

The Abbey School

"Be The Best You Can Be"

Weekly Newsletter

2026/27

Issue Number: 9
Date: 13/11/2026

THE HOWARD Academy Trust



"supported"

"the curriculum is ambitious"

"inclusive culture"

"significant positive change"

"meaningful opportunities"

"broad range of enrichment"

"calm"

"motivated to succeed"

"safe"

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, Former Chief Executive of THAT

Read the full report by clicking the image below!

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following students for collecting the most house points this week!

AMAZING WORK EVERYONE!

Charlie B
Year 9
49HP

Everlyn B
Year 8
44 HP

Samuel W
Year 7
41HP

Benjamin S
Year 7
34HP

#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY



SENECA CHAMPIONS

Year Group	Learning Time	Average Score	Time Champion	Score Champion
12 & 13	4h 46m	78%	Freddie C	Oliver R
11	99h 38m	62%	Destiny W	Josh J
10	168h 1m	66%	Isabella P	Jacob F
9	137h 43m	68%	Sophie H	Izzy P, Jack R, Phoebe P, Arabella S, Victory M, Martyna E, Libby S
8	45h 51m	67%	Alexander P	Ava R, Olivia de H, Elsie H-G
7	40h 5h	59%	Maka D	Lora G

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

NEWSLETTER





CANTEEN MENU TERM 2

CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR LUNCH MENU!

The Abbey School

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

KEEPING SAFE AS THE EVENINGS GET DARKER

Practical advice to help children and young people stay safe when travelling and spending time in the community

As the days get shorter, students may be travelling home, meeting friends or taking part in activities in lower light. A few simple conversations and an agreed plan can help them make safer choices and feel confident about what to do if something does not feel right.

1. AGREE A PLAN



- Know where your child is going, who they are with and when they
- are expected home.
- Ask them to let you know if plans or travel arrangements change.
- Agree what to do if they miss a bus, run late or cannot contact you.

2. STAY CONNECTED



- Encourage your child to keep their phone charged and accessible.
- Agree when and how they will check in with you.
- Discuss location sharing as a family where appropriate, including when it will be used.

3. CHOOSE SAFER ROUTES



- Use well-lit, busy routes and public places. Avoid isolated shortcuts, parks and alleyways after dark.
- Where possible, travel with a friend or in a group.
- Do not accept lifts from people they do not know or go somewhere private with someone they have just met.

4. BIKES & SCOOTERS



- Check bikes have working front and rear lights and reflectors.
- Wear a correctly fitted cycle helmet.
- Use appropriate cycle paths and well-lit routes, follow road rules and stay alert to traffic.
- Check the bike or scooter is in good working order before setting off.

IF SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT

Encourage your child to trust their instincts. They do not need to be certain that someone intends harm before moving away and asking for help.

Talk through these steps:

- Move towards a busy, well-lit place such as a shop or staffed public building.
- Do not confront the person. If they think they are being followed, do not go home; go somewhere safe and ask for help.
- Call you or another trusted adult and explain where they are.
- Tell a trusted adult as soon as possible, even if they are unsure or feel embarrassed.
- Call 999 if they are in immediate danger or need urgent police assistance.

KEEP THE CONVERSATION OPEN

Ask: "What would you do if your phone ran out of battery?" "Where could you go for help on your route?" "Which trusted adults could you contact?" Practise the plan together and remind your child that they can always call you for help. You can talk through what happened afterwards

Thank you for working with us to help our students stay safe, make sensible choices and look out for one another.

The Safeguarding Team



ARMISTICE DAY

We Will Remember Them

Today, on Remembrance Day, The Abbey School community has come together to remember and honour those who served and sacrificed their lives.

Throughout the past week, students have marked this important occasion through assemblies, a student-created display at the front of our school and poppy sales. Today, our Student Voice representatives and choir also joined Ospringe Primary School for their Remembrance commemorations.

Remembrance is not just about looking back, but about how we choose to live today. Through kindness, compassion and understanding, we can all make a difference.

We are incredibly proud of the respect and reflection shown by our students.

Thank you to Craft and Gardening Club for creating the wreath which was given to Ospringe Primary School.

We will remember them. Lest we forget.

