



Headteacher's Update

Be kind to one another, forgiving one another, as God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

18 November 2022

Key Message from Executive Headteacher

There were an awful lot of odd socks in school on Monday 14 November as students marked the start of Anti-Bullying Week with Odd Socks Day, which helped us as a school community raise awareness of the issue of bullying. It was the start of activities in school where we discussed how St Andrew the Apostle tackles bullying, as we are not naïve in thinking that it does not go on in our school.

We are always reassured, however, with what students tell us about how we support them when they confide in us when there is a concern. I believe our values-driven curriculum supports the caring attitudes we see each and every day in and around our school and helps reduce bullying.

Also, this week, our Year 11 students have just been tremendous; they have started their mock exams brilliantly. Four main things have stood out to us as a staff:

1. Year 11 students have been superb with the process of getting in and out of exams and adhering to all the rules and regulations that go with a formal exam series (I know this is expected, but it is still wonderful to see).
2. They have been great in exam briefings, soaking up that last few tips and reminders from their teachers.
3. In between their exams they have gone into lessons and just got on with working on key tasks to prepare for exams or learn content or apply skills.
4. And lastly, their mindset has just been phenomenal, really positive and focused. They are great role models to other students in the school. My challenge to them is to sustain the mindset and focus through-out this series of mocks (and beyond)!



St Andrew The Apostle
SIXTH FORM
Ever to Excel

We talk about a seven year/11-18 journey here at St Andrew and we hope that many of our Year 11 students will stay on into our sixth form, which is small but still has a wide offer. As well as this, the pastoral care is one of the main reasons that our student cite when we ask them why they stayed on with us to study A Levels or BTEC courses.

Being known and cared for at any transition stage in education is hugely important, none more so at Key Stage 5.

Our Sixth Form Open Event is on 8 December, and we look forward to seeing all parents of our Year 11 students at this event.

Our twilight training session on Cognitive Science for teaching/teaching support staff on Thursday after school was great; please see article below from Mrs Cooke, who shares what is working with your children/our learners.

Another busy, rainy week at St Andrew but a very rewarding one!

Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Upcoming key Dates and Information

- Monday 21 November – Y11 Mocks week
- Thursday 24 November – Year 12 Parents Evening
- Monday 28 November – Y13 Mocks Start
- Wednesday 30 November – St Andrew's Day
- Thursday 8 December – Sixth Form Open Event
- Friday 9 December – Christmas Dinner and Show
- Please [click here](#) to access term dates.
- Please [click here](#) to access school calendar for upcoming Term.
- Please [click here](#) to access previous editions of the Newsletters.

Faith- πίστη

The Feast of the Entrance into the Temple of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos

The Feast of the Entrance into the Temple of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on November 21 each year. The Feast commemorates when as a young child, the Virgin Mary entered the Temple in Jerusalem.

The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament; however, this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James

When Mary was three years old, Joachim and Anna decided that the time had come to fulfil their promise and to offer her to the Lord. Joachim gathered the young girls of the neighbourhood to form an escort, and he made them go in front of Mary, carrying torches. Captivated by the torches, the young child followed joyfully to the Temple, not once looking back at her parents nor weeping as she was parted from them.

The Holy Virgin ran toward the Temple, overtaking her attendant maidens and threw herself into the arms of the High Priest Zacharias, who was waiting for her at the gate of the Temple with the elders. Zacharias blessed her saying, "It is in you that He has glorified your name in every generation. It is in you that He will reveal the Redemption that He has prepared for His people in the last days."

Then, Zacharias brought the child into the Holy of Holies—a place where only the High Priest was permitted to enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. He placed her on the steps of the altar, and the grace of the Lord descended upon her. She arose and expressed her joy in a dance as wonder seized all who saw this happen.

The Virgin Mary dwelt in the Temple for nine years until, reaching an age for marriage, she was taken from the Temple by the priests and elders and entrusted to Joseph as the guardian of her virginity.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple signifies her total dedication to God and her readiness for her future vocation as the Mother of the Incarnate Lord. This is a feast of anticipation. As honour is shown to Mary, the faithful are called to look forward to the Incarnation of Christ, celebrated in a little more than a month by the Feast of the Nativity on December 25.



