



**The Abbey
School**

“Be The Best You Can Be”

Weekly Newsletter

2025/26

Issue Number: 29

Date: 08/05/26



STARS OF THE WEEK

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



Andrea S
Year 9
26HP



Frederick B
Year 8
45HP



Yuliya H
Year 8
28HP



Baylee C
Year 9
31HP

#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

CANTEEN MENU 2025/26

Click the images below to view the canteen menu for Term 5!



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators HELPING NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN NAVIGATE THE ONLINE WORLD

Neurodivergent people tend to be early adopters of technology, and many influential innovators in this space are neurodivergent themselves. It's therefore likely that a neurodivergent child or young person may be drawn to the online world from an early age. This isn't a concern in itself, but understanding both the benefits and potential risks is essential. Here are ten key considerations to support safe and positive online experiences for neurodivergent children.

- TREAT ONLINE LIKE THE REAL WORLD**
You wouldn't expect to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parent settings that can control children's access. Parents should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.
- MODEL RESPONSIBLE USE**
Children learn from what they see. Show off children's experiences of technology, what they enjoy, and the risks that are linked to your own use of social media and it's clearer how they should use technology. Your own understanding of these platforms, both quantity and when and how you use these tools, helps children develop a balanced and informed approach.
- KNOW YOUR LIMITS**
Current government guidance suggests no solo unsupervised screen time for children under the age of five, with a maximum of one hour per day for five- to five-year-olds. Screen time can support communication and connection which supports an adult, however, possible a neurodivergent child or young person may have an understanding of these platforms, both quantity and when and how you use these tools, helping children develop a balanced and informed approach.
- CONSIDER AGES AND STAGES**
For older children and teenagers, agreed limits are important. Screen time can be helpful but it should form part of a balanced lifestyle. Neurodivergent children may have different needs, supporting their social interaction. However, it's important to have a healthy balance of offline activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for meaningful connections.
- KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN**
Discussions about online safety should begin early and continue as children grow. However, neurodivergent children may have different needs, supporting their social interaction. However, it's important to have a healthy balance of offline activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for meaningful connections.
- BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**
You aren't expected to be an expert, but it's important to stay informed about the platforms, games, or apps neurodivergent children use in order to provide practical support. Social media platforms have age limits, and many apps and games offer parent settings that can control children's access. Parents should work together to understand these tools, helping neurodivergent children use them safely while keeping up to date with new features and changes.
- SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES**
Children and young people often know more about current technology than adults, meaning it's important to recognise that controls may be bypassed. Clear, predictable boundaries should be based on trust and consistency. Involving neurodivergent children in setting these boundaries helps them feel heard. This is particularly important for neurodivergent children, who may respond strongly to perceived unfairness.
- UNDERSTAND AI CONTENT**
The internet now includes large amounts of AI-generated content, including images, videos, and text. There can be risks for children. Children should be encouraged to question what they see and check information using trusted sources. Neurodivergent children may have different needs, supporting their social interaction. However, it's important to have a healthy balance of offline activities, including creative play, physical exercise, and opportunities for meaningful connections.
- EXPLAIN AI LIMITATIONS**
AI isn't the same as a search engine. It generates responses based on text it reads. Children may not understand the difference between human and AI-generated content. It's important to explain that AI-generated content is not real and can be harmful.
- CLARIFY AI RELATIONSHIPS**
As you feel conversational and personal, but it's not capable of real relationships. It learns from patterns in text and other data sources, and its responses are based on statistical information, known as 'relationships' or 'patterns'. Children may not understand the difference between human and AI-generated content. It's important to explain that AI-generated content is not real and can be harmful.

Meet Our Expert
Cathryn Lovell is a neurodivergent former SENCO and Advisory Teacher who works with neurodivergent children, young people, and businesses to improve outcomes for neurodivergent people. She is the founder and Director of Neuroteachers and the author of 'The ADHD Q&A: How Supporting Your Neurodivergent Learner Can Improve Teaching and Learning for the Whole Class'.

