



Aspire & Challenge

Weekly Family Update - 30.06.23

Tip: to quickly navigating this online Update, try using the icon on the bottom right of your page that will turn this into a quick-access contents page.

Foreword





A few updates from me this week to note:

Flash Reward

Around 80 students were invited to join our 'Flash Reward' on Tuesday afternoon. These students, nominated by their form tutors for having exceptional manners, enjoyed pizza on the field.

Uniform update

*The temperature is due to remain cooler until the end of term and therefore, from Wednesday of next week (5th July) **students will be expected to come into school in their full school uniform**, (on Monday and Tuesday they will wear PE kit for the two Sports days). Please support us in maintaining our high standards by ensuring your child leaves home with the correct uniform as detailed below. We will be conducting uniform checks and students will not be permitted to go to lessons without their full uniform. a reminder of our uniform expectations are below.*

Transition

This week has been all about induction at both ends of the school, starting with the 6th Form Induction on Monday and Tuesday, ending with the Year 6 to 7 transition. Both were excellent and please look out for pictures on our social media.

Next week

You are no doubt aware that we have further teachers strikes ahead and I have written to all parents separately about this. In spite of this, next week is a very busy one, with our annual sports days and the two Matilda performances.

Future events

Spanish Drop-down Day 11th July

Please see the detail within this update for this cultural extravaganza. We'll be posting photos of the day on our social channels.

Last Day of Term: 19th July

Students finish at 1pm for the final day of term Wednesday 19th July. During the course of the morning, we will hold a whole school picnic as a celebration of our school community. The canteen will be open at break time, and students are encouraged to bring in a picnic and a rug to enjoy their time together. If your child travels home via service bus, Stagecoach no 31, and requires alternative transport, please e-mail studentsupport@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Andy Christofrou, Headteacher

Item	Guidelines
Blue blazer with the school logo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be worn at all times • When the weather is particularly hot, the Headteacher will let parents and students know that they do not have to wear their blazer outside of the classroom
White shirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have a high collar suitable for wearing a tie • Must be tucked in at all times • No other visible tops should be seen under shirts
School tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In year group colours
Full length plain black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leggings, skinny cut trousers and denim of any type are not permitted • Buttons and zips only for fastening, not for decoration • Belts must be discreet. • Must be worn with black socks
Tartan knee length skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be worn with opaque tights • Must not be rolled at the waist
Smart, black, leather shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainers, boots, canvas shoes and 'dolly style' slip on shoes are not acceptable • High heels must not be worn
School jumper (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be worn under the blazer, not instead of it
jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No visible bangles, bracelets or necklaces. • One small plain ring per hand • No facial piercings (eyebrows, tongue, lip or chin) except a small discreet nose stud. • One small stud or hoop in each ear under ½ cm in size • Ear stretchers are not permitted
Make up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make-up must be discreet. • No nail varnish – coloured or clear • No acrylic nails • False eyelashes must not be worn
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be one natural colour

Please read on for essential updates.

Celebration of Spirit - Rewards



Tell us about something brilliant!

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award for any out of school success stories, then please follow this [link](#) or email the Office office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk.



Headteacher Commendations wc 26/06/23

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's commendations this week for going above and beyond, either within a subject, outside the classroom or beyond School.

Student Name	Reason for nomination
Zoe	Excellent effort in your recent English mock.
Freya	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Caitlyn	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Tristan	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Hannah	Silver award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Lacey	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Max	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Jacob	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Lola	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Emily	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Jacob	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Ella	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Joshua	Gold award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Timothy	Silver award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Oliver	Silver award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Luke	Silver award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Isabella	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Alice	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Frankie	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Alfie	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Emma	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Lottie	Bronze award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Zoe	Silver award in the National Scientific Challenge 2023
Shane	He is new to Spanish and has shown amazing linguistic instincts, he is unafraid to request assistance, very positive about learning and a joy to have in class.
Dominic	For wanting a challenge and answering a Foundation GCSE Maths paper and absolutely smashing it!

Parent Forum Update



Donations required

If your child has grown out of any uniform or PE kit, or has left Year 11, please do drop off any uniform items to Reception as we need to replenish our stock levels. So far, we have raised over £1000 for the Mindfulness Garden development, which is well underway!

If you can support our fundraising efforts, please click this link:
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ramseyabbeycollege/>

Pre-loved Uniform

*The pre loved uniform shop will be open on **Tuesday 4th July 5-6.30pm**, entry via the student entrance and the shop is cash only. The shop will also be open at the transition event on **Saturday 8 July 9.15 to 11.30am**. Please drop any donations of pre loved uniform or revision guides off at reception.*

Is your child eligible for Free school meals?





If you apply and qualify for Free School Meals, your child's school will receive additional funding called Pupil Premium. Schools spend the pupil premium money on anything that can help your children do well at school, including trips, activities and extra support. Applying online only takes a few minutes and, if eligible, your child will continue to receive Free School Meals until the end of Year 11 even if your income rises above the threshold at any point during that time.

