



# The Abbey School

"BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE"

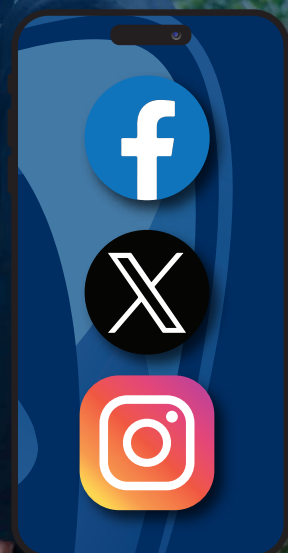
## Weekly Newsletter 2024/25

Issue Number: 36

Date: 18/07/25



THE HOWARD  
Academy Trust



# 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 firsthand why we are the perfect choice for your child's future.





As we reach the end of another exceptional year at The Abbey School, I want to take a moment to say thank you. Thank you for your continued support, your encouragement, and your belief in the work we do together. This has been a year marked by ambition, resilience, and genuine pride in our community.

The summer term alone has reminded us why our school is such a special place. Our pupils have embraced a huge range of opportunities - demonstrating energy, curiosity and character at every turn. They've taken part in Sports Day, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, work experience placements, Transition Week leadership, and even international representation on the football tour in Spain. The atmosphere across the school has been purposeful, upbeat and full of momentum.

Our Year 11 and Sixth Form students approached their exams with maturity, focus and a real sense of camaraderie. They supported each other through the process, and I couldn't be prouder of how they've carried themselves. We look forward to celebrating their achievements in August.

Our recent Prize Giving was a real highlight, recognising excellence across the board - academic success, personal development, kindness and service to others. What stood out most was the sense of shared effort. Our students worked hard, and they were surrounded by families, teachers and peers who lifted them up. That collective spirit is what defines us.

We've also made meaningful strides forward. Support for exam groups has been more comprehensive than ever. Attendance is up by over 1.5% in just the past year, reflecting stronger engagement across the school. Our curriculum continues to grow in depth and breadth - offering academic challenge, creative exploration and real-world pathways. Looking ahead, we're excited to launch our new Sixth Form Golf Academy and are actively pursuing plans for expanded football provision, including a girls' football academy and improved facilities with a potential second 3G pitch.

All of this is only possible with the partnership we have with you. Your children are a credit to their families. It remains a privilege to educate them, and we are proud to walk alongside them in these formative years.

I hope you and your family have a restful and refreshing summer. We look forward to welcoming students back in September to begin another exciting chapter in our story.



Dr R Speller  
Principal





A student is seen from behind, working on a large cardboard box in a workshop. The box is wrapped in clear tape and has yellow and blue straps. The background shows a workshop environment with various tools and materials.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

## Reflecting on a Successful Year 10 and Year 12 Work Experience Program

As the work experience placements for Year 10 and Year 12 students come to a close, this has been an incredibly rewarding and productive time for all involved. The feedback from both students and local businesses has been overwhelmingly positive, and the experience has provided our students with valuable insights into the professional world.

This year's work experience program has been a resounding success. The students were eager to take on real-world challenges, and they didn't disappoint. From enthusiastic feedback shared by the students, it's clear that the placements not only provided them with a hands-on experience but also boosted their confidence and self-esteem.

Students reported that they felt welcomed and supported throughout their placements, with many highlighting the opportunity to shadow industry professionals and learn new skills. This feedback reinforces the importance of connecting students with real-world work environments, where they can put theory into practice and gain a clearer understanding of their future career paths.

On the employer side, we received positive feedback about the students' work ethic, attitude, and ability to quickly adapt to the demands of the workplace. Local businesses have expressed their satisfaction with how engaged and eager the students were, which is a testament to the quality of the preparation and communication from both the school and the businesses involved.

The students' work experience placements ranged from healthcare and retail to hospitality and technology, giving them a well-rounded exposure to various industries. Many students found this exposure to be invaluable, as it helped them identify potential career interests and gain practical skills that will serve them well in the future.

Some students were involved in customer service roles, where they had the chance to enhance their communication skills, while others participated in more technical roles, learning the ropes of specific tools or software programs. Regardless of the industry, each student gained something unique from their experience — whether it was a new skill, a broader network, or a deeper understanding of their chosen field.

One of the highlights of this year's program was the overwhelming support from local businesses. These businesses played an essential role in providing the students with the opportunity to experience the professional world first-hand.

The positive feedback, the valuable experiences gained, and the strong partnerships with local businesses all contribute to making this program a key part of our students' educational journey. The work experience program not only provides students with a taste of the professional world but also helps them build essential skills that will serve them throughout their careers. We are incredibly grateful to all the businesses and mentors who made this possible, and we look forward to offering even more opportunities for our students in the years to come.

Mrs Priestley



“

Student has thrown himself into life in a primary school. He has supported groups and individual pupils within the classroom and has joined in leading play activities with children on the playground. He has shown an excellent attitude to this placement and a keen interest in all that we do. He has taken everything he can from this placement.

”



“

Student performed exceptionally during his time with us at TMD. He was tasked with a mock project which included producing a floor plan for an office refurbishment, putting together a mood board and presentation for each room designed and working out the budget costs for the proposed works.