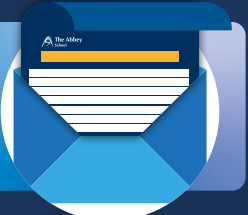
Wake Up Wednesday The National College

See full reference list on our website
@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

SENECA CHAMPIONS

Year Group	Learning Time	Average Score	Time Champion	Score Champion
12 & 13	1h 4min	89%	Leah W	Oliver S
11	104h 38min	67%	Katharine P	Florence A
10	No data - Revision for English Literature Exam			
9	85h 19min	58%	Milo K	Paula G
8	1h 28min	70%	Daisy C	Freya T
7	4h 32min	57%	Lola A	Lola R

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



“supported”

*“motivated to
succeed”*

“safe”

“calm”

*“inclusive
culture”*

**Ofsted**

*“meaningful
opportunities”*

*“broad range
of enrichment”*

*“significant
positive change”*

*“the curriculum
is ambitious”*

OFSTED RESULTS!

“Pupils feel part of a community that believes in them, challenges them and helps them to succeed.”
The Abbey School is proud to share our latest Ofsted Report, following our January inspection, which took place under the new Ofsted framework.

Inspectors noted that “the school has been through significant positive change”, judging Personal Development and Wellbeing and Post-16 Provision to be Strong Standard, and confirming that Curriculum and Teaching, Attendance and Behaviour, Inclusion, and Leadership and Governance are operating at the Expected Standard.

Particular praise was given to our Pastoral Support Team, with inspectors commenting that “Pastoral support is a strength. Pupils trust staff to help them manage worries, and... feel safe and supported”.

“We are pleased that Ofsted recognised the strength of our work in personal development, safeguarding and sixth-form provision, which reflects the values and culture we work hard to build every day.

Inspectors recognised that pupils are learning well, feel safe, and are prepared for their next stage, including strong sixth-form retention and positive destinations. Our priority now is to continue strengthening key stage 4 outcomes so they fully reflect the learning and progress we see across the school.” - Dr Speller, Principal

“I would like to recognise the commitment of the leadership team and staff who have led this work with determination and care. Together they have focused on ensuring that pupils feel safe, supported and that they truly belong within their school community.” - Owen McColgan, Chief Executive of THAT

Read the full report by clicking the image below!



STAFF vs SIXTH FORM MATCH REPORT!

Goals Galore as Staff and Sixth Formers Battle it out on the Pitch!

On a sunny Friday afternoon on the 1st of May, the Abbey School Teachers and Sixth Formers came together to play a charity match at the 3G pitch, supported by hundreds of students and staff alike.

The teachers took to the field with a confident air, demonstrating their experience and tactical awareness. Mr Wren's awesome kick off made the teachers build pressure on the sixth formers. Which led Mr Jarman-Howe to a big miss. But the Sixth Form were focusing on a solid defence and calculated attacks. Then all of a sudden Mr Lott tricked the Sixth Form defender with a brilliant move by lobbing the keeper with a great deflected finish to make it 1-0 to the teachers. Before the Sixth Form took their kick off, they made a quick sub to try shake things up. This put them on the counter attack but Mr Bond made a thrilling stop, so the attacker couldn't get through. Some good shielding from Mr McCormack harshly resulted in a foul given to Sixth Form just outside the box. A free kick was taken but Mr Wren made a good save. Mr Wren took the goal kick and passed it to Mr Oyewole with a great through ball to Miss Chapman who got on the end of it but her shot was saved. A late goal saw the Sixth Form draw level and the first half ended 1-1.