Icon depicting Our Holy Theotokos being received into the Temple by the High Priest Zacharias

Mr M Vassiliou (STA Spiritual Director)

Visit from Dr Ana Hastoy, University of Oxford

We were very fortunate to welcome Dr Ana Hastoy – Admissions and Access Manager at Christ Church, University of Oxford – on Tuesday 15 November. As our school Liaison and Outreach officer the purpose of her visit was to inspire our students about higher education, and it did just that!

Our Year 11 students were given an interactive presentation about their A level choices and super-curricular activities. Dr Hastoy emphasised the importance of avoiding putting pressure on themselves now about their future career, as different degrees will give them a range of skills and areas of knowledge. Did you know you don't have to study law to become a lawyer? Dr Hastoy encouraged students to consider choosing a degree they would enjoy above all and was impressed by the way they interacted with her.

Dr Hastoy encouraged students to think about the kind



of degrees people might have in a range of careers, such

as NHS, banking, weather forecasting and journalism management. Students were surprised to discover that any degree can lead to some of these careers, as the requirements are quite broad.

Dr Hastoy offered students some invaluable advice on choosing their A level subjects wisely, considering their future preferred university courses to make informed choices in the next few months. She also showed students how to look at entry requirements for specific courses, to be mindful of essential, recommended, and helpful A level subjects, and gave students advice on what to do in their spare time and super curricular activities to support their application.

Dr Hastoy commended our students on the quality of their questions, which she considered to be more advanced than she typically expects from Year 11. She gave them information usually reserved to Year 13, as she found their level of enquiry so advanced!

Following this incredibly helpful, insightful, and interactive session, Dr Hastoy worked with our 'early bird' applicants: these are our Year 13 students who applied to Oxford or to medicine for September 2023. These applications must be made by 15 October each year, unlike general applications which are due in January. Dr Hastoy read our students' personal statements and offered a workshop on interviews for university: they answered thought-provoking questions and exchanged on the topic on their personal statements in order to practice for their upcoming interviews. Students left feeling highly motivated, and with invaluable insight on how a panel of interviewers would interact.

Year 12 students were the last to have the opportunity to work with Dr Hastoy. They were very attentive to her advice on super curricular activities and on their personal statements. Dr Hastoy gave students personalised advice based on their choice of subjects and explained the difference between different types of universities and courses. She then shared an example of a personal statement, to deepen students' understanding on how to make theirs stand out. She also linked the importance of meaningful super-curricular activities when writing their personal statement and when attending interviews.

Dr Hastoy was impressed with our students and their ability to think beyond, and encouraged students to apply to the Horizons programme – more information is available here:

<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/admissions/christ-church-horizons>

Ms Fourcade (Head of sixth form)

Christmas Lunch and Other Christmas Festivities at St Andrew the Apostle School – 9 December 2022

We are pleased to inform you that the school Christmas Lunch is on Friday 9 December 2022. This is always a lovely event with the vast majority of our students choosing to take part. Please see menu below:



The price for the Christmas Lunch is £2.55. Please ensure that you have enough funds in your Parent Pay Account. Normal arrangements will apply to students receiving Free School Meals.

Due to the level of preparation, the lunch menu for the day will be limited to the Christmas Lunch. There will be no service at break time and there will be no cold lunch offer available. Students who do not wish to have Christmas lunch must bring a packed lunch on that day.

Please complete the survey below to inform us whether your child will be opting for a Christmas Lunch or a packed lunch, the submission deadline is Friday 25 November at 4pm.

[St Andrew the Apostle Christmas Lunch - 9 December 2022 \(office.com\)](https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/admissions/christ-church-horizons)

To add to the festive spirit, 9 December will also be Christmas Jumper Day. In addition to this, in the evening, we will host our annual Christmas Show. More details about these events will follow.