”



“

We have been really impressed with the student, she has been great and contributed really well with the Marketing Team at WJ Group.

”





# A MESSAGE FROM MOLLY M & JESSICA F (HEAD STUDENTS)

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THE AMAZING SPEECHES FROM OUR RECENT END OF YEAR PRIZE GIVING FROM OUR HEAD STUDENTS!

Good evening, everyone, my name is Molly M, and I am standing here tonight as head student in year 13, in what will also be one of my last moments as a student of The Abbey.

Firstly, thank you for being here to celebrate the success and gratitude of the pupils here tonight at The Abbey School and reflect on what has been an incredible journey for all of us.

Tonight is a celebration – of hard work, dedication, perseverance, and personal growth, so to the students here tonight you should be proud of what you have achieved. You all represent the best of what The Abbey School encourages in us all, not only just academic excellence, but also integrity, kindness, commitment, and being the best you can be.

I have had the privilege of attending The Abbey School since year 7, and back then I had no idea how much this school would shape me into the person I am today. Looking back, I remember my first day walking through the school gates not knowing what to expect, I was nervous, overwhelmed, and was carrying a bag almost as big as me. In year 7 everything felt big and new – the school, the expectations, and the people. However, slowly through every lesson, assembly, afterschool club, and even the occasional setback, I started to find my place. Back then, if you told the 12 year old shy me that I would be doing a speech in front of parents, pupils and teachers I would not have believed you. This is down to the fact that The Abbey has helped me grow with confidence and given me immense support when I had self-doubt.

My Abbey school journey was not easy, there were many moments throughout the years where I felt like giving up, whether I was struggling in a subject, doubting if I was good enough, or even comparing myself to others who seemed to always get it right. But here is what I have learnt, getting a question wrong is not a setback, it is a gift, a gift in which you can learn from and what helps you grow, not only in academics but as a person. Growth is not always loud, it does not always come with recognition, sometimes it is quiet. It is the late nights spent trying again when you failed the first time and showing up even when you do not feel ready, and most importantly it is having people around you, such as teachers, friends, and family who believe in you even when you are still learning to believe in yourself.

Looking back now, I wish I could tell my younger self, 'you are capable' 'you just have keep going' which I eventually did. Step by step I found my confidence in moments where teachers encouraged me to push out of my comfort zone, where friends stood by me even when I was scared to fail. Eventually I began to see potential in myself that others saw in me all along.

Over the 7 years I've been at The Abbey School, I've been fortunate enough to achieve things that I once thought was out of reach, such as becoming a dance leader and being able to run a dance club to create a fun environment outside of school hours, receiving prize giving awards, passing all my GCSEs, completing my a-levels, raising money for prom, and most importantly becoming head student. I remember clearly sitting in my interview with the head teacher Dr Speller, and the head of sixth form Mrs Crouch, and them asking me what would you like to achieve during your time as head student, and I said to create a positive impact on the younger students, whether that was through peer mentoring, supporting students when they had a worry, or even through this speech tonight by sharing my journey, I hope my journey will help the students sitting in this room tonight and to remember you can do it, you just need to keep going. And one piece of advice is just enjoy it as no one believes teachers when they say it will come round really quick, but trust me it does.





Helping the younger years has truly made my time as head student worthwhile and my biggest achievement knowing I have made a difference.

As my time at the Abbey School is coming to an end, I soon to embark on a new chapter in my life studying business marketing at university in September, and hope to complete teacher training to become a teacher. I cannot help to forget the countless friendships and memories I have made at this school in which I cherish forever. My time at this school has gone by in a flash (you know people say time flies when your having fun) and I have enjoyed second of it, and when I leave it will feel like a part of me will be missing. And to all the amazing teachers, us students would not be here tonight if it was not for you. You have guided us not just with knowledge, but with care, support, patience, belief, and helped us become more then students, but to be ourselves.

Thank you for being here tonight, to share this special celebration with us. I hope you enjoyed the students receiving their achievements, and to reflect on everything we have shared this year.

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My name is Jess and its a pleasure to be standing up here speaking to you all tonight.

Firstly I would like to say congratulations to each and every one of you here today. Your hard-work and dedication deserves to be recognised on nights like tonight. I think we can all agree that without the commitment of all the staff members at this school, including the teachers, support staff, cleaners and canteen staff, events like this would be non existent.

I have been at this school since year 7, and I'm at the end of my journey now. However, the memories I've made and experiences I've had will stay with me forever. Whether that be endless football matches and after school clubs, chicken and chips from the canteen on a Friday, prom, open evenings or a trip to France, none of this would have been possible without the support of the staff here. From helping out at summer school with the year 6s and getting covered in paint during the colour run to seeing countless fundraising events, its clear this school isn't just about learning, its a community. A community that strives to make each student the best they can be.

Becoming head student will forever be one of my proudest moments. Its given me the opportunity to tour visitors round the school, organise an extremely successful staff vs sixth form football match (minus the absolute thrashing the staff gave us), and stand here and speak to all of you tonight. These are things I never would have imagined I could achieve, and now wherever I end up in life, I know for a fact that these experiences will help me along the way.

