

Merry
Christmas



King's Academy
Brune Park

Parent Newsletter
Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

This will be the final newsletter of the term and of 2025. What a term it has been full of so many highlights! In autumn alone we have:

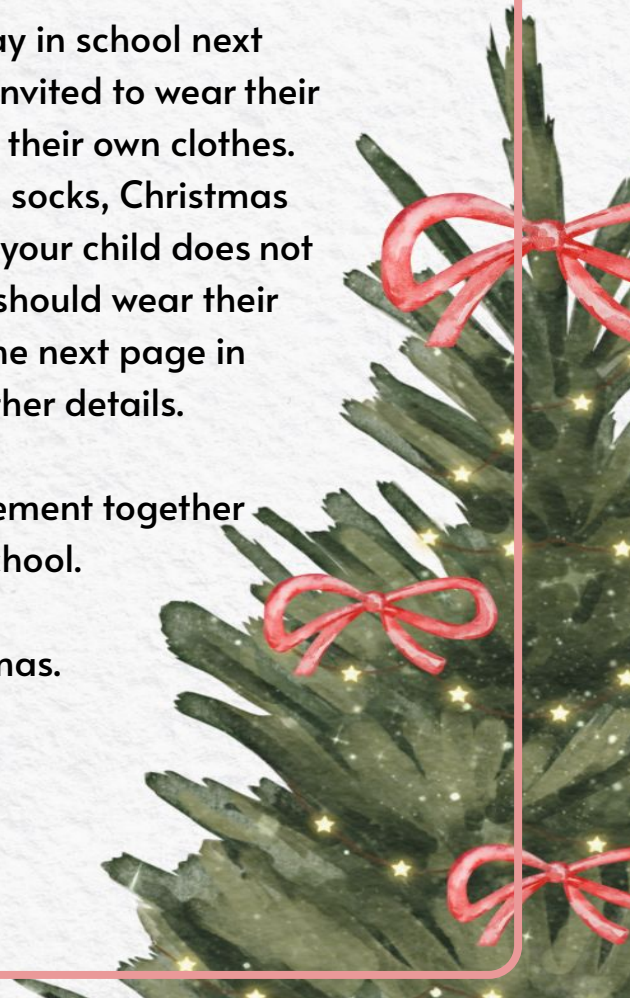
- Taken students on 63 school trips and visits
- Enabled 534 students to attend a school trip or visit
- Provided (up until 12 Dec) 384 lessons per student to attend
- Served over 58,000 school meals
- Held 144 one to one career meetings
- Delivered 5 Year 11 assemblies led by post 16 providers
- Hosted over 20 post 16 providers at evening events
- Awarded over 200,000 positive points
- Celebrated successes with 215 students in Celebration Friday

We are really looking forward to our Christmas Day in school next week., Wednesday 17th. Students (and staff) are invited to wear their Christmas clothes, they can wear these items with their own clothes. Items may include a Christmas jumper, Christmas socks, Christmas pyjamas, a Christmas hat or Christmas onesie. If your child does not wish to wear a Christmas clothing item then they should wear their full school uniform. Please see further details on the next page in relation to the end of term arrangements and further details.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement together we are making such a positive difference to our school.

We wish you all a safe, happy and healthy Christmas.

Kind regards,
Kerry Payne
Headteacher



Last Week of Term Arrangements 🧑🏻‍🎄 🎄 :

🧑🏻‍🎄 Christmas Dinner Day – Wednesday 17th December!

Get ready for one of the most festive days of the year — our Christmas Dinner celebration! We'll be enjoying extended breaks, festive tunes filling the school, and of course... a delicious Christmas feast.

Please note: Christmas dinner will be the only meal option available, so if your child would prefer something else, please send them in with a packed lunch. You also must ensure you have ordered and paid for the lunch. Students eligible for Free School Meals have had a lunch ordered for them.

And the fun doesn't stop there! Students (and staff!) are warmly invited to come dressed in their favourite Christmas jumpers or festive outfits — as long as they're school-appropriate. Let's make the day merry and bright! 🎄 ✨


🎉 End of Term – Friday 19th December

To wrap up the term, school will finish early at 12:15pm on Friday. Footlights will be open, and students will still be able to get food during break before heading off for the holidays.

Students are also welcome to wear non-uniform on this day — just make sure outfits are suitable for school.