To get free school meals you need to be receiving one of the following:

- Universal Credit (up to £7,400 net earned income)
- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance

- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop working altogether or start to work less than 16 hours per week)
- Child Tax Credit but no element of Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- Apply at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>
- If you need support with your application please contact Ms Goddard at ggoddard@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Information about subjects and lessons

Abbey College Curriculum Aims 	
 Inclusive	The curriculum provides a clear programme of understanding to a range of diverse cultures and religions.
 Challenging	To have a challenging and aspirational curriculum that provides opportunities to ensure no learner is left behind.
 Cultural Capital	All learners will receive a wide and fulfilling educational experience.

Spanish drop-down day 11th July

On the 11th July Students will enjoy a day immersed in the Spanish curriculum. Spanish is an important part of curriculum that contributes to fulfilling our whole school curriculum intent by:



Spanish allows students to explore a different culture to our own and understand Hispanic cultural contributions.



Spanish gives our students a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum.



Spanish enhances your travel experiences and allows students to immerse themselves in a new culture.

SPANISH

DROP DOWN DAY

COME TO SCHOOL IN THE COLOURS OF THE SPANISH FLAG AND FOLLOW A SPECIAL TIMETABLE OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE SPANISH-SPEAKING WORLD. YOU WILL ENJOY A RANGE OF ACTIVITIES FROM SALSA DANCING AND PHOTOGRAPHY TO POETRY AND MEXICAN CULTURE!



5 Reasons to Learn Spanish



1 Enhance your travel experience
Top 3 of the most spoken languages in the world



Understand better your own language **2**
European languages have a lot in common

3 Improve your employment potential
It makes you more desirable and increases your job prospects



Appreciate hispanic cultural contributions **4**
You get to discover a new world of history and literature

5 Enjoy the ease of Spanish learning
Spanish is almost completely phonetic and has a lot in common with English



What you child is learning?

Here at Abbey College we offer a wide range of subjects. Our website holds key information to support students in their learning. Please see <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum> and select the curriculum you would like to know more about.

Wider personal development



Did you know?

Our PE curriculum is a 'Concept' curriculum which promotes the acquisition of life skills through participation. In addition, the promotion of the concept of "fair play", following and developing rules, celebrating and rewarding success, accepting defeat and participating in activities that promote cooperation with others and inclusion for all, form an integral part of our PE curriculum.

Read about our extensive Wider Personal Development Programme here:
<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum/wider-personal-development>

High Expectations and Safety



Uniform Reminders

Please support us in our high expectations for students by ensuring that your child does not come to school wearing items that are not permitted.

Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No visible bangles, bracelets or necklaces.• One small plain ring per hand• No facial piercings (eyebrows, tongue, lip or chin) except a small discreet nose stud.• One small stud or hoop in each ear under ½ cm in size• Ear stretchers are not permitted
Make up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make-up must be discreet.• No nail varnish – coloured or clear• No acrylic nails• False eyelashes must not be worn

Attendance - Week 34



- **Congratulations:** Abbey College has again been officially recognised for having excellent attendance by securing a place in the top 25% of all schools for attendance in the Spring term!
- **Reminder:** Leave of Absence for the purpose of holidays in term time is not granted. Leave of absence is only granted when the circumstances are unavoidable therefore 'exceptional'.

Safety



Mental Health

This week we have been talking to students about how they can help look after their mental health. Some of the recommendations include completing regular exercise, sleeping for the recommended nightly amount & eating healthy. Talking to others is also important. We reminded students to share their concerns with their form tutor, teacher or the Welfare Department if they need support.

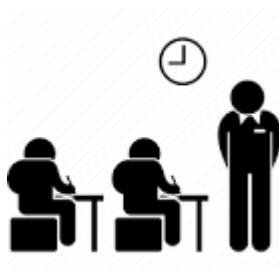


There are also lots of self help websites too, the link below gives contact information for lots of different types of support specifically for young people from 11-18:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/how-to-get-help-and-support/useful-contacts/>

If you do have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or need any help or advice you can also contact the Welfare Dept who are happy to support, email via welfare@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Assessment: How your child is doing?



- **Year 7 and 8 Feedback forms** are on their way back to parents. They have been filled in by the students and show where progress has been made this year. The majority of students have correctly given specific CTG topics to improve on, sometimes with details of how they will make progress, others reflect on their behaviour.
- The **Year 7 and 8 NGRT reading tests** have almost all been completed. Some students who were absent for their booked session will be catching up next week.
- Year 7 students will have **Progress Tests in Maths and English** in exam halls on 12th-14th July. ***Students will need a calculator for the maths test.***
- **Year 9 progress reports** have been published, they are available to view on Edulink.
- **Year 12 progress reports** are due out on Edulink next week.
- **Year 10 Trials** are complete. The papers are being marked and moderated and reports will be published on Edulink in the last week of term.
- If you are not yet using Edulink yet then contact Linda.Bennett@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk for support.