Additional May Bank Holiday – 8 May 2023

As you may be aware, the government has confirmed that there will be an additional bank holiday next year to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. The school will be honouring this bank holiday in line with other schools in the Trust and the local area, and therefore students will not be expected in on this date.

We recognise that the date of this bank holiday may be disruptive for Year 11 and Year 13 students who will be beginning their GCSEs and Post-16 exams later in May. Please be reassured that we will try to minimise any disruption to our GCSE students as a result of this additional holiday.

Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)

Rewards

Last week in the newsletter I outlined the stages that teachers follow when students don't quite get it right, and that we always aim to give students the opportunity to correct their behaviour.



We also use a related system to reward students when they **do** get it right. When students produce exceptional work or make a particular effort, we write their name on the board followed by a tick and give them an achievement point in the 'A' section of the board.

We then use these points to recognise all the students who get it right each and every day. For example, at the end of each term we produce certificates for the top five students in each form for the half term and present these in assembly, these students also have 'tea with the headteacher' at the end of each term. The form class in each year at the end of term also get to spend time with their form tutor playing games for one morning at the end of the term.



However, for all students we produce Bronze, when students reach 50 points, Silver, when students reach 100 points, and Gold badges, when students reach 150 points. These are presented to students in assembly, and they wear them with pride around school.

As we approach the middle of the second half term, there are many students who are getting close to receiving 50 points and we are looking forward to handing these out very soon.

Mr Martin (Deputy Headteacher)

Remembrance Day and Theme of this week



In last week's newsletter, Mr Walch (Head of History, Politics and Classics) explained how we marked Remembrance Day. St Andrew continued with the theme in our Collective Worship this week. The school value that we focused on this week was Respect and the bible quote was Philippians 2:33 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

Below are a couple of images captured while our students stood with each other to mark Remembrance Day with a 2 minutes' silence.

Our sixth formers in Building 4:

Student Council Reps meet the Catering Rep – Food for Thought!

Last week, the wonderful members of our large Student Council met with a representative from the catering company that supplies food and drink to the canteens of our school.

School Council reps had been asked to work with their forms to receive feedback on what they like about the food at school (variety, choice for example) at school and areas for development (such as free sauces, more choice of drinks and ensuring there is always enough food left for latecomers).



The representative from the catering company commented afterwards how helpful it was to speak to students and how important it is that students get to have a say in the offer of the canteens of their school.

Students also did some taste tests of food such as brownies, pesto pasta and mini sandwiches – an added bonus of being your form’s rep!



The Student Council is a real strength of the school – committed young people who want to make a difference to the daily lives of their peers, democratically elected by their forms. It is a pleasure to work with them. Next on the agenda... homework!

Ms Linden Cooke (Deputy Head)



Key Stage 3 students in Building 5.



Black History Month Assembly

Year 10 student and school council representative Pranit presented in the year ten assembly this week, the inspiration for this was Black History Month. The presentation imbedded all our school values, but particularly centred around the **care and respect** we show one another in



school. We are proud to be an inclusive school where students of all backgrounds feel safe and supported - assemblies like these allow students to share their role models, inspiration and give an insight into their backgrounds.

Ms Danielle Walt (Head of Year 9 & 10)

Cognitive Science Training

We followed up our September INSET on Cognitive Science this week with a training session for teaching staff on cognitive strategies they can use in their classrooms. Staff shared what is working well in their lessons with our students here at STA, such as chunking (breaking down the learning to make it more accessible and easier to remember) and retrieval practice (helping students to retrieve and recall learning so they retain it for longer).

This year, students have also had some training on how they learn, including a focus on the working memory and the long-term memory, cognitive overload and how to revise effectively.



Thank you to Mr Walch (pictured), Ms Laabaied, Ms Joseph and PE for their presentations.