Let the festive countdown begin! 🎁 🧑🏻‍🎄

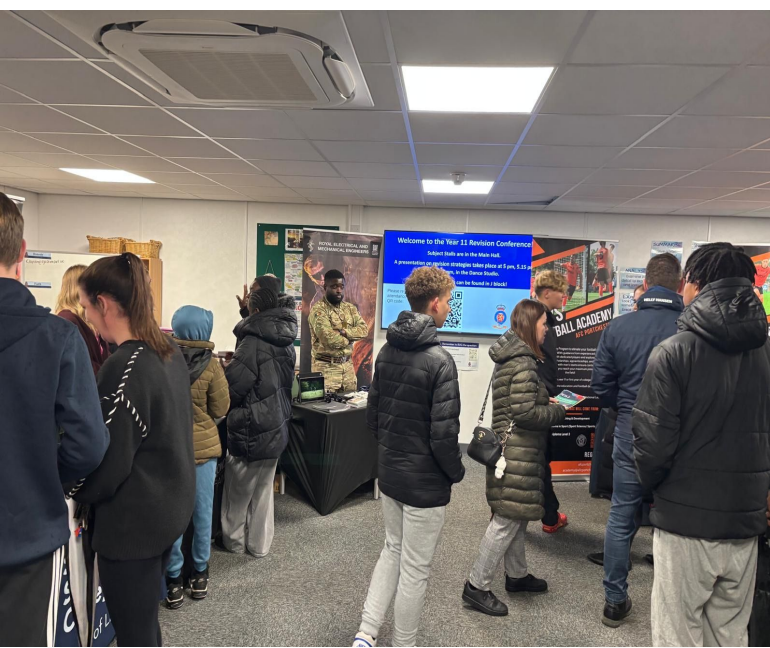
Celebration Friday :

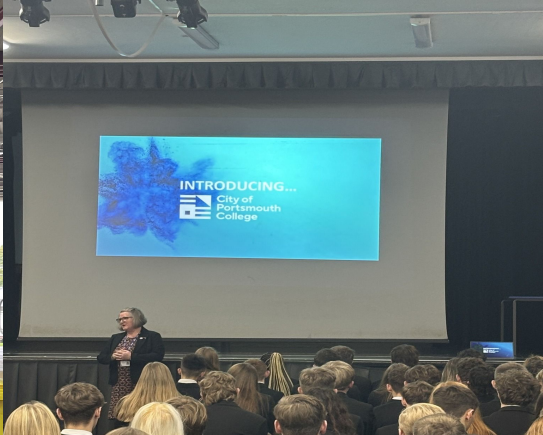
Miss Payne met with an amazing group of Years 7–11 students today to celebrate everything they've achieved this autumn term—and there was *plenty* to celebrate! 🎉 From brilliant attendance  to standout successes in and out of the classroom ★, and most importantly, the kindness they show every day 💛, this group truly shined.

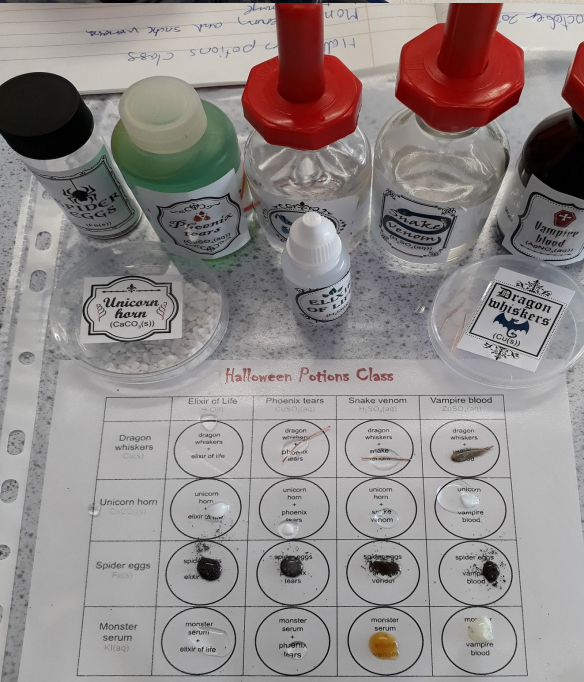
As the last Celebration Friday of 2025 came to a close, Miss Payne cheered them on for finishing the year so strongly 🙌.



Capturing our Highlights of the Autumn Term:









Welfare Room Reminder :

We want to ensure all our students know how and when to access support from Welfare.

