

George Abbot Bulletin

...the weekly round-up and preview for GAS parents and carers



Headteacher's Message

25 September 2020

We know just how important this return to school after lockdown is for every one of our students. With that in mind we have decided to increase our use of face masks around the school site.

As of Monday 28 September 2020 all students and staff will wear a facemask in corridors at all times. Our priority is to do everything we can to keep all year groups at school for as long as possible. This is a logical and proportionate next step as we see national R rates rising and wider societal restrictions returning.

Therefore, this weekend, please double check that your child has:

- A face mask
- A sealable bag to keep it in
- Hand sanitiser

It is imperative that masks are not placed on classroom tables, so they will be removed on entry to lessons. They must be placed in a sealed bag and then students must sanitise their hands. A very small number of children and staff will continue to wear their face masks in lessons or be exempt from wearing masks owing to specific health issues.

Looking forward, we will be returning to full school uniform after October half term—shirts, ties, blazers. School hoodies can still be worn on PE/Dance days. Until then, please ask your child to wear a layer under their polo shirt and bring a waterproof coat to school every day. We will do all we can to avoid moving inside in light rain, so a waterproof coat is essential; next week's weather forecast is not good!

A reminder of our upcoming virtual Parent Information Evenings. These are scheduled as follows:

Parent Information Evenings (virtual)	
Year Group	Date and Zoom link:
Year 7	28 September 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/4707085352)
Year 8	29 September 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/9207751882)
Year 9	30 September 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/97543912240)
Year 10	01 October 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/2241460970)
Year 11	05 October 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/9207751882)
Year 12	06 October 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/5397909630)
Year 13	07 October 2020—6.00pm (https://zoom.us/j/5397909630)

Pre-recorded videos and pre-reading for these evenings will be available from 12.00pm on Monday 28 September. Please visit: www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/parent-information-evenings/

At these events, we will update Year 11 and 13 parents of exam board changes so far and the mock exam schedule. All parents will receive further information about our plans for remote learning and the pastoral team will give some important reminders about your child's pastoral support over the coming year.

Lastly, all parents have today received an email including your child's timetable rotation up until half term. Perhaps an item for magnetic attachment to the fridge?!

We hope to see many of you next week.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

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COVID-19 Resources

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) have created a set of videos providing advice to parents/carers on supporting your child with understanding anxiety, and some strategies to manage anxiety with regards to COVID-19. To view this resources please visit the following link:

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFVgWWNqce46lxiVQNTthooXa5PBNESLXY

Please see the following pages for more resources to help parents/carers support your child's wellbeing and address any emotional needs.

Mobile Testing Units (MTU)

MTU deployments In Surrey for the next few days are listed below. Please note tests must be booked via 119 or the online booking system – individuals should not turn up to any testing site without an appointment.

23-Sep	24-Sep	25-Sep	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Guildford	Guildford			Woking	Woking	Woking	Esher
Woodhatch	Woodhatch	Woodhatch				Woodhatch	Woodhatch
Godalming	Camberley	Camberley	Camberley		Dorking	Dorking	Dorking
Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury	Sunbury
Ashford	Laleham	Laleham	Laleham	Laleham	Laleham	Laleham	Laleham
	Staines	Staines	Staines	Staines	Staines	Staines	Staines

NHS Track and Trace

We are now using the NHS Track and Trace app at school. All visitors will be asked to scan the QR upon entry. Please see the Download Guides attached for information on how to download the app to your phone.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEK	WEEK A
	Parent Information Evenings (see Headteacher's message)
	Please visit www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/ events for full calendar of events.

Click the links below to view news by year group...

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Whole School



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS/TOUR 2021-22
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Please click here to register your interest for a School tour, prospectus or Headteacher's talk



SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS/TOUR 2021-22
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

Please click here to register your interest for a Sixth Form tour, prospectus or Head of Sixth Form talk

Extra Curricular

Due to current limitations in extra-curricular clubs and fixtures there is no need for parents to sign up to SOCS. As all students are welcome to attend clubs, registers will be taken through SOCS by teachers in order to monitor attendance.

