

# Nobel News

18th July 2025  
Edition 13.17



## From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the last 12 years I have written to you over 200 times. This is my very last Nobel News and that makes me very sad, Nobel is a wonderful community, and I have always appreciated the support you as parents have given to me and the school, I shall miss it enormously but I know that Ms Phagura will be an excellent successor and I look forward to hearing that the school is going from strength to strength. As this is my last chance to write to you, I should like to share with you some of the progress we have made over the last 12 years.

When I started back in September 2013 there was much to do. Staff morale was low, senior staff had been through the wringer and there was much underachievement in the student body. But there was a strong sense of community and children were very well looked after, the connectivity in the school was tangible; both staff and students were proud to work at Nobel.

Progress and success are always linked to good teams. Year teams, subject teams, the support staff and vitally a dedicated, hardworking and innovative senior team. When I started, we needed to overhaul the quality of the teaching staff, children are inspired by lots of things, but clever teachers are vital. This was an evolutionary process that continues, suffice to say, this current staff is the best we have ever had, nearly all of them with good degrees in the subject they teach. The work we have done on character development and the notion that our students will get the job, not only because they have great qualifications, but also because they have first class inter-personal skills. If you were to ask any student what it means to be a Nobelian they would be able to articulate kindness, empathy, compassion, curiosity and ambition among other of our virtues, I am prouder of this than anything else we have achieved over the last twelve years. To be a Nobelian is now something special.

Combine these factors together and it clearly explains why our reputation in the county has changed fundamentally.

Nobel is a solidly very good/outstanding school that 'punches well above its weight'

Back in 2013 the school was relieved to be RI (Requires Improvement) since then we were deemed to be Ofsted good in 2014, 2018 and 2023 (June) The last one would undoubtedly have been 'outstanding' had our 2023 examination results been available. This has been a miraculous change of fortune for the school.

At the same time, we have moved the school outcomes that were at best average to outstanding; progress 8 scores in 2023 and 2024 that were in top 18% of schools nationally. A remarkable feat achieved with hard work and dedication from a wonderful staff, led by excellent heads of subject, year groups and fantastic senior colleagues. Leading this staff has been humbling, everything I have asked of them they have done with a smile. This was most prevalent during the Covid months when, from scratch, staff worked tirelessly to produce booklets that students could use in conjunction with on-line lessons for every period, every day. Attendance at these lessons reached 98%. I remember vividly the teamwork as booklets were copied, stapled and given to students, they were very dark times, but the professionalism and kindness was palpable.

This journey has resulted in Nobel being the most popular school on first choices in north Hertfordshire for September 2025 entry. On this year's admission figures Nobel had 33% more first choices than places. At Hitchin Girls' and Boys' Schools, this figure was 30%, in Stevenage the next most popular was Marriotts where they were over by 19% closely followed by JHN at 17% Knights Templar's figure was 4%. All the other secondary schools in north Hertfordshire were under-subscribed on first choices. This popularity has been hard won.

In conclusion, my time at Nobel is incredibly precious to me. I have worked with some of the very best teachers and met some incredible children, from those who, against the odds, gained places at esteemed Oxbridge Colleges to those that have suffered great setbacks in their lives but still manage to attend regularly. It has been wonderful; I shall miss it but wish the new head every success in the future.

**Kind Regards**  
**Marty Henson**

# School Uniform

As we approach the end of the academic year, I am writing to remind you about our uniform expectations so that you can make sure your child is fully prepared for the start of the new school year in September.

Our uniform is an important part of our school culture, and we expect all students to follow the policy. You can find the full uniform guidelines on our school website: <https://thenobelschool.org/about-the-school/uniform/>

Below are some key points to be aware of:

●**Footwear:** Students must wear black school shoes, usually made of leather. Trainers, high-ankle boots, or canvas/woven materials are not allowed. Shoes should be worn with plain black or blue socks — **white socks are not permitted**.

●**Jewellery:** Only small, plain studs or sleepers (one per ear) and a watch are allowed. Large hoops, stretchers, or dangling earrings are not permitted. Students may be asked to remove or cover jewellery for safety.

●**Make-up:** Make-up must be minimal and discreet and false eyelashes are not permitted to be worn. Students should not need to top up or reapply during the school day. **False or acrylic nails are not allowed** for safety reasons.

**Uniform:** shirts should be tucked in at all times and top buttons done up with ties displaying a minimum of 6 stripes.

Please note that **trainers are not acceptable** as school shoes, even if retailers label them as “school shoes.” If you’re unsure whether a pair of shoes is suitable, you can take a photo (see example opposite) and contact your child’s Head of Year before buying them — they will be happy to help.

Guidance on acceptable school shoes



Guidance on unacceptable footwear for school



If you need support with school uniform, please don’t hesitate to contact us via your child’s Head of Year. We will do our best to help. Students who arrive in September without the correct uniform will be given clean and freshly laundered alternative items to wear. We rely on your support to avoid unnecessary conflict around uniform issues.

If you have any questions about this information, please get in touch with your child’s Head of Year.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr C Swendell**  
**Assistant Headteacher**

# Nobel Formal Awards Ceremony 2025

On the evening of Monday 7 July, we held our 4th annual end of year awards ceremony at the Gordon Craig Theatre. It was another roaring success with 192 students recognised for going above and beyond both in regard to their progress in lessons and displaying exceptional character. The awards were accompanied by a moving piano recital by Adewale Adekanye in Year 8, a mesmerising dance performance by Rose Beech and Kayleigh Abrey in Year 10, and a flawless saxophone piece by Harry Mumford in Year 11.



This year our keynote speaker was Paul Rose, a managing director; leading strategy, operations, and growth of high-end AV, IT, and smart technology solutions. Paul, whilst a former Nobelian in his own rite, is also the son of the school's first and longest serving Head Teacher Leslie Rose. Paul engaged our students by sharing his story and giving advice that he wished he had been given when he was their age to 'say yes to everything' and to make the most of every opportunity that comes their way. We are very grateful that he was able to attend.

There were 174 awards for all subject areas and 14 for students displaying exceptional character in their year groups.

**Zara Barringer** in Year 11 was presented with the award for **Outstanding Sportsperson of the Year** for her overall involvement in many of the school's sports teams during her 5 years at the school, but particularly for her commitment, perseverance and dedication to Rugby and improving her game. She has been accepted into Loughborough College, Oaklands College (which has a strong partnership with Saracens Rugby Club through the academy) and Gloucester Hartpury Rugby Academy and College to study Sports and Exercise Science with the proviso of a position in the DISE (Diploma in Sporting Excellence.)



**Rose Beech** in Year 10 was the first recipient of our **Rebecca Llewellyn Award for Services to the Performing Arts** for her dedication to all things performance, including her involvement in numerous school productions; music concerts, dance shows, pantomimes and musicals. Rose has blossomed into a polished, poised and accomplished dancer, has gone out of her way to support the dance department and has attended every club run by the dance department, not only performing, but also acting as a role model to the younger years.



**Tyler Reade** in Year 11 was awarded the **Governors' Award for Outstanding Nobelian Character**. He has formed very positive and powerful relationships with staff and other students at Nobel. He is known for his genuine kindness, caring nature and incredible sense of humour. Tyler doesn't leave the building until he has made as many people as possible smile. When asked what he thinks other people would say his best qualities were (and we agree) he replied: 'being hard working, kind, polite and caring. I always try 100%'. There has never been a lesson, club, or even conversation that Tyler did not want to try his hardest.



**Ana Maria Gavirliuc** in Year 13 was presented with our most prestigious award of **Nobelian of the Year**. She has a phenomenal work ethic and has always strived to achieve her absolute best. Ana's success is not defined by her academic excellence alone, she is an exceptional role model for the younger years. She has consistently demonstrated the most important of the Nobelian character virtues, kindness, in everything she does and has dedicated countless hours of her own time to supporting school clubs and activities. Throughout her time at Nobel, she has been recognised time and again for her outstanding behaviour and exemplifies what it means to be a Nobelian.

We could not be prouder of all our Nobelians and were extremely pleased that so many parents and carers were able to share the evening with us. The young people who received awards are a credit to the school, to their families, and are true Nobelians in every aspect. Photos of the winners appear over the next few pages and a full list of all award winners is included at the end of this publication.



**Mr N Brown**  
**Assistant Headteacher**





















## FONS News

FON's would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in our events during this school year.

We look forward to the new school year and raising more money to benefit the pupils of Nobel.

Upcoming dates:

**Thursday 4 September** - New year 7 parents' coffee morning after drop off

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September** - FONs meeting in school library at 7pm

**Friday 10 October** - Years 7/8 disco 7pm

For more information on FONs please email Kym - [kymarthur@btinternet.com](mailto:kymarthur@btinternet.com)

Or information about our 100 club raffle contact Jodie [ilaingseattle@gmail.com](mailto:ilaingseattle@gmail.com)

FONs wish you all a lovely summer.

## Important Notice

Parents may have heard that the NatWest Bank in Stevenage is closing in October.

As the next closest branch is in Hitchin, we would like to reduce the amount of cash that we have in school as much as possible.

In order to help us with that, could parents please use the [School Gateway](#) system to put money on their children's lunch accounts if at all possible? If you do need to use cash, please try to use notes rather than coins to help us with counting, storage and transportation.

If you have any difficulty accessing the School Gateway system, please contact :

**Lynsey.chalkley@nobel.herts.sch.uk**

**Mr N Thomas**  
**School Business Manager**



## Dates for your Diary

Friday 18 July—School finishes (12.20pm)

## SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Thursday 4 September—school returns for Yr 7 & 12 only

Friday 5 September—school returns for all students (late start)





# MFL Celebrates Success

On Thursday 26 June, the MFL department were delighted to invite some of our incredible language learners this half term, and their families, in for a celebration breakfast with certificates which were presented by Mr Kay.

We would like to congratulate each of the students nominated for their outstanding work and attitude to learning last half term. We look forward to celebrating the future successes of all our students.

## Students Awarded:

### Spanish

- Hamidah Omisore (8E ECP)
- Amelie Mackenzie (8C RCN)
- Mason Brown (8E ECP)
- Millie Blow (8C DAN)
- Ella Clayson (8E LBT)
- Zofia Paszkiet (9E ARD)
- Dexter Unwin (9C AMY)
- Ella Springall (9C AMY)
- Phoebe Probyn (9C MGS)
- Jessica Thomas (12 HON)



**Mr M Goggins**  
**MFL Teacher**

### French

- Matthew Bell (7M BLO)
- Lilly-May Jackson (7M JSN)
- Elisse Murariu (7T AHY)
- Rosie Trotman (7T LTL)
- Billy Lamacraft (7M BLO)
- Charlie Lizdek-Rember (9M EHO)
- Oscar Bingley (9M EHO)
- Steysi Alushi (9M JDT)
- Nadine Vidic (9M JDT)
- Alexia Cope (9M JDT)
- Lena Stuchlik (10T (LLE)



### German

- Sophie Peterson (7C AMF)
- Tommaso Forli (7C TST)
- Bianca Zamaro (7E DMA)
- Letticia Kinderevieciute (7E RME)
- Lucy Baker (8T CHL)
- Annie Hughes (8M JTL)
- Adewale Adekanye (8T CHL)
- Mason McManus (8M CHD)
- Sophie Chambers (10C CQN)





## Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying expedition



On 19 June, 70 Nobel students boarded coaches to take them to the start of their 2 day Bronze Qualifying expedition. The 11 groups started at either Dane End or Cottered and hiked their planned routes to end up at their campsite for the night, where they cooked themselves a hot meal and set up their tents.