The Welfare Room is open and staffed every day Before School, After School, and Break Times.

We ask that students only visit Welfare during lesson time for medical conditions and emergencies.

Please remind your child that if they need to see a member of Welfare staff for support the best time to visit is during Break Time. There is always an adult available to help.

Heat Pack Reminder :

For the safety of all our students, please remember:

Hot water bottles are NOT permitted in school.

Microwavable heat packs ARE permitted and can be brought in to help with cramps. Our Welfare staff can help reheat these safely during Break Time if needed.

Online Safety UK

We are pleased to let you know that Online Safety UK worked with our Key Stage 3 students this week. They delivered age-appropriate sessions focused on staying safe online, managing digital behaviour, and understanding the risks and responsibilities that come with using social media, gaming platforms, and online communication.

These workshops are designed to give students practical strategies they can use straight away, as well as helping them develop healthy and respectful online habits. Online safety remains a key part of our safeguarding work in school, and we are committed to ensuring our students feel confident and secure in the digital world.

We will continue to build on this learning in tutor time and through our wider curriculum. If you would like additional resources or guidance to support conversations at home, please contact the school.

Further information can we found [here](#)



Road Safety

As we move into the darker winter months, we want to remind all families about the importance of road safety, particularly for students who cycle to and from school.

Visibility is especially important at this time of year. Please ensure your child's bike has:

- A working front white light and rear red light
- Reflectors on the bike and on their clothing or school bag
- And all children should be wearing a helmet

Please take a moment to discuss safe behaviour on the roads, including:

- Staying alert and avoiding distractions such as phones
- Using cycle paths where available
- Not pulling out or stepping into the road in front of cars without looking carefully
- Being patient and aware around other road users

Your support helps us keep all students safe as they travel to and from school. If you would like any additional advice or resources, please contact the school.

Attendance :

🌲 Deck the Halls and Celebrate! Festive Attendance Week Ahead 🌟

With the Christmas holidays just around the corner, we are thrilled to announce that next week is packed with exciting celebrations to reward our pupils for their brilliant efforts and attendance!

We are so excited about the opportunity to celebrate with so many of our students across the whole week!

🌟 A Week of Magnificent Rewards

Our celebrations kick off on **Magnificent Monday** and continue throughout the week, recognising dedication to attendance and effort:

- **Tutor Group Success:** Celebrating the tutor groups that have achieved their attendance goals with a well-deserved **attendance breakfast reward** .
- **Shining Stars:** We will be recognising our **Year Groups' 'Shining Stars'** for their commitments and outstanding progress with attendance .
- **100% Challenges:** Prizes will be awarded for two major attendance achievements:
 - The **100% December Challenge** winners.
 - The successful completion of the **100% Half Term 2 Challenge** .
- **The BIG ONE:** We finish the week with our largest celebration, rewarding all students who have achieved **100% attendance for the entire Autumn Term!**

Thank you once again for your incredible support in ensuring your child attends school every day. Your commitment truly makes a difference to their learning and success.

November Challenge

We had 572 students who achieved 100% attendance in November! These will all receive a pass to either skip the queue or get a sweet treat from footlights.

Free Sweet Treat or Skip the Queue

Attendance challenge
Please allow the pass holder to
Choose a sweet treat/or skip the lunch queue

WELL DONE!



Attendance Mission:

We set out a special attendance mission for 150 students to improve their attendance to over 92% by 19th December. So far we have had the mission successfully completed by over 50 students with lots very close.

Behaviour:



Kings Academy Brune Park - End of Term Positive Behaviour Celebration

★ Total Positive Points Awarded: 227,647

A huge well done to all our students for showing Honesty, Faith and Courage throughout the term. Your hard work, kindness and commitment to our school values shine every day.

★ Year Group Achievements

- Year 7: 51,690 points
- Year 8: 39,672 points
- Year 9: 49,869 points
- Year 10: 45,273 points
- Year 11: 41,143 points



Top Tutor Groups

- 701: 7,808 points
- 703: 7,021 points
- 708: 6,964 points
- 810: 6,791 points
- 704: 6,706 points

👑 Top Students This Term

- Fatoumatta Krubally – 530 points
- Kinga Slepko – 412 points
- Aali Huntingford – 412 points
- Bobby Baglow – 404 points
- Lily Jenkins – 389 points
-



A Massive Thank You!