SENECA

Small Steps, Big Progress

Seneca makes homework and revision manageable through **short interactive activities** and **exam-focused learning.**



Key Benefits of Seneca

- Quick revision sessions
- Interactive questions
- Helpful feedback
- Supports independent learning
- Good for homework and revision
- Available on multiple devices

5 minutes can make a difference

Keep on track

Revise little and often

Use Seneca regularly to build *confidence* and exam readiness.

POETRY LIVE!

The English Department is delighted to offer Year 10 students the opportunity to attend Poetry Live! at the Emmanuel Centre, London, on Friday 26th February 2027.

As you are aware, students will sit their GCSE English Literature examination in May 2027. This exciting event is specifically designed to support students with their preparation for Literature Paper 2, helping to deepen their understanding of the poetry they will study as part of the GCSE course.

Poetry Live! is a unique and inspiring educational experience that brings together some of the UK's leading contemporary poets whose work features on the GCSE English Literature syllabus. Students will have the invaluable opportunity to hear the poets read and discuss their own work, gaining first-hand insight into the themes, ideas and inspirations behind the poems. The event also includes sessions led by experienced examiners, offering expert guidance on how to approach poetry analysis and examination questions successfully.

Tickets are now available to purchase via Arbor at a cost of £35.93. We have secured 69 places, which will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage you to book early to avoid disappointment.

Further information, including details of travel arrangements and the itinerary for the day, will be shared next term.

We are confident that this will be a memorable and highly beneficial experience, enhancing students' appreciation of poetry while providing valuable support for their GCSE studies.

Any questions regarding the trip, please contact the trip lead Mr Crewe!

FORSTERS BLACK FRIDAY DEAL!

Please see a message from Forsters:

We are delighted to inform you of our Black Friday offer for this year. The 10% discount is available in both our school shops as well as online and it runs for a week period only (17th November to 30th November). The code that they can use online is BLK26.

If parents simply enter this code into the basket before checkout the discount will be applied.



ABBEY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING

WHERE AMBITION MEETS OPPORTUNITY

BROAD RANGE OF SUBJECTS

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

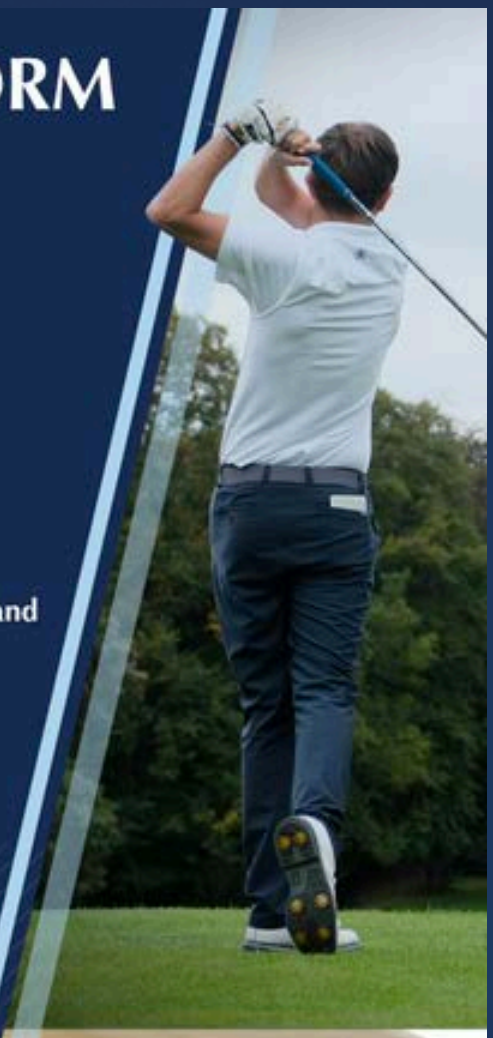
The Abbey School Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 26 November
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Discover our subjects, meet expert teachers, explore our facilities and find out where Sixth Form can take you.

Subjects on Offer:

- Physics
- History
- Geography
- Media Studies
- Criminology
- English Language & Literature
- Business Studies
- Sport Science
- Medical Science
- Philosophy & Ethics
- Psychology
- Mathematics
- Level 2 Fitness Instruction
- Digital Systems (Pending Approval)
- Accounting & Finance (Pending Approval)





Scan the QR Code to Book your place!



