

News from Abbey Park School

Term 5 - May 2025



'Potential into Performance'



**The Park
Academies
Trust**



Message from the Principal

'Potential into Performance'

As we approach the end of another exciting and productive term at Abbey Park, I would like to take this opportunity to share some of the highlights and celebrate the achievements of our incredible pupils.

This term saw the return of 'APS Got Talent', and what a show it was! From soulful singing and energetic dance routines to musical performances, stand-up comedy, and even a lightning-fast Rubik's Cube challenge – our pupils wowed the audience with their creativity and courage. A huge thank you to all the performers, staff, and supporters who made the evening such a success.

On 8th May, Abbey Park joined the nation in marking the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Pupils and staff came together in a moment of reflection, observing a two-minute silence to honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served during World War II. It was a powerful reminder of the importance of peace, unity, and remembrance.

Our Year 11 pupils have officially begun their GCSE exams, and we could not be prouder of the dedication and resilience they have shown. We wish each and every one of them the very best of luck. As I said in my final words to them, in their last assembly before the exams started: "Your teachers have been with you every step of the way, guiding, supporting, and believing in your potential. They have seen your growth and are proud of how far you've come. Take their encouragement and wisdom with you into the exam room. Now, it's your time to shine. Give it your all, stay positive, and show the world what you are capable of. You've got this!"

Year 10 pupils have also been hard at work, tackling their mock exams with maturity and determination. These assessments are a valuable opportunity to prepare for the year ahead, and we've been equally impressed by the effort and focus shown across the board. Keep up the great work!

We're excited to announce our newly appointed Student Leadership Team! These pupils have demonstrated outstanding leadership potential, and we look forward to working closely with them to help shape the future of our school. Congratulations to all – I cannot wait to see the positive impact you will make.

Thank you to all our pupils, staff, and families for your continued support and enthusiasm this term. Lots more exciting trips and events to look forward to next term, before we finally end the academic year on 18th July at 12:30pm. **Just a reminder that pupils start back to school next term on Tuesday 3rd June** (as Monday 2nd June is a staff training day).

Regards,
Mr Ward
Principal

Abbey Park PE Term 5 Highlights

We're thrilled to share the exciting news from our PE program for term 5. From a visit from Chris Skelly who is a Paralympic athlete in Judo, to Year 7 boys & girls reaching the County Cup final in football, it's been a busy and exciting few weeks for pupils despite the short term.

PE Achievements: Team Stars

We are proud of our pupils for their commitment to fixtures this term in boys' football and girls' football who will play in the county cup final on 22nd May at Stanley Park - parents are welcome to watch and support. They had a convincing win against Sarum, winning 5-2 in the semi-finals. Pupils taking part include David A (7GP), James B (7MR), Rocco C (7MR), Charlie W (7MR), Ruairidh D (7CJ), Amelia D (7RJ), Edan J (7AW), Kieran J (7MR), Louis M (7DB), Lewis P (7RJ), Ellis W (7CJ).

Year 7 B team boys are also in the final of the Swindon B team League Cup final against Lawn Manor. We wish all teams good luck and hope to bring back some silverware this year. Pupils taking part include Noah S (7AW), Louis M (7CJ), Jack C (7MR), Tristan M (7GP), Theo W (7AW), Cameron L (7DB), George D (7AW), Charlie S (7PS), Cian B (7LW), Leo W (7CJ), Archie B (7CJ), Charlie B (7CJ), Reece B (7DB), Oliver M-A (7MR).

The Year 9 girls rounders team have also continued their unbeaten run from last year with a brilliant win against Bradon Forest and are aiming high to reach the finals this year at the end of the season. U16s had a close match against Bradon but narrowly missed out on a win but are looking forward to the rest of their games and are a very optimistic team.

PE Achievements: Individual Stars

As well as some amazing team achievements, we have also had some individual super stars!

- **Will W (9KV)** - Qualifying for English Champs in Tumbling

"Hi I'm Will, I have been doing gymnastics since I was only 4 years old. It's been my passion since I was very young and recently I qualified for Silver and Gold English Championships in Tumbling DMT and trampolining. I will be competing in the tumbling sector, which I will have to fully complete 3 runs and try to perfect them to the best of my ability. My competition is on the 31st of May in Telford international sports centre. To qualify I have to come 1st or 2nd in South-West England and I will be competing against the top 2 in every county in England."