Thank you to every student for contributing to such a positive and joyful term. Your efforts make our community stronger. We are proud of each and every one of you.

★ Have a wonderful Christmas break! ★

Teaching & Learning

Celebrating Growth: Our Peer-to-Peer Drop-In Success!

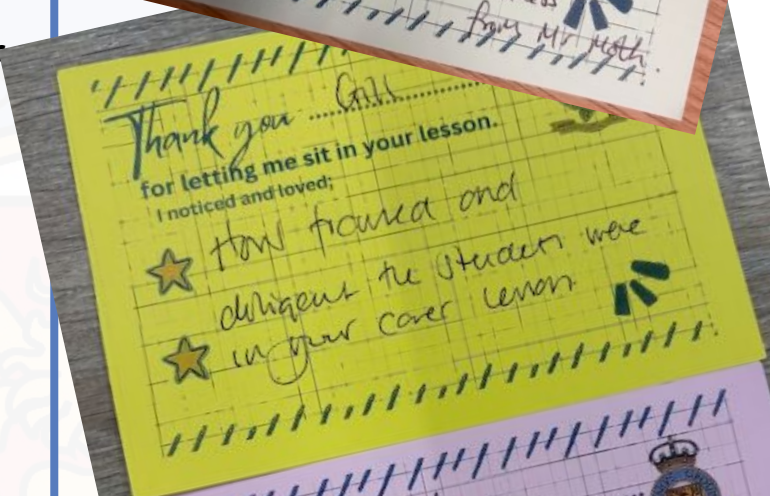
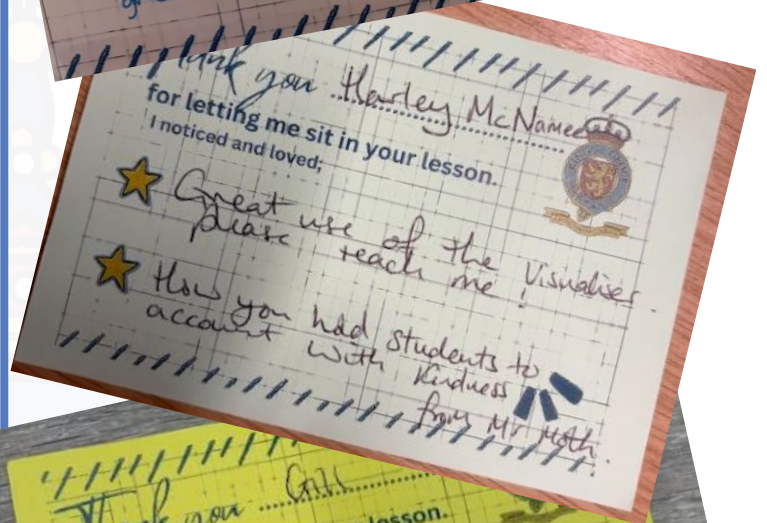
This term, we have dedicated significant time and energy to enhancing teaching and learning through a collaborative initiative:

Teacher Peer-to-Peer Drop-Ins

This program has fostered a supportive environment where staff can observe, share best practices, and celebrate the amazing work happening daily in our classrooms.

It's been incredibly inspiring to see the positive impact and the rich exchange of ideas. To share a glimpse of this success with you, here are just a few examples of the **'Celebration Postcards'** (positive feedback notes) our teachers have been sharing with one another after their drop-in visits:

This commitment to shared professional development ensures that we are continuously refining our teaching and providing the best possible learning experience for every child at our school.



You said - We did

You said:

- That some of our younger students felt worried about the older students when they went to the toilets due to some students misusing the toilet spaces.
- That students should be able to go to the toilet during lessons.

We did:

- We have implemented a system that enables students to go to the toilet during lesson time without them being busy.
- We have minimised the opportunities for students to misuse our toilet facilities.
- We have added staff to supervise busy toilet areas during breaks to support our students feeling safe.

Impact:

- This has led to a decrease in truancy and negative behaviour incidents across the school.

Next step:

We now ask for your support. We still have a group of student that frequently go to the toilet. If your child is one of the ones who feel the need to go to the toilet several times during lesson time, could you try and find out the reason why they need to go several times during their lessons?

- What are their barriers to going during break?
- Do they need medical intervention?