Ms Linden Cooke (Deputy Head)

Year 9 Netball

The success of the year nine netball team continues. The girls played against The Compton School on 17 November, and started the game strong, stealing the lead within the first minute – they continued with the same determination, drive, and resilience, ending the match with a 12 – 3 win. The students demonstrate the school values consistently at fixtures and we are very proud of them for playing with such **fairness, respect, and responsibility**.



A special mention to our two year eight players, Elena B and Hana Z who played up a year and put on a stand-out performance! Well done ladies.

Girl of the Game: Jana B

Ms Danielle Walt (Head of Year 9 & 10)

Attendance



School attendance: what parents need to know

Why is good attendance important?

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school, and to establish positive life habits that are necessary for future success.

Through regular attendance, pupils can:

Build friendships and develop social groups.

Develop life skills.

Engage in essential learning and other school social events.

Achieve to their full potential.

Minimise the risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour and becoming victims or perpetrators of crime.

All parents should promote good attendance and work in partnership with their child's school to provide a cohesive approach.

What does the law say?

All children of compulsory school age – between 5-16 – must receive a suitable full-time education. As a parent, you are responsible for ensuring that this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making appropriate alternative arrangements.

Legal action can involve a penalty notice or being taken to court.

Parents also face the risk of imprisonment and parenting orders. Parenting orders involve attending a counselling and guidance programme, usually a parenting class.

A penalty notice of **£60** per adult per child may be issued as an alternative to prosecution, but this will rise to **£120** if it is not paid within 21 days. Failure to pay a penalty notice will usually lead to **prosecution**.



Can my child ever be absent?



When a pupil is absent from school, this will be classified as either **'authorised'** or **'unauthorised'**.

The governing board and headteacher decide which absences are granted as authorised. Authorised absences are only permitted for valid reasons, e.g.:

- Illness
- Medical or dental appointments
- Religious observances
- Family bereavement

Wherever possible, parents should always try to arrange medical and dental appointments during school holidays or after school hours.

Holidays during term time

- The school **cannot** authorise an absence for a holiday during term time.

- Taking holidays during term time means that pupils miss important school time – both educationally and for other school activities. It will be difficult for pupils to catch up on work when they return to school. Only in **exceptional circumstances** may a holiday be authorised during term time – this will be decided by the headteacher.
- **Exceptional circumstances do not involve cheaper costs, family availability or weather conditions.**
- You will be fined if you take your child on holiday during term time without permission from the headteacher. 



Requesting absences

All absences, including for holidays, must be requested as far in advance as possible – the minimum notice period is **20 days**. If you think your child needs to be taken out of school, you should discuss the reasons with the headteacher as soon as possible.

If the headteacher is satisfied with the evidence and the notice period, they will authorise the absence.

The headteacher will decide the amount of time a pupil can be away from school, taking into account their attendance record.

Requests **will not** be granted in the following circumstances:

- Immediately before or during assessment periods
- When a pupil's attendance record shows any unauthorised absence for any reason
- Where a pupil's authorised absence record is already above **10** percent, for any reason

Lateness and truancy

Class registers will be taken at **8.30am**. Children arriving between **8.30am** and **8.55am** will be marked late. Children arriving after **8.55am** will be marked **U**. This is an unauthorised absence.



Attendance matters!

Don't underestimate the **importance of 100 percent attendance**. **Even one day missed can have an effect on learning:**

- **98 percent attendance means four school days missed**
- **95 percent attendance means 10 school days missed**
- **90 percent attendance means 19 school days missed**

- **80 percent attendance means 38 school days missed**
- **Five minutes late each day means three school days missed**

If you have any queries regarding your child's attendance, please contact your child's head of year or email attendance@standrewtheapostle.org.uk

Our Code of Conduct

This is the Code of Conduct always defining the minimum expectations of students. All expectations come under three broad headings. They are supported by Character education and our values, *Respect, Responsibility, Caring, Fairness, Forgiveness, Honesty and Trustworthiness*.

RESPECTFUL

- Do as you are asked by all members of staff, first time without question.
- Listen to others, do not call out, and use appropriate language and tone.
- Be kind to each other and take care of the building, displays and equipment.