When I joined this school in year 7, I was a shy, reserved, nervous 11 year old, who was terrified of being late to lesson or forgetting my classrooms, and I am leaving as a mature, well rounded and confident adult who may still slightly hate the idea of being late! Im going into my next chapter now, studying sport science at university with the end goal of becoming a P.E teacher, and changing the lives of students like the staff here have done for me. Enjoy the rest of your evening, thank you!





# TERM 1 ARRANGEMENTS

## Monday 1st September

- Year 7 and Year 12 students will return to school.
- Year 7 Students should arrive on the playground by 8.30am, ready for line-up at 8.40am.

## Tuesday 2nd September

- Year 7, Year 11, Year 12, and Year 13 students should arrive on the playground by 8.30am, ready for line-up at 8.40am.

## Wednesday 3rd September

- All year groups (Years 7–13) return to school.
- The school day begins at 8.30am, with line-up at 8.40am.

Please ensure your child returns in September fully equipped for learning and wearing the correct school uniform. We always encourage students to start the year as they mean to go on – with focus, positivity, and a strong sense of purpose.





# PASTORAL SPOTLIGHT ON.... SELF CARE SUMMER

At the end of a busy year, it is important to take a moment to look after yourself.

The end of the school year is a natural break from our busy lives. This is the perfect time to practice your self-care. The time away from school can be tricky for some young people who thrive on routine and interactions with friends, so this is a good opportunity to take life at a slower pace and appreciate some calm.

You could try

Reviewing your year to see what went well – you may be surprised how far you have come and how much you have achieved

Making a list of goals for next year – what would you like to achieve?

Do things you love to restore balance in your life - this can be simple things such as reading a book or painting a picture, or watching a favourite film.

Reconnect with family and out of school friends – these relationships are important and a good source of support. Help around the house and spend time with people away from social media.

Build healthy habits ready for your next year – get into a good sleep routine, eat well and spend time away from your devices.

Go outside! It is so good for our wellbeing to spend time outdoors in nature – go for a walk, sit and observe nature and remember to sometimes take time to 'just be'.

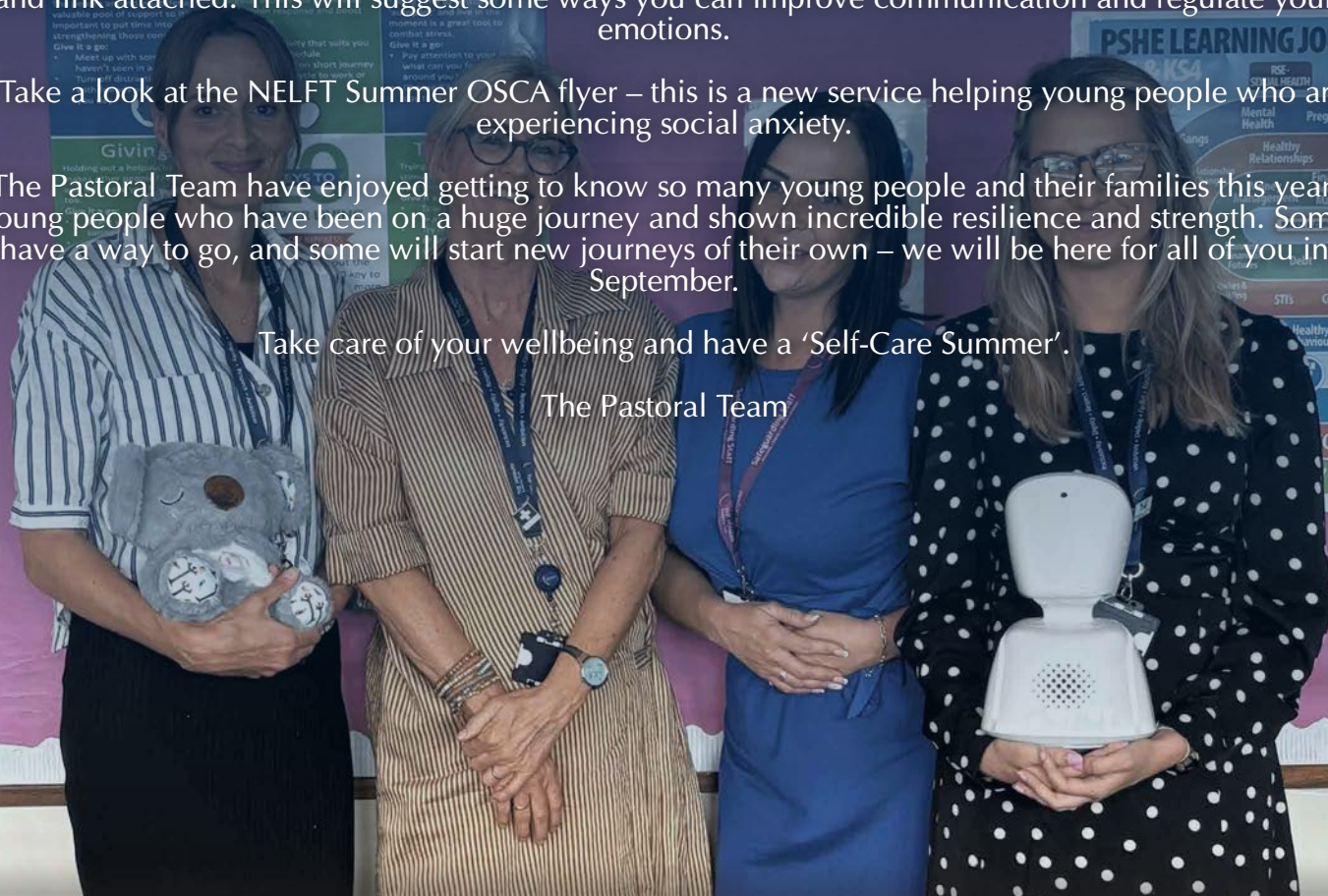
Take a look at the NHS Online Workshop 'Understanding your Amazing Teenage Brain' – QR code and link attached. This will suggest some ways you can improve communication and regulate your emotions.