- **Lilly I (8EB), Amelia D (7RJ) & Eleanor R (8HK)**

Represented Abbeymeads FC at a recent tournament making them qualify for national finals at St George's Park.

The girls are now league champions for Division 1, County Cup finalists for Wiltshire runners up and finalists for league cup.

- **Finley R (8SCL), Cohen F (8CP) and Reuben M (8SCL)**

Represented Draycott Dynamite FC and won the Wiltshire County Cup. Overall, 74 teams around Wiltshire entered the competition. They played many knockout matches over the last 6 months before getting through to the finals.

Good luck Will, Lilly, Amelia & Eleanor. We will be cheering you on!

Other News:

The Elite Sports Academy pupils, Sports Leaders & pupils who have been outstanding in the PE & enrichment had an exciting and inspirational talk from Chris Skelly who is a Paralympic athlete in Judo. He explained all about the benefits of physical activity, barriers he faced being a Paralympic Athlete and the benefits of Judo. Pupils were then given a 30-minute training session by Chris looking at core skills and moves used in Judo.

Looking Ahead: What's Next in PE?

Upcoming Events:

- Y7 & 8 Girls Cricket tournament - Tuesday 10th June @ Biddestone
- Y9 & 10 Athletics Championship - Thursday 19th June @ County Ground
- Y7 & 8 Athletics Championship - Thursday 26th June @ County Ground
- Y7 Dynamo's Cricket - Tuesday 8th July @ Swindon County Ground

Important Reminders

- Check out the new session 6s in term 6 - Rounders, Cricket, Athletics, Badminton, GCSE & CNAT Exam Revision, House Sports
- New lunchtime clubs available
- GCSE & CNAT revision classes after school (session 6) - CNAT on Tuesday & GCSE on Thursday
- GCSE Breakfast Club on a Wednesday morning 8:20 till 8:35 (until 10th June)
- Y11 unwanted PE kit - If you have any unwanted PE kit, the PE department would be really grateful for any donations given once Y11s leave at the end of term 5/6

We look forward to another great term ahead and wish all pupils luck with their sporting events over the May break.

Thank you!

The APS PE Department

Graphics Competition Year 10



This year, the Design and Technology Department launched an exciting **Graphic Design Competition** to give Year 10 pupils a taste of a real-world industry project.

Mike from **Pryzon Design Ltd**, passionate about introducing young people to the wide range of career opportunities in the design field, spearheaded the initiative.

His vision was to create a competition that not only allowed pupils to work with professional industry-standard software but also ensured their designs were developed to a professional level. Three prizes were awarded—**£100 for 1st place, £50 for 2nd place, and £25 for 3rd place**—with the ultimate winner's design printed onto a **go-kart**, ready for the upcoming racing season!

A fantastic opportunity to bridge the gap between education and industry while inspiring the next generation of designers.

Graphics Competition Year 10



1st Place

Rheya: The competition has allowed me to sample and experience what it feels like to be a Graphic Designer. I am excited to see my design on a real life go kart.

2nd Place

Sofia: I enjoyed learning new 'Photoshop Skills' and following a design brief.



3rd Place

Alfie: I was able to bring all my skills together and create an outcome that I liked and my client.

Antarctica Flag - made it twice!

I am pleased to say that our APS flag for Antarctica not only made it once to Antarctica, but twice!

We are very fortunate and lucky to have our flag photographed earlier this year in front of a colony of penguins, but now also on board the Sir David Attenborough Ship in the Weddell Sea.

The photograph was taken by Kinzie Orton, an engineer with the British Antarctic Survey. Well done again to the 4 winners from this year: Nika M, Natalia S, Edan D and Skyla B.

Mrs Graham (Curriculum Leader - Humanities)



Congratulations!

Senior Student Leadership Team 25/26

We have great pleasure in announcing the School's new Student Leadership Team.

It was a tough process of applications, presentations and interviews. They all did so well and truly showed us what Abbey Park PROUD looks like. We really do have wonderful Year 10 pupils who are bright, articulate and have a fantastic future ahead of them.