The next day they completed a 2nd day of hiking, as well as presenting to their assessors about all they had researched and learnt.

Students battled with hot temperatures, cows blocking their entrances/exits to fields, missing tent poles, wet boots, hayfever and some very sore

feet but they all persevered and did so well- we are extremely proud of them all!

Students have now completed all sections of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and will be receiving their certificates and awards at our celebration breakfasts on the 7 and 8 July. We hope to see many of them on expedition again next year for Silver!



**Miss L Steele**  
**DofE Lead**





## DofE Gold Group Update



As their assessor, I've had the privilege of observing the Gold group of seven develop their navigational skills, camp craft and especially their confidence and perseverance!

With a slow start, the group massively increased their pace powering through their routes whilst demonstrating outstanding map-reading abilities.

From steep ascents to boggy trails, they tackled each challenge with determination and good humour.

The group had chosen "Exploring Peak District Features" as their expedition aim and along the way, they documented a subtopic each and presented a balance of prior research and current findings on their final day that was both insightful and thoughtful and clearly showed genuine engagement. A strong and successful end to their expedition.

Everyone in the group should be incredibly proud of what they've achieved because I am!

**Jenna Lewan**  
Previous Head DofE Student Leader





# DofE Celebration Breakfast

Well done to the following Yr 10 students who received their Bronze DoE Awards over breakfast with parents and siblings:

Harry Archer  
Phoenix Beardsworth  
Rachel Bell  
Thomas Brooke  
Roberta Chastell  
Freya Chumbley  
Benjamin Dang  
Sophie Evans  
Harley Lewis  
Dara Oluwatomi  
Tomas Parkes  
Foram Patel  
Jasmine Rumsey  
Shreeya Soni  
Harry Sweeting  
Sofia Turcescu  
Sofia Vidic  
Riley Webb  
Julia Wilczynska  
Mackenzie Zeelie  
Kayleigh Abrey  
Faria Ahmed  
Taju Amadu  
Libby Asmaee  
Tanvi Ballachanda  
Sophie Barker  
Rose Beech  
Callum Brace  
Lucas Brace  
Ellis Brown  
Maleah Bullen  
Sophie Chambers  
Harvey Chan  
Alex Chapman  
Charmaine Chiura  
Josie Clarke  
Joshua Ebdon  
Ashleigh Estole  
Mark Evans  
Jamie Frisby  
Sara Gavriluc  
Turner Goodridge  
Roman Grundy

Lily Hopkins  
Joshua Horner  
Abi Iles  
Chloe Iles  
Aruba Ismail  
Jax Izzard  
Edwin Joby  
Eoin Jones  
Phoebe Kiss  
Aminata Makalo  
Edward Moody  
Amelie Moore  
Amaya Olazabal  
Sebeal Owusu-Achaw  
Jack Paine  
Siya Patel  
Archie Peters  
Lucy Peterson  
Lara Reynolds  
Lia Skapoullou  
Letty Smith  
Ruby Sypula  
Ameena Tomlinson  
Leah Turner-Atkins  
Austin Wills  
Jack Woodard-Gair







### Year 9 Bronze DofE update

We have 105 year 9 students who have signed up for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award next year and indeed many have already made a great start on some of their sections for the programme. Students need to complete 3 months of volunteering, a skill or a physical activity and an additional 3 months in one of these sections. We met with the students for their first lunchtime training session to explain how they can evidence the work they are doing towards the award on their E-dofe accounts. We are looking forward to continuing their training sessions upon our return in September and seeing what they have been doing over the summer on their award. Great start year 9!



## Maths News

Six Nobelians make it past the first round of the UKMT Junior competition, earning an invitation to compete in the Junior Kangaroo mathematics competition.

A few weeks ago, students tested their problem solving skills working through a set of questions designed to challenge them to think deeply about mathematics and problem solving. Students worked hard, and the results are now in.

Congratulations to:

**Hugo Dziemiach** - for scoring the highest in the school on the Junior Kangaroo maths competition, and the only student in our school to earn a Silver award in the competition!



**Sorin Margarit, Leon Metcalf, and Isla Brooke** - for competing in the Junior Kangaroo maths competition and earning a Bronze award!

**Jacob Pratt and Louis Bascandura** - for competing in the Junior Kangaroo maths competition!

We are very proud of our Nobel Mathematicians!

**Miss C Wright**  
Teacher of Maths

## Yr 12 go to the Zoo!

Our year 12 Biologists have been on a visit to Whipsnade zoo to conduct some important field work as part of the practical endorsement element of their A level course.



**Miss B Jones**  
Head of Biology



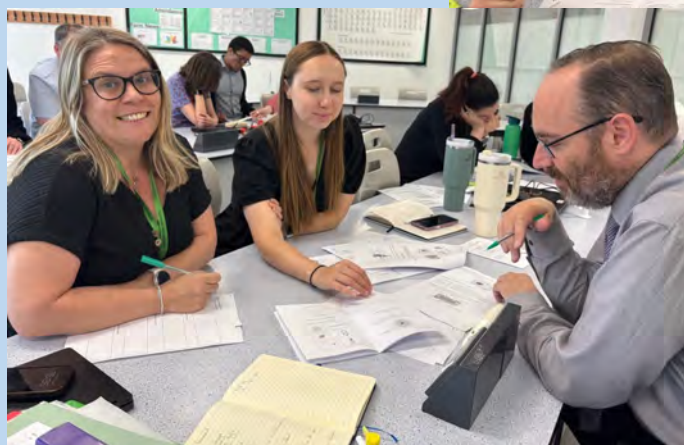
## Current House ABC Points Totals

27th June 2025	House	ABC Points
1st	Curie	40621
2nd	Mandela	37292
3rd	Teresa	37205
4th	Eliot	33043



# A Year in the Science Department

It has been a very busy year in the Science department with activities ranging from: teachers planning and preparing for the year, a trip to CERN with the physics students, science lectures throughout the year and celebrating Science technician day.




**Mrs A Pearson**  
**Head of Science**





# Science Ambassadors

Science at Nobel



Science 2024-2025

Science Sixth Form Subject Ambassadors

**Subject Ambassadors**

- Casey Pelling
- Finan Gunnery
- Temidayo Dada
- Harrison Lund
- Dylan Gentle
- Annabel Webb
- Ruby Hammond
- Emmie Fennelow
- Casey Segura
- Mackenzie Chiwambo
- Grace Anyi
- Harry Layton
- Lauren Davey
- Amelie Heaphy
- Isabelle Walker-Impett
- Iain Balharrie
- Lenny Shearing
- Gracie Saunders
- Roxy George
- Megan Brown
- Mihai Turcescu
- Oliver Currell
- Shaidah Mugalu
- Bessie Banks
- Summer Angell
- Harry P

Leadership Position	Name
Head of Science	Harrison
Head of Biology	Ruby
Head of Chemistry	Mihai
Head of Physics	Lauren
Head of CTECH applied science	Amelie
Head of H and S care	Bessie

As science ambassadors, appointed in September by Miss Pearson and the science faculty, we have participated in helping with many activities in science that we've gained valuable skills from. We have helped with Yr 11 interventions after school and at from time, assemblies and many other school events.



Through these opportunities, we have gained invaluable skills, such as, communication, teamwork and leadership. It has been a fun and enriching experience, carrying out many additional practical's to the typical curriculum. I would recommend this role to anyone considering science as a future career, to make your next step towards achieving your goals.

From the Science Ambassadors







Congratulations to our KS5 Biologists for their success in the British Biology Olympiad competition.

This is a national advanced problem-solving competition and we are incredibly proud of their results.

Well done to **Mia Fraser (Yr 13)**, **Harrison Lund (Yr 12)**, **Casey Segura (Yr12)**, **Dylan Gentle (Yr 12)** and **Ruby Castle (Yr 12)**.

**Miss B Jones**  
**Head of Biology**

This term in Physics Yr 10 triple scientists have been learning about waves, this lesson we learnt about both concave and convex lenses.



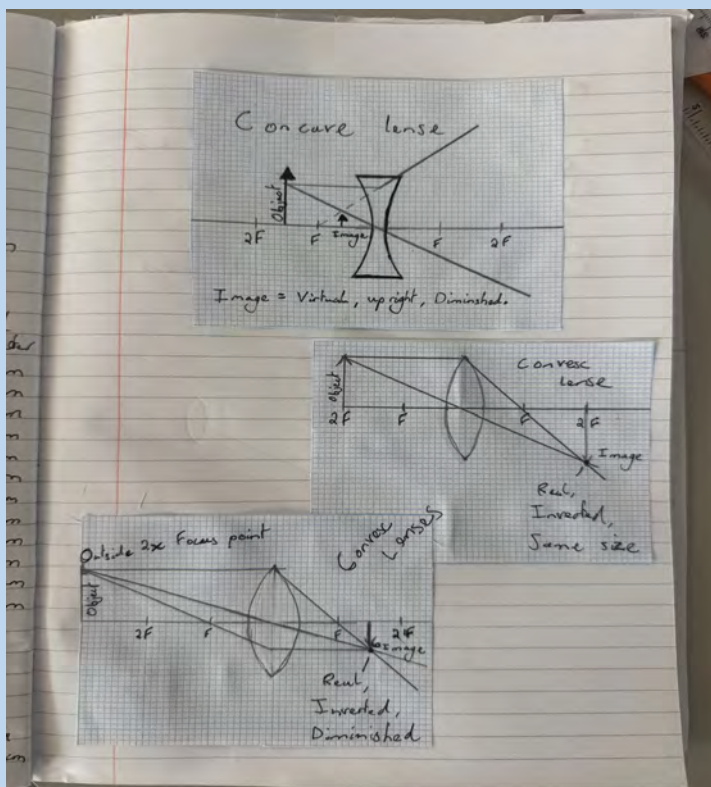
A concave lens is a lens that caves inwards and causes parallel rays to spread out through refraction. A convex lens however bulges out and it makes the parallel rays get closer together and focus through refraction.

- If an image is larger than the object: Magnified
- If an image is smaller than the object: Diminished
- If an image is upside down: Inverted
- If an image is the same way up as object: Upright
- If rays pass through lens: Real
- If rays only seem to come from object: Virtual

Our eyes work through a convex lens to focus rays into our eye. This creates an inverted image that our brain flips back so it is upright.

We completed practical work to show this and used the lenses to show images that are diminished from the object.

**Harry Archer and Joshua Ebdon 10M NWS**





# Heath & Social Care - A Review of the Year

In Health and Social care we have had a fantastic year.



All students have worked hard on their examinations and coursework. Yr 13's left Nobel looking to go to places such as Hertfordshire, Kings and Portsmouth University's studying courses such as nursing, midwifery and speech and language therapy.

We also had external visits from a midwife and NHS careers at Lister hospital who developed key skills that are needed in health and social care settings such as problem solving and team working.



Many students in Y12 have come back from their work placement looking forward to Y13 and the career opportunities Health and social care offer.

## Science Work experience review

For my work experience, I spent a week with the science technicians where, I gained an insight into the levels of effort and preparation that goes into allowing a school to perform science practicals.