Take a look at the NELFT Summer OSCA flyer – this is a new service helping young people who are experiencing social anxiety.

The Pastoral Team have enjoyed getting to know so many young people and their families this year, young people who have been on a huge journey and shown incredible resilience and strength. Some have a way to go, and some will start new journeys of their own – we will be here for all of you in September.

Take care of your wellbeing and have a 'Self-Care Summer'.

The Pastoral Team





## OSCA - ONLINE SOCIAL ANXIETY COGNITIVE THERAPY FOR ADOLESCENTS



### WHAT IS OSCA?

**OSCA** is an online programme for 13-18 year olds which combines therapist sessions with access to therapy modules, developed by experts.

It includes:

- Personalised understanding of your difficulties
- Interactive tasks
- Videos
- Exercises to try out
- Weekly video or telephone calls with your therapist



### HOW TO ACCESS OSCA

If you attend one of our schools and you feel OSCA would be helpful for you, please email:

[ewtandestenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:ewtandestenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk)

The Emotional Wellbeing/Support Team will be in touch to help you to explore whether OSCA is right for you.

For more information on OSCA, please see our video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/bjlf669IDdc>



We are kind.



We are respectful.



We work together with our communities.



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams  
Medway Emotional Support Teams

## Online Workshops

These workshops are aimed at supporting young people and parents/carers of young people in secondary school.

### Understanding Your Amazing Teenage Brain

12/08/2025 12:30-14:30pm

Parents/carers and young people are invited to a workshop **Understanding Your Teenage Brain**. It will help you to understand **your amazing brains** and **the changes that come with adolescence**. We will also discuss **strategies that you can use** to improve communication and understanding between you and to regulate emotions.

If you would like to join, please **ctrl + click link below or by entering the Meeting ID and Passcode within Teams**:

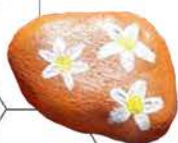
[Understanding The Amazing Teenage Brain | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)



You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions, please speak with your school. If you require materials in another language or have any other access needs then please email:

[EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk](mailto:EWTandESTenquiries@neft.nhs.uk)

**We look forward to meeting you!**



[www.neft.nhs.uk](http://www.neft.nhs.uk)



# CAREERS FAIR DREAMLANDS

The Abbey School got the chance to visit Dreamland Careers fair and spoke to lots of industry professionals and content creators including Channel 4 creative director. Year 10 students were a real asset to the school, engaged with all the of exhibitors there, showed real maturity and were an absolute credit to the school.

It was a huge success and all of the students enjoyed the event and want to attend again next year!





# HOUSE COUNCIL

## WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR

This year, as always, has been another really busy one for the house team. Here is an overview of some of the main events and activities that the house team have been involved in:

- **Student voice meeting** – 3 times a year at Abbey and then disseminating this information at Trust pupil parliaments – representing Abbey Student Voice in the Trust
- **Awareness days** – giving assemblies on these - Mental health awareness week; Community and Diversity day; Refugee week; Kindness week as well as many more
- **Key projects** - to support mental health, such as neurodiversity, understanding how people learn in different ways, and “Onion Space” – a mental health space for all students
- **Charities** - Raising over £1500 for our charities – Teenage Cancer Trust and Young Lives vs Cancer The Kent, Sussex and Surry Air Ambulance, through own clothes days, a Christmas raffle, and competitions, such as designing a room for a family to stay in for Young Lives vs Cancer
- **Primary schools** -visiting these with staff for those coming to the Abbey in September, and then welcoming the year 6s back to the Abbey Community on transition days
  - **Competitions** - especially the Christmas cards and diversity projects
- **Projects around the school grounds** - litter picks, creating an eco-lodge and caring for new trees and plants

### Next year we hope to:

- Continue with “Onion Space” and start to kit out the space, making it a really welcoming place to be
  - Re-visit vaping – and the dangers of it
  - Support new charities
- Get involved in more recycling projects, to make the school even more eco-friendly

The Abbey School wants to say a really big thank the house team, who work closely with senior leaders in the school, as well as the wider trust, and external communities, to put your ideas forward and to help make positive changes for everyone. Our thanks go to:

- Year 7 – Sophie; Lexzi; Ellie
  - Year 8 – Aiden
- Year 9 – Maddie; Izzy
- Year 10 – Olivia; Stella; Bella; Logan; Charlotte
  - Year 11 - Antani

As a lot of the house team will be in year 11 next year, they may not be able to dedicate as much time to house activities, due to mocks and examinations.