- **Head Girl** - Lilia B (10AF)
- **Deputy Head Girls** - Cadence C (10IA) and Angelica W (10AF)
- **Head Boy** - Joshua J (10FL)
- **Deputy Head Boy** - Billy B (10HT)

House captains

- **Avebury** - Holly W (10AF) and Angela G (10AF)
- **Barbury** - Daniel O (10CF) and Connor M (10CF)
- **Kennet** - Jodi O (10BT) and Jessie O (10BT)
- **Stonehenge** - Spencer K (10FL) and Katie W (10PA)
- **Whitehorse** - Julia MM (10IA)
- **Inclusion and Equal Opportunities Leader** - Beth E (10FL)

Bath Theatre Academy placement

We would also like to congratulate Toby R (11KH) on successfully securing a conditional offer for a place next year at BTA - Bath Theatre Academy, which is based at Theatre Royal in Bath, studying a full-time UAL Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing and Production Arts.

VE Day 80th Anniversary

We commemorated the 80th Anniversary of VE day at Abbey Park through a number of events. On Thursday 8th May itself, we took part in the National two minute silence to remember and thank those who fought for our freedom.

Year 7, within their music lessons, learnt the second verse of 'I vow to thee my country' along with Lilia B (Y10), who won APS got Talent, for the whole school to listen to during tutor time on Thursday.

The Humanities department offered pupils the chance to collect a ration card which allowed them to locate rations around the school in exchange of rewards points and a ration token in exchange for a free treat from the Epraise shop. In addition to this, the Humanities Student Ambassadors designed a display board and an art competition - we are excited to share the winner next term.

We are proud at Abbey Park that we were able to come together as a school community, to unite and celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of Word War II in Europe, where so many millions paid the ultimate sacrifice to achieve it.



Mrs Graham (Curriculum Leader - Humanities)

APS Got Talent 2025

A Night to Remember

During Term 4, pupils eagerly competed during lunchtime auditions for a chance to perform in the APS Got Talent final on Thursday 1st May. Congratulations to all the finalists who made it to the stage!

The event was a resounding success, drawing a vibrant crowd of pupils, families, and friends who came together to support our very talented pupils.

A special thank you to the Year 7 Council for initiating and supporting this wonderful event. Also, our current Head Boy (Toby R) and Head Girl (Evie W) who hosted this event.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to our esteemed judges, who generously volunteered their time and expertise:

Simon - a seasoned drummer who has been playing since a young age. He has performed with various bands, including a Bristol-based wedding band and Bare Knuckle Asylum, whose debut album was released last year.

Imogen - a passionate dancer who trained at London Studio Centre and performed professionally on several Costa Cruise Ships. She now shares her love for dance through teaching.

Mrs. Stevens - a performer with a rich background in dancing and acting, having been involved in productions like The Buddy Holly Story, Rock of Ages, and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. She also serves as a choreographer for a local amateur dramatics group.

The judges had a challenging task, given the diverse array of talents on display from dancers and singers to musicians, comedians, and even a speed Rubik's Cube solver!

After much deliberation, the top three finalists were:

- Lilia B (Y10 - Avebury House)
- George S (Y7 - Whitehorse House)
- Olivia S (Y9 - Whitehorse House)

And the overall winner was **Lilia B (Y10 - Avebury House)**.



A massive congratulations to all the performers and everyone who contributed to making this event a memorable success. Your talent and dedication shone brightly on stage!

Do you have what it takes to take on next year's talents show and battle to win for your house?

Mr Lyons (English teacher) and Miss Fullerton (Music teacher)

PHOTOGRAPHY



Competition

YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER AWARDS

RSPCA.

Love animals? Enjoy taking photographs? Then you're in the right place. Help us create a kinder world for animals by sharing your inspiring images.

LINK TO BRIEF AND 2024 WINNERS GALLERY: [About the Competition - Young Photographer Awards - rspca.org.uk](https://rspca.org.uk/about-the-competition-young-photographer-awards)

Taking pictures of animals makes us notice how they live and their unique personalities.

