

From the Headteacher

As we reach the end of another academic year, it is hard to believe how quickly the last month has flown by. It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding few weeks, filled with opportunities to celebrate the achievements, talents and successes of our Nobel students.

One of the highlights of the month was our annual Nobel Awards Evening, where we recognised the outstanding accomplishments of students across all subject areas, as well as those who have demonstrated exceptional progress at both Key Stage 3, 4 and Key Stage 5. It was a wonderful celebration of the dedication, resilience and ambition shown by so many of our young people. We were also delighted to welcome our keynote speaker, Kit Brown, a former Nobel student, who shared his inspiring journey and reflected on the values and character strengths that have helped him achieve success. His message about the importance of perseverance, kindness and embracing opportunities resonated with students, families and staff alike.

We were equally pleased to welcome our new Year 7 students for their Transition Day. It was fantastic to see so much enthusiasm as they experienced life at Nobel for the first time ahead of joining us in September. Throughout the day, students took part in team-building activities, sampled lessons, and became familiar with our school environment. The day was a great success, and we are excited to officially welcome them into the Nobel community in the new academic year.

Despite the exceptionally warm weather requiring a slightly different format, Sports Day was another memorable occasion. The day showcased not only the impressive sporting talents of our students but also the incredible sense of pride, teamwork and belonging within our house system. Congratulations to Elliot who won!

Alongside Sports Day, we were delighted to celebrate our overall House Champions. Congratulations to Curie again who secured the title with an outstanding total of 48870 house points. This is a tremendous achievement and a reflection of the collective effort and commitment shown throughout the year. This is a record-breaking year, as this is the highest amount of house points in Nobel's history! Well done also to every student who contributed to their house's success, we look forward to another exciting competition next year.

As my first year as Headteacher, at Nobel comes to a close, I want to say what a privilege it has been to lead this wonderful community. I would like to thank our students, staff and parents and governors for their support throughout the year.

I have been continually impressed by the resilience, determination and maturity of our students, as well as their willingness to embrace high expectations while showing kindness, respect and compassion towards one another. Together, we are building a culture where every member of our community is encouraged to strive for excellence, support each other and take pride in belonging to Nobel.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our students and their families a restful, safe and enjoyable summer break. I hope everyone has the opportunity to relax, recharge and spend quality time with loved ones. I am incredibly excited about everything that the new academic year will bring, and I look forward to continuing our journey together as we develop confident, kind and resilient young individuals who are ready to thrive both in school and beyond.

**Best wishes,
Rav Phagura
Headteacher**

Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Prom this year was held at Chesfield Downs Golf, Health & Country Club, providing the perfect setting for a memorable evening of celebration.

Our young people certainly arrived in style, making unforgettable entrances on Harley-Davidson motorcycles, a motocross bike, a vintage truck and in elegant limousines—each arrival reflecting the confidence and individuality of this chic and sophisticated year group.

It was a joy to see everyone in their very carefully planned, and in some cases, co-ordinated outfits that had taken months in planning (we were kept up to date weekly with photos) and the confidence that shone through from all of them.

The dance floor was full all evening as they danced, sang LOUDLY and celebrated together, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

The Class of 2026 did themselves and Nobel proud. It was a privilege to share such a special evening with them, and we wish them every success and happiness for the future.

Thank you to those staff who attended, the students loved having you there.

Mrs Jones and Mrs Smith



Year 13 Prom 24th June | Chesfield Downs Golf Club

A wonderful evening of celebration- the sun shone! Time to celebrate completion of exams, months of dedicated focus on study and time with us in Sixth Form at Nobel. It was lovely to see all enjoy spending time with close friends, current and former staff and just relax! Chesfield Downs was a beautiful location, the students looked amazing and we had the perfect summer evening to mark the end of Sixth Form and look forward to the future.

The night ran smoothly and with ease, allowing everyone a chance to socialise, dance and have some fun! We would like to say a massive thank you to those involved in helping with the preparations and in the co-ordinating of the evening and we hope all who attended had a night to remember! We wish all of Year 13 the best of luck as they leave Nobel and begin the next chapter of their lives!

Wishing you well deserved success on Results Day in August.

Miss J Mordaunt



Year 8 Enrichment Day

On Monday 13 July, Year 8 took part in an enrichment day all centred around careers. In each form we were split into groups and given the challenge to create a pitch for a new product of our own invention. During the process, we were tested on our leadership, teamwork, creativity and resilience skills- all needed for future job opportunities. After an hour of discussion and planning, our form tutors then gave us the resources to make a prototype of our product out of cardboard and paper. The groups further then wrote persuasive speeches about their invention which we presented to our class as a 'The Apprentice' style talk. It was really fun to be able to hear everybody's ideas and be able to ask them questions about their product.

Our form tutors then had to make the difficult decision of which group would win and go through to the next round to present their pitch to the whole year and be judged by Miss Savo, Mr Brown, Miss Hills and Mr Willsher. The rest of us were 'fired' and taken down to the auditorium to watch everybody else. All groups from each form did really well in their pitch, but ultimately the winners were decided as:

1st- 8E RME

2nd- 8C ACN

3rd-8E MFJ

After lunchtime, we all went outside to play bench ball/rounders out on the field against the other forms. It was a good end to a busy day which everybody enjoyed.

On the next day of enrichment, Year 8 went out of school to get a real taste of the working world through our Work Shadowing – an opportunity to go to an actual workplace and help for a day to learn new skills. It was also an amazing chance to help us to think about what it is we would like to do when we grow up and appreciate the hard work of other people more- such as our family, friends, teachers, etc. These past couple of days have been eye-opening and inspiring for me and everybody else – we all had so much fun!

Sophia J 8E RME



Year 8 Students Rise to the Challenge in Apprentice-Style Day

Year 8 students recently took part in an exciting Apprentice-style challenge, putting their teamwork, creativity and communication skills to the test in a fun and engaging day of activities.

Working in teams, students were presented with a series of business-inspired tasks that encouraged them to think critically, solve problems and pitch their ideas with confidence. Just like candidates on *The Apprentice*, they had to manage their time effectively, delegate responsibilities and work together to produce the best possible outcome.