Therefore, if anyone is interested in getting more involved with house and student voice issues, please email Dr Moseley: [amoseley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:amoseley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk) – thank you!







# SIXTH FORM INDUCTION DAY

The 2025 induction day took place today for the new students joining us in year 12 in September. All students engaged in a variety of activities including rounders, badminton, archery and ice breakers. They also got to meet the Sixth form team including their potential form tutors. It was brilliant to see a large number of external students mix with current Abbey school students and all come together as if they'd always known one another.

We sent the students home to enjoy their Summer with some transition work in hand to support them stepping up to their next academic challenge.

We look forward to seeing the students on results day on 21st August (students can collect results from 10am). Our first day back to formally enrol them with the Directors of Learning is on Monday 1st September at 0845am until 1030am. Their first full day being Tuesday 2nd September.

We wish you all the best for your GCSE results and cannot wait to work with you next year.

If anyone is still unsure of their next steps, please get in contact [ncrouch@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:ncrouch@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Good Luck!  
Mrs Crouch and the Sixth form team

# POETRY LIVE

We're thrilled to announce an inspiring trip to Poetry Live! at the Apollo Victoria Theatre in London on Thursday 12th February 2026!

Our current Year 9 students (soon to be Year 10) will get the incredible chance to hear top GCSE poets perform their work live, discuss meanings and themes, and take part in a Q&A — all supporting their AQA English Literature Paper 2 exam prep!

Tickets go on sale Monday 8th September via Arbor. Set a reminder — places will go fast! Don't miss this unforgettable chance to bring poetry to life!

#PoetryLive #AbbeyEnglish #GCSEReady  
#LoveLiterature

The Poets appearing on the day



Simon Armitage



John Agard



Carol Ann Duffy



Imtiaz Dharker

## COMING SOON....

We all want the best for our children and attending school every day plays a huge part in securing that. There is clear evidence to show that good attendance is linked with academic success, but that is not the only reason children should attend school. Good attendance is also key in supporting children develop:

- effective social skills
- positive sense of well-being

We are closely monitoring attendance using the new 'Attend' system which will allow us to communicate with you much more regularly around punctuality and attendance. This will mean you are informed more frequently with the attendance success and challenges your child experiences.





# WE ARE RECRUITING!

## APPLY NOW

The Local Academy Board at The Abbey School is seeking to recruit new parent governor, preferably with experience or knowledge in education, safeguarding, careers, or other public sector organisations.

We welcome applications from individuals with a genuine interest in school improvement, and training will be provided.

Local Academy Board members are typically involved in monitoring activities aligned with the School Development Plan and current improvement priorities.

The Board meets four times per year, with a mixture of face-to-face and virtual sessions. Meetings focus on key areas such as student progress and attainment, attendance and engagement, well-being, teaching and learning, community links, finance, personnel, and site management.

In addition to attending meetings, Local Academy Board members are encouraged to support the school through formal and informal visits, with opportunities to participate in events throughout the academic year.

If you would be interested in being a Local Academy Board member, please contact the school on 01795 536636 or email Clair Foskett, PA to Principal [cfoskett@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:cfoskett@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk) for more information.



**The Abbey  
School**





# Abbey School Sixth Form

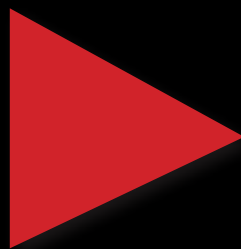
Are you ready to take the next step in your academic journey?

At The Abbey School, our Sixth Form offers an outstanding opportunity for you to thrive, not just in your studies, but as an individual.

We are a vibrant and inclusive community which supports our young people to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to make the successful transition to the next stage of their education or employment.

Find out more about our Sixth Form here:

<https://www.theabbey-that.org.uk/sixthform>



# ATTENDANCE REWARDS

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BE IN WITH A CHANCE TO WIN?

BE IN 100% OF THE YEAR. BE IN 100% FROM 03/03/2025. ATTENDANCE GOLDEN TICKETS. YEAR 11 BE IN 100% UNTIL END OF TERM 5. YOU COULD BE ENTERED INTO ALL OF THESE IF YOU MEET EVERY ONE OF THE ATTENDANCE LEVELS! YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN TO WIN!

### THE LINK BETWEEN ATTENDANCE & ATTAINMENT

THE IMPACT ABSENCE HAS ON YOUR ATTENDANCE RATE:

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS OFF IN A SCHOOL YEAR	ATTENDANCE RATE %	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE	LEARNING HOURS LOST
0	100%	190 DAYS	0
10	95%	180 DAYS	475
20	90%	170 DAYS	95
30	85%	160 DAYS	142.5
40	80%	150 DAYS	190



**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



# GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL FIELDWORK

## Year 12 A-Level Fieldwork

As this academic year draws to a close, the Year 12 Geography students have focused their attention onto the most pivotal aspect of their A-Level course. The NEA.

The skill of fieldwork is essential for any great geographer. However, with the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) for A-Level geography, the pressure does mount, as each student needs to consider their own independent investigation. To prepare for this, the Year 12 students have undertaken two crash course fieldwork days, practising numerous data collection methods.

On Monday 14th July, the students investigated how to calculate carbon storage in trees on the Abbey site. Investigating if the A2 main road, or the new housing developments are interrupting the dynamic equilibrium of the carbon cycle in the area.