Looking through the lens of a camera or mobile phone helps us spot incredible wildlife.

This can encourage us to see our pets in a whole new light.

Fundraising

Hundreds of Easter Eggs donated to charities by Swindon schools

340 Easter eggs donated by pupils and staff at The Park Academies Trust schools in Swindon have been delivered to two charities working to support victims of domestic abuse.

Secondary schools Abbey Park, The Deanery and Highworth Warneford joined forces with Red Oaks, Orchid Vale, Bridlewood and Kingfisher primary schools, organised the collection and donation to Swindon Women's Aid (now known as Society Without Abuse) and Swindon Domestic Abuse Service (Jenni's House Refuge – operated by Paragon).

The Easter Eggs have been given to families in the refuge, as well as those being supported in the community.

The collection at Abbey Park School was overseen by TPAT teachers Alexandra O'Brien and Nikki Bowie.



Alexandra O'Brien said: "It's heartwarming to see just how many easter eggs, sweets and gifts the very generous pupils and staff have donated. It makes such a huge difference to those families who have been dealing with very tough situations to know that someone cares and wants them to have a wonderful Easter. Both charities were delighted by the donations and have thanked everyone for their kindness."

Swindon Half Marathon - fundraising for Wiltshire Treehouse



As a charity partner for the Swindon Half Marathon, we are on the hunt for runners or those wanting a challenge.

Could you run on behalf of Wiltshire Treehouse & raise money to support bereaved children and young people locally? Running 13.5 miles on **Sunday 28th September 2025.**

Race entry costs only £30, with a fundraising target of £300.

For more information or to sign up please contact Sarah Bear
businessdirector@wiltshiretreehouse.org.uk





CHILL
WITH
US

SUMMER

concert

19 JUNE 25

START AT 18:00

SOLOS, ENSEMBLES, CHOIR

ABBEY PARK SCHOOL

USE THE REAR GATE FOR ENTRANCE

TICKETS £3 ON ARBOR

Music Lessons



**1-1
Instrumental
music lessons
at school, online
or at home.**

*Piano, Drums, Guitar,
Woodwind, Brass and Strings.*

**Swindon
Music
Co-operative -
providing 1-1
instrumental
lessons in schools
across Swindon and
Wiltshire since 1998.**



**Swindon
Music
Co-operative**



Our aim is to develop each pupil's musical potential according to their individual needs and aspirations. Quality of teaching is monitored through regular observations of all our teachers.

For more information or to apply please scan the QR code below



Application form



More information

**Swindon Music Co-operative, Astoria House, 165/166 Victoria Road, Swindon, SN1 3BU
01793 781973 • info@swindonmusiccoop.co.uk • swindonmusiccoop.co.uk**

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO HELP

Abbey Park Music Department
needs instruments!

We could make use of any
unused/unwanted instruments you may
have sat in the attic or cupboard.
Please send into school and help bring
the Music Department alive!



hutchingsc@abbeyparkschool.org.uk if
you require any more information



HEADSTART LIFE SKILLZ RETREAT



UNLOCKING POTENTIAL
SHAPING FUTURES

AGES: 12-16
27TH-28TH MAY



STREET SAFETY DRILLS

Mobile phone theft, handling confrontation, all acted out by professionals

SELF DEFENSE TRAINING

Learn practical escapes, strikes & confidence boosting techniques in a controlled dojo setting

REAL LIFE FIRST AID

How to respond to Car accidents, common emergencies

DEVELOP LIFE LONG SKILLS

Teamwork, communication, leadership, social skills, problem solving, daily routines, cooking basics, mindset development

OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

Boot camp, gaming, sports, interactive challenges

JOIN US...

OLD BARRACKS, GORING HEATH, RG8 7RU, READING

2 days, 1 night

£170pp

PRICE INCLUDES FOOD, SINGLE BEDROOMS
TRANSPORT (SWINDON ONLY)
FLEXIBLE PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE



To book visit:
<https://headstart-skillz.pembee.app/>
07908567135

ONLY 20
SPACES
AVAILABLE





Your leftover foreign currency and old UK coins and notes are an easy way to help us raise valuable funds



- All foreign coins & banknotes
- Old British & Irish money
- All current UK money
- Even obsolete currency!