We are hoping to be able to add to the extra-curricular schedule after half-term. Currently the sports for extra-curricular are Football, Netball and Basketball which are available to both boys and girls on the following days:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 8	Year 9	Year 7

Clubs will run from 3.15pm to 4.30pm. If you have any questions please email: jfilmer@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk For the full list of Extra Curricular activities, please visit <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/extra-curricular/>

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Health, Wellbeing and Emotional Wellbeing Support for Children in Surrey

Guide for Parents and Carers, September 2020

Your child's health and wellbeing is important to us and now more than ever we want to ensure you know how to access the right advice, guidance and support for your family at the right time. This brief guide aims to summarise the key resources available to help maintain your child's wellbeing and address any emotional needs.

Health Concerns



NHS

CALL 111

It's not a 999 emergency, but you need medical help fast.

Call 111 for medical advice, assessment and direction to the best medical treatment for you.

www.nhs.uk/111

If your child is unwell or has an injury and you are not sure what to do call NHS 111. They are available 24/7 and will get you the right support and help.

Visit WWW.NHS.UK to find information and advice on health conditions, symptoms, healthy living, medicines and how to get help.

It's still important to get help from your GP if you need it. Contact your surgery for advice.

In an emergency always call 999

Family Information Service

Information and signposting service for families with children aged 0 – 19 in Surrey covering childcare, education, family finance and wellbeing plus COVID-19 resources.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/families

Family Community NHS Services

Children and Family Health Surrey is your local NHS service providing health and care services for families with children aged 0 – 19.

Health visitors, community and school nurses and therapists provide advice and care for health and wellbeing concerns. Contact their advice line for advice on all aspects of child health, development and parenting or visit the website for useful and practical information.

0 – 19 Advice line: 01883 340 922

8am-5pm Mon-Fri exc Bank Hols

www.childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk



COVID-19 & Returning to School

Surrey County Council has a dedicated web page with information on returning to school this autumn and how to stay safe.

www.surreycc.gov.uk/people-and-community/emergency-planning-and-community-safety/coronavirus/schools-and-childcare

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Resources

Every Mind Matters

Advice for parents and carers on looking after your child's mental health and self care videos for young people:

www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters



Young Minds

Useful tips and ideas for how to support your children with worries or mental health problems:

youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/

MindEd for Families

Advice and information from specialists and parents to help you understand what problems occur and what you can do best to support your family: www.minded.org.uk

Childline

Counselling service for children and young people available any time via phone or online:



Free Online Parenting Guides: Children and Teenagers

Online guides to help you understand your child's emotional development to improve your relationship. Each guide has around 10 sessions of roughly 20 minutes each, there are activities that can be carried out between sessions:

childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/free-online-guides-families

Surrey Wellbeing Parenting Facebook Page

Plenty of ideas and tips to help you meet the emotional and developmental needs of your children right now. www.facebook.com/Surrey-Wellbeing-Partnership-103386114667958

The Surrey Wellbeing Partnership is a group of voluntary sector organisations working together to help improve the wellbeing of Surrey children, young people and families. Contact your school to see if there is a charity working with your school.

Qwell for SEND Children

Online emotional wellbeing support for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disability in Surrey: www.qwell.io

Kooth.com

Online mental wellbeing support for children from 10 years upwards in Surrey including a virtual chat with a trained member of the team. www.kooth.com



Getting More Help



CAMHS Primary Mental Health Workers

This Team supports children and young people when they begin to feel emotionally or mentally unwell, helping to build resilience and improve wellbeing to reduce the chances of problems becoming more serious.

Contact your Primary Mental Health Worker through your child's school or via the CAMHS Single Point of Access on 0300 222 5755 (Mon-Fri, 8am-8pm, Sat 9am-12pm)

Talk to your child's teacher or the Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator at their school if you have any concerns about your child.

There is also a team of education, health and wellbeing staff linked to every school in Surrey. They are here to support your child with emotional wellbeing and mental health concerns. Your initial point of contact is either your School Nurse, Primary Mental Health Worker or Educational Psychologist. They will be able to refer your child on to other services with your permission if necessary.

