

George Abbot Bulletin

5 September 2025



Message from Mrs Carriett:

Welcome back to the new academic year at George Abbot. Your children have made an exceptional start and it has been extremely good to see them all. A particular welcome to our Year 7 parents/carers and the families joining us in Year 12. Thank you to all of our parents/carers for trusting us with your precious young people. We are here to ensure they are their very best selves, academically and personally. They are precious to us, too.

My key message today is that Attendance Matters. We know that regular attendance is essential for students to feel a sense of belonging to the school community and to achieve their very best. Being in school and having the best attendance possible means that the gaps in learning don't cause children's progress to slow, they maintain close and positive relationships, they feel bonded to school and their teachers. Thank you for supporting us with strong attendance for your child.

You are able to track and monitor your child's attendance at school using the Bromcom MCAS app which is available on IOS and Android, as well as by using a web browser. Just a reminder of how to access these:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/mychildatschool/id1394575255>

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bromcom.mcas&hl=en_GB&pli=1

<https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSParentLogin>

Useful information on how to navigate the MCAS system, for all aspects of school life, can be found here: <https://georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/mychildatschool/>

Absence on the day

If your child needs to be absent from school due to illness, please let our Attendance Officer know as early as possible on the first day of absence. **This can now be done via the MCAS app. The instructions follow:**

The report an absence button appears on the **Attendance** screen in the **Parent App**. Enter the following details:

- **Student:** select one or more students linked to the account in the same school.
- **Date From:** select today's date.
- **Date To:** please select.
- **Message:** provide details of the absence.
- **Attachment:** you can attach multiple files up to 20MB each (PDF, JPG, Word, Excel, and XML) .
- **Send:** will send the Absence Notification to the school.

If you are not able to use MCAS, you can call the school absence line for Years 7 to 11 on 01483 888000 option 1 and for Sixth Form call 01483 888151.

I look forward to working with you over the coming year. Our partnership is key to your child's success.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

[Return to home page](#)

Whole School

⇒ **Attendance****Unexplained absence**

If a student is absent and no reason for absence has been provided, then a text message will be sent to alert parents/carers that their child has not registered. The texts and emails are sent between 10am to 11am, once all the messages and emails have been inputted onto Bromcom. Parents/Carers are then required to respond to these messages providing a reason for the absence. Unexplained absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Medical Appointment

Please advise us of any medical appointments taking place during school time, at your earliest convenience, by emailing the Attendance Officer (attendance@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) or by leaving a message on the voicemail (0148 888000 option 1). Please could you send a copy of the appointment reminder/confirmation, if you have this, so that we can attach this to your child's attendance file. If your child is going to be absent for the full day, or have a prolonged period of absence, medical evidence will need to be provided in order for this to be authorised.

Planned absence

Please complete an [Absence Request Form](#) if you want the Headteacher to consider your request for your child's leave of absence during term time, for any reason other than those stated above. We may ask for proof to back up your request. You should return the form for the attention of The Attendance Officer to the School Office. All requests should be submitted to the School Office at least two weeks before the first day of intended absence. Permission will not be given for a holiday or if it is applied for after the absence has taken place and this will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

⇒ **Behaviour Guide**

Please see the updated guide for 2025-26 here: <https://georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/year-group-info/>

⇒ **Parent Tutor Meetings—Wednesday 18 September**

Appointments to speak with your child's form tutor will be offered on Wednesday 17 September 2025, 4 – 8pm. The system will open for bookings at 6pm on Wednesday 10 September and will close for bookings on Wednesday 18 September at 8am. A reminder that parents/carers will be able to book by logging in to SchoolCloud:

<https://georgeabbotschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Further joining instructions can be found [here](#). Contact emails for all tutors can be found on the following page of the website:

<https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/year-group-info/>

⇒ **Progress Monitoring 2025/26**

Progress Monitoring dates for 2025/26 can be found on the following page of the website: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/progress-monitoring/>

⇒ **Diversity Club**

Diversity Club is a safe and welcoming space for students. The club is built on values of belonging, inclusivity and acceptance - where every student is encouraged to be themselves without pressure. Through supportive staff and like-minded peers, students can connect, share experiences and celebrate what makes each of us unique. The Diversity Club provides friendship, understanding and encouragement for all who join. If your child is looking for a safe, supportive community at school, the Diversity Club is open to everyone. Diversity Club is held every Tuesday during Break 2 in E27 with Miss Goddard. Students can bring their food and any small games (e.g. cards) they may want to play. Sign up is not required and students can attend as frequently or infrequently as they wish.