Throughout the day, students demonstrated resilience, leadership and innovation as they tackled each challenge. The activities gave them a valuable insight into the skills employers look for in the workplace, while also helping to build confidence and develop their presentation abilities.

The standard of work was incredibly high, making it difficult for the judges to choose a winning team. Every student should be proud of the enthusiasm, determination and professionalism they showed throughout the event.

The winners were

1st place- 8E RME (Aariz Khan, Yumma Khanom, Hanna Dudau, Bonnie McLean)

2nd place 8C ACN (Irfan Rahman, Eddie Pomroy, Harper Alushi, Ava Frisby, Elisa Freeman)

3rd place 8E MFJ (Tobi Onabaworin, JJ Attieh, Bianca Zamaro, Uzma Khanom)

All students put in an incredible amount of effort in and we are so proud of all of them all!

Mrs Hill, Miss Savo, Mr Willsher



Mary Poppins 8 and 9 July 2026

The colourful and magical world of 'Mary Poppins' was brilliantly brought to life by the cast of the musical in July. The multi-talented cast danced their way through many famous musical numbers such as 'Jolly Holiday' and 'Step in Time' displaying great enthusiasm and commitment as the audience were taken on a magical journey in which the lives of the members of the Banks family are transformed after meeting the enigmatic Nanny, Mary Poppins. There were many standout moments that bear a mention the beautiful voice of Nancy Goodchild as Mary Poppins and the cheeky and loveable Jane and Michael Banks, played wonderfully by Jessica Jenkins and Finn Clynes. The whole cast worked hard to ensure that this was a Practically Perfect production that allowed us to see out the year in style. Every member of the cast worked hard to create a real ensemble performance, demonstrating how well the Nobel community can work together. The performing arts team are very proud of all the cast and can't wait for next year's performance events (starting with the year 10 pantomime – oh, yes it is!).

Ms W Parsley
Head of Drama



Dates for your Diary

- 17th July Last day of term (finish at 12.20pm)
- Summer Holidays
- 2nd September School returns for Year 13
- 3rd September School returns for Year 7 and 12
- 4th September School returns for all students



Sports Day Results

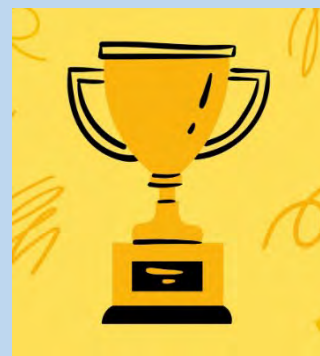
Winners of Sports Day:

Year 7: **Mandela**

Year 8: **Curie**

Year 9: **Eliot**

Year 10: **Curie**



Overall Sports Day Winners to be announced on Friday 17 July
(using combined totals for each year group)

Current House ABC Points Totals

Overall House Champions 2025/26 to be announced on Friday 17 July

15 July 2026	House	ABC Points
1st	Curie	48689
2nd	Eliot	48668
3rd	Mandela	45135
4th	Teresa	43316

Year 12 Work Experience 22-26 June

I spent a week at Stevenage Borough council and had the best time. I got to sit in the council chambers and learn about the important decision making that takes place with councillors elected by the different constituencies in Stevenage. My favourite part of the week was visiting the recycling centre on Cavendish road where I had a site tour, saw how the rubbish is disposed and got to see all the machinery. I really enjoyed learning about work the council do which is often not known by the public and am considering a job there in the future!

Hannah Creighton



Year 12 Geography Trip

The Y12 Geography class recently went to Brighton to conduct some fieldwork into coastal management and how people perceive Brighton. The class got the train to Brighton and despite 1 cancelled train made it there in good time. The students collected data to create 'beach profiles' which allows them to see a cross section of the beach and measure if sediment is moving along the beach quickly or slowly. After a morning in the sun we moved to the town to conduct surveys and collect information about building upkeep, age of buildings and traffic counts. The students' hypothesis were proven correct with the information we collected, Brighton is well protected from coastal erosion and the town is a vibrant and cosmopolitan town.

Mr G Breese
Head of Geography



Our last FONS meeting for this school year took place last week. During it we said goodbye to two long standing members Vicky and Jodie who we thank for all their help and support over the years. We also discussed the following bid from Design and Technology. They asked for £227 to purchase 10 new soldering irons that could have tips replaced making replacement and maintenance easier. The previous equipment was starting to fail and FONS were more than happy to support.

On Thursday 3rd September the New Year 7 Parents Coffee Morning takes place 8:30-9:15. FONS will be present to sell 100 club raffle balls and to encourage parents to get involved in the committee or individual events across the year.

FONS meeting dates 2026/2027

Monday 14 September

Tuesday 24 November

Monday 25 January

Tuesday 23 February

Monday 26 April

Tuesday 15 June

Monday 5 July

All meeting take place at 7pm in the school library and last for a maximum of 1 hour. They focus on arrangements for any upcoming events and also agree things like funding bids made by school departments. Tea and coffee is also provided.

Save the date

Friday 16 October -Years 7/8 Disco 7pm till 9pm

Friday 21 May - Quizine 7pm till 10pm

For information on FONS please email Kym: kymarthur@btinternet.com

Kind Regards
FONS Committee

[The 100 club winners for April through June 2026 are below.

April 100 Club drawing winners

1st prize	T. Walsh	100	£18
2nd prize	H. Collins	5	£12

May 100 Club drawing winners

1st prize	M. Reah	71	£18
2nd prize	B. Cox	21	£12

June 100 Club drawing winners

1st prize	K. Arthur	32	£18
2nd prize	B. Burningham	69	£12

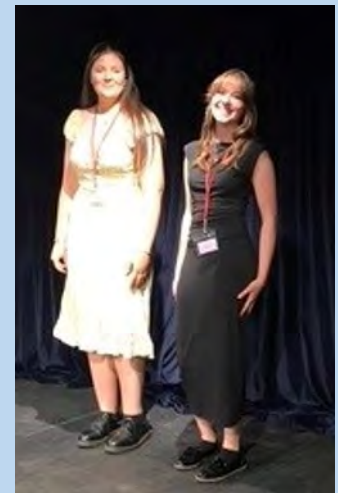
The Brilliant Club Scholars Programme

Back in May, I had the opportunity to work with a group of Year 12 girls on The Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme. I attended the introductory sessions and their first tutorial, which gave me the chance to get to know the students, their personalities, their perspectives, and their aspirations for the future.