Then on Tuesday 15th July, the students headed to Tankerton, to investigate and survey both sense of place and coastal environment. Collecting both quantitative and qualitative data, whilst using specialist equipment. Even attempting questionnaires with Tankerton locals, or retail interviews. The students did themselves proud, even when the weather attempted to disrupt the data collection.

Mrs Finney and the geography department are very impressed with how the Year 12's conducted themselves over those past two days of fieldwork, and wish them luck over their own data collection in the summer holidays, ready for Year 13.



# Easy Fundraising Initiative

## Supporting our Schools Together

The Howard Academy Trust has launched a new fundraising initiative to benefit all schools within the Trust, including The Abbey School. The Easy Fundraising platform provides an effortless way for parents, carers, staff, and the wider community to raise funds simply by shopping with participating retailers.

Getting involved is easy:

Visit the Easy Fundraising page for The Abbey School:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/the-abbey-school-faversham/>  
or click the QR code below.



Register and select The Abbey School as your cause.  
Shop as usual with participating retailers, and donations will be made automatically.

We would also greatly appreciate your help in spreading the word about this initiative to your networks. Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a real difference across the Trust.

If you have any questions about this initiative, please visit the link below which will take you to a FAQ page.





# HIRE OUR FACILITIES

CLICK THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!



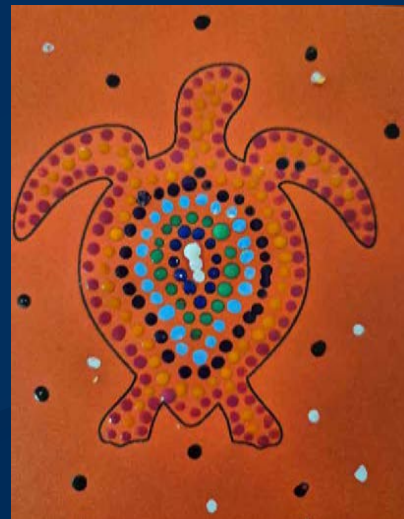
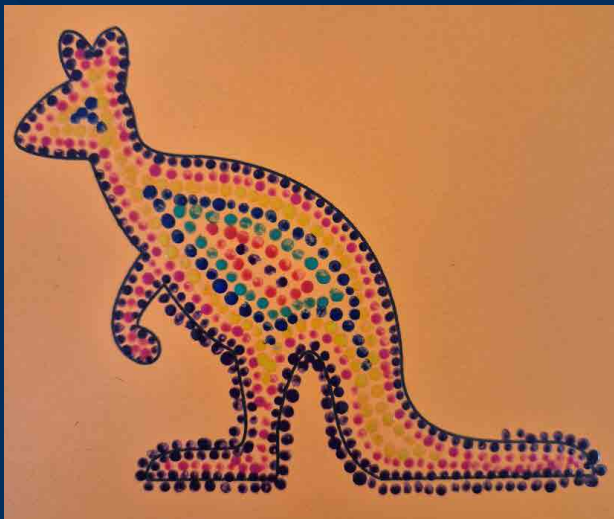
# TINS OF BEANS CHALLENGE

Some highlights from the 'Tin of Beans' challenge that year 7's ended the year with. Their challenge was to re-style beans on toast into something spectacular. They certainly rose to the challenge.



## YEAR 6 TRANSITION WEEK

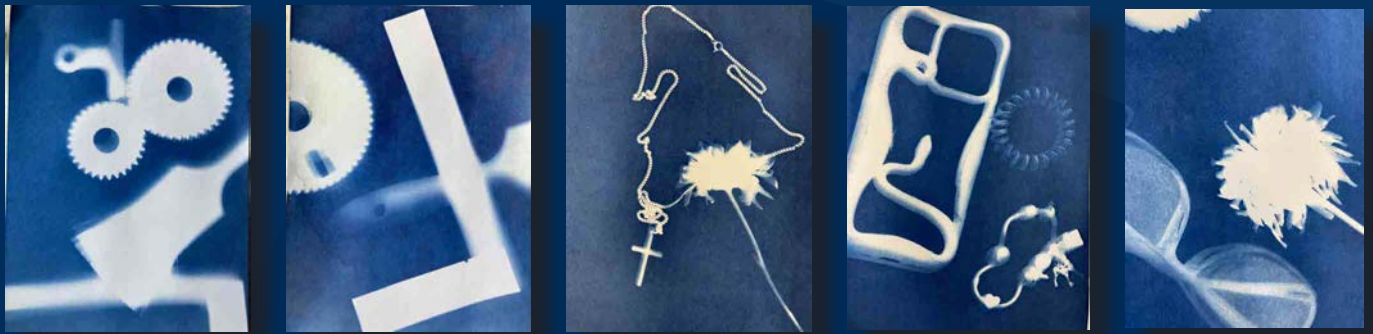
During Year 6 Transition Week, students explored Aboriginal art and culture. They learned about the symbolism and significance of animals in Aboriginal traditions and experimented with traditional dot painting techniques.





# YEAR 10 COMMUNITIES DAY

As part of their exploration into the theme of identity and community, Year 10 students created cyanotype prints using personal belongings that hold significance to them. These objects reflect individual identities and shared experiences within their communities, captured through the expressive medium of photographic printing.