RESPONSIBLE

- Follow rules for health and safety, including walking on the left.
- Keep hands, feet, objects and personal comments to yourself.
- Be in the right place at the right time, and not unsupervised areas.
- Leave valuables at home; the school is not responsible for them.

READY

- Be punctual.
- Be in full school uniform, worn properly.
- Be silent when entering a classroom.
- All necessary equipment out on desk, and everything else away.
- Bags on the floor, coats on the chair.
- All headphones, phones and other electronic equipment off and out of sight – otherwise will be confiscated.
- No gum or food, or fluid other than water.

Safeguarding



Many students use WhatsApp despite there being a minimum age rating of 16. There are some inherent dangers to students using this including:

- Bullying, particularly in group chats
- Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
- Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- Spam or hoax messages
- Being exposed to strangers through group chats

Keep your child safe on WhatsApp

What are the risks?

- Bullying, particularly in group chats
 - Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
 - Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
 - Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
 - Spam or hoax messages
 - Being exposed to strangers through group chats
- WhatsApp says the **minimum age** to use it is **16**, but younger children can still use it easily.

6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

1. Keep their personal information and location private

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users.

Encourage your child to only share this information with their contacts and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp (the cog icon), then Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots in the top-right of the home screen, then > Settings > Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child

to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- On an **iPhone**, go to phone Settings (the cog icon) > WhatsApp > Location, and tap to change if you need to
- On **Android**, go to privacy settings as above, then scroll down to 'Live location', and tap to change if you need to

2. Remind your child to be careful about what they share

It's easy to forward messages, photos and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

3. Remind your child they can leave group chats

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit group
- On **Android**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit

4. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it.

If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported).

To do this:

- On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp, go to Account > Privacy > Blocked > Add New..., then find the contact they want to block, and tap the contact
- On **Android**, tap the 3 dots icon, then Settings, then tap Account > Privacy > Blocked contacts, tap the icon in the top right showing a person and a plus sign, search for the contact they want to block, then tap the contact to block them

To report issues like offensive or abusive content or spam:

- On an **iPhone**, open the chat with the user you want to report, tap the contact then then tap Report Contact > Report And Block
- On **Android**, open the chat with the user you want to report, then tap the 3 dots icon, then > More > Report

5. Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature
- Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords
- Ask them to forward the message
- Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp
- Have spelling or grammar errors

6. Tell our school about any bullying they experience

Look for signs they your child may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.

Sources used in this factsheet

- [Bullying and cyberbullying, NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/)
https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/
- [Help Centre, WhatsApp](https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US)
https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US

This factsheet was produced by [The Key Safeguarding](https://thekey.org.uk/): [thekeysupport.com/safeguarding](https://thekey.org.uk/)

Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs

PE extra-curricular clubs re-commence on Monday 7 November 2022.

Monday

Activity: All Years Dodgeball

Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 5 Hall

***Changing building 5 changing rooms.**

Tuesday

No clubs due to basketball and netball matches

Wednesday

Activity: All Years Girls Netball

Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 5 Playground

Change in building 5 changing rooms.*Thursday**

Activity: All Years Basketball

Time: 3.00pm-4.00pm

Venue: Building 4 and 5 Playground

***Change in building 5 changing rooms.**

Activity: All Years Dance

Time: 3.00pm-4.30pm

Venue: Building 5 Hall

***Change in building 5 changing rooms.**

Please note students do not wear PE kit to school on the day of clubs. If you do not have PE on the day of the club, but wish to attend, please bring PE kit to change into after-school. Full PE kit must be worn to after-school clubs. If you have PE lessons on the day of a chosen club, you will already be changed into full PE kit.

Mr Rob Browell (Head of PE)**STA School Fund**

Dear Parents/Carers,

In line with a number of other schools locally and across our Trust, we are running a school fund where members of our school community can donate to support the school and enhance our students' educational experiences.

Purpose of the fund

Donations will be used to supplement resources for those in need and to improve our learning environment. Funds will never be spent on core running costs (such as energy bills or salaries). Your donations will only ever be used to extend and improve the education and support we offer to our young people.