The girls then went on to complete a further five tutorials with their assigned PhD tutor before submitting a final academic essay. Their course focused on examining different forms of prejudice, including sexism and racism, and exploring how these can be challenged and deconstructed. Throughout the programme, they analysed a range of academic texts, developed their critical thinking skills, conducted independent research, and learned how to reference sources effectively.

I am delighted to say that every student successfully completed the programme, with all of them achieving either a First or a 2:1 for their final assignment. They also received outstanding feedback from both The Brilliant Club and their tutor, recognising the quality of their work and the progress they had made throughout the programme.

On 7 July, I and Miss Ormiston had the pleasure of accompanying the girls to their graduation ceremony at SOAS University of London, alongside students from three other schools. It was a fantastic day, providing them with the opportunity to learn more about university life, take part in interactive sessions, tour the campus, and hear first-hand about the experiences of current university students.



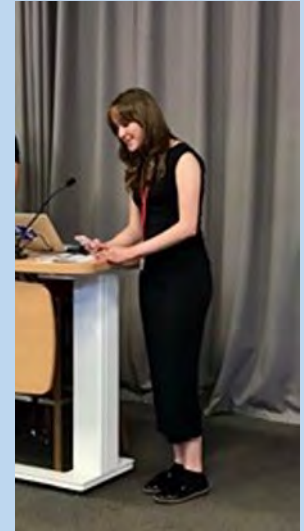
The students also received valuable advice on how to include their Scholars Programme experience in their future university applications and personal statements.



The day concluded with the graduation ceremony, where each student was invited to receive their certificate.



We were especially proud to see our two Head Girls deliver a thoughtful, confident and articulate graduation speech, representing the school brilliantly.



Throughout the day, the girls embraced every opportunity, engaging fully in each activity and representing the school with maturity, enthusiasm and confidence. They were true Nobelians, and I could not have been prouder of each and every one of them. Congratulations to all of our Scholars Programme graduates on this fantastic achievement.



The girls of The Brilliant Club's Scholars Programme were Abigail Tonge, Bailey Lewis, Ellie Hyams, Emily Wright, Hannah Creighton, Hayley Tse, Isobel Renvoize, Jessica Jones, Lucy King, Rahima Omisore, Sadia Choudhury and Serena Smith.

Mrs C Walsh
Exams & Data Manager

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award

Our Silver Duke of Edinburgh students successfully completed their qualifying expedition; demonstrating resilience, teamwork and determination throughout the challenge. The teams proved their navigational skills across varied terrain and enjoyed their evenings cooking meals at the campsites, playing games together and reflecting on their achievements in the sunshine.

The more challenging days further enhanced their support to one another and each and every one of them maintained a positive attitude from start to finish.

Congratulations to all the Silver students who persevered throughout, they should be very proud of what they have accomplished, it was not easy!

Well done everyone, very proud of you all!

Miss L Steele
DofE Lead



Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Qualifer

Three incredible groups descended on the Dark Peaks to complete their Gold Qualifying Expedition. For many, this is their final expedition having worked their way up from Bronze, for a few this was their first experience of a DofE Qualifying Expedition. Our biggest cohort ever on a Gold Qualifier, the teams weren't deterred by the poor weather on the first day as the sun found its feet and shone on us. All three teams walked through some of the many natural beauty attractions the Peak District has to offer.

All three teams showed immense team work, resilience and kindness throughout and should be very proud of their achievements.

Next step- Buckingham Palace!

Miss L Steele
DofE Lead



Nobel Formal Awards Ceremony

On the evening of Monday 6 July, we held our end of year awards ceremony at the Gordon Craig Theatre. It was another roaring success with a moving performance by the Nobel Notes Choir, a fantastic dance performance by Rosie Mutch in Year 7, and a beautiful cornet piece by Liam Voss, also in Year 7.

This year our keynote speaker was Kit Brown, Primary school teacher, TikTok content creator and BBC Bitesize presenter and Nobelian. Kit truly inspired our students by sharing his story and providing advice on aiming high, persevering, and dealing with adversity. We are very grateful that he took the time to be with us on the evening.

We had over 180 awards given out in total, including awards for all subject areas and for students displaying exceptional character in each year group.

Eden Brown and Logan Wise, both in Year 9 were presented with the award for Outstanding Sportsperson of the Year.

Hannah Creighton in Year 12 was presented with the Rebecca Llewelyn Award for Services to the performing Arts.

Samuel Devereux in Year 11 was awarded the Governors' Award for Outstanding Character.

Mihai Turcescu in Year 13 was presented with our most prestigious award of Nobelian of the Year.

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. A full list of all award winners is below.

Student	Year	Award	Student	Year	Award
Charlie Baker	7	Art and Design	Kaylee Vorndran	7	Drama
Sophie Peterson	8	Art and Design	Sophie Bradley	8	Drama
Lucy Baker	9	Art and Design	Elana Day	9	Drama
Chloe-Mai Noakes	10	Art and Design	Nancy Goodchild	10	Drama
Lauren Taylor	11	Art and Design	Jamie Frisby	11	Drama
Bailey Lewis	12	Art and Design	Freddie Thompson	12	Theatre Studies
Grace Camacho	13	Art and Design	Sinead Crossan	13	Theatre Studies
Saeed Zuraara Mohamed Askarali	10	Graphic Design	Emme Wicks	7	Design and Technology
Elizabeth Faluyi	11	Graphic Design	Bethany Staples	8	Design and Technology
Amelie Morgan	10	Textile Design	Emilia Sagra-Clarke	9	Design and Technology
Libby Asmaee	11	Textile Design	Charlie Jones	10	Design and Technology
Miley Walker	10	Business Studies	Rayan Ahmed	11	Design and Technology
Edwin Joby	11	Business Studies	Erin Heyes	13	Product Design
Billy Harvey	12	Business Studies	Olivia Kobs-Ogungbenle	7	Geography
Sam Hince	13	Business Studies	Vittoria Forli	8	Geography
Lily-Rose Blake	12	Business CTEC	Evie Cherry	9	Geography
Tilly Dennis	13	Business CTEC	Hannah Hornett	10	Geography