⇒ Vacancies

Please see the following page of the school website for further details on our current vacancies: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/>. Please do forward to any friends or colleagues you think might be interested. Current opportunities:

- Progress Mentor
- Curriculum and Student Information Systems Manager

⇒ Parent Prayer Group

Christian parents and carers of children at George Abbot meet to pray, arrange cakes for termly staff meetings and contribute to supporting young carers in the school, twice a year. If you are interested in being on the email list for this group, please contact: helenwmum23@gmail.com

⇒ PSHE

As a part of your child's education at George Abbot we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential. All PSHE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. From the start of the Autumn term, students will be taking part in lessons throughout the academic year which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme. Students will have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world. Students in all years (including Y11) also have sessions delivered during form times that promote personal wellbeing, character development and supplement our PSHE curriculum. Content covered within the scheme of work includes:

- Year 7 – students learn about puberty and caring for changing bodies, they will recognise the characteristics and positive aspects of healthy relationships, including mutual respect, consent, loyalty, trust, shared interests and outlook, sex, and friendship.
- Year 8 - students identify the importance of digital criticality for personal safety, including conduct for themselves and others online. Students also have lessons promoting self-esteem and navigating relationships and friendships.
- Year 9 – students' lessons are on; relationship values and the law, peer pressure, domestic violence, grooming, sexually explicit content, and sexual harassment. There is also a scheme of work focused on extremism. FGM and honour-based violence is also taught.
- Year 10 - lessons encompass positive relationships (including sexual relationships), contraception, sexually transmitted infections, consent, pregnancy choices and issues, and sexual wellbeing.
- Year 11 – Students will be taught RSE content in form times and a programme of professional speakers from outside agencies is currently being planned, topics may include the law surrounding consent and sexual harassment.

PSHE education is taught in curriculum time through Years 7 – 10 and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body to ensure that we are teaching the content found in the government statutory RSE guidance. New government guidance (for mandatory teaching by September 2026) was recently released and therefore throughout the year amendments to our current scheme of work will be taking place.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. The school has a written policy on sex and relationship education which can be found in the policies area of our school website and if you would like to view the Schemes of Work or discuss the content with the Head of PSE then please get in contact.

If you would like to know more or talk to your child about relationships and sex, the FPA (Family Planning Association) can help make these conversations easier. FPA is a UK-registered sexual health charity providing straightforward information and support on sexual health, relationships and sex to everyone in the UK. <https://www.fpa.org.uk/> .

If you have any other questions, please contact Miss Sellers, Head of PSHE:

Esellers@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Sixth Form	<p>⇒ GA6 Parent/Carer Guide</p> <p>For a useful guide of information about the Sixth Form, please view the following link: https://georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/year-group-info/</p>
Year 11	<p>⇒ English Literature</p> <p>Year 11 students will continue their GCSE English Literature course, studying Shakespeare's Macbeth. We strongly encourage students to buy their own copy of the text as they will then be able to highlight and annotate key scenes, quotes, etc. This will be so useful for revising for assessments, mocks and their final GCSE in the summer of 2026. The text version we are using in school is the CGP School Shakespeare Edition: Macbeth - The Complete Play with Annotations and Knowledge Organiser. ISBN 9781841461205 which is available from Amazon and other booksellers. Please ensure your son or daughter has their own copy and comes to school with it for their first English Literature lessons. If your son or daughter is in receipt of Pupil Premium then school will supply a copy at the start of the new term. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p>
Year 10	<p>⇒ English Literature</p> <p>Year 10 students will begin their GCSE English Literature course, starting with Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. We strongly encourage students to buy their own copy of the text as they will then be able to highlight and annotate key scenes, quotes, etc. This will be so useful for revising for assessments, mocks and their final GCSE in the summer of 2027. The text version we are using in school is the CGP School Classics Edition: A Christmas Carol - The Complete Novel with Annotations and Knowledge Organiser ISBN 9781789089462 which is available from Amazon and other booksellers. Please ensure your son or daughter has their own copy and comes to school with it for their first English Literature lesson. If your son or daughter is in receipt of Pupil Premium then school will supply a copy at the start of the new term. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p>
Year 8	<p>⇒ Year 8 Math Groups</p> <p>In Year 8, our Maths group structure is: 2 upper band, 2 middle band and 2 lower band.</p> <p>Therefore it is likely that many students will have changed Maths group this September. Students are reorganised into these groups based on our knowledge of their work and progress in Year 7 and in full support of what is best for their learning. In Maths, it is vital that students work at a pace that is appropriate to them. Any queries, please contact Miss Coles, Head of Maths: ccoles@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.</p>

PTA

Welcome, and welcome back.....to our new and returning cohorts respectively. We have lots of great PTA events lined up for you this year—quiz nights, evening talks, car boot sale, and of course the ever-popular Christmas fair. You'll find details, including anticipated dates, on our website <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta/>; you'll also find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/georgeabbotparents>. First up is a **coffee morning** for parents/carers of Year 7 students and other new joiners on Friday 19 September from 10am until 12pm - a wonderful opportunity to meet up informally with other new parents/carers. Please also mark in your diary that our Annual General Meeting will take place at 6pm on Monday 6 October in the Elmslie Conference Room, or via Zoom if you can't make it in person. Documents will be posted on the website ahead of the meeting.