You can watch brief introductory films on each of the health and wellbeing teams available in Surrey schools on the [Healthy Surrey website](#).

School Nurses

The School Nursing Team promotes physical health and emotional wellbeing in schools and the community. This includes anxiety, self harm, bereavement, sleep issues, illnesses, sexual health, healthy eating, exam stress and bullying.

Contact your School Nurse through your child's school or via the 0 - 19 Advice Line on 01883 340 922 (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm)



Educational Psychologists

Educational psychologists can support your child if you're concerned about their emotional wellbeing. They focus on problem solving, providing information and signposting.

Contact your Educational Psychologist through your child's school or via the consultation line in your local area from 1-4pm each Wednesday:

North East Surrey: 01372 833588

South East Surrey: 01737 737777

North West Surrey: 01483 518130

South West Surrey: 01483 517179

Your child can text a School Nurse directly to chat confidentially about things that are troubling them:

ChatHealth 07507 329 951, for 11 - 19 year olds

Notices

IMPORTANT DATES

w/c 28 September 2020 = WEEK A—there will be no lesson 1

Whole School

W/C 28 September = no lesson 1 W/C 12 October = no lesson 3
W/C 5 October = no lesson 2 W/C 19 October = no lesson 4
W/C 26 October = HALF TERM

⇒ **Are you a tree expert?**

In November the school is going to receive 400 tree saplings from The Woodland Trust to improve the school site. We would really like some expert advice on where and how to plant the trees and some help in project-managing the planting of the saplings. We are hoping for volunteers from the school community to undertake the planting of the trees. If you would like to volunteer your expertise and time please contact rrowe@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

⇒ **Blue Dot Meals**

The canteen are running a 'Blue Dot' meal deal scheme. Students can purchase 4 items for £2.30. Please see the leaflet attached for more details.

⇒ **School Shop opening hours—UPDATED**

Monday 28 September—3.30pm to 5.30pm
Wednesday 30 September— 3.30pm to 6.00pm
Saturday 3 October—10.30am to 12.30pm

Sixth Form

⇒ **UNIVERSITY OF LAW—New virtual workshops available**

Bookings are open for The University of Law Guildford's NEW virtual workshops, ideal for students in Year 11-13 who are interested in studying or pursuing a career in Law/Criminology/Policing/Business. These events are free to attend, will be run via an online platform Hopin, and students are able to book on to these using the details below.

Law in Action

Examine the role of lawyers, the police, criminologists and other associated professionals in the criminal justice system.

30 September 4-5pm- [book here](#)

Case Study: True Crime

Look at the legal and criminological effect on the world through real crime cases; Gypsy Rose, the Bridgewater Four and the Ponzi financial fraud scheme.

7 October 4-5pm- [book here](#)

Personal Statements & CVs

This explains what universities want to see in a personal statement and how students can have a strong CV in the competitive job market

14 October 4-5pm- [book here](#)

Case Study: Corporate Social Responsibility

Our virtual workshop uses real Business case studies to show how businesses affect and react to the environment and vice versa

5 November 4-5pm- [book here](#)

⇒ **Speakers for Schools Virtual Work Experience**

Speakers for Schools have just added some new **Virtual Work Experience** opportunities. Apply as soon as possible to give yourself the best chance of securing high quality work experience at a top employer and a boost to your future career aspirations.

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Sixth Form

- [VWEX with a leading Construction/Engineering/Infrastructure/Design Company](#)
- [UKNA :Spend three days with national arts organisation, UK New Artists, gain a Bronze Arts Award](#)
- [WE Evolve, One week Work Experience with Santander - Online](#)

The application Deadline is 2 October 2020 however we would advise you to complete your application as soon as possible

For a full list of placements - [sign in here to search and apply.](#)

*Please note that George Abbot have not organised these events and all bookings must be done directly via the booking links above. **PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS AND NOT A PERSONAL ADDRESS. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ADD IN A PHONE NUMBER.** If you do however have any queries regarding these please do see Mrs Nash in the careers department*

We would also like to remind you to practice safe internet use and only ever interact with a speaker if you are part of a group. Parents please note that George Abbot cannot take any responsibility for the students whilst viewing and/or interacting in work-shops etc.