I had asked to take my work experience with them due to my interest in STEM fields for future study. I found my week to be highly enjoyable, and I would definitely say that I have gained a lot of knowledge from my experiences. All the technicians were very welcoming and friendly, which made it very easy to approach them to ask questions. Throughout the week, I was given a variety of tasks to get a feel for the average week in the technicians' office. Some of the tasks involved setting up practical's for the upcoming classes, which would require us to create mixtures to stock up the chemical store for the future. As a result of the time spent with the technicians, I feel as if going into a STEM based course in the future is probably something which I would be interested in doing having been taught skills such as: soldering, formulation of mixtures and just general organizational and life skills which I have no doubt will help me in the future.

Overall, I felt that my time there was highly beneficial and very informative in helping me find a path that I may want to go down in the future for myself.

So, for that, I would like to express my gratitude towards the technicians for allowing me to spend my work experience with them, which, as I said previously, I found to be highly enjoyable.

**Finan Gunnery**  
**12 KMN**



# A week in the life of a Science and Maths Work

## Experience Student

*Originally, I wanted to try to apply for work experiences somewhere else and I was stressed with the words from my father; he told me I should focus on my grades more than focusing on trying to get a work experience placement. This gave me the idea of asking a very cool and funny chemistry teacher of mine, Ms Pearson, about work experience in teaching. This opportunity was far too unlikely for me to believe it was possible because I assumed all work places, including schools, would require paper work to be signed and at least months of preparation before taking a student in. However, this was different as Ms Pearson allowed me to partake in the teaching part of work experience. I was joyful about this opportunity happening and I believed it could be a way for me to gain new skills/ improve them, such as presenting my work to an audience and how I speak when presenting, with accuracy and efficiency. I was given a timetable I would need to follow in order to get through this week with specific times of arrivals.*

*The first day of work experience went as I expected, I arrived early, 8:05 am, to attend Ms Pearson's meeting (science briefing) with the other science teachers. I felt nervous because I believed I didn't belong there, I saw myself as a student still among teachers, but when some of the teachers spoke to me and considered me an equal by allowing me to address them by their first names, that feeling of nervousness faded quickly. Period 2 was a learning walk with Ms Pearson, I have recently learnt that Ms Pearson has periodic learning walks, and what she does is use an app to send an email to teachers, after going into lessons and looking at how well the students have been working, and comment on their teaching methods. The day was straight forward and I believed that the I learnt new skills and improved more than they would in any regular school week.*

*The second day was quite different, on the learning walk with Ms Pearson, we have helped cover teachers set out their cover lesson for the classes they must attend, when I learnt that there was a cover lesson period 5 on a physics lesson, the cover teacher was an English teacher and I thought he would need help teaching the lesson, so I volunteered to attend that period 5 class. I said to myself that this can be a good experience especially into teaching as it helps me demonstrate confidence in that lesson along with methods to how I can present it to year 8's. As a first-time teaching, I felt really nervous, I was too worried about messing up initially, however when the cover teacher helped me, I took full control over the class, even though the lesson a short activity with little tasks, it was still difficult to grab their attentions, however I managed to maintain their high attention while making them laugh and have a good time in the lesson in a professional manner.*

*These pictures were me teaching the class, taken by Ms Pearson, I did not know that Ms Pearson and Ms Ormiston were at the back of the class watching me teach. I felt really happy that I managed to make the lesson go to plan in front of the teachers.*





Third day of work experience was mainly in maths with Mr Moore and some science classes. In the science classes I mainly observed and took notes where necessary, but in Mr Moore's class I experienced co-teaching, where we spent 50% of the lesson each to teach the lesson. The class was a foundation level and Mr Moore is amazing at teaching that level of maths. After that lesson, he taught me that teaching some people can be difficult, that's why using the method of constantly putting them on the spot to think will help keep their attention on us as we teach, also he taught me how to be on the same level as the students in order to understand their perspective first before teaching the content. Thanks Mr Moore!

The fourth day of teaching was roughly the same, but this time I was co-teaching with Mr Mesher with the same year 8 class who I taught in science on the second day, we did dimensions on 3D shapes. I then co-taught with him again for a year 9 class about products of prime factors. Along Mr Mesher's teaching, I helped the students catch up on the lesson without. I then went to period 4 to help to help Mr Murphy on the physics lesson with the same year 8 class, who would have thought it! I managed to help him set up the practical the students are required to complete – completing a circuit. I then introduced them to other components in a circuit and let the selected students continue their practical and have enjoy their time, whilst learning practically. Being called a competent person by Mr Murphy put a big smile on my face, not all the time have I been called that.

Fifth day was inset day. There were no students in school but I had to prepare equipment in the labs, counting them and making sure there are the right amount of whiteboard in the classes. Then, I got to see the other side of teaching and helped mark some tests with the teachers.

Overall, my experience in teaching was more than I had expected. I thought that I was going to learn only a few skills in this work experience, however, I have learnt much more.

With the skills I have learnt I believe that when I apply for jobs and apprenticeships in the future, I can use these skills in the workplace, establishing a good character and being a good employee for a company.

**Jayden Basa**  
**12 KMN**



**Finan Gunnery and Jayden Basa**



# Nobel Summer Concert

Congratulations to our very talented students who showcased their wonderful musical skills sharing their passion and artistic achievements which 'wowed' the highly supportive audience. We are extremely proud of every single performer especially those who brought the performance from the classroom environment to the live audiences for the very first time on the Nobel Stage. From singing to playing piano to our very own rock bands, we were very excited to see the development of the music culture that is building within The Nobel community and look forward to sharing even more performances in the near future. We would like to say a big thank you to all the teachers, family and friends who came along to support the summer concert! From September, we will be running The Nobel Notes choir club every Thursday after school from 3:15 till 4:15, guitar club every Wednesday lunch time – all students and staff are welcome! Please join us again for the year 10 pantomime and Christmas concert in December. Have a restful and fabulous summer break!

**Miss A Shakespeare**  
**Teacher of Music**





## Yr 12 Visit to the Tower of London

*On Monday 7 July the A-level History students at Nobel went on a school trip to The Tower of London to preface our upcoming module on Tudor History.*

*The trip acted as an excellent introduction to the Tudors which we will be studying in year 13. Once we arrived, we split up in groups to see the parts of the Tower we wanted. Many of us saw the chambers where famous prisoners, including Robert Dudley and his family, were held. In these chambers we were able to see the intricate carvings left by these prisoners such as their family crests and words of remembrance, for me this added an element of empathy and connection with the historical figures who we study yet perhaps tend to forget they were real people going through these events.*



*The Crown Jewels were on display and many classmates went to view them, but the queue was very long due to the tourists! However, without having to queue, you could still enjoy the other parts of the Tower grounds like the Yeomen wardens, the guardians of the Tower, (informally called Beefeaters) who live on grounds with their families and are happy to have conversations and take pictures with all the visitors. We were able to see the Tower's poppy installation to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II, which was extremely beautiful and features nearly 30,000 ceramic poppies. After touring the grounds freely, our class then participated in a seminar regarding the Mid Tudor Crisis and a*

*specialist tour from a professional guide. The guide gave us a detailed description of the Tower; she described many of the important events and people who lived (and died!) at the Tower during the Tudor period.*

*Our guide led us through the Salt Tower where religious rebels were held before their execution. In here I was able to compare the carvings left by prisoners of the Salt Tower versus the Chambers as the prisoners were so devoted to their religion many or all the carvings were symbols/declarations of faith with little hint to the prisoners themselves. This highlights the importance of religion during the Tudor period and illustrates the different religious ideas and beliefs.*

*Overall, the trip was very interesting and enriched the experience of studying the Tudors. I would like to thank Miss Taylor and Miss Quiddington for arranging the visit for us.*

**Elizabeth Fatuzzo (12 HON)**





## Yr 9 Visit RAF Hendon

On Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 July Year 9 spent the day visiting RAF Hendon museum to see for themselves the aircraft that saved Britain and won the war for the allies in WW2. The day was spent seeing the sheer size of some of the craft such as the Lancaster bomber, as well as Cold War aircraft that carried Britain's nuclear threat such as the Vulcan.

They also got to experience what it was like for WW1 pilots and try out morse code. We managed to see the MDBA logo of Stevenage's missile development team printed on many of the modern weapons giving us an idea of the work that goes on in our local town.

The students were a credit to the school and an enjoyable experience was had by all.

**Mr M Jones**  
**Head of Yr 9**





# Yr 13 Prom—A Night to Remember

## Wednesday 25 June | Chesfield Downs Golf Club

What an incredible evening we had at the Year 13 Prom. The sun was shining, the students looked absolutely stunning, and Chesfield Downs provided the perfect backdrop for a truly unforgettable night.

The theme was Las Vegas, and the venue was transformed with amazing decorations – playing cards, feather centrepieces, sweet treats, a chocolate fountain, a photo booth, and more! The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement, dancing, and great music throughout the night.

It was lovely to welcome back so many familiar faces, including former Nobel staff such as Mr Spence, Mr Power, Miss Bloomfield, Mr Colbourn, and many more. They joined current staff, including form tutors and subject teachers, in celebrating this special occasion with our wonderful Year 13 students.

A huge congratulations to our Prom King and Queen, and a heartfelt thank you to the fantastic Prom Committee who worked so hard behind the scenes to bring the event together: Mariyah Rahman, Anisa Guemache, Imogen Spiller, Olivia Kempster, Kisaka Suamina, Zara Engmann, and Tiya Patel.

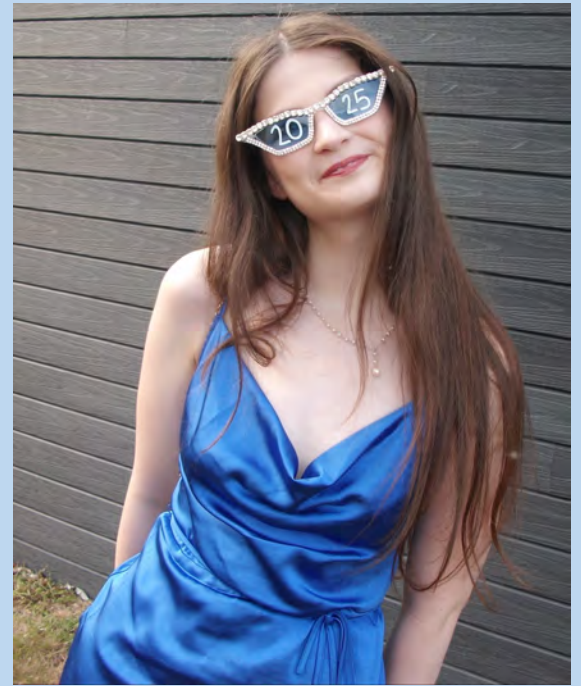
We'd also like to give a very special thank you to Mrs Davies and Mrs Hornett for their incredible dedication, planning, and organisation that made this night such a success.

Finally, thank you to everyone in Year 13 for a fantastic two years. It has truly been a pleasure and a privilege to be your Head of Year during this time. We wish you all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing you on A-Level Results Day in August as you take your next steps.

**Mrs J Saville**  
Head of Year 13













## Exam Invigilator End of Year Afternoon Tea

On Wednesday 25 June some of the Invigilation Team joined together to celebrate another successful year of internal and external exams at Nobel.

This was a great opportunity for the team to get to know each other out of work, and to discuss ideas and thoughts on what went well over this year and what we could do to improve next year. There was some great feedback and ideas to work on going forward and the team enjoyed the offerings of tea and cake.

Some people don't realise that being an exam invigilator in a school is a very important role, providing support to all of our students when going through a nervous and often stressful time in their education, whilst maintaining the integrity of the exams rules and regulations.

At Nobel we run mock exams five times a year and there are three external seasons of exams, with the Summer being our largest and most important. We are always looking for caring, calm and patient individuals to join our team, if you think you have those qualities, have some spare time and can be flexible with hours and days then please email our Exams & Data Manager [Claire.Walsh@nobel.hert.sch.uk](mailto:Claire.Walsh@nobel.hert.sch.uk) for more information.

**Ms C Walsh**  
**Exams and Data Manager**



## UCL Summer School

*On 24-26 June I had the opportunity to participate in a Summer School hosted by UCL (University College London) focusing on the importance of foreign languages in the workplace.*

*On the first day we explored a career in translation. I was surprised at how big the sector is. I learned there are many job opportunities apart from just being a translator. Later in the afternoon, I took part in a workshop led by the company Foreign Affairs who specialise in translating plays from different cultures and presenting them in a justful way. In groups we focused on the play 'A Doll's House' by Henrik Ibsen looking at words and phrases we could change to appeal to a modern audience.*

*Day two was located at UCL's new East campus in Stratford where we were focusing on curation. Curation is the process of looking after and organising historical items in a collection or exhibition. We first looked at a range of historical postcards, considering where they were from and what the pictures told us about the culture of that country. Next, we identified the function of exhibit items that had recently been excavated at Whitechapel, and what period they were from. I learnt about a new career that I didn't know existed and linked languages with this.*

*The final day focused on publishing. After an introduction to the industry, we worked in small groups to create a pitch for a book relating to languages and culture. My group picked a travel guide entitled 'Wander Spain and France: A travel companion'. I was able to incorporate my knowledge of Spanish history and culture to better our pitch and presentation. We pitched the idea to a real industry expert who gave us feedback to improve.*

*I am so grateful for being given this experience and it has opened me up to the idea of studying Spanish as a joint honors at university after discovering the importance that languages hold in the wider world.*

**Jessica Thomas 12HON**



# Nobel students welcome the teams onto court for the second Netball Super League semi-final at The Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park



All attending students were lucky enough to get out onto the court and welcome the participating teams to the semi-final as they were the official flag bearers for the game.

Nobelians were able to be seen live on Sky Sports Mix/YouTube. Their levels of maturity were admirable and the PE Department incredibly proud of them all. Footage on YouTube can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/live/S4wxK6DxZ6o?si=f5A-aKQZvHFjgCUQ&t=7252>

London Pulse staged a dramatic comeback to defeat Loughborough Lightning 50-49 in a gripping NSL semi-final. Lightning dominated early, capitalising on Pulse's errors to take a commanding 15-7 first-quarter lead. Despite a stronger showing in the second quarter, Pulse still trailed 29-21 at halftime.

The game turned in the third quarter, driven by a sensational defensive display from Funmi Fadoju. Her turnovers inspired a 14-6 run, helping Pulse draw level at 35-35 heading into the final period. The last quarter was a tense, goal-for-goal battle. Lightning briefly pulled ahead, but three clutch Super Shots from Olivia Tchine brought Pulse level. Zara Everitt's interception in the dying minutes set up Tchine to seal the win with two final goals.

The fast-paced, nail-biting game finished with a 50-49 win to London Pulse. Throughout the game, the scores were neck on neck and Pulse worked hard to retain the lead and finish with an all-important victory in front of a home crowd.

It was fantastic to see so many of the students inspired by the professional players with many of them seeking further opportunities to watch a professional netball game within their own time, with some even wanting to pursue a career in professional netball.

(continued on the next page)

On Friday 20 June 2025, 20 students travelled to The Copper Box Arena situated within the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to watch the London Pulse Netball team take on Loughborough Lightning. This was the second semi-final within the Netball Super League, with both teams battling for a place in the final.

This was a brilliant opportunity for some of our students within the netball teams to watch a professional game of netball, watching some of the best netball players within the country.





# Student Sporting success



Huge congratulations to Eden (8C DAN) and Logan (8E ECP) who travelled to Montargis, France on Saturday 5 July 2025 to take part in an international Taekwondo competition.



Representing Great Britain, Eden competed in the -53kg category and placed 5th, while Logan, in the -37kg category, finished in an impressive 4th place. Both athletes faced tough international opponents and did incredibly well to represent their country.

We look forward to continuing to follow the achievements of Eden and Logan on the international stage, representing Team Great Britain.

**Mr R Carolan**  
Teacher of PE



Therefore, the impact this opportunity has had on the students has been immense.

Throughout the trip, both in the arena and travelling up to London, the students showed exemplary behaviour showing true Nobelian qualities. It was an absolute pleasure to take the students to London. A special mention to the Year 10 DofE students who joined us after over 13 hours of walking in the heat.

A huge thank you to Miss Waites for joining us on the trip, we couldn't have done it without her!

**Mr Carolan**  
Teacher of PE





# Additional PE Taster Session for new to Nobel Year 6 students

On Tuesday 1 July 2025, the PE department were delighted to welcome 84 new to Nobel Year 6 students to take part in a taster session of sporting activities. Organised in partnership with Stevenage Sporting Futures Team, students joined us from Almond Hill, Aston, Bedwell, Lodge Farm, Mossbury, Peartree Spring, Featherstone Wood, Roebuck Academy and The Leys schools.



It was fantastic to see the students so engrossed within the activities, eager to please their new teachers.

We have had some wonderful feedback from the schools about this event. ***“The PE transition session at Nobel was brilliant. Very well organised, very receptive staff who were checking in on all the children and fun engaging activities which were very well explained.”***

Furthermore, some student voice:

- *Very well explained*
- *Engaged us with the activity*
- *Very fun*
- *Liked that we mixed with other schools - helped our social skills.*
- *Made new friends*
- *Met people I haven't seen for a long time*
- *Enjoyed meeting some of our teachers*

A fantastic afternoon led the children feeling confident for their transition day and meant they left Nobel knowing the name of several other children who they will be in school with from September.

The aim of the afternoon was for the children to meet some of their new peers, visit their new school, see some of the school community during lunchtime and see the PE facilities and meet the PE department who will be teaching them in the new year.



Across the afternoon, children took part in two of the following five sporting activities, led by Mr Ferguson, Mr Howells, Mrs Camp, Mr Willsher and Mr Carolan: basketball, cricket, netball, bench ball and teambuilding.

**Mr R Carolan**  
**Teacher of PE**





# Harpenden Rugby Day -Bringing Schools Together Through Sport

Today we went to Harpenden Rugby Club, where several local primary schools came together for a special event focused on rugby, leadership, and fun. The day was organised with the support of the Obex Foundation, and aimed to bring young people together to learn new skills, build confidence, and enjoy being active.

A total of 125 Year 5 and 6 pupils took part, and the group was split into five smaller teams. Each group rotated around five rugby-based activity stations, spending 20 minutes at each. These stations included a range of skills-based drills designed to improve movement, teamwork, communication, and rugby technique.

Nine of our Yr 9 & 10 students supported the delivery of the event. Each took responsibility for one of the activity stations, guiding the groups through drills, offering encouragement, and setting a great example throughout the day. They showed amazing confidence and maturity — speaking clearly, motivating others, and helping ensure everyone got involved. It was brilliant to see them step up and shine in their roles.

The students involved were: **Oma Njelita, Paige Fowell, Alice Renshaw, Saphi McDonagh, Sienna Brooke Burton, Sienna Clements, Isla Stone, Bailee Mae Hudson and Freya Parker**



The event was supported by:

- **Obex Foundation** – A local charity working to reduce health inequalities for young people across Beds, Herts, and Bucks.
- **Dallaglio RugbyWorks** – A mentoring charity using rugby as a tool to develop life skills, who have been delivering sessions to our 'Girls Only' cohort throughout the school year.
- **Jason Robinson Foundation** – An organisation supporting young people through sports-based programmes, founded by former England rugby legend Jason Robinson.

After the morning of activities, everyone sat down to enjoy lunch together. The day finished with a huge game of Bulldog, which got everyone moving and laughing — a fantastic way to wrap up the day.

To top it all off, we had a special visit from Jason Robinson, one of England's greatest-ever rugby players. He spoke to all the students about his journey through rugby, the challenges he faced growing up, and the

importance of hard work, self-belief, and staying active. Everyone had a chance to meet him, take photos, and collect autographs — a moment the students will never forget.



It was a fantastic day filled with energy, learning, and inspiration. We're incredibly proud of the students for representing our school so well and helping to make the day such a success. Huge thanks to the Obex Foundation, Dallaglio RugbyWorks, and the Jason Robinson Foundation for making it all possible.

**Mr J Braddock**  
Teaching Assistant



# The Nobel School Awarded the Gold School Games Mark 2024/2025



We are delighted to announce that The Nobel School have achieved the Gold School Games Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year, the highest mark currently available to our school, for the fourth year running.

The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

This award recognises all of the wonderful areas within the PE department including but not limited to: gender equality, leadership opportunities, gaining student voice and participation in a range of different events for all individuals.

The Stevenage Sporting Futures Team, who validated our application said the following: ***“This fantastic achievement recognises the school’s ongoing commitment to embedding a strong ethos of sport and physical activity across the whole school community. Nobel continues to place physical activity at the heart of its values, using sport as a powerful tool to support wellbeing, confidence, and life skills in all young people.***

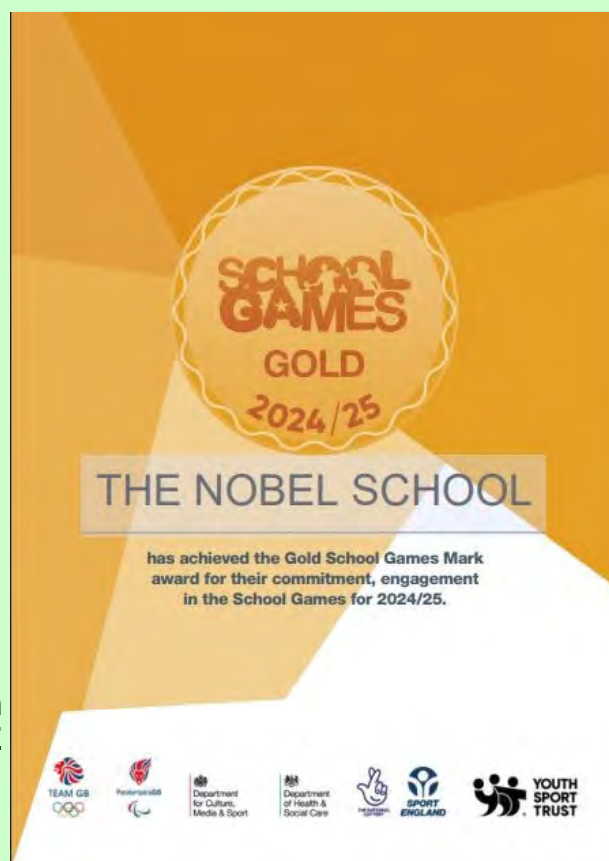
***The school has shown excellent engagement in both inter-school and intra-school competitions, giving all students the chance to participate, compete, and thrive - regardless of their ability or background. Events are inclusive, purposeful, and designed to create positive, memorable experiences for every child.***

***What truly stands out is Nobel’s strong emphasis on student voice. Young people are actively involved in shaping the sporting offer within school - helping to drive ideas, select activities, and lead their peers, creating a culture where students feel empowered and engaged.***

***This Gold Mark is a testament to the hard work of staff and students alike, and a celebration of how sport continues to flourish at Nobel School. Well done to everyone involved - this is incredibly well deserved! “***

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of our school community has been rewarded. We look forward to working towards another Gold award in the 2025-26 academic year, where we can then apply for the prestigious Platinum award.