Could you please consider helping out at one or two of our events this year? If so - or if you have any questions - please get in touch by email at g.abbot.pta@gmail.com. Also, if you shop in-store at Sainsbury's please don't forget to sign up to our Sainsbury scheme, which supports the PTA (and thus our children's education) at no cost to you; and if you prefer online shopping, you can support us - again at zero cost to yourself - by signing up to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> and specifying George Abbot PTA as your chosen charity. Many thanks for your support - and we look forward to seeing you at our events throughout the year!



Community Notices

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS AUTUMN TERM 2025

at **MATRIX YOUTH CAFÉ** 4-5:30pm YR6-YR11

Matrix Youth Cafe, Allen House Guildford, Guildford, GU1 4AZ

10TH SEP WALK AND DRAW
Connect with nature as we take a short walk and delve into meanings behind trees and plants, whilst doing some fun drawing activities

17TH SEP BODY STRENGTH BUILDING
Build muscle and self confidence in this fun strength building workshop

24TH SEP WELLBEING WITH SURREY YOUTH CABINET
Run by young people, for young people. Gain tools to boost your mental health and connect with others who get it.

1ST OCT FEEL GOOD POSTERS
Play with typography, positive affirmations, collage and symbols to create uplifting posters for daily motivation.

8TH OCT LOST WAX JEWELLERY
Make your own piece of bronze jewellery using the ancient technique of lost wax casting. Tickets cost £5 to cover special costs

15TH OCT MAKE A WILLOW LANTERN
In collaboration with Farnham Lantern Festival, you will have the opportunity to design and make your own fantastical lantern

22ND OCT COSTUME MASK MAKING
Become creature character as you craft your own mask to complete your costume.

3RD DEC MACRAMÉ FOR BEGINNERS
Explore the art of macramé in this hands on workshop. Master basic knots and create your own beautiful key ring or wall hanging to take home

DROP IN, OR RESERVE YOUR SPACE
SCAN TO FIND OUT MORE
IT'S FREE!

<https://linktr.ee/MatrixYouthWork>

RUN BY **matrix** @matrix_youthcafe

Every Wednesday at the Matrix Youth Cafe in Guildford, we run a different workshop activity. They are free and first come first served! You will get a free milkshake on your first visit! Drop in from 3:30, the workshops start at 4pm. To ensure your place you can also book online via the link: <https://linktr.ee/MatrixYouth-Work>

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS AUTUMN TERM 2025

at **MATRIX YOUTH CAFÉ** 4-5:30pm YR6-YR11

Allen House Pavillion, Eastgate Gardens, Guildford, GU1 4AZ
Free workshops for school years 6 -11 which alongside the usual youth cafe (open 3:30pm - 5:30pm). Come along early and grab a drink!

5TH NOV MYTH & INK
Whether a fire breathing dragon or mischievous forest spirit, bring your own imagined folktales creatures to life using ink, monoprinting and collage.

12TH NOV ROCK CLIMBING @ SSP
Meet us at Surrey Sports Park for an exhilarating rock climbing workshop, where experts will teach you the basics of bouldering. Tickets cost £8 (half the usual price!) and must be booked in advance. (See QR below)

19TH NOV STITCH + SCRIBBLE
Make your own journal or sketchbook from scratch, as you learn the basics of bookbinding. We will also guide you through some journaling tips.

26TH NOV TEA ALCHEMY
Sip and soothe as you taste, smell and blend your own unique herbal teas whilst exploring their benefits for mental health and wellbeing.

3RD DEC MACRAMÉ FOR BEGINNERS
Explore the art of macramé in this hands on workshop. Master basic knots and create your own beautiful key ring or wall hanging to take home

DROP IN, OR RESERVE YOUR SPACE
SCAN TO FIND OUT MORE
IT'S FREE!

<https://linktr.ee/MatrixYouthWork>

RUN BY **matrix** @matrix_youthcafe

Enter our **Super Draw**
Win a **£1,000 Aldi Gift Card**
OR **£1,000 CASH PRIZE**

ALDI

Fundraising Challenge

Help us expand our dining & social space for students! We are raising £75,000 to help us expand our dining and social space for students. As one of the largest secondary schools in the area, we are launching a project to extend our dining space. A new dining area will allow students to eat comfortably, enjoy a meal with friends and provide a sheltered space where they can socialise, relax, and take refuge from the elements during breaks, especially on rainy or colder days. By improving the existing facilities, we aim to create a much-needed hub for students to unwind and interact, making their time at school more enjoyable.

Our target is to complete the expansion by the summer of 2027 at the latest. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference. Your generosity will directly impact the lives of our students, providing them with a dedicated space to eat, socialise, and relax. [Please share this page with family, friends, colleagues, and the wider community.](#) The more people who know about the project, the more support we can gather to reach our fundraising target.

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DSL: Mrs T Young - dsl@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk