



Weekly Family Update - 11.09.26

Tip: to quickly navigate this online Update, try using the icon on the bottom right of your page that will turn this into a quick-access contents page.

Headteacher's Update: Keeping You Informed About What Matters Most

A very warm welcome back to Abbey College.

As part of our school community, you play an important role in helping our young people succeed. This weekly bulletin helps us stay connected as we work together to support more than 1,100 families.

I would like to begin by congratulating our Year 11 and Year 13 students on their excellent examination results. We are incredibly proud of what they have achieved. Three quarters of our Year 13 students have secured places at university, 22% have moved into apprenticeships, and others have taken exciting steps into employment. Their success reflects their hard work, determination, and resilience.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff. They give so much of their time and energy to support our young people, often going above and beyond to help them achieve their best.

Today's Weekly Update shares useful updates for parents and carers about the academic year ahead. Please take this opportunity to mark your diaries and explore the signposts to support on our [website](#).

It's great to get a new school year underway. Come with us! You are welcome!

Stay Informed:

- *Key dates: Check the school calendar [here](#).*
- ***Tuesday 29th September 1pm finish:*** *We are hosting our annual open evening for prospective Year 6 students on Tuesday 29th September. In order for us to prepare the site for this event, **students will be dismissed at 1pm** and the buses will depart shortly afterwards.*

- **Coats:** As our building works continue, indoor space for students at break and lunchtime is currently limited. To help ensure your child remains comfortable throughout the school day, we ask that they bring a suitable coat to school whenever wet weather is forecast.

Communication with School:

- *First Contact: Reach out to your child's tutor first for any queries.*
- *Email is preferred for contact. Please only call the main Reception number in an emergency or if a situation cannot wait, for example, change of travel plans for your child.*
- *Staff are expected to respond in a timely manner (see [Communications Flowchart](#) at the bottom of this Update). Should you email a member of staff and not receive a response within the timeframe specified (except for part-time colleagues), please use the Parent Forum Guarantee, and I will follow this up.*

Parent Forum Guarantee:

The Parent Forum Guarantee gives all parents the right to speak directly to the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher, within 24 hours, if you feel your question has not been answered by those you have already contacted.

- *Call: 01487 812352 and quote the Parent Forum Guarantee.*
- *Email: office@abbey.college using the subject header 'Parent Forum Guarantee.'*

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Parent Forum Guarantee:

*The Parent Forum Guarantee gives all parents the right to speak directly to the **Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher**, within 24 hours, if you feel your question has not been answered by those you have already contacted.*

- **Call:** 01487 812352 and quote the Parent Forum Guarantee.
- **Email:** office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk using the subject header "Parent Forum Guarantee."

Please read on for essential updates.

Vacancies at Abbey College and across the Meridian Trust

Click here: <https://www.abbey.college/vacancies>

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition



Headteacher Commendations w/c 07/09/26

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's Commendations this week for going above and beyond in an area of school life. They will receive 10 Spirit points and a special postcard home.

Scarlett	Year 7	Drama	For going above and beyond after only her first lesson! Making an incredible set design-well done!
Krystiana	Year 7	Drama	For going above and beyond after only her first lesson! Making an incredible set design-well done!
Oree	Year 8	English	For an exceptionally strong start to year 8 English!
Grace	Year 9	PE	For showing great commitment to Netball OOPs- your efforts and attendance don't go unmissed!
Becca	Year 8	PE	For showing great commitment to Netball OOPs- your efforts and attendance don't go unmissed!
George	Year 11	English	Evidence of strong revision for 'An Inspector Calls'. You quotation recall task shows how much work you've put in - well done!
Matilda	Year 11	English	Evidence of strong revision for 'An Inspector Calls'. You quotation recall task shows how much work you've put in - well done!
Olivia	Year 11	English	Evidence of strong revision for 'An Inspector Calls'. You quotation recall task shows how much work you've put in - well done!
Jessica	Year 11	English	Evidence of strong revision for 'An Inspector Calls'. You quotation recall task shows how much work you've put in - well done!
Megan	Year 11	English	Evidence of strong revision for 'An Inspector Calls'. You quotation recall task shows how much work you've put in - well done!
Jayden	Year 11		Supporting a vulnerable member of the public ensuring he got home safely
Ava	Year 8	Science	Ava consistently demonstrates outstanding effort and dedication in every Science lesson. They approach all tasks with a positive attitude, work hard to achieve their best, and show a genuine commitment to their learning. Their enthusiasm, resilience, and willingness to contribute make them an excellent role model for others in the class

Staff member of the week

Ms Bennett – Passion: There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes over the Summer from exam results for our leavers to making arrangements for our new intake. You always put the students first and try and do what is best for them and that is appreciated by all of us!