**Mr R Carolan  
Teacher of PE**





## Year 8 Boys Cricket season round up

It has been a pleasure to take the Year 8 cricket team this season.

Although results have been mixed the boys have played all games in the right, displaying sportsmanship, humour, fair play, motivation and determination. It has been great that we have had 15 players involved in playing cricket this season and there is a real togetherness about the group.

As I mentioned the results have been mixed. In the hardball league they have had two fixtures, due to other school withdrawing from the league. They lost to St Christophers School and beat Marriotts. In the new pairs cricket competition our A squad finished 4<sup>th</sup> and B team finished 1<sup>st</sup> in their respective competitions.

The recent calypso cricket tournament was tougher but again the boys worked as hard as they could and played all games in the right spirit. It was also a reflection of their commitment this season that we were able to again field 2 calypso squads.

Well done this year and I look forward to working with them again next season.

**Mr P Willsher**  
**Head of Year**



## Volleyball Team



The Nobel Volleyball Team had a final fixture on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

After playing 'away' vs Onslow St Audrey's (OSA) in Hatfield last month, a return fixture took place in the sports hall at Nobel.

After an initial first practice getting used to net height, a fantastic three set match was played out. Sets one and two were down to the wire and went to a 'deuce' decider, with set 1 in favour of OSA and set two in favour of Nobel. OSA may have clinched the last set, but the improvement and enjoyment seen from all players in the team has been fantastic to witness.

Player of the match as voted by the OSA team was Patrice N.

**Mr J Ferguson**  
**Teacher of PE**



## GCSE PE Rock Climbing

As part of the GCSE PE programme here at Nobel, students have had the opportunity to experience 6 hours of coached rock-climbing training at the Hertfordshire Sports Village (HSV) in Hatfield. All students have had the chance at climbing the multiple 12m high walls at the HSV, with many reaching the top. Students also had the responsibility for belaying their partner, as well as tying all the knots on their harnesses to make the day of climbing possible.

As a result of these sessions, students have not only had the opportunity to try a sport that many of them have not had access to previously, but have also had the opportunity to pick up a mark as part of their GCSE PE assessment. A fantastic 6 hours that was enjoyed by all students in attendance.



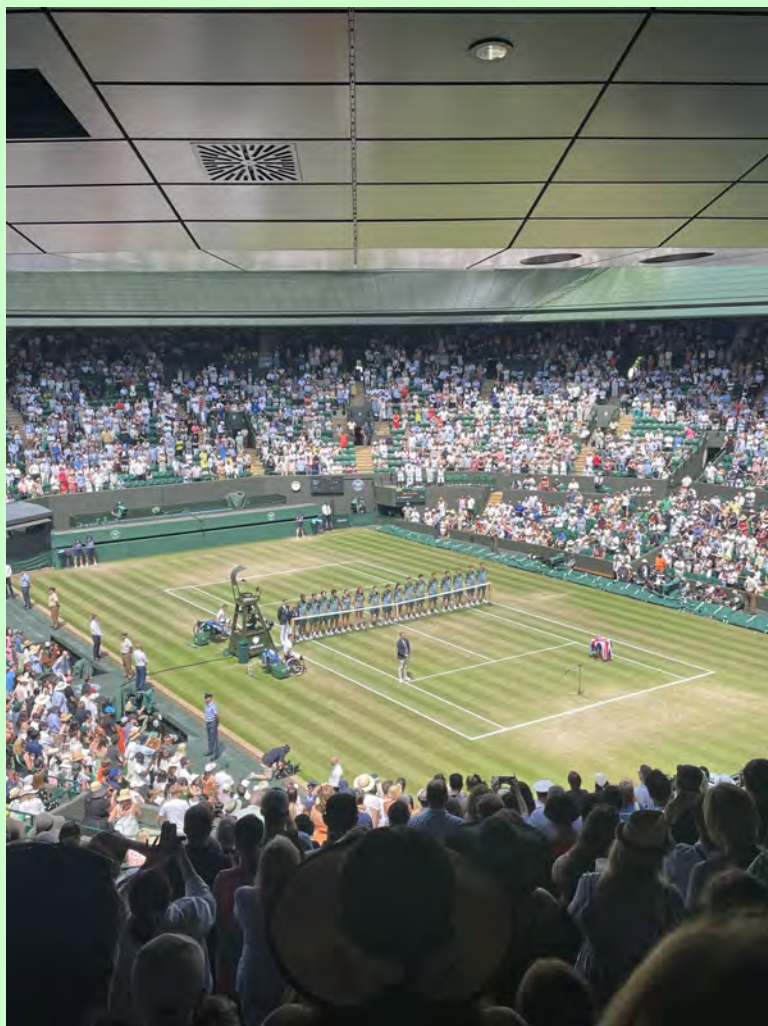
On Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> July, 8 students from across Year's 7-10 had the exciting opportunity to attend The Wimbledon Championship on Day 14.

Each year, a select number of tickets are released in the school ballot, and this year we were fortunate to receive an allocation for the Championship.

Students saw three matches on Number 1 Court including the Men's Wheelchair Singles Final, the Boy's U18 Singles Final and the Women's Invitational Doubles Final.

In addition to this, students had the opportunity to soak up the atmosphere of Wimbledon on Men's Final day. It was a fantastic day experiencing the 'best of British', and a day we hope to repeat next year if we are successful again in the ballot.

## Nobel goes to Wimbledon



**Mr J Ferguson**  
Teacher of PE



# Nobel success at the Stevenage Sports Awards 2025

On Friday 11 July 2025, the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team led the annual district school sports awards at The 76 Lounge located at The Lamex Stadium home to Stevenage Football Club. The PE Department were delighted that many students were shortlisted for a range of categories. Their successes have been included below:

**Secondary School Games Award** - this award will recognise the Secondary School that has embraced the Hertfordshire School Games through the attendance of School Games events and following the vision of the School Games by making a positive and meaningful difference to the lives of children and young people through sport and physical activity within their school. **The Nobel School were the winners of this award.**

**Secondary Sports Leader Award** - this award is for an individual who has shown exceptional leadership qualities and commitment throughout the academic year. **Lauren D (12 MBS)** was shortlisted for this award in recognition of her exceptional dedication, initiative and impact within the school community. Alongside her A-Level studies, Lauren has shown unwavering commitment to netball - gaining coaching qualifications, volunteering weekly and taking on leadership responsibilities such as organising fixtures and umpiring. Her work with younger students in Years 7 to 9 has been particularly influential, where she has served as a coach, mentor and trusted role model.



Lauren's leadership extends beyond school, with staff from other schools commending her professionalism and parents expressing heartfelt appreciation for her positive influence. Her calm, respectful communication and genuine enthusiasm embody the spirit of leadership. Lauren is an outstanding ambassador for both netball and the wider school values. **Lauren was the Secondary Sports Leader of the Year.**

**Secondary Elite Performer of the Year Award** - this award is for any secondary school pupil who has achieved a high level of performance, representing a club or higher level.

**Zara B (11T MGT)** is an exceptional athlete whose passion and talent for rugby have been evident since childhood. Throughout her time at Nobel, she has represented the school in multiple sports including rugby, netball and rounders, while excelling academically in GCSE PE. Beyond school, she has had a standout season with Welwyn RFC, contributing to their success as League Champions for 2024/25. Her commitment to the sport has earned her offers from prestigious institutions such as Loughborough College, Oaklands College and Gloucester Hartpury Rugby Academy - all of which offer elite rugby development pathways.

Zara's achievements extend to national-level opportunities, having been selected to trial for the England U18s Player Development Group and the Saracens Academy. In addition to her playing accolades, she qualified as a rugby referee in 2024 and has already officiated league matches, demonstrating her all-round dedication to the sport. Zara exemplifies perseverance, ambition and true leadership - qualities that make her a standout role model in the Nobel community. We are incredibly proud of her accomplishments and excited to see the bright future that awaits her in rugby. **Zara was the winner of the Secondary Elite Performer of the Year award.**



We are incredibly proud of all our students successes and believe they are thoroughly deserving of being recognised within the district for their achievements.

**Unsung Hero of School Sport Award-** This award recognises an individual whose dedication, passion, and behind-the-scenes efforts are vital to making sport and physical activity thrive at their school.

**Mr Carolan** is a driving force behind sport at The Nobel School, dedicating countless hours to ensure every student has the opportunity to participate, regardless of ability. His behind-the-scenes work - from setting up lots of different opportunities to supervising fixtures late into the evening - demonstrates his unwavering commitment. Mr Carolan's efforts go far beyond logistics; he creates an inclusive and supportive environment where all students feel valued and encouraged to get involved in physical activity. His belief that sport is for everyone, not just the most talented, has inspired countless students to grow in confidence and embrace new opportunities.

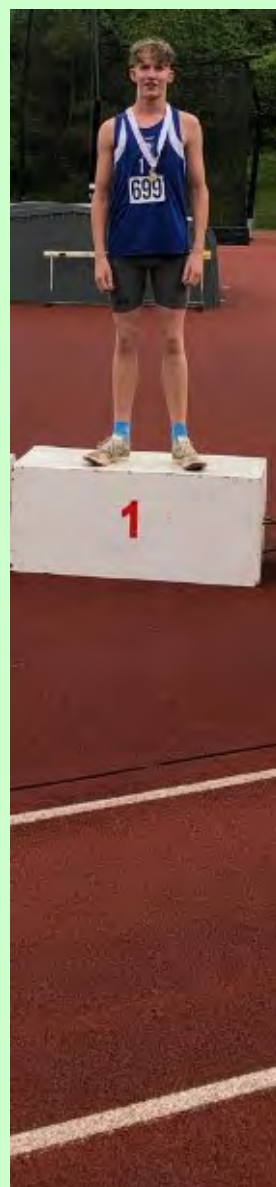
Through his exceptional organisation, leadership, and care, Mr Carolan has helped make sport at Nobel into more than just a subject - it's a vibrant, welcoming community. He tirelessly manages teams and events, ensuring everything runs smoothly while putting students' needs at the heart of it all. His passion and dedication often go unrecognised, but his impact is clear: without him, the sporting life of the school simply wouldn't be the same. Mr Carolan truly embodies the spirit of an Unsung Hero in school sport. **Mr Carolan won the Unsung Hero of School Sport Award.**



Congratulations to all award winners.

**Mrs C Hill**  
**Teacher of PE and**  
**Dance**

## Student Sporting Success



On Saturday 7 June, Aubrey Murray in Yr 11 represented the school in the County Schools Athletics competition in the 3000m event. Aubrey ran a great race in 9.51 and came first securing a gold medal.

This was not the only achievement for Aubrey. Due to his result he qualified a place in the English Schools competition. He competed in his favoured event, 1500m Steeplechase. This event took place in Birmingham on Saturday 12 July and I am pleased to share that Aubrey ran a

personal best of 4.27 and came 5<sup>th</sup> overall. A fantastic achievement!

We are incredibly proud of Aubrey and wish him the best of luck with his sporting success.