We thank you for your support - together we can make a difference

Online Mental Health and Wellbeing Support for Young

People:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the coming weeks your child may mention they have been made aware of a service called Kooth. It provides early intervention mental health support to children and young people. Kooth works with schools and professionals across over 90% of the UK.

Kooth is **free** to access via any internet-connected tablet, computer or smartphone. There are no waiting lists or thresholds to meet and a referral from a medical professional is not needed. Your child can join Kooth anonymously simply by visiting www.kooth.com.

Kooth offers young people a range and choice of support options under one digital roof.

It has services that are accessible 7 days a week, 365 days a year. This includes one to one text based sessions with experienced counsellors and wellbeing practitioners run from midday to 10pm on weekdays, and from 6 -10pm at the weekend. Appointments can be booked in advance or accessed via a drop-in text-based chat. Kooth also provides a fully safeguarded and pre-moderated community with a library of peer and professional created articles. And there are discussion forums too. All content is pre-moderated and age appropriate.

Kooth covers many topics on the website including relationships, LGBTQIIA+, exam stress, anxiety, eating difficulties, self harm, suicidal thoughts, body image, social media, bullying and family worries. All of these subjects affecting young peoples' mental health are presenting issues that Kooth and other mental health providers see from all age groups. Kooth is commissioned by the NHS and clinically approved for children from the age of 10, and is the only digital mental health provider to hold a BACP (British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy) accreditation across the Country.

If you have any questions please let us know. If you would prefer to contact Kooth directly, please email parents@kooth.com.

kooth

Big news at King's Academy Brune Park... Frank

has arrived!:

He's fluffy, friendly, and officially the newest staff member.

Warning: may cause sudden smiles and unexpected happiness! 🧡🐾

Frank will be in school on Mondays and Wednesdays, he can't wait to meet you all.



Year 7 News :

Year 7 has had a brilliant first term. Attendance remains a focus – well done to everyone for their commitment. We are aiming for 95% by Christmas, and if we achieve this, Mr Cole will be dressing up again on the last day of term (hopefully as a Christmas elf)!

The Panto trip is running on Monday 15th December, those who are attending need to be in full school uniform and bring a packed lunch and some snacks. Those eligible for free school meals will have lunch provided. The students remaining on school site will have their timetables shared on arbor and details will be on their Google Classroom.

Year 7 has led the way with our Jacob's Well Christmas donation appeal. We have a lovely collection of donations in the Year office, however we are still collecting into next week.

Thank you for your continued support in helping Year 7 continue to be brilliant.

If you need to contact the year office please do so via this email

year-7-year-office@kgabrunepark.uk

We thank you for your support and wish you and your family all the best over the festive period

Mr Cole, Miss Townend and Miss Demuth

Year 8 News:

This week in assembly we were lucky to have guest speakers from the School Pastors. The presentation was on the subject of Advent.

Tutor Group 805 with Mrs Hollis have nearly finished their first tutor time reading book this term - Trash by Andy Mulligan. Students have written a review as they reach the climax of the book:

"I liked that there were loads of twists in the story, Trash. It involved money, murder and mystery." - Oakley E

"We were on the edge of our seats for a lot of it! It was a little confusing with all the twists but we worked together to work out the plot" Ava-Mae C

"It was very interesting as Raphael, Rat and Gardo were travelling around South America, living in shanty towns." Ivy B

"I enjoyed the Geography side of the book, Trash. It's very important that our students learn about how other children live in Low Income Countries and how lucky they actually are! 805 have really enjoyed reading together, they have learnt some new words and their resilience with reading has increased significantly." Mrs Hollis

Year 9 News:

This week, we were lucky enough to have the school pastors visit and deliver a thoughtful and engaging assembly on Advent. They spoke about the meaning behind the season, the themes of hope and preparation, and how we can reflect these values in our everyday lives.

We also had an assembly on online safety!

Lastly, We are finding that we are missing some emails as you may only have individual members of the Year team's emails. Please use year-9-year-office@kgabrunepark.uk so all 3 of us receive your emails. Thank you!



Year 10 News:



What a truly fantastic first term our Year 10 GCSE students have had! They have begun their key stage 4 journey with immense focus and enthusiasm, setting a high standard for the year ahead. Our students have really embraced learning new skills through practical elements across both their core and option subjects. This hands-on approach is vital for embedding knowledge and preparing them for the application-based challenges of their GCSE courses.

