

Weekly Family Update – 19.09.25

Please read, share, and encourage others to do the same.



A Brilliant Start to the New School Year

Students have settled in beautifully, engaging not only in their lessons but also in the wide range of opportunities available beyond the classroom. One lovely moment this week was the individual school photographs, students looked exceptionally well-presented across all year groups.

Offer and Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Now live on MCAS

We're excited to share that the majority of our Offer and Opportunity Programme (OOPs) is now available to browse and sign up for via MCAS, with even more clubs and activities to be added soon, as staff finalise their plans - including some wonderfully creative and unexpected options!

Students are encouraged to sign up for at least one activity this weekend, and of course, they're welcome to choose more than one. These extracurricular opportunities are a vibrant and essential part of life at AC, reflecting the values we hold dear - humility, intuition and passion.

From sports and music to drama, debating, and a wide range of interest-based clubs, there's something for every student to enjoy and grow through. These experiences help build vital life skills such as teamwork, resilience, creativity, communication, independence, and leadership - all of which support personal development and academic success.

This year, we're also placing a strong emphasis on using feedback to develop pupil independence in learning. It's a key focus across our teaching and learning strategy, and staff are already engaged in professional development to support this work. We look forward to sharing updates with you as the year progresses.

Thank you for your continued support — it truly helps us create the best possible environment for your child to thrive.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Important Notice: Booths Hill Works Starting 7th October

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have asked us to communicate that construction work will be undertaken at Booths Hill (entrance to Abbey Road) clearing the site and restoring the moat to enhance the natural beauty of the area.

Please be aware that there may be some impact on the pathway during this time. Staff will be on duty at the end of the school day to support and ensure safety.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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.'

Parent Friendly Policy Guide:

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/statutory-information>

Please read on for essential updates.

Vacancies at Abbey College

Click here: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/vacancies>



Celebration of Spirit - Recognition

Headteacher Commendations w/c 15/09/24

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's Commendations this week. They will receive 10 Spirit points and a special postcard home.

Kelsey	Year 8	Resilience	Bravery and courage to solve the problem.
Amelia	Year 12	English	Fantastic standard of English summer work - well done!
Sam	Year 12	English	Fantastic standard of English summer work - well done!
Elizabeth	Year 12	English	Fantastic standard of English summer work - well done!
Vivien	Year 12	English	Fantastic standard of English summer work - well done!
Lily	Year 12	English	Fantastic standard of English summer work - well done!
James	Year 7	N/A	For consistently giving his best and actively participating in lessons since the start of his Abbey College journey.
Maia	Year 7	N/A	Showing great strength during her transition, growing in confidence each day, well done, Maia.
Maksims	Year 11	Computer Science	For excellent effort
Maisie	Year 7	N/A	Consistently giving her best and actively participating in lessons since the start of her Abbey College journey.
Isaac	Year 8	Transition to year 8	Positive, helpful and energetic attitude.
Josie	Year 8	Transition to year 8	Positive attitude and great partner work during lessons.
Layla	Year 10	Form time	Excellent resources created for the Year 10 Summer tasks
Scarlett	Year 8	TA	Resilience and great adaptation of the new year group
Emily	Year 11	English Literature	<u>Well</u> done on your absolutely outstanding English Literature 'Stepping Up' tasks from this summer. Your dedication to your revision is both impressive and admirable! Keep it up.
Jack	Year 10	Form time	Making a great start to the year
Elliott	Year 7	Welfare	For tirelessly supporting a peer that was struggling
Josh	Year 7	Welfare	For tirelessly supporting a peer who was struggling

Staff member of the week

Mrs Miles-Butler - Passion: For being such a positive member of staff, always doing the most you can possibly do for students, parents and staff, and doing so with a smile on your face.

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.

Parent information

Parent's Forum



*The next Parent's Forum meeting is on **2nd October**, 5-6pm on Teams. Items on the agenda are:*

- 1. Year 7 transition – Fiona Lane*
 - 2. Behaviour: Rewards and Ethos - Sarah Noble*
 - 3. Parent's Forum Role - Genevieve Wardle*
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Please complete the Parent's Forum Questionnaire [here](#) to tell us your views on the above items or to raise any items you would like discussing. Staff will be asked to respond either directly or via the Parent's Forum meeting.

The survey will close on Thursday 25th September at 9am.

Please email ParentsForum@abbey.college if you would like a link to the meeting.

Please find our minutes here: [Parent Forum - Abbey College, Secondary School and Sixth Form in Ramsey](#)

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

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

Parent Diary Dates

You are Invited: Year 11 Preparing for Success Evening

 Tuesday, 23rd September

Join us for an informative and supportive evening designed to help you guide your child through this important year. We'll share key information, practical strategies, and expert advice to help your child thrive in Year 11.

 Reserve your place [here](#).

We look forward to welcoming you.

Upcoming INSET Days – A Focus on Growth and Excellence

We'd like to give families advance notice of two upcoming INSET days this term. These are valuable opportunities for our staff to engage in high-quality professional development that directly benefits our students.

Monday 3rd November 2025

- Focus: *Meridian Trust-wide Subject Input Day*. Our teachers will be working collaboratively across the Trust to deepen subject expertise and share best practices, ensuring a rich and consistent learning experience for all pupils.