**Mrs E Camp**  
**Head of PE**



# Student Sporting Success

Amelia Shaw, a talented Year 13 student, has recently returned from the prestigious Dance World Cup held in Spain, where she showcased her dedication, artistry, and technical excellence on the international stage. Representing both her school and dance academy with pride, Amelia performed in multiple categories against some of the best young dancers from around the globe.

Amelia's hard work and commitment paid off with a series of impressive results across a highly competitive field. Most notably, she secured **3rd place in the Junior Large Contemporary Group**, earning a coveted podium finish and bringing home a bronze medal. This outstanding achievement highlights both her individual talent and her contribution to an incredible team performance.

In addition to this success, Amelia placed highly in a variety of other challenging categories:

- 6th in Senior Large Song and Dance Group
- 7th in Senior Large Lyrical Group
- 7th in Senior Small Showstopper Group
- 10th in Senior Small Jazz Group
- 10th in Senior Large Contemporary Group
- 11th in Senior Small Ballet Group

These results are a testament to Amelia's versatility



and dedication across multiple dance styles, from the technical demands of ballet and jazz to the expressive artistry required in lyrical and contemporary performances.

Her school and local community are extremely proud of her accomplishments and look forward to seeing where her dance journey takes her next.

Congratulations, Amelia!

**Mrs C Hill**  
Teacher of PE and Dance

# Year 7 Enrichment Trip to Whipsnade Zoo



On Monday and Tuesday of the last week of term we took the Year 7 students to

Whipsnade Zoo for their enrichment trip. It was a great visit, which the student thoroughly enjoyed. Students had the opportunity to see animals from many continents including elephants, rhinos and camels from Asia; giraffes, lions and zebras from Africa; and brown bears and wolverines from Europe. Students also visited the aquarium and butterfly house and some managed to catch

the bird show.



A personal favourite were the otters and penguins!

The students had the opportunity to see many exotic animals and animals they had never seen in real life before and there were many photos taken by them. Some had the opportunity to get up close with some smaller animals in the petting zoo.

I'd like to thank all the staff that attended to make the two days a success.

**Mr P Willsher**



# Developing Character

For the last two weeks of school, the character focus is on the Nobelian virtue of being **RESPECTFUL**.

*The Character Conundrum for 07/07/25 - 18/07/25 is below. Please can you take some time during the fortnight to read through this with your child and discuss what the right moral choice would be.*

## Character Conundrum 19 – RESPECTFUL

Gabriella has a small group of close friends, but her best friend is Claire. They have always been close since primary school and share everything. One day Claire asks to speak to Gabriella and tells her that she is gay, has always known really, but is worried about telling her other friends and parents. Gabriella feels let down as, although she had pretty much guessed as much, Claire had not shared this with her earlier. Claire asks her not to tell anyone but later that week some of the other friends are with Gabriella and the topic of Claire's sexuality comes up. Should she tell them about the conversation with Claire – I mean, they all pretty much know anyway?

## Support

This is a pretty cut and dry situation in that Gabriella must respect Claire's right to privacy. The only grey area here being whether Gabriella feels that Claire is struggling with her sexuality to the point where she could do herself some harm. If these were the case, then Gabriella should absolutely confide in a trusted person, however this should not be her group of friends. Most like Claire's parents or a trusted adult at school. The difficulty here being that Gabriella has to make a judgement about this and almost certainly Claire will not be pleased that Gabriella has betrayed her confidence.

## Questions

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- Does Gabriella have a right to be hurt that Claire did not share this with her earlier?
- Should she keep this a secret – particularly from Claire's parents?



- Would it cause any harm to chat to her friends about this if they have pretty much guessed anyway?
- Do you think it sounds likely that Claire could harm herself based on the information above?

Warm regards

Mr N Brown

Assistant Headteacher

### How to support your child using GCSEPod



#### What is GCSEPod?

GCSEPod is an award-winning expert in Subject Knowledge. We provide 3-5 minute bursts of audio-visual, teacher written learning which can help to reinforce and consolidate key GCSE topics covered in lessons. Experts read and explain everything clearly including all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and diagrams on screen.

#### Tips & Tricks


- **Watch online or offline!** Ask your child to download some Pods to their mobile device, this way they are free to expand their knowledge wherever they go.
- **Create Playlists!** Use the My Playlist area to create bespoke playlists on topics that they may find challenging. Having a personalised playlist means your child has fast access to Pods that will help to fill in knowledge gaps.
- **Use Favourites!** Challenge your child to a favourite 10 Pods on topics they find difficult/challenging. Watch the Pods together and use one of our other suggested learning techniques to help simplify what it is they're struggling with.
- **Memory Cards!** Watch the Pods and then together write key facts, dates, diagrams and quotes. Then test their knowledge to see how much they remember.  
*Top Tip:* Turn it into a competition and reward your child for correctly answered questions. If you're stuck on what questions to ask your child then head over to our 'Quiz your Child' document.
- **Support Homework!** GCSEPod isn't just for revision, it's to help expand your child's subject knowledge. If your child is struggling with a piece of homework, you can search for the topic on GCSEPod and use the Pods as an additional resource.




#### Does your child know they have access to GCSEPod?

If your son or daughter have already activated their account, they simply need to log in with the username and password they've created.

If they've not yet activated their GCSEPod account, simply follow these simple instructions:

1. Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)
2. Click **Login**
3. Click **New Here? Getting Started**
4. Ensure they've selected they are a **Pupil**
5. Enter their personal details as requested
6. Create a Username and Password



 **GCSEPOD.COM**  **INFO@GCSEPOD.COM**  **0191 338 7830**

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## Library News

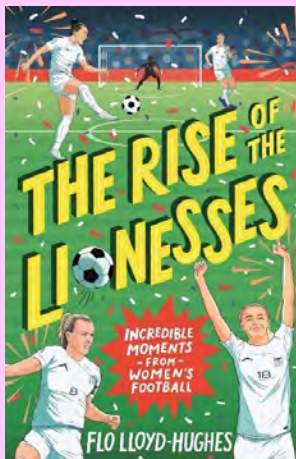
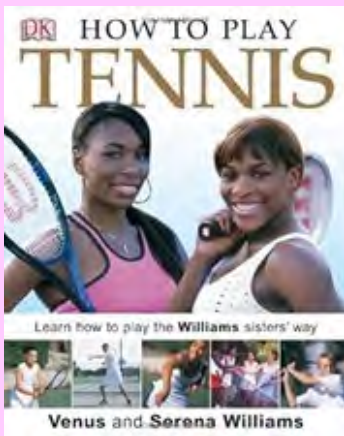
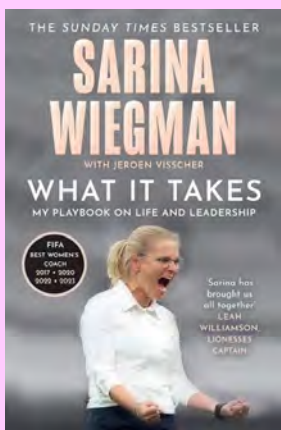


A big thank you to everyone who has helped in the library over the last year. From staff to Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteers, to everyone who just pops in and helps putting books back on shelves.

A special mention though, to all of the Sixth Form Volunteers who have given their time since September to help with the smooth running of the library this year. You are amazing and very much appreciated.



If Wimbledon has inspired you to know more about playing tennis, or football with the current UEFA European Women's Championship, pop into the library for our books on display for both sports.



Ms A Hawke  
Librarian

THE CRIME WRITERS' ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



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Mystery and crime books are regularly borrowed from our library throughout the year, so during June, our display highlighted and promoted National Crime Reading Month.

Our hugely popular authors include Holly Jackson and her Good Girl's Guide to Murder trilogy, alongside Robin Stevens with the Murder Most Unladylike series. Other authors include Karen M. McManus, Fleur Hitchcock and Sue Wallman





## The Nobel Book Club News

The Nobel Book Club had an end of term cinema trip to see the film version of one of the books some of us had enjoyed.

We watched *The Salt Path*, based on Raynor Winn's book. It is a true story of her and her husband, Moth, who lose their family farm when an investment recommendation goes terribly wrong. Moth is diagnosed with a rare degenerative illness, and when the couple become homeless and struggle to get help, they decide to run away from it all. With little money, a tent and not much else, they start to walk the many miles of the coastal path around Southwest England. The couple follow the route described in Raynor's book, which becomes battered and ragged just as they do on their trip. Their resilience is challenged many times but through adversity they become stronger. Moth's illness stops worsening and even improves with the miles that they walk.

Rather than being sombre, the story becomes about hope. The couple meet varied reactions from the people they meet on the way, sometimes very hostile but ultimately, they are helped by a friend and experience kindness from other strangers, one of whom offers them a home in the end. Humour and the wild beauty of the scenery remain throughout this moving story.

Overall, we preferred the book, finding the film skipped over parts of the story that gave it more context and depth. However, the cinematography excellently captures the rugged beauty of the scenery and occasionally terrifying loss of control, being at the mercy of the elements, facing terrifying storms.

There was much to talk about together afterwards. This is what we all enjoy most about the Book Club where we share a mutual love of stories and writing (traditional paper books, e books, audio books, films and theatre). We don't always like the same things, but we exchange recommendations between friends and try new things. Anyone is welcome to join next term whether from the school or community.



**Nobel School  
Parents, Staff  
and  
Community  
Book Group  
Members**

## Yr 11 Prom

We had the chance to say goodbye to our amazing Yr 11s this year with our school leavers prom, held at Chesfield downs. Everyone arrived in their luxurious cars looking fantastic ready for a party to cap off what was a very hard-working year.

The atmosphere throughout the night was wonderful. Dancing, smiling, taking photos, even a mass chorus of happy birthday for one of the year group, showing just how close the year group have become over the years. It truly was a great party.

A wonderful send off for a wonderful group of young people, we look forward to seeing them all on results day.

**Mr D Galvin  
Head of Yr 11**





# Students regularly completing their Sparx Reader homework made almost 2 year's reading progress this year!

Sparx Reader was launched in years 7 and 8 this year and has proven to be an amazing success in driving reading and comprehension skills up. We advocate for our students to read physical books, of course, as we know the many benefits of that. Our wonderful library is open every day and every student has been encouraged to borrow a library book for the summer break.

Reading books has so many benefits - stress reduction, vocabulary building, empathy, to name but a few - so Sparx Reader is not intended to replace the reading of books. However, Sparx offers us invaluable insights that mean we can support your child when required and celebrate their successes. When we launched, we set out to **combine** reading actual books with reading digital books on the Sparx Reader platform. This gives your child a meaningful reading experience and, crucially, enables us to monitor their **progress** and **accuracy** when it comes to **understanding** what they have read. The figures speak for themselves: Nobel students have done over **14,000 hours** of reading and completed a staggering **5,714 books**!

The impact on progress is even more impressive, with data suggesting that students who complete their reading and comprehension homework on Sparx Reader every week make on average **1.8 years of reading progress** - that's 9.8 months additional progress compared to a student who only reads books. So, the combination appears to be a winning one!

Sparx Reader's team are still developing the platform, and they are listening to feedback from our students. For example, students can now read a sample of a book before they commit to it; they can now select which genre they would like to be offered, and they can now click on 'Not for me' for an exchange if they aren't enjoying a book.