YEAR 10 STEP UP EVENING

Year 10 your revision goodie bag is waiting!

Join us for our Step Up Evening on Wednesday 9 December, 5:00–7:30pm, starting in the Hall.

Get ready for English Literature GCSE exams in summer 2027, with practical English, Maths, Science, revision and wellbeing workshops for students and parents/carers.

Students attending will take home four English Literature revision guides, revision essentials, sweets and biscuits!

Parents/carers who complete the workshops and submit their ticked postcard can enter our draw to win one of four £50 Love2shop vouchers.

Parent/carer unable to attend? You can still come! Students may attend with a friend's parent/carer where agreed at home, or independently if they let school know in advance and have safe arrangements for getting to and from the event.

Sign up here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/2X0UuTEJzv

Please submit one response per Year 10 student. We look forward to seeing you!

THANK YOU MOUNTAIN WAREHOUSE!

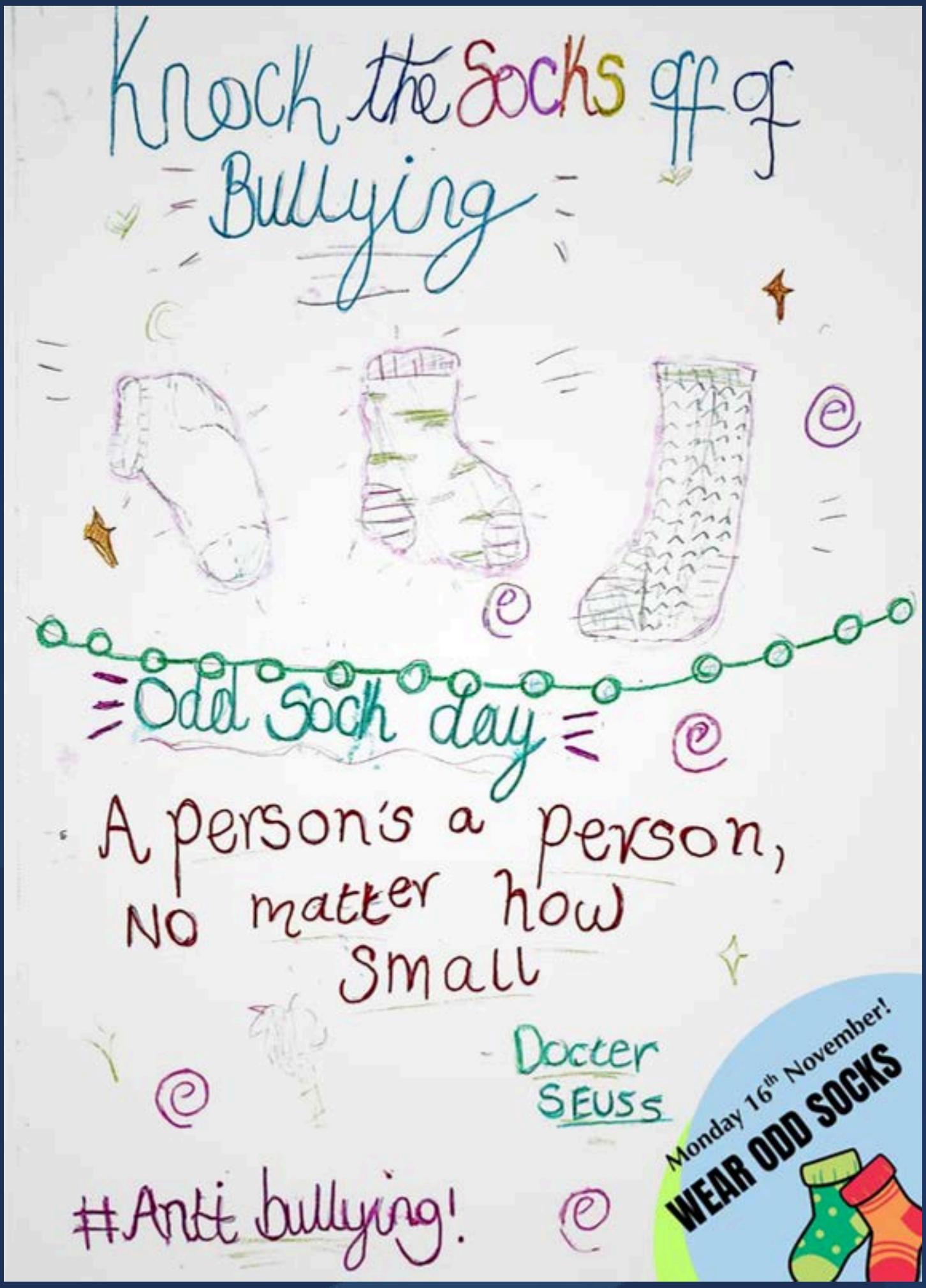
A big thank you to Mountain Warehouse in Canterbury for their generous support of our students preparing for next year's ski trip!