Donations will be used for the following:

ICT Equipment:

We would like to increase our ICT resources by providing high quality equipment in buildings 4 and 5.

Books for Library:

We are building up our library resources and would be pleased to receive either donations to purchase books or you may purchase a named book for our school from [our Amazon wish list](#). Please go to our school website under 'Support us' for further details.

Playground Equipment:

We would like to increase our provision of playground equipment for our students to use during break and lunchtime. This includes outdoor seating and furniture such as picnic tables.

Financial contributions

There is no pressure to contribute to the school financially. We are simply making the option available for those who wish to do so. A single donation of £5 is suggested but all donations regardless of size will be greatly appreciated and will make a difference. Please ensure that you tick the 'Gift Aid' box if you are eligible. Please be assured also that any regular donations are completely under your control and can be cancelled at

Anthony Easton (Executive Headteacher)**Flu vaccination campaign for years 7, 8 and 9**

The NHS has written to schools to update them on changes to the national flu vaccination programme. Please see the contents of their letter below:

We have recently been informed that the flu programme will now include the school years 7, 8 and 9 from September this year.

Early information from the flu season in Australia, shows flu has been circulating earlier than expected and has been affecting younger age groups, therefore DHSC has taken steps to include these age groups in the 2022/23 vaccination campaign. Sessions for flu vaccination have already been planned and confirmed for primary schools so providers will be working with you to arrange additional dates to ensure vaccination can be offered to your students. It is likely that this will be from November onward once additional vaccine supply is available.

We would be very grateful if you could remind parents that their children are entitled to free flu vaccination on the NHS. This vaccine will be provided by a school aged vaccination team that visits the school and is given as a nasal spray. This form of the vaccine is very easy to administer and is especially well suited to preventing onward spread of infection.

The vaccine protects the child against the four main strains of influenza predicted to be in circulation this winter. Young children catch influenza very easily.

Children can spread the infection for up to 7 days, which is longer than in adults, therefore vaccinating children reduces the risk of influenza for family members, teaching staff and other children.

In school, children will be mixing with large numbers of other children in a confined environment, which increases the risk of germs (virus and bacteria alike) spreading. Vaccination builds children's immunity to protect against illnesses.

Vaccines stop influenza germs being spread, thus protecting the very vulnerable children and those in the wider community who may not have, or may not be able to develop, immunity.

Public Health and Primary Care Commissioning NHS England (London Region)

Access Ashurst Programme

Applications are now open for our **Access Ashurst** programme – a paid work experience and skill development programme, aimed at increasing access to law, for Year 12 state school students.

Who is Ashurst?

[Ashurst](#) is a leading global law firm with a history spanning almost 200 years. Our London office is based near Liverpool Street Station in Spitalfields.

What's on offer?

A paid two-week legal placement from 24 July 2023 to 4 August 2023 and a mentoring and skill development programme throughout Year 13.

Who are we looking for?

Year 12 students interested in career in law.

Students must meet the criteria outlined by [Prime](#) (see attached).

Apply now!

Visit Ashurst's website to learn more about this opportunity and to apply:

<https://www.ashurst.com/en/careers/students-and-graduates/uk/work-experience/access-ashurst>

Deadline for applications is 16 January 2023 at midday.

Free Parents Career Guide

Careers advisors and teachers New 2022/23 FREE Parents Careers Guides



We are delighted to announce that our brand new 2022/23 Parents guides to University, Apprenticeships and STEM are now available.

What can you expect from our parents' guides? This year's Parents University and Apprenticeship Guides will be our third edition and have been designed to help parents support their children in making informed decisions about their future and developing skills to help them succeed.