Sparx Reader homework is being set for the summer break for years 7 and 8, however, we have reduced the number of SRP by 50%. Therefore, students in years 7 and 8 will only read for approximately 30 minutes each week. As usual, we would prefer them to divide that time rather than spend 30 minutes solid on a device.

Sparx Reader have over 500 titles and their library is growing. They now offer the GCSE literature texts that we study too - relevant summer reading is being set for the new year 11 cohort -so years 10 and 11 will join the platform. This means that, next year, years 7-11 will be using Sparx Reader!

Thank you for your continued parental support with Sparx Reader. It really does make a difference.

**Mrs Di Gregorio**  
**Head of Literacy**



Each week we have a  
Genre focus  
This week is Classics



Pop into the Library for  
recommendations and to look at  
our display

## Library Opening Times

Monday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Tuesday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Wednesday 8:15 to 4:15pm

Thursday 8:15am to 4:15pm

Friday 8:15am to 3:45pm

Also remember, you have

**Accessit**  
LIBRARY

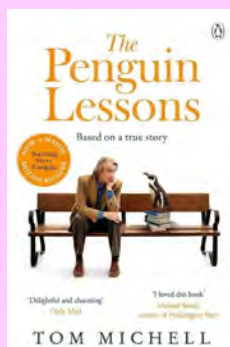
**Sparx Reader**

whenever you need them

## NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

The next meeting will be held in the Library,  
6:30pm, on Tuesday 16 September.

The books to read are:



Read all or part of the book and discuss it in a  
friendly informal group

Contact: Amanda Hawke:

01438 222600

THERE IS NO  
SUCH THING AS  
= TOO MANY =  
BOOKS



My Voice

# Volunteer for the Summer Reading Challenge

Give 12 hours of your summer  
-  
Help children register  
-  
Talk to children about their books  
-  
Give out rewards  
-  
Help keep the Children's Library running smoothly

1 in 5 children cannot read well by the age of 11.

The Summer Reading Challenge, with the support of public libraries, is on a mission to change this!

Scan Me   
to learn more and sign up  
or ask in your local library.



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



DSA  
ACHIEVE





## Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshops July – September 2025

Workshops are open to all young people & parents/carers of children and young people who attend a school or are registered with a GP in Hertfordshire. A referral is not needed to access a workshop.

All workshops are currently being delivered online via Microsoft Teams. For more information about what each workshop covers and to book a place onto a workshop, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/hct-childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-33494371787>



Workshop	Date & Time
<b>Emotional Wellbeing (For Young People 11-16)</b> A workshop focused on adolescents managing their emotional wellbeing and things parents/carers can do to help.	Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> July 10 am-12 pm Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September 6-8 pm
<b>Adolescent Self-Esteem and Resilience</b> A workshop focused on adolescents improving their self-esteem and resilience and what parents/carers can do to help.	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 6-8 pm Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 6-8 pm
<b>Supporting your Child's Self-Esteem and Resilience</b> A workshop focused on parents/carers supporting their child to improve their self-esteem and resilience.	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> August 10 am-12 pm
<b>Supporting with Sleep Difficulties</b> This workshop focuses on supporting children and adolescents with managing their sleep difficulties and things parents/carers can do to help.	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> August 6-8 pm
<b>Developing your Child's Emotional Literacy</b> A workshop focused on parents supporting their child with developing emotional literacy.	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 6-8 pm Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> August 10 am-12 pm Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September 6-8 pm
<b>General Emotional Wellbeing and Regulation Tips for Parents/Carers</b> A workshop focused on parents supporting their child's general emotional wellbeing and ability to emotionally regulate.	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 10 am-12 pm Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August 6-8 pm Wednesday 24 September 10 am-12 pm

To access the recorded **Emotionally Based School Avoidance Webinar** please visit:  
<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-21/>





# Fish Fest

Fishing Engagement Supporting Teenagers Delivered  
by Cast A Thought in Partnership with Herts Police



## THE PROGRAMME

01

### What is Fish Fest

A unique, diversionary programme designed for young people aged 11-16 years who are showing signs of risky behaviour.

02

### Benefits

- Builds confidence and resilience
- Provides constructive & meaningful activity
- Reduces anti-social and risky behaviours
- Breaks down barriers with the police

03

### Programme Includes

- 3 interactive class room sessions teaching fishing basics - on weekdays
- 2 days of fishing in friendly competition with prizes - on weekends
- Opportunities to engage with police offices in a positive, informal setting



### REFER TO US:

Referral forms available from  
**Mark.Howard@herts.police.uk**  
**Karen.Mellor@herts.police.uk**

[www.castathought.co.uk](http://www.castathought.co.uk)  
#changinglivesthroughangling



**HERTFORDSHIRE**  
CONSTABULARY





# PLAYERS WANTED FOR 2025/26

## School Year 9 - September 2025



Bedwell Rangers FC are a Stevenage-based club, looking to add players to their U14s Boas squad for the upcoming season.

The side plays in the Royston Crow League, and trains on a new 3G surface. Training is currently on Tuesday, with Matchday on a Sunday.

If this is something that may be of interest please contact:

Justin - 07793 593537



@bedwellrangersfc

#WeAreBedwellRangers

# BOYS YOUTH RUGBY

## DATCHWORTH RFC



**ACTIVELY RECRUITING**  
**BOYS IN SCHOOL YEARS:**  
**7, 8, 9, 10 & 11**

**TRAINING MIDWEEK**  
**AND SUNDAYS**

**NOVICE & EXPERIENCED**  
**PLAYERS WELCOME!**

**FOR FREE TRIAL SESSIONS & MORE INFO...**



**HERTS  
SUMMER  
PARKS**

**Stevenage**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Herfordshire's  
Holiday Activity Programme  
**HAPPY**

  
Department  
for Education

# FREE PARKS FESTIVAL WITH FOOD



Coming to  
**STEVENAGE**  
AGES 12–16

## WHERE

King George V  
Playing Fields,  
Sish Lane,  
Stevenage,  
SG1 3LS

## WHEN

8th August  
15th August  
22nd August  
3pm – 6pm

Register your  
interest here



Free takeaway vouchers available if you attend activities



# ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER.



## TEEN SLANG, EMOJIS, & HASHTAGS



With constant access to social media and messaging apps, teens often use slang, acronyms, and emojis to communicate in ways that aren't always clear to adults. These meanings can change quickly—and vary by school or location—making it hard to keep up. SmartSocial.com offers an updated guide to help parents and educators

stay informed about trending terms, hidden emoji meanings, and risky hashtags, supporting safer, more open conversations with young people.

[430+ Teen Slang, Emojis, & Hashtags Parents Need to Know](#)

## TEENS, SOCIAL MEDIA & YOU

"Teens, social media & you" is a guide from media smart and tiktok, designed for parents and carers of teens aged 13+. It helps adults understand the online world their young person is navigating, offering tips to support safe, balanced use of social media through open conversation and active involvement.

[Media Smart - TikTok Teens, Social Media and You](#)



## WHAT TECH-FACILITATED ABUSE LOOKS LIKE IN TEENAGE RELATIONSHIPS



Teenagers' online and offline lives are closely connected, including their relationships. Technology can enhance communication but also enable control and abuse. Learn how to support your teen in recognizing and responding to tech-facilitated abuse. For more insights, read the Internet Matters blog on this issue [Tech-facilitated abuse: Guide for parents | Internet Matters](#)

### TIPS:

- Help your teen secure their devices and accounts
- Check for tracking devices and spyware
- Document digital abuse and keep evidence
- Report and seek support



## CHILDLINE - BEHIND THE SCREEN

Sexual extortion (blackmail) is a growing concern. *Behind the Screen* is a free campaign and information pack from Childline, offering guidance for staff, parents, and young people on its impact, language, and support strategies. Some important areas covered in the guide include:

- How to Spot the Signs
- Common Language & Tactics
- Impact on Young People
- How to Support Young People
- Where to Get Help

*Childline Reach: Behind the Screen*



## HELP LGBTQ+ CHILDREN BROWSE SAFELY ONLINE

This guide provides advice on how to support LGBTQ+ children in navigating the online world safely. It covers key topics such as:

- Privacy settings
- Safe browsing
- Dealing with online hate
- Accessing supportive communities

The guide aims to help parents and carers create a safe and inclusive digital environment where LGBTQ+ children can explore their identities while staying protected from online risks.

*LGBTQ+ children browsing safely | Internet Matters*



## WHAT IS KICK STREAMING? WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW



Many parents and carers are familiar with Twitch, a popular live-streaming platform for gamers. Due to controversies over its restrictions, alternatives like Kick have gained popularity. Launched in 2022, Kick follows a similar model where users (13+) can stream and earn money. However, much of its content is adult in nature, making it important for parents to be aware of the platform and its potential risks for younger users.

*What is Kick streaming? Safety guide for parents | Internet Matters*

## GAME SAFE GUIDE - HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE GAME SAFELY ONLINE

The "Game Safe" guide from Internet Matters helps parents support safe, balanced online gaming for young people. It covers age-appropriate content, managing screen time, setting parental controls, and staying alert to online risks like in-game chats and spending. It also encourages open conversations to promote safe and positive gaming experiences.

*Game safe guide to help young people game safely online*

PARENTS/CARERS - ONLINE SAFETY NEWS - SUMMER 2025 - PAGE 2

The information in the newsletter is given to help promote the safety of children and young people online.

Every care has been taken to ensure the information and any recommendations in the newsletter are accurate at the time of publishing. Schools must make their own judgements when sharing our recommendations with parents and carers and, where appropriate, always risk assess with their pupils and whole school community in mind.

This newsletter is brought to you by the HFL Education Wellbeing team as part of their online safety support for schools and settings in Hertfordshire. Contact the team at [wellbeing@hfleducation.org](mailto:wellbeing@hfleducation.org) or call 01438 544464.

HFL Education is a leading national provider of school improvement and business support services, training, and resources, which enable schools, educational settings, and multi-academy trusts to deliver a great education.

We support those we work with to achieve successful long-term outcomes for their children.

We believe that every young person, through access to a great education, should be able to realise their potential, regardless of where they live, their background or circumstances.



01438 544 464

Visit our website





# STEVENAGE

## YOUTH WORK PROJECTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### REACH OUT

A programme of one-to-one and groupwork support for young people at risk of exploitation and abuse, helping them to make informed choices about safe and healthy relationships.

### POSITIVE PATHWAYS

A programme of one-to-one support and groupwork for young people involved in or at risk of involvement in crime and antisocial behaviour.

### 11-5 HUB - BOWES LYON YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE

Information, advice and support on a range of issues, including mental, emotional and physical health, healthy relationships, sexual health (including free condoms), personal safety, benefits and finances, alcohol and drug use, smoking and vaping and, for those not at school or college, help finding a course, job or apprenticeship.

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage, SG1 1XY

Monday, Wednesday and  
Friday 11am-5pm  
For young people aged 11-19, up  
to 25 for care leavers and those  
with SEND

For more details of the youth work projects in this district, please visit the district project page on the SfYP website using the QR code below.