Isobel Renvoize	12	Politics	Lucy Peterson	11	Geography
Georgina Quick	13	Politics	Freya Hood	12	Geography
Harlen Casson	10	Child Development	Erona Zejnullahu	13	Geography
Freya Ball	11	Child Development	Ollie Golding	7	History
Daniel Tozer	12	Economics	Eleanor Hardy	8	History
James Bland	13	Economics	Oliver Curtis	9	History
Laila Potts	12	Psychology	Bailey Wyles	10	History
Megan Brown	13	Psychology	Livia Cisneros	11	History
Isobel Lee	10	Sociology	Lorelai Radulescu	12	History
Oscar Hawkins-Smart	11	Sociology	Lily Smith	13	History
Rungano Madamombe	12	Sociology	Leonie Tse	7	Information Technology
Freya Arthur	13	Sociology	Riley John	8	Information Technology
Thea Miles	7	Dance	Robbie Huckle	9	Information Technology
Bonnie McLean	8	Dance	Leo Lazarou	10	Information Technology
Eliza Zeelie	9	Dance	Dara Oluwatomi	11	Information Technology
Turner Goodridge	11	Dance	Ayaat Miah	12	Information Technology
Ryan Essam	7	English	Summer Chidi	13	Information Technology
Aariz Khan	8	English	Amandeep Singh	10	Computer Science
Grace Gover	9	English	Onyinyechukwu Osakwe	11	Computer Science
Geron Ingram	10	English	Tyler Oakley-Hook	12	Computer Science
Tomas Parkes	11	English	Lucy-May Huckle	13	Computer Science
Jayden Williams	12	English Literature	Alannis Makepeace	12	Philosophy
Bethany Wilson	13	English Literature	Hugo Orton	13	Philosophy
Aleks Nikolov	13	English Language	Gabriella Burns	7	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Andreea Belehuz	12	English Lang/Lit	Aysha Bukhari	8	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Ella Gordon	11	Film Studies	Luna Kardhashi	9	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
James Marston	13	Film Studies	Christiana Stoyanova	10	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Emily Davies	10	Media Studies	Sophie Evans	11	Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Eoin Jones	11	Media Studies	Keira Rumsey	10	Health and Social Care
Jaele Mendoza	12	Media Studies	Chania Kenids	11	Health and Social Care
Lily-Angel Kennedy	13	Media Studies	Sophie Grant	12	Health and Social Care
Liam Voss	7	Music	Tania Begum	13	Health and Social Care
Finn Clynes	8	Music	Miller Frost	7	Food Technology
Skye Davis	9	Music	Daisy Horwood	8	Food Technology
Alexander Chapman	11	Music	Isla Brooke	9	Food Technology
Jake Elliott	7	French	Isla Barnes	10	Food Technology
Vince Onwuegbuzie	8	French	Evie Hay	11	Food Technology
Leanne Lim Sam	10	French	Ethan Coates	7	Mathematics
Emmanuel Dwamena	11	French	Sophia Jacobs	8	Mathematics
Antonia Visinar	8	German	Hugo Dziemiach	9	Mathematics
Lucianna Yousif	9	German	Leah Paternoster	10	Mathematics
Megan May	11	German	Evan Ebbs	11	Mathematics
			Amelie Moore	11	Science

Wimbledon Championships 2026

On Wednesday 1 July, 8 students joined Mr Ferguson and Mrs Waites on a day trip to the 2026 Wimbledon Championships. For the last two years, we have entered the school Wimbledon ballot and been successful, receiving 8 student tickets on both occasions. The trip was a fantastic success, with students able to watch four, round two matches on Court 3. In addition to the on court tennis, we were able to explore the Wimbledon grounds, watch the pros warm up on the practice courts, eat strawberries and cream, and bump fists with Novak Djokovic as he moved between courts. It was a brilliant day and students made memories that will hopefully stay with them for a long time. Big shout out to Mrs Waites for her superb outfit, even making a cameo on live TV with dedicated commentary for her tennis ball hat and strawberry dress! Fingers crossed for another successful ballot entry next year.

Mr J Ferguson
Teacher of PE



Artistic Swimming Success

I wanted to let you know about a very successful weekend we had in Sheffield at the Swim England National Combo Cup Championships.

Aqualina artistic swimming club & KS swimschool , both headed up by Kerri Clewlow (Nee Brennan) took four teams to Sheffield, 44 swimmers went.

Minions team - finished 7th out of 23 (u15 yrs) with a really high score, nearly doubling last year's score.

Dragons teams - Finished 1st in their category 13-15 yr olds GOLD

Wednesday Addams - Finished 2nd in a close fought division, the higher Div 2 under 15's SILVER

Deadpool Team - Finished 1st in the Div 2 15-19 category with quite frankly the "Swim" of the day, according to many folk, inc the official photographer. GOLD

Your pupils are:

Miley Walker - Dragon Team and Olivia Chalkley - Deadpool Team

Our swimmers come from all around Herts Beds and Essex. We train just 4 hours a week, in Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield.

Overall, the club finished 3rd in the overall combo cup, a fiercely contested title, we were 2 points off 1st place.

The winning club congratulated us on incredible routines, as we beat one of their teams, which no one was expecting.

Aqualina & KS Swimschool Synchro

School Notices

Dear Parent/Carer,

From September 2026, the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) will be changing. From the start of the new school year, all parents/carers who are in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of the amount received.

Applying takes around 5 minutes, and you will need your National Insurance number. Applications can be made using the following link: [Free school meals and other benefits | Hertfordshire County Council](#). **There is no requirement for pupils who are already receiving Free School Meals to re-apply**

We encourage you to apply even if you have previously been told you were not eligible. Not only will your child receive a hot, nutritious meal at lunchtime, but the school could also receive additional funding to support pupils. If you require any further information or support with your application, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Nick Brown

Assistant Deputy Head

Poetry By Heart Finals at The Globe

On Monday 6 July, Miley Yusuf proudly represented The Nobel School with an exceptional performance at The Globe Theatre. She was one of eight students to be selected as a KS5 finalist in Poetry By Heart, a national poetry-speaking competition in England for young people aged 7-18. Miley's performance of *Annabel Lee* by Edgar Allan Poe had us all on the edge of our seats and received high praise from the judges. Although she did not win the competition, her performance was thoughtful, creative, and truly embodied the spirit of the event.

