs rely on:
- Creativity – imagining new products or services
- Resilience – bouncing back when challenges arise
- Financial know-how – managing money wisely
- Strategic thinking – planning the future and making smart decisions
- Teamwork and communication – because no business runs alone!

### How Does Business Studies Help?

Our Business Studies subject gives students a head start in the world of entrepreneurship. In class, they learn:

- How to create a business plan
- How marketing works (and why some ads are irresistible!)
- How money moves in a business
- How companies operate day-to-day
- These lessons build the foundation for students who dream of launching the next big idea or simply want to understand how businesses around them work.

For any questions relating to Careers

Please contact [spriestley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:spriestley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)





## SUPPORTING EXAM STRESS AND WELLBEING

As part of the Personal Development programme, our Year 11, 12 and 13 students have been provided with helpful resources from Kooth, an award-winning online mental health and wellbeing platform.

Kooth offers free, safe and anonymous support for young people, including:

- One-to-one chats with qualified counsellors,
- Helpful articles and wellbeing activities,
- Peer support through moderated discussion boards, and
- Tools to track mood and set personal goals.

With mock exams approaching next week, we know many students may be feeling more anxious. These resources are designed to help them manage stress, build resilience and maintain balance during the exam period.

How you can support at home:

- Encourage regular breaks, rest, and healthy routines.
- Listen without judgement — sometimes talking helps most.
- Remind them that effort and progress matter more than perfection.
- Visit [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) together to explore the support available.

We're incredibly proud of our students' dedication and will continue to provide both academic and emotional support throughout the exam season.



# E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



**Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

**Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?**

**No, it's Illegal...**

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

**What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?**

**The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.**

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent  
Police**

## **Think before you buy:**

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit [www.kent.police.uk/road-safety](http://www.kent.police.uk/road-safety)



# 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ATTENDANCE REWARDS

## Thu 4<sup>th</sup> Dec

Golden Ticket chocolate  
coin exchange



Everyone with a GT!

## Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Dec

Cake Treat



100% Attendance this Week

## Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Dec

Candy Cane Exit



Everyone

## Tue 9<sup>th</sup> Dec

2-4-1 Golden Tickets



Everyone

## Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Dec

Haribo-ho-ho



100% Attendance & No C3s

## Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Dec

Christmas Jumper Day



Everyone who has made  
their non uniform donation

## Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec

Disco Music Lunch



Everyone

## Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Dec

Yr Group Breakfast Treats



Everyone

## Tue 16<sup>th</sup> Dec

Candy Cane Exit



Everyone

## Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Dec

Christmas Dinner Day



Annual event for all to  
purchase – served by your  
teachers!

## Thu 18<sup>th</sup> Dec

Mini-selection Boxes



100% Attendance all month  
& no C3s

## Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec

Festive Non-Uniform



Everyone plus a bonus  
prize draw for 100%  
attendance this week

### RULES:

- 100% attendance from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2025 and runs weekly unless stated otherwise
- 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2025 – 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 – 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025
- 15<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 – 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025
- No C3s – during the course of the week (this resets every week unless stated otherwise)







The Abbey  
School

# HIRE OUR FACILITIES

CLICK THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!



# Consideration In The Community

Most of you are wonderful ambassadors of the school through your kind and considerate actions towards others in our local community, especially when travelling to and from school.

Remember it is **not** fair for anyone to be allowed to deliberately make life miserable for others. **We will never tolerate nasty behaviour, thoughtless actions or bullying towards those in our school or in the local community.** In school always ask an adult for help if you are being treated unkindly or if you feel frustrated about the way others are treating you. **In the community** we need to show we are caring and considerate towards those who live and work near the school, so everyone feels safe and happy when they meet Abbey students.

## DO

**Move aside** on the pavement to allow to use it.

**Speak using appropriate tone and at a sensible level** to those you are with, using language that is not offensive or swearing.

**Cross roads safely**, using the bridge to navigate the A3 and by looking up and checking the traffic for all other streets where there are no pedestrian crossing facilities

**Respect residents' property** by walking on the pavements, keeping away from cars, bin, doors and driveways. Be polite to those who live near our school.

## DO NOT

**Monopolise the whole pavement** space by walking in a group forcing elderly, those with prams or indeed anyone from the community into the road.

**Shriek, shout, threaten or swear to those around you**, be they friends, members of the public or students who attend other schools - this is intimidating behaviour brings our school into disrepute and this will be followed up and dealt with.

**Run across the A3**, this is a busy road with TWO speed cameras on it for a reason - the number of accidents. **DO NOT** become a statistic (injured or worse). Do not walk out directly in front of cars and expect them to stop.

**Trespass onto people's property or cause damage to their property**, if this happens residents should report this to the police, and we will always help the police identify who has caused the problem so they can take the action they need to (this could include prosecution for criminal damage or harassment etc).

## CANTEEN MENU 2025/26

Click the images below to view the canteen menu for Term 2!