Useful Information

Buying books

In the library we try to keep a wide variety of books and authors, however it is impossible to stock everything. If your child enjoys reading it can be difficult to keep up with buying them books, especially in the current economic climate.

So here are a few tips to keep costs down:

- Join your local library, it is free to join and you can borrow up to 16 books at a time.
- While at the library, many have a withdrawn section where you can take as many books as you can carry for £1.
- Charity shops often have a book section, the bonus is you can return them when you have finished and support a good cause.
- Discount book shops such as The Works offer a wide range of books at discount prices.
- Online WoB (World of Books) is a secondhand book shop which offers books at a reasonable price and offers free delivery in the UK.

Local libraries

North Swindon Library

Orbital Retail Park, Thamesdown Drive, Swindon, SN25 4AN

01793 707120

northswindon.library@swindon.gov.uk

Current opening hours

- Monday - 2.00pm - 6.00pm
- Tuesday - closed
- Wednesday - 10.00am - 2.00pm
- Thursday - closed
- Friday - 1.00pm - 5.00pm
- Saturday - 10.00am - 2.00pm
- Sunday - 11.00am - 3.00pm

Central Library

Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QG

01793 463238

central.library@swindon.gov.uk

Current opening hours

- Monday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Tuesday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Wednesday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Thursday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Friday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Saturday - 10.00am - 4.00pm
- Sunday - closed

Local Bookshops

Bert's Books

54 Godwin Court, Swindon, SN1 4BB

07949 190977

bert@bertsbooks.co.uk

Opening hours

- Monday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Tuesday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Wednesday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Thursday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Friday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Saturday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Sunday - 10.30am – 4.00pm

Waterstones

3 Canal Walk, Swindon SN1 1LD

01793 436465

www.waterstones.com

Opening Hours

- Monday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Tuesday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Wednesday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Thursday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Friday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Saturday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm

School Bag Donations

If you have any school bags that are in a good condition and are no longer needed, we would be very grateful for donations.

If you would like to make a donation please hand this into reception.

Mr Stubbs
Assistant Principal

School Uniform Donations



Do you have any pieces of branded Abbey Park uniform lying around that are still in good condition and could be used by someone else? Perhaps they no longer fit or you no longer need it. Are you just not sure what to do with it? If so, we might be able to help you!

Pre-loved uniform will be put to good use by supporting our pupils and their families. We are looking for donations of branded Abbey Park uniform, specifically blazers and ties but we will happily take trousers, shoes, jumpers and PE kit too.

If you do have any items you no longer need, then please drop them in at reception. All we ask is that donations are in good condition and have been cleaned.

Many thanks in advance for any support you might be able to offer.

Mr Stubbs
Assistant Principal

Pupil Laptops

When pupils are given a school laptop to use at home, please ensure the software and antivirus are updated by turning the laptop on weekly.

Please return the laptop to the school reception or IT office if it is no longer in use at home so that it can be distributed to pupils who now need a device.

If you're experiencing any problems with the laptop at home, please let us know.

IT Support





Safeguarding Information

At Abbey Park we are committed to ensuring a culture of safeguarding in our school and it is paramount in all we do. We hope that our termly safeguarding update will give you an overview of our approach, offer some useful guidance and information and inform you of what your child is learning in school about how to keep themselves safe. For more information about safeguarding, please look at our website:

What does Safeguarding look like at Abbey Park?

At Abbey Park School we follow the Government policy document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. This is statutory guidance for all schools in England to follow and comply with. It has recently been updated and therefore our safeguarding policy has been updated to reflect this. You can find this on our safeguarding section on the school website. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's responsibility**. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in making sure that children grow up having the best life chances. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all adults should make sure their approach puts the child at the centre of the decision making and that the best interests of the child are always considered. We believe that it is in the best interest of our children to have opportunities to learn how to stay safe both in and outside of school. Our safeguarding themes are woven into lessons across the curriculum, into assemblies and throughout daily life in school. Here are just a few examples of how we teach safeguarding at Abbey Park:

- Dedicated safeguarding team in school every day
- Pastoral support for each year group.
- Pastoral Support Assistants who have specialist training in supporting a child in their social and emotional needs
- Members of staff who have completed basic mental health training
- Mental health pupil ambassadors
- Mental health staff ambassadors
- A dedicated mental health lead – Mrs Stevens
- Wellbeing Wednesday each Wednesday Tutor time looking at how to look after mental health
- Assemblies and lessons taught throughout the year, including but not extensively, anti-bullying, equality, diversity, fire, sun, children's safety, exploitation, sexual harassment and violence and online safety.
- PHSE curriculum covering how to be healthy, having healthy relationships and developing emotional literacy
- Online safety curriculum
- RSE (Relationships and sex education) curriculum
- Weekly tutor time reminders about staying safe in school and our expectations

If you need any support with your child, please contact a member of the safeguarding Team.

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Kara Stevens

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Lorraine Hatcliffe

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Ms Vanessa Redondo

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Miss Stacey Prince



Introducing new members of the team:

We are pleased to introduce two new members of the Pastoral team.

Miss Prince joins us our new Head of Year 7 and DDSL. She has a wealth of experience and is well underway with the transition work for our new Year 7s.

Miss Taylor Anstee joins us as Pastoral support assistant for Year 7 and attendance officer.

Contact details and circumstances – please keep us up to date!

It is vitally important that we have the correct contact details for every parent/carer. If you change your phone number, e - mail or move house, please let the admin team know or update it on Arbor. We also need at least two emergency contacts for your child. Unless there is a court order saying differently both parents should be listed on the contacts.

We also ask that you keep us up to date with any changes in your personal circumstances that may impact your child. Please see below the contact details of the safeguarding team.

Mrs Stevens: stevensk@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Mrs Hatcliffe: hatcliffel@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Miss Redondo: redondov@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Miss Prince: princes@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Useful contacts:

'Contact Swindon' has changed its name and is now known as Children and Families Contact Swindon. If you have concerns about a child and want to speak to a social worker, family services worker without going through school please call - 01793 464646

If you have concerns that a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police on 999

School Nursing team – for support to help children with their physical, mental and emotional well-being and referring to other specialist agencies.

Tel – 01793 465050 or email snn@swindon.gov.uk

Online safety guidance for parents - <https://swgfl.org.uk/>



Assembly and PSHE this term:

At Abbey Park School all pupils attend Assemblies and PSHE sessions each week.

During term 5 pupils have had the following assemblies: Determination, careers, misogyny, mental health and house assemblies.

During PSHE this term pupils have been learning about the following topics:

Year 7	Health and wellbeing: Relationships (RSE)
Year 8	Health and Wellbeing: Drugs and alcohol
Year 9	Health and Wellbeing: Substance use & peer influence
Year 10	Relationships: Healthy relationships (RSE)
Year 11	Health and Wellbeing: Exam stress and strategy for revision

Social care or external agency involvement

A polite request to keep the Pastoral team updated if your child is receiving support from social services or any external agencies. This will enable us to ensure the right support is given at the right time.

Special guardianship orders or unofficial care givers

Just a reminder to keep the school updated if a child is under a Special guardianship order or unofficial care placement to ensure they receive any support needed.



Abbey Park School Attendance Ladder



Attendance matters:

Research shows that there is a direct link between good attendance to school and better outcomes for young adults.

If you are struggling with your child's attendance please contact your Child's Head of Key stage, PSA or Miss Anstee for support.

First aid


Just a reminder that we can only offer first aid in school. We are not able to treat pre-existing conditions as we are only first aiders.


Paracetamol – We will not issue any paracetamol to pupils during P5 to ensure pupils do not take another dose at home.

I imagine that many of you have seen Netflix's *Adolescence*, which pulled back the curtain on something every parent, every educator, and member of school staff needs to know—the hidden language of emojis and the violent impact misogynistic ideologies can have.

Online, young people are communicating in ways most adults completely miss. What looks innocent could have a much darker meaning. Here are some of the codes being used:


Incel - a member of an online community of young men who consider themselves unable to attract women sexually, typically associated with views that are hostile towards women and men who are sexually active. It is a term associated with a mostly online subculture of people who define themselves as unable to find a romantic or sexual partner despite desiring it.