Miley's unforgettable experience at this prestigious location did not stop with her performance. She was also gifted tickets to watch *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at The Globe, and a lovely dinner and overnight stay at Bankside House prior to her performance.

The ten students that attended the trip also had an amazing day, with some of them visiting London for the very first time. They particularly enjoyed the opportunity to sit in the upper gallery of The Globe and to watch some Elizabethan swordfighting during the interval. We are incredibly proud of Miley's achievement, and the students have all said that they are excited to take part in the competition next year.

In addition to Miley's success as a finalist, we would also like to recognise the achievements of other students who were acknowledged by Poetry By Heart for their entries:

Sophia Jacobs - Highly Commended

Amina Sadiq - Commended

Artur Sobchacki - Participant

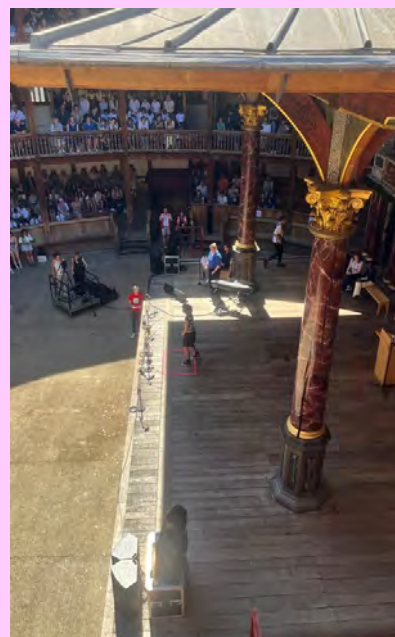
Eka Nolan - Participant

It cannot be overstated how hard Miley worked to refine her performance. Her dedication, commitment and talent truly shone throughout the competition.

Miley's performance will soon be available to watch on the Poetry By Heart Website.



Miss Edgar and Ms Sinclair
English Department



Sparx Reader Achievements

What we have achieved with **Sparx Reader** this year...



The Nobel School



205,135,140
words read by our students



23,474
hours of careful reading completed by our students

7,881
books completed by our students



1,603,631
careful reading checks answered by our students



Year 7 2025-26 Winners



Misha Bobkov
60,000 SRP



Ariel Izidu
52,000 SRP



Leandra Hima
45,000 SRP

Sparx Reader Achievements

Year 8 2025-26 Winners



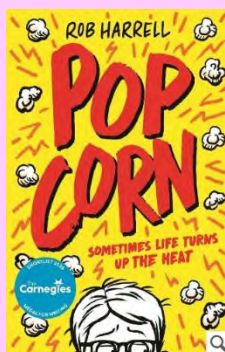
Year 9 2025-26 Winners



Library Reading Challenge

Well done and thank you to everyone who took part in our Rainbow Reading Challenge as part of the National Year of Reading.

Lots of fantastic books have been read and reviewed.



Many of the books read were given 4 stars and above by Nobelians across the year groups, so if you would like to know which books your peers have been reading and enjoying, pop along to the dedicated Book Reviews display in the library to find out.

If you read and reviewed 4 books or more, you went into our prize draw.

The winner and runners up to be notified.

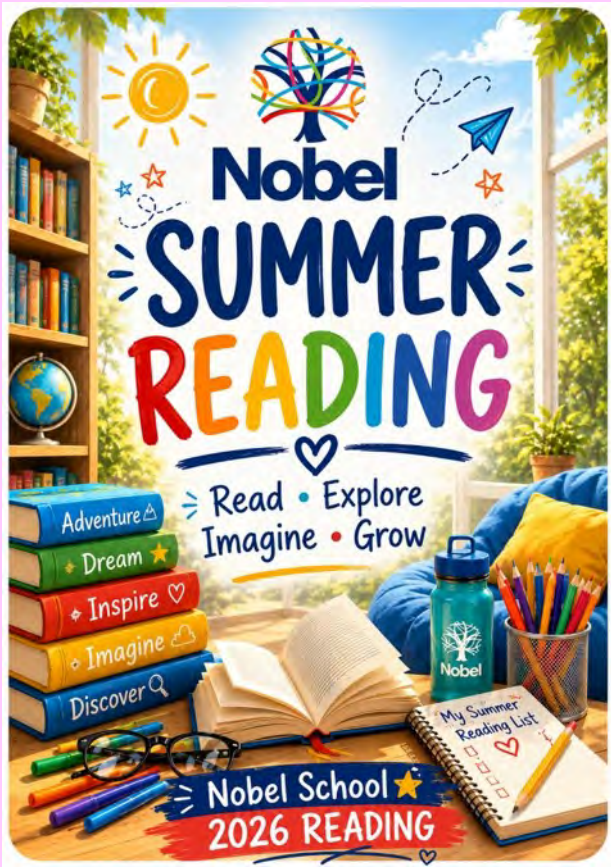


Earlier in the year, we participated in the Excelsior Awards for the first time. The goal of this initiative is to encourage reading with the secondary aim of raising the profile of graphic novels and manga in general.

Thank you to everyone who read and rated the books on behalf of Nobel. Together with all of the other participating schools, the ratings have been collated and the results are in.

From the shortlist of books, the overall winner is 'DC Sonic The Hedgehog' and a copy is available to borrow from the library.





Each week we have a
Genre focus
This week is



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 15 September 2026.

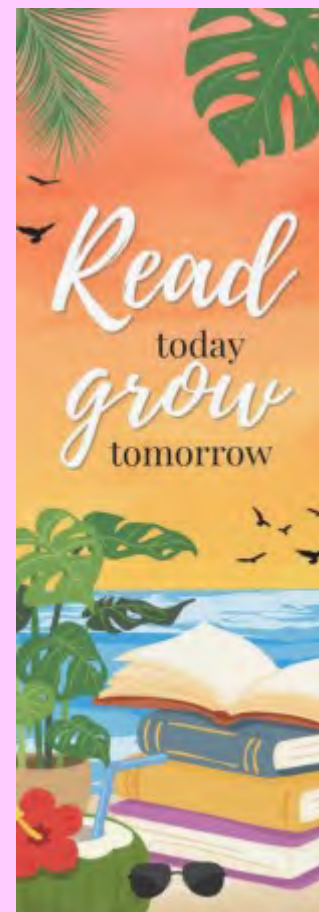
The books to read are:



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

Contact: Amanda Hawke:

01438 222600



An empty chair tells half a story

They call it emotionally based school avoidance

A name that sounds so neat, so orderly for something that feels like it tears you apart.