Parent Diary Dates 2022-23

Date	Activity/Event
Monday 3 rd July	Sports Day 1 / Year 11 and 13 Prizegiving Event – by invitation only
Tuesday 4 th July	Sports Day 2 / Matilda the Musical production
Wednesday 5 th July	Matilda the Musical production
Thursday 6 th July	Year 11 Prom
Friday 14 th – Saturday 15 th July	Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition – Year 10
Wednesday 19 th July	Student Celebration Picnic – Last day of term

Communicating with us and how to raise concerns

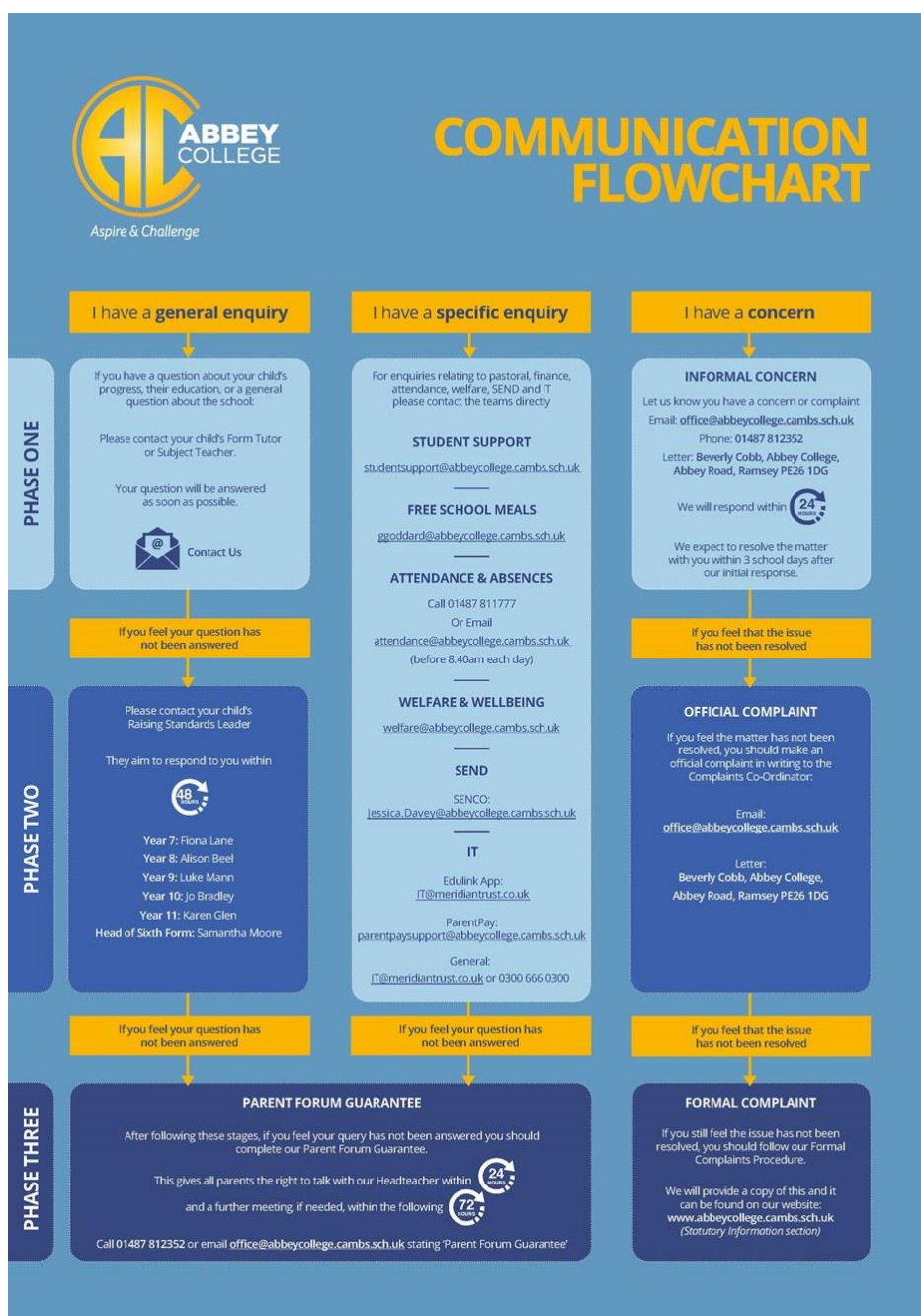
To help you reach the right person if you have a query or concern, we have updated our “contact us” webpage and have included a simplified flowchart to show the most efficient way to communicate with us.



ABBAY COLLEGE

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COMMUNICATION FLOWCHART



[Click here](#) to access this Communication Flowchart on our website.

Other news updates can be found here:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/news/letters-to-parents>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>

- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AbbeyCollegeAC>