The store has kindly offered our students an exclusive 20% discount on their purchases, helping families get ready for this exciting adventure.

We really appreciate Mountain Warehouse's generosity and support in helping make the preparations for the trip that little bit easier.

Thank you for supporting The Abbey School!

MOUNTAIN WAREHOUSE


Knock the Socks off of Bullying
Odd Sock day
A person's a person, No matter how Small
Docter SEUSS
#Anti bullying!
Monday 16th November!
WEAR ODD SOCKS


The Abbey School
THE HOWARD Academy Trust
Winter Festival
Save The Date!
THE ABBEY SCHOOL ANNUAL WINTER FESTIVAL
Parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for The Abbey School's Annual Winter Festival!
Year 7
Friday 4th December,
1:30–2:30pm
The Abbey School Hall
Years 8 & 9
Thursday 10th December,
1:30–2:30pm
St Mary's Church,
Faversham
More details to follow.
We look forward to celebrating the festive season with you!



STUDENT SHOUTOUT!

Henry B, who challenged himself to complete the high ropes course during half term! Heights can make Henry nervous, so this was a particularly special achievement.

He was incredibly proud of himself afterwards, and rightly so!

FA CUP!

What an exciting FA Cup draw for Dover Athletic FC!

The Whites have been drawn against former Premier League winners Leicester City in the Second Round of the FA Cup!

There was more great news over the weekend, with six players currently in, or having graduated from our Football Academy named in Dover Athletics squad for their fixture against Wealdstone.

A fantastic achievement and a brilliant example of the opportunities our Football Academy provides!

Everyone at The Abbey School is incredibly proud. Best of luck to Dover Athletic and all our Academy players!



ART SHOUTOUT!

Check out this amazing piece of artwork created by one of our former students, Charlotte S!

We think you'll all agree that she has done a fantastic job.

WORK EXPERIENCE!

Further to our Work Experience information, we have attached a presentation which provides step-by-step guidance on how to upload and register your child's Work Experience placement through Unifrog.

Please take a little time to look through the presentation, as it will help guide you and your child through the process and explain what information needs to be completed.

If you have any questions or experience any difficulties accessing Unifrog or uploading the placement details, please do get in touch and we will be happy to help.

Click the icon below to view the instructions!





West Faversham Community Newsletter

Invicta Community & Leisure

November 2026

01795 537321

westfavershamca.org

November is here, and as the festive season begins to gather pace, there's already plenty happening at West Faversham Community Centre. We're looking forward to another exciting month, from the return of our ever-popular Big Bingo nights to preparations for a fantastic New Year's Eve celebration. Christmas is arriving in style too, with our Comedy Night proving so popular that tickets are selling fast. Alongside all of this, you'll find the usual mix of community activities, events, and opportunities to get involved. We hope you'll join us for what promises to be a busy, festive, and fun-filled season ahead!



GOOD LUCK!

We will be running our Christmas community raffle, to purchase tickets scan the QR Code. We will pulling the winners at our Christmas Funday on the 19th December

Dates for the diary November

- 5th Fireworks Night
- 7th - Comedy night staring Stephen K. Amos
- 13th - BIG Bingo
- 28th - Christmas Craft Fair









SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

We want to remind you about how to seek help if you have a safeguarding concern about a child, particularly outside of school hours.