## KENT TREE PLANTING SCHEME GARDENING CLUB

The Abbey Community have been continuing to support Kent County Council's initiative on tree planting, and we were visited by a member of the team to assess how well the saplings we had planted a few years ago were faring. Gardening club have been making sure that these are being looked after and have the best conditions to flourish.

We have 198 small saplings that we planted by the side of the field, that are very healthy and, as they are native tree species, they are bringing a range of biodiversity to the school site, as well as providing a screening from the A2. Some of our larger trees have also started to self-seed, in particular, Blackthorn, which is very beneficial to a range of butterflies and moths, as well as birds, when they produce berries.

In order to continue to enhance our beautiful site, we have applied for more free trees from the Woodland Trust, which we should receive in November. If any pupils would like to be involved in planting more trees, please contact Dr Moseley [amoseley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk](mailto:amoseley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)





# CANTEEN MENU 2025/26

Click the images below to view the canteen menu for Term 1 in September!



## ATTENDANCE REWARD TRIP

To celebrate our students' efforts this term, we were delighted to take a group of students to Wingham Wildlife Park as part of our Attendance Golden Tickets reward.

The students had a fantastic day exploring the park, learning about the animals, and enjoying time with their peers. They were an absolute credit to the school and their families—polite, engaged, and enthusiastic throughout the trip.

It was a real pleasure to accompany them, and they truly represented The Abbey School with pride and maturity. They were excellent ambassadors for our community.

We look forward to many more celebrations like this in the future—well done to all those who earned their Golden Tickets this term!



# ATTENDANCE

As we reach the end of the academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students at The Abbey School for their continued efforts with attendance. While overall attendance is not yet where we would ideally like it to be, we want to recognise the many students who have shown real commitment by making a conscious effort to attend regularly and improve their attendance throughout the year.

We would also like to remind parents and carers of the vital role that attendance plays in their child's education. Being in school every day is fundamental to a student's success. Quite simply, if students are not in school, they miss out on the learning and social experiences that are essential to their academic and personal development.

At The Abbey School, we are proud of the high-quality teaching and learning that takes place every day. We are confident that when students are in school and fully engaged in their lessons, they are receiving an outstanding education.

Thank you once again for your support, and we look forward to working together to continue improving attendance and ensuring every student reaches their full potential.

## Attendance Rewards

As part of our ongoing efforts to promote excellent attendance, students at The Abbey School receive an Attendance Golden Ticket for every full week they attend school. Each ticket is entered into a prize draw at the end of term, giving all students who show consistent attendance the opportunity to be recognised and rewarded.

This year, we've enhanced our rewards to make them even more exciting and meaningful. Our termly Attendance Golden Ticket draws have included fantastic prizes such as:

- Amazon gift vouchers
- 2 brand-new Nintendo Switch consoles
- A trip to the bowling alley
- 4 family cinema vouchers
- A visit to Wingham Wildlife Park

The students who have won these rewards or attended the trips have been thrilled and extremely proud of their achievements. These incentives are just one way we celebrate the effort and commitment our students show by being in school and making the most of their education.

We're proud of their dedication and look forward to continuing to celebrate excellent attendance across the school.

# 100%

## Attendance Rewards

This year at The Abbey School, we truly went all out to reward students who achieved 100% attendance and it became one of the most talked-about topics among both students and staff!

We wanted to offer prizes that would genuinely motivate and excite students, and we're proud to say the rewards did just that. The incredible prizes for our End of Year 100% Attendance Awards included:

- A brand-new PlayStation 5 console and game
- A brand-new Xbox console and game
- 2 brand-new laptops (exclusively for Year 11 students)
  - 2 additional brand-new laptops
  - 2 brand-new tablets
  - 2 brand-new smartwatches
  - A £100 restaurant voucher
- A £100 The Light Cinema voucher
  - A £50 restaurant voucher
- A £50 The Light Cinema voucher

The excitement around these prizes has been incredible and the excitement as the prize draw day edges closer has been infectious.

Looking ahead, we hope to offer similarly exciting rewards next year. So remember: if you aim for 100% attendance, you could be in with a chance to win big in 2026!

Let's make every day count!

## Attendance Expectations for the New Academic Year

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we want to remind parents and carers of the importance of regular attendance. Under current legislation, it is a legal requirement for children aged 5 to 16 to be in full-time education. At The Abbey School, we expect all students to aim for 100% attendance to ensure they receive the high-quality education they are entitled to.

We understand that certain medical appointments are sometimes unavoidable. However, we kindly ask parents and carers to make every effort to schedule these outside of school hours wherever possible, to minimise disruption to learning.

If a student's attendance begins to decline, we will work with families to provide support through an Education Support Plan (ESP). Our priority is always to help students get back on track with their attendance in a supportive and collaborative way.



However, if attendance continues to fall despite this support, we may need to refer the case to our KPAS Attendance Officer at Kent County Council (KCC). This can lead to formal attendance procedures being initiated, and in some cases, may result in legal action being taken.

We would also like to remind parents that holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any unauthorised term-time holidays will be referred to the Local Authority, and a Fixed Penalty Notice may be issued in line with national guidance.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day, ready to learn and to be the best they can be!



## PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS **CHANGING**

**THE FOLLOWING CHANGES COME INTO FORCE FOR PENALTY NOTICES FINES ISSUED AFTER 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024**

### **1 FIRST OFFENCE**

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or for irregular attendance, the amount payable will be:

**£160** per child, per parent. To be paid within 28 days. This can be reduced if to **£80** per child, per parent, if paid within 21 days.

### **2 SECOND OFFENCE** (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for term time leave or for irregular attendance, the amount payable will be:

**£160** per child, per parent. Again, this will be paid within 28 days. **There will be no option for a reduced rate.**

### **3 THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES** (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for term time leave or irregular attendance, a Penalty Notice will not be issued. Instead, this case will be presented straight to a magistrate's court.

Magistrate's fines can be up to a maximum of £2500 per parent, per child.

### **10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10 WEEK PERIOD**

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period

**Please follow the link below for the publication that will start from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024:**  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)

*Attendance*  
**OFFICE**  
EVERY DAY MATTERS

 **The Abbey**  
School



## During your summer break

As we come to the end of another academic year, we would like to wish all of our students and their families a happy, restful, and enjoyable summer break. You have all worked incredibly hard, and we hope you take this time to relax and recharge.

While we encourage rest and fun, it's also helpful to keep some routine in place over the summer. This will make the return to school in September much smoother. A few simple tips include:

- Encouraging your child to go to bed and wake up at a reasonable time
- Helping them maintain a balanced routine with time for reading, physical activity, and screen-free moments

We also recommend that you take a moment to note the staggered return dates for each year group, which can be found below:

- Year 7 and 12 return on 1st September.
- Year 7, 11, 12 and 13 on 2nd September.
- All year groups return on 3rd September

**School day begins at 8.30 with line up at 8.40!**

Thank you once again for your continued support this year. We look forward to welcoming students back in the new term, refreshed and ready to learn!

## Important Changes: Introducing Our New Attendance System – 'Attend'

As some of you may already be aware, from September we will be launching a new attendance monitoring system called 'Attend'. Initial information about this system was shared in a previous newsletter, and we will continue to provide more details as we begin using it in the new academic year.

At The Abbey School, we all share the same goal: to ensure the very best outcomes for our children. Attending school every day plays a vital role in achieving that. There is strong evidence linking good attendance with academic success, but school is also essential for helping students develop:

- Strong social skills
- A positive sense of well-being and routine





The new 'Attend' system will allow us to monitor attendance and punctuality more closely and communicate with you more regularly. This means you will receive more timely updates on your child's attendance patterns both successes and challenges.

From September, you'll be able to see:

- When your child's attendance is improving or declining
  - The number of lessons missed
- Which specific subjects were affected by absences

We believe this enhanced transparency will be a valuable tool in supporting your child's school journey and ensuring they get the most out of their education.

Thank you for your ongoing support we're excited about this improvement and the benefits it will bring for students and families alike.



## Attendance Pickup Service

This year, we introduced our **Attendance Pickup Service** to support students who experience difficulties attending school regularly. Initially **offered 3 days a week**, the service has helped many students get into school on time and ready to learn.

We're pleased to announce that, due to its success, the service will now be extended to **5 days a week**.

This support is currently available to students **who live locally in Faversham**, as this allows us to ensure punctual arrival for lessons. The service is just one of the many ways we're working to help every student succeed through improved attendance.

If you believe your child would benefit from the Attendance Pickup Service and you live in the Faversham area, please get in touch with:

**Miss Thomson – Attendance Manager**  
[lthomson@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk](mailto:lthomson@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk)

We'll be happy to discuss eligibility and how we can support your child in getting the most out of their school experience.



## Our Attendance Team

At The Abbey School, our Attendance Team is always here to support you and your child in maintaining strong and consistent school attendance. We understand that challenges can arise, and we're committed to working with families to provide the help and guidance needed.

If you feel your child would benefit from any additional support with their attendance, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We're here to help.

Our Attendance Team:

Miss Thomson – Attendance Manager  
[lthomson@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk](mailto:lthomson@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk)

Miss Streatfield – Attendance Officer  
[attendance@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk](mailto:attendance@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk)

Miss Rickard – Attendance Officer  
[attendance@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk](mailto:attendance@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk)

Whether it's advice, a conversation, or a plan of support—please reach out. Together, we can ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed through regular and meaningful school attendance.

*Attendance*  
**OFFICE**  
**EVERY DAY MATTERS**



## 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 its **not fair** for anyone to be allowed to deliberately make life miserable for others. **We will never tolerate nasty behaviour or bullying towards those in our school community.** Always ask an adult for help if you are being treated unkindly or if you feel frustrated about the ways others are treating you.

### 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 A2 and by looking up and checking the traffic for all other streets where there are no pedestrian crossing facilities

### 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 A2**, 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.



Please click on what year group you are in below to access all of the Knowledge Organisers for Term 6!

Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



# STARS OF THE YEAR

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



Henry A  
Year 9  
1482HP



Anna-Maria P  
Year 9  
1285HP



Evelyn T  
Year 7  
1415HP



Makayla O  
Year 9  
1584HP

## #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.





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“BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE”



**The Abbey**  
School