People think that I'm a bad student

But if they could spend a day in my head they'd know I'm not avoiding school

But trying to slow down the anxiety that rushes through my head. The one that's waiting for me at the gates

Every morning starts the same

The alarm goes off

My stomach sinks

My chest tightens

Breathing heightens

My heart races before my feet even touch the floor.

The anxiety never asked for permission.

It just walked into my life one day and slowly started taking things.

First, it took my mornings.

Then, it took my sleep.

Then, slowly, it took the person who I used to be.

The hardest part isn't missing lessons.

It's watching life continue without you.

It's hearing people talk about memories you weren't there to make.

It's wondering if your friends will stop saving you a seat.

It's feeling like the world keeps turning, while you're stuck in the same morning over and over again.

People call it avoidance.

As if I'm running away.

But the truth is, I've never wanted anything more than to be able to walk through those school gates without feeling like my mind is fighting against me.

People think I'm making excuses.

If only they knew how badly I wish they were right.

Because if this was a choice, I would've chosen different the very first time anxiety wrapped itself around my chest and convinced me I wasn't safe

As if anyone would choose to watch the world carry on without them.

I have memorised the cracks in my bedroom ceiling better than the pages of the books I was meant to read.

The hardest thing about EBSA isn't the missed lessons.

It's mourning a life you're still here for.

It's grieving memories that were made while you were trying to convince yourself to open the front door.

Anxiety has a cruel way of making ordinary things feel impossible.

And then it convinces you that you're the impossible one.

But somewhere beneath the fear, beneath the guilt, beneath every morning that ended before it began,
There is still a part of me

Waiting

Waiting for the day the bell rings,

And my heart doesn't mistake it for a warning.

I don't need people to tell me I'll fall behind.

I already know.

I live with that guilt every single day.

What I need is for someone to understand that I'm not choosing fear.

If I could leave anxiety at home and take only myself to school,

I would have done it a long time ago.

Ivy Robinson Year 8

I was never lazy

People think not going to school means you don't care.

I wish that was true.

Because caring was the problem.

I cared too much. About what people thought. About getting something wrong. About walking into a room where it felt like everyone else had already figured out how to be normal.

Every morning I'd tell myself, "Today's the day."

Then, I'd get dressed, stand at the front door, and suddenly my chest felt tight. My hands shook. My stomach turned. And somehow that short walk to school felt impossible.

I hated myself for it.

Not because I didn't want to learn, but because I wanted to be like everyone else. The ones who could walk through those gates without having to convince themselves they weren't about to fall apart.

People saw the days I wasn't there.

They never saw the battles that happened before I'd even left the house.

Then, one day, I made it in.

Nothing magical happened. Nobody stood up and clapped. The anxiety didn't disappear. It sat beside me all day, whispering that I should leave.

But I stayed.

Then, I did it again.

Some days I still couldn't. Some mornings were still too much.

But, I stopped measuring myself by the days I fell back, and started noticing the days I got back up.

Recovery isn't waking up one morning and suddenly being fearless.

It's walking through the school gates while you're terrified. It's asking for help when every part of you wants to stay quiet. It's realising that being brave has nothing to do with not being scared.

I used to think anxiety had stolen everything from me.

Now, I think it taught me something too.

That the strongest people aren't always the loudest ones.

Sometimes they're just the ones who keep trying,

Even after yesterday convinced them they couldn't.

Ivy Robinson Year 8

DIVERSITY — AND — INCLUSION GROUP



Hertfordshire
Participation
Team

Help shape a more
inclusive Hertfordshire. ♥

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16–25

We are currently looking to expand our Diversity & Inclusion Young People's Group and are seeking individuals aged 16–25 to get involved.



ABOUT THE GROUP

The group is made up of individuals aged 16–25 who are passionate about influencing positive change within Hertfordshire services' inclusion of certain diversity themes such as background, culture, ethnicity, physical and mental health, and the LGBTQ+ community.



MAKE AN IMPACT

The insights and feedback from this group will feed directly into the Hertfordshire Diversity & Inclusion Board, helping to shape and improve services across the county.



WHAT TO EXPECT

We plan to have quarterly meets with the Board through activities such as a cultural cook and share, where we can discuss themes around what diversity means to young people and ways to feel included based on individual identity in all services across Hertfordshire.

GROUP DETAILS



MEETS
ONCE A MONTH

Currently the first
Tuesday of the month



TIME
6–8pm



LOCATION
Farnham House,
Stevenage



NEXT SESSION
Tuesday 7th July



Join us to explore topics around identity and diversity, and to contribute towards making Hertfordshire more inclusive.



Identity



Neurodiversity



Culture &
heritage



Physical &
mental health



LGBTQ+



Ability



Belonging
for all



QUESTIONS OR WANT TO KNOW MORE?

If you have any questions or would like further information, please don't hesitate to get in touch



Participationteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk



**HERTS
SUMMER
PARKS**

**FREE
PARKS
FESTIVAL
WITH FREE FOOD**



Coming to
STEVENAGE
Ages 12–16

WHERE

King George V
Playing Fields
Sish Lane
SG1 3LS

WHEN

Fridays
7th August
14th August
21st August
3pm–6pm

Register
here



Funded by
UK Government



Are you a family with children and young people aged 0-25 with Special Educational Need and/or Disabilities looking for local activities?

The SEND directory promotes a wide range of local activities and support groups, some activities will also include discounts for families registered for our Herts Card (SEND).

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/SENDdirectory

You are warmly invited to attend the:

Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Partnership Day

on Tuesday 29th September 2026 9.00am - 3.30pm
At The Fielder Centre, Hatfield, Herts, AL10 9TP



An opportunity to learn the latest developments in supporting children, young people and families. Plus, a chance to network with partners, including a market stall area.