Our Safeguarding and Pastoral Team are available from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Thursday & Friday until 3.30pm, during term time. We are always happy to listen, support families and respond to concerns raised with us during these hours.

Please be aware that school email inboxes are not monitored outside of these hours, particularly during evenings and weekends. If you email the school with a safeguarding concern after 4.30pm or over the weekend, your message may not be seen until the next working day. This means that emailing the school should not be relied upon where a child may need immediate help or protection. If you are worried about a child's immediate safety or welfare, please contact the appropriate service directly:

If a child is in immediate danger or there is an immediate risk of serious harm: please call 999 and ask for the Police. For a non-emergency concern requiring Police assistance: please call Kent Police on 101.

For concerns about a child's safety or welfare: contact Kent Children's Services (The Front Door) on 03000 41 11 11.

Outside normal hours, including evenings and weekends: Kent Children's Services can be contacted on 03000 41 91 91.

We appreciate that knowing who to contact can sometimes feel difficult, particularly when you are worried about a child. Our priority is to make sure that concerns reach the right professionals as quickly as possible, so please use the appropriate service rather than waiting for the school to respond to an email.

Of course, if your concern is not urgent and you would like to speak to a member of our Safeguarding or Pastoral Team, please contact us during our normal school hours. We are here to listen and support you.

Thank you for working with us to help keep our children and young people safe.

Safeguarding and Pastoral Team 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Thursday & Friday until 3.30pm, during term time only


DOVER
ATHLETIC
FOOTBALL ACADEMY
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ABBEY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM
FOOTBALL ACADEMY TRIALS
Tuesday 16th February 2027
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE TRIAL OR WANT TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW AND FILL OUT THE FORM.
• Excellent coaching from UEFA A Licence Coaches
• Full time training whilst studying a full range of A Level or BTEC Courses
• Full Fixture Schedule played on Wednesday afternoons
• Represent Dover Athletic Football Club
• Play in the FA Youth Cup
• Compete in International Tournaments
• Excellent progression route
If you have any questions, please contact Academy Manager Mike Sandmann
msandmann@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk
The Abbey School

LUNCHTIME CLUBS!

MONDAY

Sparx Drop-in
Mr McCormack
Week B only
B15 / P3A

Film Club
Miss Hutchins
S11 / P3A

Dance Rehearsals
Miss Nunn
Dance Studio
P3A

Coding/Gaming
Mrs Kusi
C16 / P3B

Sparx Drop-in
Mr McCormack
Week A only
B15 / P3B

TUESDAY

Coding/Gaming
Mr Kusi
Week B
C16 / P3A

Games Club
Miss Wilsom
B17 / P3A

Dance Rehearsals
Miss Nunn
Dance Studio / P3B

Creative Writing Workshop
Mr Crewe
A14 / P3B

Y7 Choir
Mrs Ward
ODC / P3B

WEDNESDAY

The Royal
Shakespeare
Company Y8
Mrs Ward & Mrs
Head-Rapson
A15 / P3A

Production Dance Rehearsals
Miss Nunn
Dance Studio / P3A

Games Club
Miss Wilsom
B17 / P3B

Drama Club
Miss Bevan
PA1 / P3B

THURSDAY

Crochet
Miss East
B18 / P3A

Y7 Choir
Mrs Ward
ODC / P3A

Beyond Boundaries
Mrs Slack
C5 / P3A

Coding/Gaming
Mr Kusi
Week A
C16 / P3A

STEM Club
Mr Hollands
B6 / P3B

Film Club
Miss Hutchins
S11 / P3A

FRIDAY

Sparx Drop-in
Mr McCormack
Week B only
B15 / P3A

Creative Writing Workshop
Mr Crewe
A14 / P3A

STEM Club
Mr Hollands
Week A Only
B6 / P3B

GCSE Rehearsal
Mrs Ward
ODC / P3B

Beyond Boundaries
Mrs Slack
C5 / P3B

Crochet
Miss East
Week A Only
B18 / P3B

EVERYDAY

Library -
Reading/
Homework
Mr Mitchell

Football (Weather
Dependent)
Playground Staff
Pitch next to C Block

Table Tennis
Playground Staff
Starting Term 2

THE ABBEY SCHOOL'S

£21,000 CHALLENGE

FIND OUT MORE ON OUR JUST GIVING PAGE

Charlie's Promise

THIS YEAR, WE'RE STANDING BEHIND CHARLIE'S PROMISE

Chosen by our students and staff

A safer tomorrow for young people.