Second half started with a Sixth Form kick off, and the ball was hammered into the air landing to Mr Bond who was running on the wing with all his pace, and crossed it to Mr Kusi who headered it just wide. The Sixth Form piled on the pressure with their winger charging up the pitch and calmly slotted it past Mr Wren to make it 1-2 to Sixth Form. Kick off was taken by Mr Lott who passed it to Mr Dannell who fed it up the wing for Miss Muckian to get, and she took a powerful shot but the keeper saved it. Later in the half the ball fell to Mr Dannell, who was outside the box, and the crowd went wild as he struck it home into top bins to make it 2-2 to teachers, and he celebrated with an awesome Dembele celebration. No sooner had kick off been taken and all of a sudden Mr Oyewole scored a tap in assisted by Miss Muckian. 3-2 to the teachers. Sixth Form began to get more physical and more aggressive but ended up messing up a pass, and the ball landed to Mr Bond's feet who looped it over the keeper from the half-way line! I bet he was very happy with that. With the teachers winning 4-2, the Sixth Formers piled on a lot of pressure with lots of shots, but Mr Wren saved all of them, making it hard for them to score. Then the full-time whistle was blown, 4-2 to the teachers, what a game that was!

Overall, the Sixth Formers raised over £200 and everyone had a great day in fantastic sunshine, and we can't wait until next year to see if the Sixth Form can get their revenge.

Maisie J- Year 8



GOLF ACADEMY FUNDRAISER!

The Faversham Golf Academy Golf Day was a tremendous success, bringing together players, sponsors, members, and friends and family for a fantastic day of golf and community spirit at Faversham Golf Club.

With 20 teams entered and a total of 80 golfers taking part, the event showcased the incredible support that continues to surround the academy and its young players. The atmosphere throughout the day was outstanding, with friendly competition on the course matched by the generosity and encouragement shown off it.

A huge thank you must go to Faversham Golf Club for hosting the event and for the continued support they provide to the academy throughout the year. The club has created an environment where young golfers are made to feel genuinely valued, encouraged, and welcome, and that support plays a massive role in helping the academy continue to grow and thrive.

The day was also made possible thanks to the generosity of 10 local businesses who sponsored tee boxes and helped contribute to the success of the event. Special thanks go to **Kesson Physio, Magee Gammon, and Darryl Creed Roofing** for their valued sponsorship and continued backing of the academy this year. Their support, alongside that of all sponsors involved, is hugely appreciated and makes a real difference to the opportunities available for academy players.

With the course fully booked, and kind sponsorships the event raised over **£2,000** for the academy. These funds will go directly towards supporting players with tournament entry fees, golf clothing, travel, and the general costs involved in helping young golfers develop and compete. The money raised will have a meaningful impact and help ensure that academy members continue to receive the opportunities and support they deserve.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you goes to all the members of Faversham Golf Club for their support, not only during the golf day itself but throughout the entire year. The encouragement shown to academy players, both on and off the course, helps create a positive and welcoming environment that means a great deal to everyone involved.

The success of the golf day reflects the strength of the local golfing community and the shared commitment to supporting the next generation of golfers at Faversham Golf Academy.

One last massive thank you to Mr Long for making this day possible!

Faversham Golf
Academy



SPOTLIGHT ON HISTORY!

The History department has been keeping busy over the last couple of weeks with preparation for our GCSE exams starting on the 15th of May at 9:00. Students have had the opportunity to stay for Period 6 on Thursday's where we have been covering Paper One, Medicine Through Time. Students can keep an eye out for the posters in corridors across the school with information about our future Period 6 sessions and our Breakfast Revision sessions happening on the day of every exam from 7:45 to 8:30.

The Historical Society is still going strong, with students enjoying watching Dunkirk. The next film that is scheduled will be Hamilton, so if you want to learn more about Alexander Hamilton and his rise in American Politics, or you like to have a sing along (as it is a musical), all students can come down to the Canteen afterschool on Monday's from 3:30 to 4:30 with Mr Roberts. Don't forget to bring snacks and drinks, but popcorn is provided!