Apprenticeships Guide

Parents will benefit from content on topics including:

- Introduction to apprenticeships and sectors
- How to find the right apprenticeship
- Pathways into work, including T-levels, apprenticeships, and university
- How you can support your child in deciding if an apprenticeship is right for them
- Apprenticeships vs. university
- Degree apprenticeships
- Opportunities available across 15 different sectors

PLUS, interviews and guest content from a diverse range of organisations including National Audit Office, Bristows LLP, Royal Horticultural Society, Morgan Stanley, British Horseracing Authority

University Guide

- How to apply to university and a guide to UCAS
- Personal statements and how to stand out from the crowd
- Student finance
- Alternatives to going to university
- Placement years at university

Pros and cons of going to university

- PLUS interviews and guest content from universities including Reading University, Liverpool University, Bournemouth University, South Wales University and Exeter University.

Bonus STEM Guide

This year's guide explores 10 different STEM subjects to help young people to understand more about careers in the field along with profiles on how each subject can help tackle an environmental challenge. This comprehensive guide has been designed to showcase just how creative, exciting and rewarding a career in STEM can be.

Best regards,

Success at School
124 Chatsworth Road
London, NW2 5QU

Mental Health Crisis Helpline – Reminder



If you're in crisis and need to talk right now, there are many helplines staffed by trained people ready to listen. They won't judge you and could help you make sense of what you're feeling.

- [Samaritans](#). To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact them 24 hours a

day, 365 days a year. You can call [116 123](tel:116123) (free from any phone)

- [SANeline](#). If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call
- [National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK](#). Offers a supportive listening service to anyone with thoughts of suicide. You can call them on 0800 689 5652 (open 24/7).
- [CALM](#). You can call them on 0800 58 58 58 (5pm–midnight every day) if you are struggling and need to talk. Or if you prefer not to speak on the phone, you could try the [CALM webchat service](#).
- [Papyrus HOPELINEUK](#). If you're struggling with suicidal feelings, or concerned about a young person who might be struggling, you can call on 0800 068

Please [click here](#) to access helpful advice and support from the **NHS for teenagers and young adults** who need support with their mental health and are coping with bereavement.

[Shout 85258](#)- a free, confidential, 24/7 text-messaging support service for young people.

Support for Parents and Carers- advice and support for you if you're worried about a child or young person.

[Young Mind's Parent Helpline and Webchat](#)

Reminder: During school, students needing emotional support can talk to their Form Tutors and their Head of Year. The following members of staff are also available:

- **Mr C Martin, Deputy Headteacher (DSL*)**
- **Mrs L Cooke, Deputy Headteacher (DDSL*)**
- **Ms D Moustaka (Safeguarding & Inclusion Manager)**
- **Mr N Anemouri (Pastoral Support Officer)**
- **Ms Linden Cooke (Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Officer)**

*DSL is the Designated Safeguarding lead.

*DDSL is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead

These open days provide a fantastic opportunity for prospective applicants to visit departments, colleges, meet current students, as well as tutors.

For more information about [admissions](#) and [open days](#). For any students for whom the cost of travelling to Oxford for the Open Days would be a barrier, please contact access@chch.ox.ac.uk to get support.

[Childline](#) – a free, private, and confidential service available for all young people. This can be found on ParentPay as we are a cashless school.

Please note that students should wear their normal school uniform, but are permitted to wear an additional

colourful accessory; for example, colourful socks, hair accessories etc.

If you have any questions or would like to offer additional support, please contact Mrs Hammond, Assistant Head or myself, Ms Moustaka, Safeguarding and Inclusion Case Manager.

Solutions 4 Health New Free Apps

BREAKING NEWS: 2 x NEW FREE APPS Available from Solutions 4 Health

- Camp Island (5 – 10 years)
- Become Your Best Self (11 – 17 years)

Interactive and engaging apps supporting healthy and positive lifestyle choices.

The apps are free to access in Barnet as long as the user allows the location permission that pops up.

Please share far and wide..... And enjoy playing



Bromcom Student Portal Issue



There is a known national issue with the Student Portal website and the Bromcom service team are working on this. The Student Portal app remains unaffected and accessible for homework assignments.

The Student Portal app can be downloaded on all Smart Devices through the App Store or Google Play Store.