TAKE ON A CHALLENGE

RAISE MONEY

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HONOUR CHARLIE

MAKE YOUR £21 PLEDGE

TO RAISE AT LEAST £21 EACH

Everyone will play a part.

All for you Cheeks

Have an idea about how you'd like to get involved?
Email: alebrunn-healey@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Be The Best You Can Be by being an Active Citizen

Charlie's Promise Charity Number: 1207246

FREE SCHOOL MEAL CHECKER!

Check if Your Child Could Receive Free School Meals!

We encourage all parents and carers to take a few moments to see if their child is eligible for Free School Meals.

You can complete the quick online eligibility check here:
https://fsm.lgfl.net/app

The process only takes a couple of minutes, and you'll just need your National Insurance number. Recent changes to the eligibility criteria mean that some families who were not previously entitled to Free School Meals may now qualify. Even if you've applied before, it's worth checking again.

Registering for Free School Meals could provide valuable support for your family and also helps The Abbey School receive additional funding, allowing us to continue providing extra resources and opportunities for our students.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the check and for your continued support

STUDENT SHOUTOUT!

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@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

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



SUPPORT INFORMATION

It is okay not to be okay

Everyone responds differently to difficult situations and emotions.
Whatever you are feeling, support is available,
and you do not have to cope on your own.

Please reach out and access the support that feels right for you.

ONLINE SUPPORT

Kooth
www.kooth.com
Free online mental health and wellbeing support for young people.

YoungMinds
www.youngminds.org.uk
Information, advice and support for young people.

Child Bereavement UK
www.childbereavementuk.org/Listing/Category/teenagers
Specialist support and guidance for teenagers affected by bereavement and loss.

TELEPHONE HELPLINES

Cruse Bereavement Support
0808 808 1677
Support for anyone experiencing bereavement.

TEXT SUPPORT

SHOUT
Text 85258
Free, confidential support available 24 hours a day via text message.

SUPPORT IN SCHOOL

Support is available through:

- Form Tutors
- Heads of Year
- Pastoral Support Team
- Safeguarding Team
- any Trusted Adult

There will also be drop-in opportunities available if you would like to talk to someone informally.

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you feel unable to keep yourself safe, or are in immediate danger:

- **Call 999**
- Attend your nearest Accident & Emergency (A&E) Department
- **Tell a trusted adult**

You do not need to manage a crisis on your own.

REMEMBER

- You are not alone.
- Support is available.
- There are people who care and want to help.
- Please reach out if you need support.

The Abbey School


The Abbey
School
HIRE OUR FACILITIES!
Scan the QR Code to book!
SchoolHire
SH

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

The Abbey School



We have worked with you

listened to your ideas and made lots of changes

over the last few years.



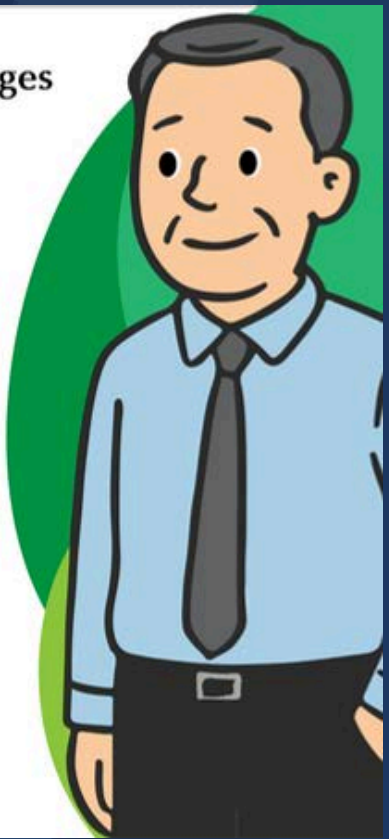
You asked.....