On the agenda:

- Keynote speakers: Children's social care reforms and new Best Start family hubs
- Local updates on young carers, and Hertfordshire's new Crisis Resilience fund.
- VCFE led 'Prevention in Practice' session.



FREE to attend.
Refreshments and lunch
will be provided.
Please apply via:
[CYPF Partnership Day](#)

Plus, special guest speaker Mark O'Sullivan - Successful television writer, director, and actor.
Mark's 2024 Channel 4 documentary 'My Sexual Abuse: The Sitcom' follows Mark's journey exploring the abuse he suffered as a child, and his attempts to make a sitcom about his experiences was awarded the prestigious Royal Television Society 2025 Programme Award for Art.
Mark launched the Making Lemonade platform including podcast, talks, workshops, and live events focussed on how creativity can transform difficult experiences into positive outcomes, effectively turning lemons into lemonade.



DSPL2

Delivering Special
Provision Locally



The poster features a central illustration of a road leading towards a rainbow. A banner across the rainbow reads 'Year 7' with thumbs up icons on either side. A small figure of a person stands on the road. Three speech bubbles contain text about the group's activities. The 'withYouth' logo is at the bottom left, and contact information, a website, and a QR code are at the bottom right.

Road to Year 7 Group

4pm - 5pm
every Thursday

Open to
all year 6's

Starting 23rd
July 2026

Year 7

Create the toolkit
needed to overcome
any worries around
starting secondary
school

Helping to build
confidence
around starting
secondary
school

Exploring topics of
change, anxiety,
making new
friendships, bullying
& online safety

withYouth
making positive change

Please email withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org
for more information, or to register your interest.

www.withyouth.org

Mind
Hertfordshire
Network





Collection

Talking ASD & ADHD: *FREE* for parents in Herts



A series of workshops for parents and carers of young people with (diagnosed OR suspected) ASD & ADHD, commissioned by Hertfordshire County Council to provide FREE support, information and advice for families of children living and/or schooling in Herts.

Events in this collection



Talking ASD & ADHD: Responding to Anger (837) For parents/carers in Herts.

Tue, Jun 2 • 9:30 AM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Stress & Anxiety (838) For parents/carers in Herts.

Mon, Jun 8 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Tech Use (839) For parents/carers in Herts.

Tue, Jun 16 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: The Teenage Years (840) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Jun 24 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Responding to Anger (871) For parents/carers in Herts.

Mon, Sep 21 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Stress & Anxiety (869) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Sep 30 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: School Avoidance(872) For parents/carers in Herts.

Wed, Oct 21 • 7:30 PM GMT+1

Free



Talking ASD & ADHD: Tech Use (870) For parents/carers in Herts.

Thu, Nov 19 • 9:30 AM GMT

Free

Stevenage Positive Pathways 2026 Summer Holidays



Join us this summer!
at Stevenage Young People's Centre

St George's Way, Stevenage
SG1 1XY

Monday to Friday
27 July to 14 August 2026
5-8 pm each day

For all young people aged 12-16

Positive Pathways summer 2026

Fun and engaging activities for you to...

- Make new friends and build confidence
- Make informed decisions and set goals
- Tackle anything that's bothering you
- Stay safe online and in your community
- Feel supported and good about yourself
- Learn about healthy relationships
- Improve your physical and mental health

Tel: 01438 843340 Text: 07507 240014
SfYP.stevenage@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

X f i @HCCSFYP

Contact the SfYP
Stevenage Team
or to book scan for an
online booking form



Parent & Carer Support

Autumn Term 2026



FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire

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.



Tuesdays 8.00 – 9.30pm

15th Sep to 20th Oct ages **10-19**

Online Course ID 864

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am

3rd Nov to 8th Dec ages **2-19**

Online Course ID 859

Wednesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm

4th Nov to 9th Dec ages **2-19**

F2F Course: ID 858

Longdean School

Hemel Hempstead

TALKING FAMILIES

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

- Managing 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.



Thursdays 8.00 - 9.30pm

17th Sep to 22nd Oct

Online Course ID 861

Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am

4th Nov to 9th Dec

Online Course ID 860

TALKING ANXIETY

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children **3-19**, 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.



Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm

4th Nov to 9th Dec

Online Course ID 862

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.



Supporting Links
Promoting Strong Family Relationships

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

16th Sep to 21st Oct

Online Course: ID 867

Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

3rd Nov to 8th Dec

Online Course: ID 868

TALKING ANGER in TEENS

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

- Understand why children & 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

15th Sep to 20th Oct

Online Course: ID 863

TALKING TEENS

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

- The Teen Brain: the 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.



Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

16th Sep to 21st Oct

Online Course: ID 865

Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

4th Nov to 9th Dec

Online Course: ID 866

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

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





EMERGING ATHLETE PROGRAMME

For netballers U11-U19

For players new to the franchise environment or developing towards pathway opportunities

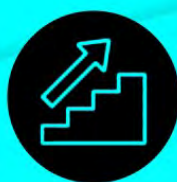
The Emerging Athlete Programme is the perfect place to start. A gateway to **PDP talent identification** & **county referrals**!