 **Red Pill** – “I see the truth.” Used in toxic male spaces to mean waking up to supposed hidden ‘truths’ about women and society, often linked to misogynistic ideologies.

 **Blue Pill** – Represents those who are “blind to the truth” or still believe in mainstream views about relationships and gender dynamics.


 **Dynamite Emoji** – An “exploding red pill,” meaning someone is a radicalised incel.


 **Kidney Bean** – A symbol linked to incel culture, sometimes mocking women.


 **100 Emoji** – Tied to the “80/20 rule,” the belief that 80% of women are only attracted to 20% of men.

 **Black Hole** – Used to express depression, hopelessness, or being sucked into negative online spaces.

 **Tornado** – Represents chaos or feeling overwhelmed, sometimes used to indicate mental distress.

 **Frog Emoji** – Associated with alt-right and extremist meme culture, often linked to Pepe the Frog, which has been co-opted by some toxic online groups.

 **Eagle** – A symbol of extreme nationalism, sometimes used in far-right online spaces.

 **Skull** – While often just slang for “that’s funny” or “I’m dead (from laughing),” in certain groups, it can signal darker themes like nihilism or self-harm.

 **Heart Colours** – Not just about love!

 = Love

 = Lust

 = “Are you interested?”

 = Interested but not in sex

 = “You’ll be okay”

What can you do? As parents and carers, the best thing to do is to talk to your child. Ask them what they know about these issues, see if they are being affected by it, report your concerns to school and ask for support.

Here are some useful websites you can use for advice:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>
<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Online safety: Each term we will add support guides for parents. All of these guides can be found on our website under the safeguarding section.

Term 6 Curriculum Map - KS3

'Potential into Performance'

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	Poetry: An Introduction	Poetry: Contemporary Poetry	Poetry: World War One
Maths	Ratio & Proportions, Transformations	Circles, Transformations, Art in Maths/ Investigations	Index Notation & Rules, Standard Form, Enlargement & Similarity
Science	Space & Skills	Magnets & Skills	C10 Using Resources
MFL	Spanish: Te Toca a Ti French: À toi	Spanish: Te Toca a Ti French: À toi	Spanish: Punto de Partida French: À toi
Humanities	Geography: Swindon and our local area History: History of Swindon Philosophical Thinking: Avebury	Geography: East Meets West History: The Middle East Philosophical Thinking: East meets West	Geography: Natural Resources History: The New Millennium Philosophical Thinking: Life after death
Computing	Scratch Block Programming	Minecraft Education	Business Project
Visual Arts	Portraits	Niki de Saint Phalle Nana Sculptures	Clay Monsters
Performing Arts	Drama: Silent Movies Music: Samba	Drama: Physical Theatre - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time Music: Band Skills	Drama: John Godber Scripted Performances Music: Film Music
PE	Rounders, Cricket, Interhouse	Rounders, Cricket, Interhouse	Rounders, Cricket, Interhouse
Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Drugs Education	Health & Wellbeing: Identity and relationships -RSE	Healthy Relationships - RSE

Term 6 Curriculum Map - KS4

'Potential into Performance'

Year 10	
English	Literature and Context: Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Revision for Mocks/ Retrieval and Consolidation Spoken Language
Media	Paper 01 Revision and Mock; NEA introduction
Maths	Foundation: Constructions, Loci & Bearings, Sequences and Standard Form Higher: Further Algebra and Graphs, Sequences and Growth & decay
Science	P7 Magnetism & Electromagnetism & C10 Using Resources
MFL	Spanish: De costumbre, A currar, Hacia un mundo mejor French: Au college, Bon travail, Un oeil sur le monde
Humanities	Geography: Physical Landscape of UK History: Origins of the Cold war 1941- 58 Philosophical Thinking: Religion, relationships and families Sociology: Paper 1: The Sociology of Education
Business & Computing	Business: 1.5 Understanding external influences on business (partly) & mock paper preparation Computing: 3.1 Fundamentals of Algorithms and 3.2 Programming
Design Technology / Food	Commencement of NEA
Art & Photography	Art: Identity Photography: Circles
Performing Arts	Drama: Component One - Devising and Preparing for controlled assessment performance Music: Practice of the above through listening activities
PE	Rounders, Basketball, Football, Dodgeball, Badminton, Handball, Cricket CNAT: R186- Media in Sport GCSE: Paper 1- Analyse, Evaluate of Performance
Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	CEIAG & Staying safe

Contact details and consents

Having up-to-date contact information enables us to communicate with you promptly in the unlikely event of an emergency school closure during the day. This ensures that we can communicate effectively and keep you informed of any urgent developments. Please also take a moment to review the contact details and consents we have recorded for you on the Arbor Parent Portal are correct.