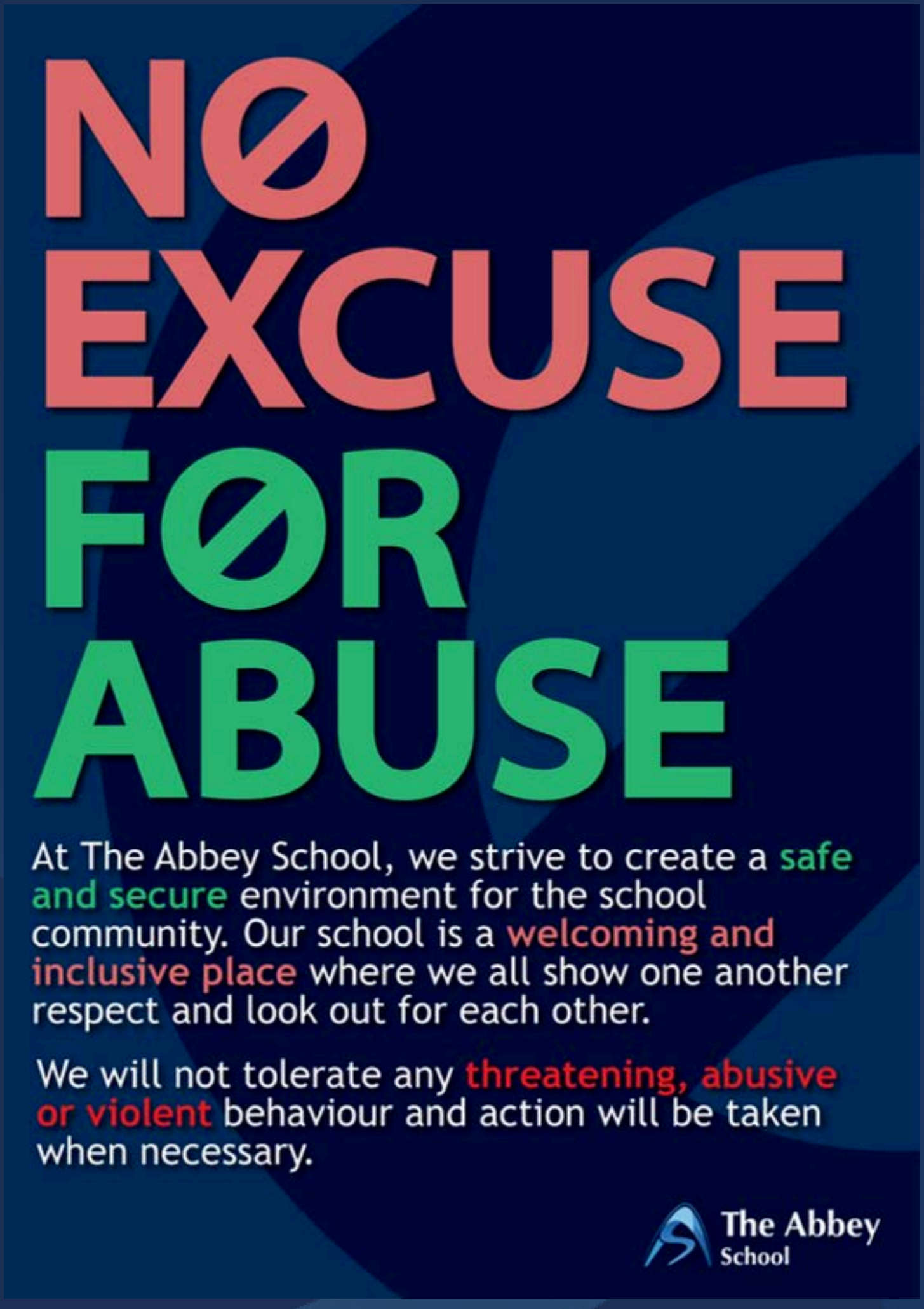
"We don't like folding our arms in STAR, do we really need to do this?"

We did.....

"We want you to feel comfortable when listening to your teachers, so we took away folded arms in STAR. Some of you asked if you could still fold your arms as it helps you to concentrate – of course you may if you prefer to do this."

The Abbey School




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

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Faversham
ME13 8RZ

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01795 532633



Attendance Office
01795 542477
attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

"BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE"

The Abbey School