HISTORY EXAM

DATES & REVISION SESSIONS



BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

<p>PAPER 1</p> <p>MEDICINE THROUGH TIME</p> 	<p>EXAM DATE:</p> <p>FRIDAY</p> <p>15TH</p> <p>MAY</p> <p>9:00AM</p>	<p>REVISION SESSIONS</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>THURSDAY 14TH MAY</p> <p>AFTER SCHOOL REVISION</p> <p>with Ms Satchell (A4), Mr Roberts (A7), Miss Masters (A2)</p> <p>3:30-4:30PM A4, A7, A2</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>FRIDAY 15TH MAY</p> <p>BREAKFAST REVISION</p> <p>with Miss Masters (room A4)</p> <p>7:45-8:30AM ROOM A4</p> </div>
<p>PAPER 2</p> <p>ANGLO-SAXON & NORMAN ENGLAND AND COLD WAR & SUPERPOWER RELATIONS</p> 	<p>EXAM DATE:</p> <p>THURSDAY</p> <p>4TH</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>9:00AM</p>	<p>REVISION SESSIONS</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>HALF TERM</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY</p> <p>with Ms Satchell (room A4)</p> <p>10:00AM-12:00NOON ROOM A4</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>HALF TERM</p> <p>FRIDAY 29TH MAY</p> <p>with Mr Labrou (room A4)</p> <p>10:00AM-12:00NOON ROOM A4</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>WEDNESDAY 3RD JUNE</p> <p>AFTER SCHOOL REVISION</p> <p>with Ms Satchell (A4), Mr Roberts (A7), Miss Masters (A2)</p> <p>3:30-4:30PM A4, A7, A2</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>THURSDAY 4TH JUNE</p> <p>BREAKFAST REVISION</p> <p>with Mr Roberts (room A4)</p> <p>7:45-8:30AM ROOM A4</p> </div>
<p>PAPER 3</p> <p>WEIMAR & NAZI GERMANY</p> 	<p>EXAM DATE:</p> <p>TUESDAY</p> <p>9TH</p> <p>JUNE</p> <p>1:30PM</p>	<p>REVISION SESSIONS</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <p>MONDAY 8TH JUNE</p> <p>AFTER SCHOOL REVISION</p> <p>with Ms Satchell (A4), Mr Roberts (A7), Miss Masters (A2)</p> <p>3:30-4:30PM A4, A7, A2</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>TUESDAY 9TH JUNE</p> <p>BREAKFAST REVISION</p> <p>with Ms Satchell (room A4)</p> <p>7:45-8:30AM ROOM A4</p> </div>

BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

SPOTLIGHT ON ENGLISH!

English Exams

Year 10 and Year 11 students have been working incredibly hard in these final days before their English exams, showing real determination, focus, and resilience. Their teachers are genuinely proud of the effort, maturity, and commitment they've shown throughout the year. As we head into the last stretch, a reminder that our revision sessions are still running — a great chance for students to ask final questions, practise key skills, and boost their confidence. We wish every one of them the very best of luck; you've earned it, and we believe in you.

Homework superstars 95-100% achieved - well done!

David S
Danyell D
Phoebe B
Edan T
Devany D
Henry G
Erin M
Maisy L
Kiril B
Ella J
Evie W
Ashley B



Year 10 and 11

A big shout out to these students for bringing extra essays and practise questions for marking and feedback - amazing effort and we are so proud!

Daisy T
Stella S
Isla H
Lilly W
Damilola S
Beatrice B-T
Rufus V-DR
Alex P
Oscar C
Betty C
Ewan V
Ethan K
Summer W
Chantilly T
Ellie A
Daisy P
Darcie C
Sophie B
Evie KD
Kuna M
Kyla B
Ruby MJ
Sadie S
Lexi M
Harry P





SWALE COMMUNITY DAY

Sunday 7 June 2026

FREE
entry

Come along to learn all about services and support available in Swale!