Tel: 0300 123 7538 Text: 07860 065173  
sfyp@hertfordshire.gov.uk  
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org  
@HCCSYF



Services for  
Young People



01438 843340  
sfyp.stevenage@hertfordshire.gov.uk  
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

Services for  
Young People

### SUMMER TERM 2025

### Enabling young people to succeed

Area Service Manager: Lucy Davis  
Youth Work Practice Manager: Laura Butcher

### BOYS AND YOUNG MALES PROJECT

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage, SG1  
1XY

Mondays 6pm-8pm  
For young people aged 11-14

### STEVENAGE YOUTH COUNCIL

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage,  
SG1 1XY

Thursdays 6pm-8pm  
For young people aged 11-17

### IDENTITY PROJECT

Please contact  
sfyp.stevenage@hertfordshire.gov.uk  
or 01438843340 for more information

Mondays 6.30pm-8.30pm  
For LGBT+ young people aged 13-17

### EMOTIONAL WELLBEING PROJECT

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage,  
SG1 1XY

Thursdays 6.30pm-8.30pm  
For young people aged 12-15

### MEGAMIX PROJECT

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage, SG1  
1XY

Tuesdays 6.30pm-8.30pm  
For young people aged 13-17 with  
SEND

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Bowes Lyon Young People's  
Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage,  
SG1 1XY

Fridays 4pm-6pm  
For young people aged 14-25

### SEND YOUTH COUNCIL

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage, SG1  
1XY

Wednesdays 6pm-8pm  
For young people aged 11-17 with  
SEND

### THE OVAL PROJECT

The Oval Community Centre  
Vardon Road, Stevenage, SG1 5RD

Fridays 6.45pm-8.45pm  
For young people aged 11-14

### RAISING ASPIRATIONS PROJECT

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage, SG1 1XY

Thursdays 12.30pm-2.30pm  
For home educated young people  
aged 13-16

### BEDWELL FRIDAY NIGHT PROJECT

Bowes Lyon Young People's Centre  
St George's Way, Stevenage,  
SG1 1XY

Fridays 7pm-9pm  
For young people aged 14-17

Before a young person can attend a youth work project, a referral must be made via the SfYP website: [www.servicesforyoungpeople.org](http://www.servicesforyoungpeople.org).



# EMPOWERING PARENTS TO HELP CHILDREN THRIVE



**Bounce Forward, in collaboration with the Harry Kane Foundation, are gifting a series of six online sessions that equip parents with the knowledge and tools to foster mental resilience and emotional wellbeing for themselves and their children.**

#### **What we'll cover**

- How the brain works, the link between thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- Nurturing optimism and thinking flexibly to overcome adversity
- Helping children gain more control over how they feel and behave
- Developing empathy
- How to connect meaningfully
- Enabling a growth mindset and focusing on strengths

#### **17,000+ parents highly rate this programme**

*"It was so amazing, I looked forward to the sessions each week, learnt a lot of mind blowing information, that I have applied to my life and have seen improvements! Wish there was more sessions, so sad that it has ended! I have loved learning about my strengths, the ABCs, process praise, the growth mind set, being aware of my gremlins, it has been wonderful learning, and these sessions have been apart of my self care! Thank you ever so much!"*

**REGISTER HERE**

Link to register : <https://bounceforward.com/bounce-forward-raise-resilience-hkf/>





# Year 10 Summer School

Year 10 students parents—looking for a productive AND fun way to keep your teen engaged this summer?



To find out more and book visit

**[www.year10summerschool.co.uk](http://www.year10summerschool.co.uk)**

This August, we are running The Year 10 Summer School at North Herts College, designed to boost students' confidence in maths and English before Year 11.

The one week programme (4th–8th August) offers small classes, subject specialist teachers, and a balance of academic learning and activities such as a karting reward day.

The Year 10 Summer School

[www.year10summerschool.co.uk](http://www.year10summerschool.co.uk)

[info@year10summerschool.co.uk](mailto:info@year10summerschool.co.uk)



# TALKING TEENS



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course ID: 778**  
16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2025

**Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course ID: 777**  
6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> Nov, 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

**6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-19, covering:**

- **The Teen Brain: Recognising the physical and emotional changes taking place and why their behaviour changes.**
- **The link between behaviour and difficult feelings.**
- **Maintaining your relationship with good communication.**
- **Understanding risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.**
- **How to negotiate during a conflict situation.**

Our online sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

"Our home is no longer a battlefield. I am less stressed and my teenager speaks to me more. Thank you!"

**Booking essential**

**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk**

**www.supportinglinks.co.uk**

These courses are provided free to participants by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

# TALKING DADS



**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course ID: 779**  
17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2025

**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course ID: 780**  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> Nov, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

**6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of all ages, sharing information on:**

- **Increasing confidence in your parenting.**
- **Developing a healthy dad/child relationship now and for the future.**
- **Improved listening and communication skills.**
- **Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.**
- **How to enforce boundaries.**

Our online sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to dads and male carers living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

"Our home is no longer a battlefield. I am less stressed and my teenager speaks to me more. Thank you!"

**Booking essential**

**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk**

**www.supportinglinks.co.uk**

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# TALKING FAMILIES



**Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm Online Course ID: 774**  
17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2025

**Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am Online Course ID: 772**  
18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2025

**Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm Online Course ID: 773**  
4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

**6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children under 12, sharing tips on how to:**

- **Manage challenging behaviour with consistency**
- **Encourage positive behaviour**
- **Build your child's self esteem**
- **Set and maintain boundaries**
- **Respond to tantrums and difficult feelings in children**
- **Develop a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future**

Our online sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

"Every parent should do this course! It has taught me so much about how to deal with family life."

**Booking essential**

**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk**

**www.supportinglinks.co.uk**

These courses are provided free to participants by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

# TALKING ANXIETY in TEENS



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm Online Course ID: 776**  
16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2025

**6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-18, supporting you to:**

- **Understand why young people and adults get anxious.**
- **Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.**
- **Recognise the early signs of anxiety and be able to avoid escalation.**
- **Reduce stress and tension.**
- **Encourage resilient behaviour and strengthen relationships in the family.**

Our online sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

"This course has helped us massively. We are responding so differently, and it's really helping us to cope day to day."

**Booking essential**

**Please quote the course ID**  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

**bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk**

**www.supportinglinks.co.uk**

These courses are provided free to participants by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.



# TALKING ANGER in TEENS



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm Online Course ID: 776**  
4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025

**6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-18, supporting you to:**

- Understand why children and adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger and be able to avoid escalation.
- Reduce conflicts and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour and strengthen relationships in the family.

Our online sessions are delivered weekly via Zoom.

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'I am not ashamed to say that their anger used to scare me. I now feel able to cope with it, and even help. I am much more confident, thank you so much!'

**Booking essential**  
Please quote the course ID  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

[bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)

[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)

These courses are provided free to participants by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

# TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS



**Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am Online Course ID: 770**  
17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2025  
Delivered online using Zoom

**Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm Face-to-Face ID: 771**  
5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> Nov, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025  
Venue TBA  
Watford

**A 6-week group for parents and carers of children with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.**

- Understand your child's behaviour
- Develop strategies that really work
- Reduce conflict and increase co-operation
- Improve emotional regulation
- Explore sensory needs
- Increase your child's resilience
- Manage the different needs within your family

Groups are open to parents, carers, grandparents and guardians living, or with a child in school, in Hertfordshire.

'I have been on a few courses to help me with my child but this was by far the most helpful'

**Booking essential**  
Please quote the course ID  
To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:

**07512 709 556**

[bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)

[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)

These courses are provided free to participants by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund

Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.

## Parent & Carer Support Autumn Term 2025

**FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire**

### TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **12-19**, covering:

- The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.
- How to negotiate and reduce conflict.



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**  
16<sup>th</sup> Sep - 21<sup>st</sup> Oct  
**Online Course: ID 778**

**Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**  
6<sup>th</sup> Nov - 11<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Online Course: ID 777**

### TALKING ANGER in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **11-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why children and adults get angry.
- Develop strategies to handle anger in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm**  
4<sup>th</sup> Nov - 9<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Online Course: ID 775**

### TALKING ADDITIONAL NEEDS

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children **2-19**, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- Understand your child's behaviour.
- Develop strategies that really work.
- Reduce conflict.
- Improve emotional regulation.
- Explore sensory needs.
- Increase your child's resilience.
- Manage different needs in your family.



**Wednesdays 7pm - 9pm**  
5<sup>th</sup> Nov - 10<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Course ID 771**  
Watford, venue TBA

**Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am**  
17<sup>th</sup> Sep - 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct  
**Course ID 770**

## TALKING FAMILIES

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged **0-12** sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries.
- Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.



**Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm**  
17<sup>th</sup> Sep - 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct  
**Online Course ID 774**

**Thursdays 9.45 - 11.15am**  
18<sup>th</sup> Sep - 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct  
**Online Course ID 772**

**Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm**  
4<sup>th</sup> Nov - 9<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Online Course ID 773**

## TALKING ANXIETY in TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **12-19**, supporting you to:

- Understand why young people and adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.



**Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm**  
16<sup>th</sup> Sep - 21<sup>st</sup> Oct  
**Online Course ID 776**

## TALKING DADS

6, weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children **0-19**, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills.
- A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.



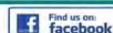
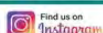
**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**  
17<sup>th</sup> Sep - 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct  
**Online Course: ID 779**

**Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm**  
5<sup>th</sup> Nov - 10<sup>th</sup> Dec  
**Online Course: ID 780**

**Booking essential. Please Quote the Course ID**

To check eligibility and book a place, please contact Supporting Links on:  
**07512 709556 or [bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)**

These courses are provided free to parents by Hertfordshire County Council's Targeted Parenting Fund  
Information taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any access needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request





# Parent & Carer Support TALKING ASD & ADHD Workshops Autumn 2025



Workshops are FREE to parents and carers living in **Hertfordshire** of children aged 2-25yrs with suspected or diagnosed Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

← Eventbrite Page

## RESPONDING to ANGER



- Healthy & unhealthy anger.
- How to spot the signs early.
- Our own and our children's triggers.
- Techniques that stop angry and aggressive behaviour escalating and when to use them.
- How to respond to our child in meltdown, keeping ourselves, our child and siblings safe.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 9.30-11.15am**

Workshop SL781 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/asd-adhd-responding-to-anger-781-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-1413258727899?aff=odtdtcreator>

## THE TEENAGE YEARS



- Teenage brain development and how it affects a child with ASD/ADHD.
- Reducing conflict by learning how to respond effectively to difficult situations.
- How to agree appropriate boundaries and teach risk assessment.
- Help teens develop independence skills.

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30-9.15pm**

Workshop SL782 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-the-teenage-years-782-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-1417376895449?aff=odtdtcreator>

## SCHOOL AVOIDANCE



- What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance and is this what your child is experiencing?
- Common causes and triggers of school avoidance.
- How EBSA is affecting you and your family.
- Practical steps you can take to support your child and look after yourself.
- How to work with your school in your child's best interests.

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30-9.15pm**

Workshop SL783 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-school-avoidance783-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-1417463965879?aff=odtdtcreator>

## TECH USE



- Keep your child safe online.
- Help your child to switch their device off.
- Support behaviour difficulties when playing.
- The effect of using devices as a reward or consequence.
- Teach children to develop their own methods of regulating device use and staying safe.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 7.30-9.15pm**

Workshop SL784 book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-asd-adhd-tech-use-784-for-parentscarers-in-herts-registration-1417436894909?aff=odtdtcreator>

Follow us on:



Contact via:

[info@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:info@supportinglinks.co.uk)  
[www.supportinglinks.co.uk](http://www.supportinglinks.co.uk)

Funded by Hertfordshire County  
Council's Targeted Parenting Fund



Information you share with us is used to process your booking. This will be held securely and only shared in accordance with our GDPR Policy.