HIGH
PERFORMANCE
COACHING

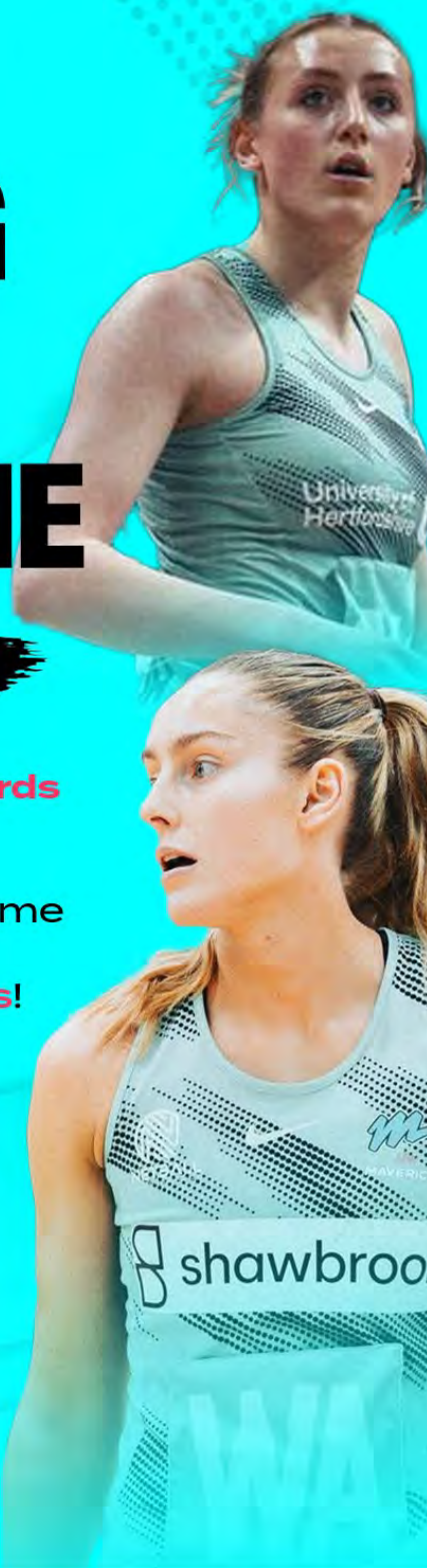


SKILL
DEVELOPMENT



FIRST STEP
INTO PATHWAY
NETBALL

LONDON MAVERICKS | EMERGING ATHLETE PROGRAMME



THE LONDON MAVERICKS PLAYER PATHWAY

FROM FIRST POTENTIAL TO THE
NETBALL SUPER LEAGUE



Hertfordshire Local offer website

They have lots of useful information on services available across Hertfordshire as well as signing up to the local offer short breaks service and the Hertfordshire additional needs database (HAND offer).

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/microsites/local-offer/the-hertfordshire-local-offer.aspx>

Hertfordshire based charity Angels.

Angels support families of autistic children and /or children who have ADHD (and those awaiting a diagnosis). All Angel's staff are parents of neurodivergent children. They provide individualised advice and support to parents as well as help families meet with others with shared experiences. <https://angelssupportgroup.org.uk/>

The Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Service

Provides early intervention emotional wellbeing and mental health support to children and young people aged 5-19 who would benefit from, low intensity support. Support is provided through 1-1 and group interventions

<https://www.hct.nhs.uk/service-details/service/childrens-wellbeing-practitioners-21/>

ADD-Vance.

A local charity developed by a group of parents of neurodivergent children who want to support families with children or young people with ASD/ADHD. They offer a variety of services including workshops, courses, a support telephone line, as well as family events and much more.

<https://www.add-vance.org/parents/courses/>

SPACE

A Hertfordshire based charity supporting families of children or young people who are neurodivergent (Autism, ADHD, Dyslexia, Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia, Tourette's and other neurodiverse conditions)

<https://spaceherts.org.uk/>

Families in Focus

Families in Focus are a Hertfordshire-based community interest company that provides online evidence-based, award-winning therapeutic parenting courses as well as providing a safe space to meet others with shared experiences.

<https://www.familiesinfocus.co.uk/>

Supporting Links

We are a local social enterprise, providing parenting support through courses, workshops and 1:1 mentoring of parents and children throughout Hertfordshire and the surrounding area
<https://www.supportinglinks.co.uk/>

Family Lives

We are a charity that provide support to families around all aspects of life including your child development, understanding your child, issues with school, parenting/relationship support and much more
<https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

Dolphins swimming club

A swimming club (at Stevenage Leisure centre) for people with physical and mental disabilities that would benefit from time in the water but are uncomfortable attending a normal swimming session. We are a registered charity
<https://stevenage-dolphins.org/>

Graces Space and the Brighter SENTER

Brighter SENTER is an inclusive life skills and wellness hub for children and young people ages 5-16 with SEN. They have a team of consultants, coaches, facilitators, psychologists and relaxation therapists who have a desire to see children and young people have a bright outlook and the freedom to explore, develop and thrive in every area of life.

Graces space is a volunteer and parent Saturday Club that meet twice a month.
<https://brightersenter.com/>



Grace's Space
supporting families for a brighter future

GRACE'S SPACE is a parent and volunteer led monthly Saturday Club that supports:

- Children aged 3-9 years old diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Their parents and siblings

GRACE'S SPACE WILL PROVIDE:

- A space to play, learn and relax
- These sessions will include: musical activities, sporting activities and creative dance

Venue: Grace Community Church Hall, Hydean Way, Stevenage, SG2 9XJ,
 Each session lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes

Attendance is via registration only and admission is FREE
 Registered children will get a FREE T-Shirt with our Logo
 Grace's Space runs two sessions on the first Saturday of every month
 10:00 AM - 11.30 AM
 12.30 PM - 2PM

To register or for more information call or email us on:
 Telephone: 07972 345 797
 Email: graces_space@live.co.uk
 Website: www.gracespace.org



Delivering Special Provision Locally

Chat Health School Nurse text messaging service for parents/carers: 07312 263002

A new service from Chat Health has recently launched for parents/carers to provide advice on supporting children and young people's health and wellbeing (launched July 24)

Find out more about the wide range of services available to support Hertfordshire's children, young people and their parents/carers with emotional wellbeing/mental health at:
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth

Young Minds

Young minds are the UK's leading charity fighting for young people's mental health.

They have a Parents Helpline which is a free national service for any parent or carer concerned about a young person aged 0-25 yrs. We give customised advice and provide translation services in over 200 languages. We also have comprehensive resources on the Parent and Carer section of our website,

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-helpline/?utm_source=website&utm_medium=website&

With Youth online groups for children and young people

With Youth free online emotional wellbeing groups for 7–12-year-olds and ages 13+.
E: withyouth@hertsmindnetwork.org for more information and/or find out more [here](#)

The sandbox

The Sandbox is an innovative **digital mental healthcare** service for **Children and Young People**.

We work together with the **NHS, local government, and other organisations** to help Children and Young People with their mental health.

<https://thesandbox.mindler.co.uk/>

Follow us on Facebook- https://www.facebook.com/p/DSPL2-Stevenage-100063726952451/?_rdr
Our website is continuously updated with useful information- <https://www.stevenagedspl.org.uk/>