- Bike marking available
- Domestic abuse support
- Housing support
- Hands-on animal encounters
- Fire safety, rail safety and water safety advice
- Health and other advice services
- Sateda Community Share wear clothing scheme
- Community Projects
- Face painting
- Youth engagement
- Come have a go at archery, football, climbing wall and more
- Music by Sheppey FM and Kent Police Band

APPLEYARD SPORTS GROUND

GORE COURT RD,
SITTINGBOURNE,
ME10 1QN

10AM-3PM

Food, drinks, ice cream and activities available on site. Displays to watch throughout the day



**Kent
Police**

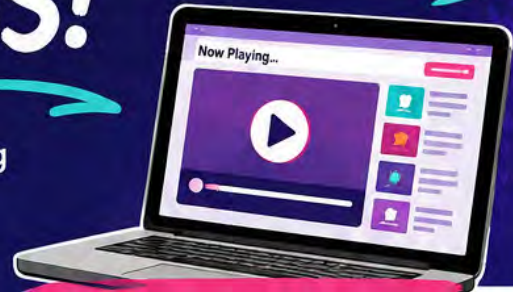


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OUR SCHOOL HAS WATCHED

6,974

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HOW TO GET STARTED

1



VISIT

www.gcsepod.com

2



SEARCH

for your subject or topic

3



PRESS PLAY

and watch a pod

4



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ENGLISH



HUMANITIES



LANGUAGES



COMPUTING



CREATIVE SUBJECTS



& MORE!

Find the pod you need, when you need it!



Every pod you watch is time invested in **YOUR FUTURE.**

- ✓ Use after school, at the weekend, or during revision time
- ✓ Rewatch to strengthen your understanding
- ✓ Make it part of your revision routine

YOU'VE GOT THIS – WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU GET THERE!

LEARN SMARTER. REVISE BETTER. ACHIEVE MORE.

LOG IN TODAY AND KEEP THOSE NUMBERS GROWING!

gcsepod.com



STAYING CALM AND PREPARED: EXAM SEASON TIPS!

As exam season approaches, it's completely normal to feel a mix of pressure, nerves, and anticipation. Whether you're sitting your GCSEs or A-levels, these next few weeks are important, but how you approach them can make a big difference to both your performance and your well-being.

One of the most valuable things you can do is stay calm. Stress can build up quickly, especially when exams feel high-stakes, but keeping a clear head helps you think more effectively and avoid burnout. Simple habits like getting enough sleep, taking short breaks, and stepping away from your desk when needed can really improve your focus.

Equally important is having a good revision schedule. Instead of cramming everything at once, try to plan your time across the weeks ahead. Break subjects into smaller topics, set realistic goals for each session, and rotate subjects to keep things fresh. A structured plan not only helps you cover everything you need, but also gives you a sense of control and progress.

Finally, don't forget that exams are just one part of your journey. Do your best, stay organised, and look after yourself along the way. Good luck to everyone, you've got this!

Please see the link below which will take you to the exam timetable.

[Exam Timetable 2025/26](#)

From the 5th May, we will be putting daily reminders about the exams that will be happening taking place the next school day!

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS PODCATS!

Support Our Students!

Our Year 12 & 13 students created powerful Online Harms podcasts — and now it's time to vote!

Vote daily: Thurs 7 May (7am) – Wed 13 May (5pm)

[Listen here](#)

[Vote here](#)

Students, staff, families — everyone can vote once a day!

Let's get behind them

#BeTheBestYouCanBe





STUDENT SHOUTOUT!

We are very proud to share that Michael was selected by England Ice Hockey to attend the England Draft Showcase tournament this year at Ice Sheffield Arena.

He competed alongside current and potential England U14s and after off ice and classroom sessions, Team Phillips, secured wins across all 3 games, winning the tournament.

This is wonderful news and all of us at The Abbey School couldn't be prouder of your achievement Michael!

ATTENDANCE REWARDS TERM 5!

This term's attendance rewards are here!

Sony headphones – 1 winner per year group
100% attendance this term to be in with a chance

Attendance Golden Tickets
Attend 1 full week = 1 golden ticket
Attend 2 full weeks = 2 golden tickets (and so on!)

Golden tickets place students' names into the draw, with 50 students selected to take part in our end-of-term quiz.