A key focus this term has been on personal development and goal setting. We have been focusing further on The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, a framework that empowers students to take control of their future. Our Year 10 students have spent time identifying their strengths, challenges, and the concrete steps they need to take to reach their academic and personal goals. This intentional approach is crucial for success both in school and beyond.



Work Experience Is a Normal and Essential Part of Education

Work experience is not a “school extra.” Every adult will have completed work experience at some point, and students will continue to do so throughout their education and training.

- **All Level 2 college qualifications require a minimum of 45 hours of work experience** across the academic year.
- **Level 3 courses require over 300 hours of placement in the second year.**
- **University degrees also include placement years or regular placement blocks.**

This applies across all subjects, and it is especially important in sectors such as **Health & Social Care, Construction, Engineering, and Hair & Beauty** .

Contacting One Employer Is Not Enough

Many students have contacted only one employer and then stopped. Unfortunately, this will not secure a placement.

Students need to reach out to **10, 20, or even more** employers.

This is normal. The chances of receiving a “yes” quickly are low — placements fill up early, and many employers require more notice.

Students Must Actively Take Responsibility

Students should be using every connection available: family, friends, neighbours, clubs, societies, part-time employers, and any personal contacts.

Saying “I can’t be bothered” or waiting for someone else to organise it will not lead to a placement, nor will it prepare students for the next steps in their education.

If an apprenticeship is the intended pathway, then this independence is vital. Students must:

- Contact employers
- Complete college applications
- Attend interviews
- Speak directly with college staff

These are responsibilities that schools, tutors, teachers, and even parents cannot take on for them.

The Reality of the Working World

Even at college, students will still be required to secure and complete work experience. Apprenticeships themselves are full-time work placements. Employers expect reliability, motivation, and effort. Without engagement or commitment, opportunities will not be offered twice.

It is far better for students to learn this now than later.

We Are Here to Support — But Students Must Meet Us Halfway

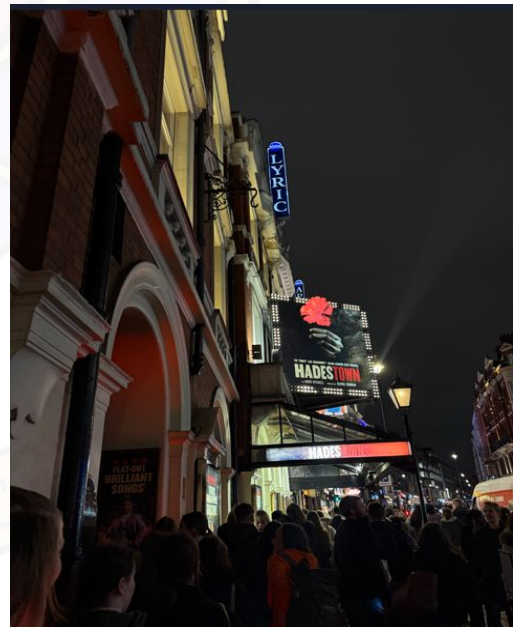
We will continue to guide, assist, and encourage every student, but we cannot complete the process for them. If students do not engage, the only person who misses out will be themselves, and that will be no one’s responsibility but their own.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to prepare our young people for their next steps.

Year 11 News:

Year 11 students who are currently studying Classical Civilisation showed maturity and resilience on a recent trip to London. It had been planned to visit the British Museum, however whilst on the coach it was discovered that it was closed. Fortunately, quick thinking staff managed to secure a visit to the Natural History Museum instead. Not to be deterred, the year 11s took this in their stride and showcased support as they took the long walk to the theatre to watch *Hadestown*.

Comments were made to staff regarding the exemplary behaviour shown by the students and as ever made Kings Academy Brune Park incredibly proud.



Post 16 Support:

For any post 16 information please refer to this link [here](#).

Advice on how to support your children to chat about Post 16 choices and where to start.

Important decisions

Please see the link below to an infinite guide on how to support students from Year 9 choosing options, Year 10 with Work Experience and Year 11 with exams and Post 16 choices all the way to University, what do the grades mean?

- What does Level 2 or Level 3 mean?
- What's an apprenticeship?
- Who provides apprenticeships?
- What are UCAS points?