Tell us about something brilliant!

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award for any out of school success stories, then please follow this [link](#) or email the Office office@abbey.college.

Strong Partnerships

Parent's Forum

- Please email ParentsForum@abbey.college any questions.
- Please find our minutes [here](#):



<https://www.abbey.college/parents-forum>

- If you would like further information on the Parent's Forum, please email: ParentsForum@abbey.college

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

Up to date details

Please ensure that your contact details are kept up to date on MCAS (MyChildAtSchool). Having the correct information helps us contact you quickly if needed and ensures you receive important school communications.

*You can update your details yourself at any time through the MCAS app or website. Alternatively, if you need assistance, please email **office@abbey.college** with your updated information.*

Diary Dates

Tuesday 22 nd September	Y11 Planning for Success Event/Sixth Form Open Evening/Careers Fair 5-7.30pm
Tuesday 29 th September	Y6 Open Evening - School closes at 1pm for
Friday 9 th October	Y10/11 Peterborough College assemblies
Wednesday 21 st October	Y9 Royal Navy Event
Friday 23 rd October	INSET Day – School Closed to Students
Monday 26 th -Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	INSET Day – School Closed to Students
Tuesday 10 th November	Y8 Parents Evening
Tuesday 8 th December	Y11 Parents Evening
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn Term

Everything You Need to Know About Assessments

Autumn 1 Assessment Information for Parents

Year group	When will my child be assessed?	When will reports be published on MCAS?	What information will I receive?
7	- Reading tests in English lessons (from 21st Sept) - CAT4 (Reasoning) baseline testing (16th/17th Sept)	Half term 2	- Reading proficiency report - CAT4 report (reasoning abilities)
8	In class (from 5th October)		
9	No formal subject assessments this half term	KS4 entry report: 7 th Oct	- Spirit grade - Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers. - Minimum target grade (MTG) for each subject
10	In class (from 12th October)	18 th Nov	- Spirit - GCSE predicted grade (ECP) - GCSE minimum target grade (MTG)
11	No formal assessments this half term	16 th Sept	- GCSE predicted grade (ECP) - GCSE minimum target grades (MTG)
12	One month tests: 5th Oct – 16th Oct	7 th Oct	- Target grade - Any one-month test concerns will be raised individually
13	No formal assessments this half term	30 th Sept	- Spirit - Predicted grade (based on end of y12 and early y13 testing) - Target grade

Please note that this table details the formal assessments that will be taking place this half term. Your child will complete topic tests across their range of subjects as they reach the end of a unit of work. Where students are required to prepare for these, details will be shared via Teams.

ECP – The grade that the class teacher believes your child will achieve by the end of their GCSE/BTEC course in year 11

MTG – The target grade that your child should achieve if they make good progress (based on their SATs and year 7 baseline data)

Ensuring Pupils Feel Safe and Behave Well

Safety First

This week students considered how their everyday choices influence future opportunities. Discussions focused on making positive decisions, resisting peer pressure, acting responsibly online and offline, and seeking help from trusted adults when something feels wrong.

Students were reminded that future education providers and employers value reliability, respect, good conduct and attendance. We also discussed how risky behaviours such as vaping, substance misuse, antisocial behaviour and unsafe online activity can negatively affect wellbeing and future aspirations.

Useful Resources

- YoungMinds: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent>
- NHS Every Mind Matters: <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters>
- Family Lives: <https://www.familylives.org.uk>

If you need support or have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or safety, please contact welfare@abbey.college. We are here to help.

Promoting Positive Behaviour Every Day

Student attendance

Week 1 – Life Chances

Your attendance today shapes your future.

Every lesson you attend builds skills, confidence, and opportunities for later life—whether that's college, apprenticeships, or careers.

Turn up, stay focused, and keep your options open.

Ms Davis – Attendance Officer

Supporting Your Child's Wider Development

Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Autumn Term

Staff are in the process of putting the Autumn term calendar together. Watch this space for announcements of our amazing offer!



LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Supporting learning, personal development and wellbeing through opportunities beyond lessons.



Student curriculum

How can I find out what my child is learning in each subject?

To find out about your child's curriculums, please look at the subjects under the 'Abbey College Life' tab of the [website](#).

Communicating with us and raising concerns

[Click here](#) to access this Communication Flowchart on our website.

Parent Friendly Policy Guide:

<https://www.abbey.college/key-policies--reports>

Other news updates can be found here:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbey.college/school-communications>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/