It's a short term, so every single day matters.

Turn up. Take part. Be the best you can be.

Students with long-term medical conditions who need time off for hospital or medical appointments will still be included in our attendance rewards.

DICE and The School of Natural Sciences invites you to...
University of Kent

BioBlitz

University of
Kent



2025



24 hours of recording and exploring local wildlife through hands-on workshops, surveys, activities and nature trails.

SATURDAY

30
MAY



Colyer-Fergusson Hall,
University of Kent, Canterbury,
CT1 7NB




8:00am-9:30pm
(Come and go as you please)

Free Event - Open to all ages


Scan the QR code to register
for wildlife surveys.

More Details

Any questions or accessibility requirements? **Contact us!**

 @uokbioblitz

 @UoKBioBlitz

 BioBlitzUoK@outlook.com

Check out our instagram for more info on this year's BioBlitz and photos from previous years!



EXAM READY!

We're all set and ready for the upcoming GCSE and A-Level exams taking place over the next few weeks.

Wishing every student the very best of luck, stay focused, believe in your hard work and give it your all. You've got this!

As GCSE examinations begin next week, we would like to remind families about the extensive additional support available for Year 10 & 11 students both before and after school.

Please note, Year 10 support is for the early entry English Literature exam only.

These revision sessions form an extremely important part of students' final preparation, and we strongly encourage all pupils to attend every session relevant to their subjects.

Experience consistently shows that students who take full advantage of these final support opportunities often enter the exam hall feeling more confident, focused and well prepared. The sessions are carefully designed to provide final revision of key topics and concepts, essential guidance on exam technique and timing, clarification of common misconceptions, opportunities for students to ask questions and gain reassurance, and valuable last-minute advice from subject specialists on how to maximise marks.

In particular, the "before exam" breakfast sessions are highly beneficial. During the final hour before an exam, teachers are able to reinforce the most important content, remind students of successful strategies and help them approach the paper calmly and confidently. These sessions can make a real difference to students' performance.

Support sessions for next week are available as outlined below.

Day	Morning revision session	Morning exam (09:00)	Afternoon exam (13:30)	After school revision session (starts at 3:30)
Monday 11.05	Business with Mrs Crouch at 8:00 in V1 & English Literature with Mrs Head-Rapson, Miss Boorman and Miss Russell in the English Corridor	Year 10 English Literature	Business	RE in A1 with Miss Scott and A3 with Mrs Hayward and Biology with Mr Brock in B8
Tuesday 12.05	RE with Dr Moseley at 7:45 in A4 and Biology with Mr Bond at 8:00 in B5 and Mr Brock at 8:00 in B8 and Mr Oyewole at 8:00 in B2	RE	Biology	Geography with Miss Hutchins and Mr Jarman-Howe in A10
Wednesday 13.05	Geography with Miss Hutchins and Mr Jarman-Howe at 8:00 with all Geography staff	Geography		Maths in B19 with Mr McCormack (Higher tier), B21 with Miss Taylor and B17 with Miss Wilson (Foundation tier)
Thursday 14.05	Maths at 8:00 in B19 with Mr McCormack and Mr Sargeant (Higher tier), B21 with Miss Taylor and B17 with Miss Wilson (Foundation tier)	Maths (non-calculator)	German writing (1 pupil only)	History in A2 with Miss Masters, A4 with Ms Satchell and A7 with Mr Roberts
Friday 15.05	History at 7:45 in A4 with Miss Masters	History (Medicine through time)		

DOVER ATHLETIC ACADEMY



**NATIONAL YOUTH
ALLIANCE DIVISION B
CHAMPIONS**



Megger.



Save The Date!

DANCE SHOWCASE

A celebration of students' class work which will be performed at
The Gulbenkian Theatre!

Friday 26th June 2026



STUDENT SHOUTOUT!

Busy over the Easter Break? We'd love to know what you get up to.