Everything you need to know about Post 16 options is in here

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/okfun/czdo/#p=1>

Step by step video on the whole apprenticeship process:

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Step-by-step-guide-to-applying-1.pdf>

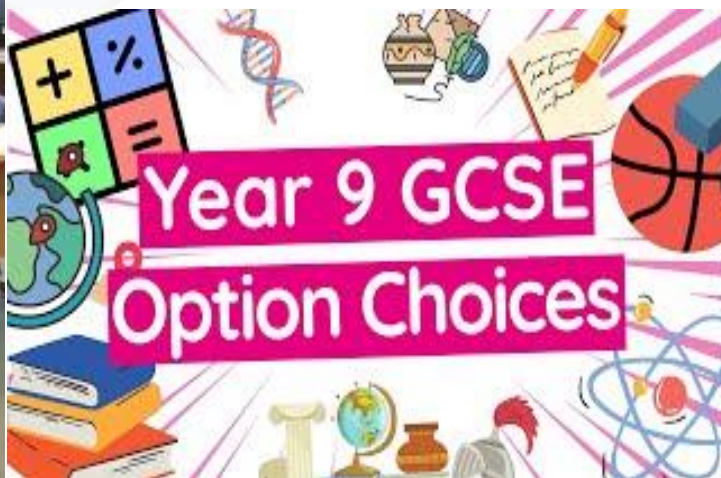
Year 9 - Choosing options support -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zrjh92p#zjr8s82>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/gcses/choosing-your-gcses>

<https://www.cxk.org/blog/year-9-options-2026/>

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/parent-zone/all-questions/how-can-i-help-my-child-make-their-option-choices-in-year-9-some-schools-make-option-choices-in-y8>



UPCOMING
**ACADEMY
OPEN EVENINGS**



MONDAY 12TH JANUARY

CAMS HILL SCHOOL AGED 16-18

7PM -7:45PM PRESENTATION

8PM- 9:15PM TRAINING SESSION

**BOYS
TRIALS**

MONDAY 20TH APRIL

CAMS HILL SCHOOL AGED 16-18

7PM -7:45PM PRESENTATION

8PM- 9:15PM TRAINING SESSION

**GIRLS
TRIALS**

MONDAY 29TH JUNE

CAMS HILL SCHOOL AGED 16-18

7PM -7:45PM PRESENTATION

8PM- 9:15PM TRAINING SESSION

**BOYS
TRIALS**

TO ATTEND SCAN THE QR CODE OR EMAIL:

ACADEMY@AFCPORTCHESTER.CO.UK





King's Academy Brune Park Alumni

We would love to gather information from previous students of Brune Park and celebrate your success and highlight your career paths. Please fill out this Google Form to register your interest. If you have a career or success story you would like to share, please complete the survey.

Link here - <https://forms.gle/mFCCiRhCB7j6cG2Z6>



If you have any questions, please email our school's Careers Advisor - lbailey@kgabrunepark.uk

<https://forms.gle/Yjb9RVyxBng5i5iW6>

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAMS

Come and meet the Mental Health Support Team! We'll be doing a brief presentation to help you understand the **local resources and signposting** available for your children and family's mental well-being.

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are a team of mental health specialists supporting young people through Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT). We'll also introduce our service and how we support the school, and how we can support you.

Stay for a **relaxed chat** over coffee-a safe space to ask any questions you have.



Tuesday 16th December

09:15-11:00

The Gosport Community Hub

Free holiday activities & meals for eligible children this winter!

Children in Reception to Year 11 receiving benefits-related free school meals can enjoy fun activities and healthy meals for free this Christmas through Hampshire's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme!

Spaces are limited - book now!
Scan the QR code below to check if you're eligible, find local HAF schemes, and book your child(ren)'s place



Funded by
UK Government

FAREHAM WINTER HAF SCHEMES



Active8 Minds

Boundary Oak School (PO17 5BL)
Wicor Primary School (PO16 9DL)



Active Me 360

Orchard Lea Junior School (PO15 6BJ)



CM Sports

Fareham Academy (PO14 1JJ)



Globe Fit

Crofton Hammond Infant School (PO14 2DE)



ID PE & Sport

Brookfield Community School (SO31 7DU)
Hook-with-Warsash Academy (SO31 9GD)



Superstar Sports

Northern Junior School (PO16 8DG)
Titchfield Primary School (PO14 4AU)



Y Services for Young People

Genesis Centre (SO31 6DX)

Please keep an eye on the FISH website as it will be regularly updated
with available HAF schemes: <https://fish.hants.gov.uk>