If your circumstances have changed and your child can no longer go home by themselves in event of an emergency school closure, you can update the consent accordingly on Arbor.

Bank holidays

Monday 26th May

May half-term

Monday 27th - Friday 30th May

Inset day

Monday 2nd June

All Years Return to School

Tuesday 3rd June

Friday 6th - Saturday 7th June	Duke of Edinburgh practice
Tuesday 10th June	Cricket tournament at Biddestone
Wednesday 11th June	Trip: Y7-10 to see War Horse at Bristol Hippodrome
Thursday 12th June	Trip: Y7 to Museum and Art, Swindon
Saturday 14th June	Mock Trial final at Croydon Crown Court
Monday 16th June	Trip: Y10 to River Cole
Tuesday 17th June	Event: Lord of the Flies
Thursday 19th June	Evening Event: Summer Concert - starting at 6pm Trip: Athletics trial at the County Ground
Saturday 21st - Sunday 22nd June	Duke of Edinburgh assessment
Monday 23rd June	Event: PSHE Police visit
Wednesday 25th June	Trip: Y7 to Bletchley Park
Thursday 26th June	Trip: Athletics trial at the County Ground
Friday 27th June	Mentor Conference
Monday 30th June - Wednesday 2nd July	Y6 Induction Days - starting at 3.30pm

Important Notices & School Calendar - Term 6

'Potential into Performance'

Monday 30th June	Y6 Induction Evening - starting at 3.30pm
Tuesday 1st July	Y6 Induction Evening
Thursday 3rd July	Key Stage 3 Careers Day
Friday 4th - Saturday 5th July	Trip: Alternative Duke of Edinburgh
Friday 4th - Saturday 12th July	Residential Trip: Y9 & 10 Mediterranean Adventure
Monday 7th - Friday 11th July	Wellbeing Week
Monday 14th July	Event: PSHE Police visit
Tuesday 15th July	Event: Duke of Edinburgh Afternoon Tea Evening Event: Rewards Evening - starting at 6pm
Wednesday 16th July	Event: Sports Day Event: Young Carers Party - Period 4 & 5

Last day of Term 6

Friday 18th July - lunchtime finish

Inset days

Monday 21st July

Tuesday 22nd July

Summer Holidays

Wednesday 23rd July - Friday 29th August

Inset Days

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

School Calendar 2024-25



Abbey Park School Terms and Holidays 2024 - 2025



September 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

INSET Days 2nd and 3rd September, 18th and 19th November, 2nd June, 21st and 22nd July

Lunchtime Finish 20th December and 18th July

Bank Holidays 2024/25 UK

25 December '24	Christmas Day	18 April '25	Good Friday	26 May '25	Spring Bank Holiday
26 December '24	Boxing Day	21 April '25	Easter Monday	25 August '25	August Bank Holiday
1 January '25	New Year's Day	5 May '25	May Day Holiday		

Our full calendar and more information can be found at www.abbeyparkschool.org.uk

School Calendar 2025-26



Abbey Park School Terms and Holidays 2025 - 2026



The Park
Academies
Trust

August 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2026						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

INSET Days

1st and 2nd September, 20th and 21st November, 23rd February, 1st June, 20th July

Lunchtime Finish

19th December and 17th July

Bank Holidays 2025/26 UK

25 August '25	August Bank Holiday	1 January '26	New Year's Day	4 May '26	Early May Bank Holiday
25 December '25	Christmas Day	3 April '26	Good Friday	25 May '26	Spring Bank Holiday
26 December '25	Boxing Day	6 April '26	Easter Monday		