We love celebrating our amazing students and their achievements! Parents and carers, we'd love to hear from you! If your child has achieved something they're proud of (big or small!), send it in and we will share this with our school community.

Achievements could include:

- Academic successes
- Sporting achievements
- Creative talents
- Personal milestones
- Acts of kindness or resilience

To take part, simply email us with:

- Your child's achievement
- Their name
- A photo (optional)

info@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk

Let's work together to celebrate our students and recognise their hard work!



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT TERM 5 UPDATE!

A huge thank you to all of the students at The Abbey School, who make the delivery of Personal Development so inspiring. Week in, week out, we are blown away by the questions that are asked, the discussions that take place, the way students support each other, and the thoughtful, ongoing debate we see across the school.

We are incredibly proud of the continued strength of Personal Development, and we were particularly pleased with the positive feedback received in our recent Ofsted inspection.

Inspectors recognised that we provide a “well-planned, coherent personal development programme”, alongside “rich opportunities for all pupils.” It was also noted that “pastoral support is a strength” and that pupils “show great care for each other.”

These comments reflect what we strive for every day: a thoughtful, responsive and inclusive Personal Development curriculum that supports every student to grow into confident, respectful and informed young people.

What Students Will Be Learning:

This term, students across all year groups will explore a wide range of important themes:

Year 7 – Relationships & Sex Education

- Different types of families
 - Positive parenting
- The changing adolescent body
 - Body changes during puberty
 - Sexual consent
- Building healthy relationships

Year 8 – Relationships & Sex Education

- Understanding consent
 - Power dynamics & consent
 - Contraceptive essentials
- Discussing pornography (age-appropriate, safeguarding focus)
 - Assessing the trustworthiness of others
 - Introduction to FGM

Year 9 – Health & Wellbeing

- The positivity mindset
- Healthy food choices
- Evaluating eating habits
- Character strengths in focus
- Understanding eating disorders
 - Organ donation



Year 10 – Health & Wellbeing

- Unrealistic online world
 - Online radicalisation
 - Extremism
- Violence and exploitation by gangs
- Fake news & misinformation
 - R.E.S.P.E.C.T



Year 11 – Exams Focus

- Exam preparation and support

Year 12 – Health & Wellbeing

- Values in action
- Problem-solving framework
- Building agency & finding purpose
- Moving towards your ideal self
 - Impulse control
- Organisation & efficiency

Year 13 – Exams Focus

- Exam preparation and support

Additional Assemblies & Events

As part of our wider Personal Development offer, we are also hosting impactful external speakers and partnerships:

Charlie's Promise (Knife Crime Awareness)

Monday 18th May
All of Year 8 and Year 9

A poignant and impactful assembly, helping students to understand the real-life consequences of knife crime and the importance of making safe, informed choices.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Student Leadership Project

Tuesday 28th April
Student representatives

We are pleased to be welcoming Kent Police – PS Carli Deakin and PC Amy Tyler back into school to lead our second VAWG session. This work continues to empower our students to engage with important societal issues, develop their understanding, and contribute to meaningful change within our community.



Building the “Personal Development Backpack”

At The Abbey School, we talk to students about their “Personal Development Backpack.” Every lesson, assembly and experience adds something to this knowledge, skills and values that students can carry with them throughout their lives.

We remain committed to ensuring that all content is:

- Clear
- Broad
- Balanced
- Relevant to the world our young people are growing up in

Support for Students

We consistently remind students that support is always available.

If anything covered raises questions or concerns, students are encouraged to:

- Speak to a trusted adult in school
 - Access the pastoral team
- Use external services such as Kooth or Childline (0800 1111)
 - Talk to parents or carers at home

Working in Partnership with Parents & Carers

We understand that some topics may prompt important conversations at home.

If you would like further information, guidance, or support regarding any of the content in Term 5, please do get in touch:

alebrunn-healey@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Together, we will continue to ensure that every student develops the knowledge, confidence and character they need—not just for school, but for life.

Be the best you can be.