# POETRY LIVE

**Quick! Buy Poetry Live tickets before the closing date!**

Apollo Victoria Theatre, London, on Thursday 13th February 2026.

This inspiring event brings GCSE poets to life – students will hear live readings, gain insight into exam texts, and take part in a Q&A with some of the UK's most celebrated contemporary poets.

Tickets: £38.33 (available from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September via Arbor)

Spaces are limited – book early to secure your place!

Don't miss this unforgettable opportunity to boost GCSE Literature skills and enjoy poetry in a whole new way!

#PoetryLive #AbbeyEnglish #GCSEReady #LoveLiterature

## Sparx Maths Homework Help

Come and see Mr Sargeant in B13 at lunch time to get help logging in, help with your work, or some quiet time just to get your homework completed. All students welcome!

Year 7 and 11 - Monday lunch time  
Year 8, 9 and 10 - Thursday lunch time

You can also use homework club (Mondays - Thursdays from 3:30pm in B13) to use the IT facilities to get your homework completed. The maths classrooms are in the same corridor if you need any help!

Remember, you can log in with your single sign-in Microsoft details. If you are having trouble logging in, check your capital letters, check for typing errors or come and see IT to reset your password. It is your responsibility to make sure you can log in.

# STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following students for collecting the most house points this week!  
KEEP UP THE AMAZING WORK!



Edward P  
Year 7  
67HP



Henry W  
Year 10  
66HP



Elsie H-G  
Year 7  
71HP



Summer W  
Year 9  
72HP

## #WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

## Celebrating Your Achievements



Email us your child's achievement  
[info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT,  
CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR PREVIOUS  
**NEWSLETTER!**



## Staggered Dismissal Times

Staggered dismissal times have now been replaced with afternoon line up on the playground. Each year will then be dismissed one at a time in no particular order. In the event of wet weather, afternoon line up will be cancelled and we will revert to dismissing each year group one at a time from their classrooms.



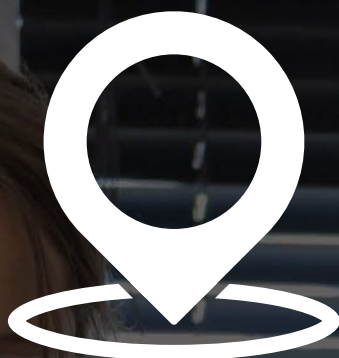


# NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE

At The Abbey School, we strive to create a **safe and secure** environment for the school community. Our school is a **welcoming and inclusive place** where we all show one another respect and look out for each other.

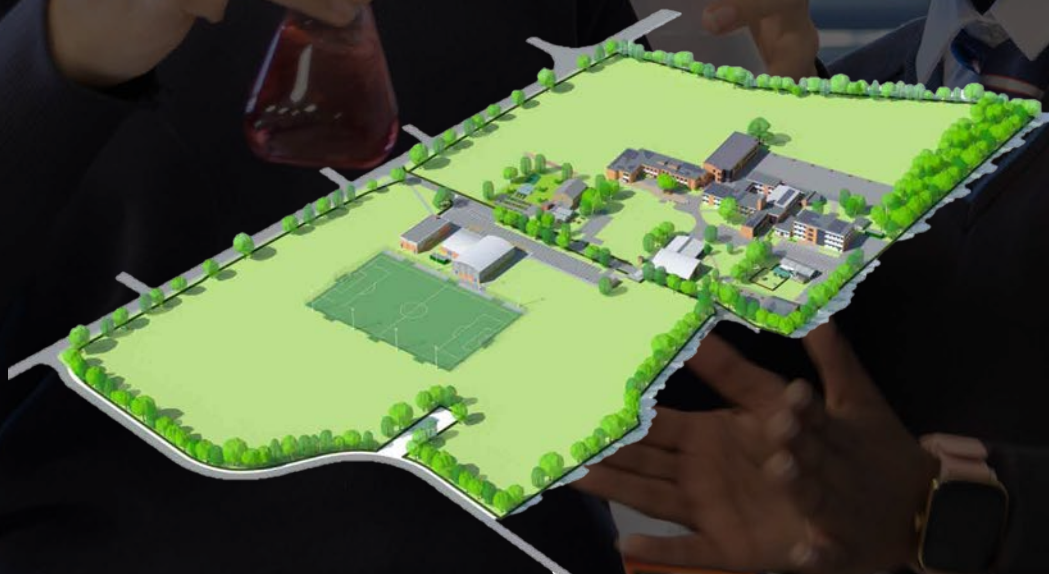
We will not tolerate any **threatening, abusive or violent** behaviour and action will be taken when necessary.





The Abbey School  
Faversham  
Kent  
ME14 8RZ

[www.theabbey-that.org.uk](http://www.theabbey-that.org.uk)  
[info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)  
01795 532633



Attendance Office

01795 542477

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“BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE”



**The Abbey**  
School