Friday 28th November 2025

- Focus: *Staff Professional Learning on Special Educational Needs*. This day is dedicated to enhancing our understanding and support for students with additional needs, helping us to create an even more inclusive and supportive school environment.

We appreciate your support as we invest in the ongoing development of our staff — because great teaching makes a great difference.

Tuesday 23 rd September	Y11 Planning for Success Evening/Careers Fair
Tuesday 23 rd and Wednesday 24 th September	Y11 Geography Trip
Tuesday 30 th September	Y6 and Sixth Form Open Evening
Tuesday 30 th September	Y10/11 Sports Studies Trip
Thursday 2 nd October	Parent's Forum Meeting 5-6pm online
Friday 3 rd October	Y11 Apprenticeship/T Level Webinar
Friday 10 th October	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 15 th and Friday 17 th October	CRC Apprenticeship Presentations
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October	Half Term
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th November	Y13 Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 28 th November	INSET Day
Monday 1 st December	Y12 Parliament Trip
Tuesday 9 th December	Y11 Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of Term

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading tests in English lessons (10th- 19th Sept) English, Maths, Science and Reasoning baseline tests (22nd-26th Sept) 	Half term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading proficiency report English baseline report Maths baseline report Science baseline report CAT4 report (reasoning abilities)
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 		
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal subject assessments this half term Reading tests in English lessons (w/c 22nd Sept) 	KS4 entry report: 10 th Oct Reading: Half Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit grade Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers. Reading proficiency report
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class: 22nd Sept – 4th Oct Not all subjects will assess during this window, details will be shared in advance via Teams for each class 	10 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current grade (based on end of y9 and early y10 testing) GCSE target grade
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 	19 th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit GCSE predicted grade GCSE target grades
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-month tests: 22nd Sept – 4th Oct 	17 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current grade Target grades Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 	3 rd Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current 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.

Student expectations and safety

Student welfare and wellbeing

Supporting Students in Sharing Worries

This week, students have been learning how to share their worries with trusted adults at school. At home, you can support this by encouraging your child to express their concerns - whether that's through writing a note, sending a message, or simply asking for help. Remind them that it's always okay to speak up and that you're there to listen without judgment.

Helpful Resources for Parents and Students:

- Abbey College Welfare Team - Reach out at: welfare@abbey.college

- **Relate - Guidance on Setting Boundaries for Teenagers**
<https://www.relate.org.uk/get-help/setting-boundaries-teenagers>
- [Problems at school | How To Deal With Problems At School | YoungMinds](#)

Student attendance - Week 1

- **Congratulations:** All the students who still have 100% attendance, what a great start!

Student wider personal development

Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Autumn Term

The Abbey College Offer & Opportunity Programme is being launched again for 2025-2026. We had a fantastic previous year with over 100 offers running throughout the year across academic support and revision sessions, to creative outlets and variety of sports. This year we are seeing a new connection with Ramsey Walled Garden, new sports and more creative opportunities.



THE ABBEY COLLEGE OOP

STEP IN. STAND OUT. BELONG HERE.



WHAT IS AN OOP?

THE OOP IS OUR OFFER AND OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME. IT IS A WHOLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS THAT RUNS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS. OOPS RUN DURING BOTH LUNCHTIME AND AFTERSCHOOL.



IT HAS A HUGE VARIETY TO CHOOSE FROM, WITH 'OPEN' OFFERS WHICH ANYONE CAN SIGN UP TO OR 'APPLICATION' BASED OFFERS. ALL OF THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE OOPS ARE AVAILABLE ON BROMCOM UNDER THE 'CLUBS' TAB.

WHY SHOULD I DO AN OOP?

BEING A PART OF THE ABBEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY GIVES YOU LOTS OF NEW EXPERIENCES AND CAN HELP IGNITE NEW PASSIONS AND INTERESTS
TRY SOMETHING NEW!



HOW DO I SIGN UP?

YOU ACCESS MCAS AND FIND THE 'CLUBS' TAB. THERE YOU WILL SEE WHAT OOPS ARE AVAILABLE AND SIGN UP TO YOUR OFFER.

WHEN CAN I SIGN UP?

THE OOPS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON MCAS FROM MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER. THESE WILL BE UPDATED REGULARLY SO MAKE SURE YOU CHECK FOR ALL OUR EXCITING OOPS!

Student curriculum

Abbey College Curriculum Aims



	<p>The curriculum provides a clear programme of understanding to a range of diverse cultures and religions.</p>
	<p>To have a challenging and aspirational curriculum that provides opportunities to ensure no learner is left behind.</p>
	<p>All learners will receive a wide and fulfilling educational experience.</p>

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

Curriculums

All taught curriculums are available to view on our website. You'll find a variety of resources, including learning journeys and knowledge organisers—particularly useful for revision. Over the coming year, I'll be highlighting each curriculum and its key features. For now, it's worth taking a moment to familiarise yourself with what's available.

- Click here <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum> to read about the curriculums we offer.

Communicating with us and how to raise concerns.

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

Other news updates can be found here:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/news/letters-to-parents>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AbbeyCollegeAC>