YEAR 11 TERM 5&6 ARRANGEMENTS

Please see the attached letter, by clicking the arrow below, that has been sent home to all Year 11 Parents/ Carers explaining the arrangements that will be happening this term!

It is a lengthy letter, so please persevere to the end to get all the information.



What is student finance?

Student Finance England (SFE) provides financial support on behalf of the UK Government to students from England entering higher education in the UK.

The two main costs you'll have while studying are tuition fees and living costs. There's student finance available to help you with both. Depending on your circumstances, you could also get extra financial help while you study.



There are two types of loans you can get from SFE: (You can apply for and receive both loans)



Tuition Fee Loan. This currently is a maximum of £9,790 per academic year (most universities charge this amount per year)

Maintenance Loan. This varies depending on whether you live at home whilst studying, study in London and don't live at home, or don't live at home and study outside London.

Find out if you're eligible

Which student finance you qualify for depends on:

- your university or college
- your course
- your age
- whether you've studied a higher education course before
- your nationality or residency status

You can [visit GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) for the most up-to-date information to understand your [eligibility](#).



What to expect on your student finance journey?

The typical student finance journey is:

1. You apply for student finance and give us your parents' or partner's details.
2. We ask your parents or partner to support your application by confirming their income.
3. We'll work out how much you can get and let you know in your online account when your application is approved.
4. You register on your course, and your university or college lets us know so we can start paying you.
5. We pay your tuition fees to your university or college, and we pay you any loans or grants at the start of each term.
6. You need to re-apply for student finance for every year of your course.
7. After your course ends, you'll start repayments in the April after you finish or leave. These are handled by the Student Loans Company (SLC).

It's important to keep all your details up to date. If anything changes, you can let us know using your online account.



Tuition Fees

You will need to repay your loans, but not until after you finish your course and are earning over £25,000 a year. Your monthly repayments depend on what you earn, not what you owe. Student Loans Company (SLC) will manage your repayments.

How much could you get?

This depends on where you're living during your course, your household income and other factors. You can check how much student finance you could get using the [GOV.UK Student Finance Calculator](#) which will give you an estimate of how much:

- Tuition Fee Loan
- Maintenance Loan
- Extra financial help

This is an estimate based on the information you've provided. You'll be told your exact amount, including any extra funding, after your application is approved.

What is household income?

We assess household income to work out how much Maintenance Loan you can get. If you apply for the higher amount of Maintenance Loan and any grants, we'll need to assess your household income.

This means we'll ask your parents (who you live with or depend on financially) or your partner to support your application by confirming their income.

Applying for student finance

It is straightforward to apply and usually takes around 30 minutes.

When you apply, you'll need to create an account and complete an online application.

What you'll need:

- Your valid passport details (if you're a UK national)
- Email addresses for your parents or partner – if you're applying for the full Maintenance Loan (not just the basic amount), we'll email them to ask about their income. This helps us work out how much you can get. Their income won't affect your Tuition Fee Loan.
- Your National Insurance number (if you have one)
- Details of your course and university – you can apply before you have a confirmed place

If you need any more information about student finance, head over to Your guide to Student Finance England which is linked below!

<https://studentfinance.campaign.gov.uk/understanding-sfe/>

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

You asked.....

"Can we have separate toilets for girls and boys during lesson time as well as at lunch?"

We did.....

"Toilets upstairs in C block are now allocated to girls and the downstairs toilets in C block are for boys. To ensure Year 7s have their own space, the toilets upstairs in A block will be open for their use during lesson time only – 1, 2, 4 and 5. Outside toilets will be open during lunch sessions. Unisex toilets are available."



THE WORRY BOX

Checked daily during school hours

www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox

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



SchoolHire 



The Abbey
School

HIRE OUR FACILITIES

CLICK THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!



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.



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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Walker'.

Simon Walker
STEER Founder



**The Abbey
School**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Walker'.

Jo Walker
STEER Founder





The Abbey School
Faversham
Kent
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The Abbey
School