Parents please also note that George Abbot cannot take any responsibility for work experience taken in any school holiday/half term and we will not be undertaking any risk assessments/insurance checks. The relationship will be between yourselves, the company and your son/daughter. Thankyou.

Year 13

⇒ Grant Thornton Accounting and Professional Services Firm
'Young Professionals' a networking company for young adults and their next steps have advised us of new APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES for 2021 with GRANT THORNTON Accounting and Professional Services Firm

Grant Thornton Background Information:

- 5th Largest Accounting & Professional services firm globally (they fall just out of the big 4, so still huge!) - areas include accounting, business and finance
- **24 offices across the UK** (meaning access to opportunities for all UK students with less than 1 hour)
- Hundreds of apprenticeship and work experience opportunities which are **NOW OPEN!**

56,000+ employees globally

Apprenticeship Opportunities!

- Opportunities in; Audit and Business Services
- For an Autumn 2021 start
- Over **100+ roles** UK wide
- Very simple application form with a quick recruitment process (offers can be with you by Xmas or January)
- All students who apply need to **select the Young Professionals tab** under the 'where did you hear about us' section (on the first page) to get access to our extra application support and follow up comms & feedback
- Link is here below to make an application!

<https://trainees.grantthornton.co.uk/trainee-positions/category/school-leaver-jobs/>

*Please note that George Abbot have not organised this event and all applications must be done directly via the booking link above. **PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS AND NOT A PERSONAL ADDRESS. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ADD IN A PHONE NUMBER** and practice safe internet use for any interview process.*

Year 11

⇒ **Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) key GCSE resources**
Please see letter attached.

⇒ **UNIVERSITY OF LAW—New virtual workshops available**

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Year 10

⇒ **Exam Access Arrangements**

Please note that Ms Barratt, our specialist assessor, is in the process of assessing current Year 10 students for their exam arrangements (extra time, reader, scribe etc). Students may be withdrawn from the odd lesson for this purpose. These are all students who have had exam arrangements, usually, since Year 7.

⇒ **Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) key GCSE resources**
Please see letter attached.

⇒ **Year 10 RE mock exam**

The Year 10 RE mock exam will take place at 8.30am on 25 November 2020. Students will sit a 1 hour 45 minute exam on the following topics:

- Christianity: Beliefs and Teachings
- Christianity: Practices
- Buddhism: Practices
- Religion, Peace and Conflict

Please see attached a 'Catch-up Calendar' we have put together for students. This covers the Christian practices and Buddhist practices units that were set for the majority of the year group over the summer term.

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Year 10

The idea is that students complete a 20 minute task a day (5 days a week). The relevant tasks will be set each week on Show My Homework.

Students will be shown the calendar and will complete the first activity in their RE lessons over the next week.

The calendar finishes on 6 November 2020 to ensure there is time to revise the other two topics in the mock paper.

If you would like to buy a revision guide, we would recommend:

AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Buddhism Revision Guide Paperback – 11 Jan 2018 by Marianne Fleming, Nagapriya, Peter Smith

Mrs King (Head of RE)

Year 9

⇒ **Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) key GCSE resources**
Please see letter attached.

⇒ **Year 9 Pastoral Assembly**
Please click [here](#) for this week's Pastoral Assembly.

Year 8

⇒ **Year 8 Pastoral Assembly**
Please click [here](#) for this week's Pastoral Assembly.

Focus on

The George Abbot Languages department would like to wish you a very Happy European Day of Languages! Watch the video below to find out where languages can take you.



Great News

One of our super Year 13 students, Cassia, has won a prize for Best Research in a competition run by St John's College Cambridge. Her chosen 'green' theme was: "Does Space X provide Spaceflight that is environmentally sustainable?". Congratulations Cassia!

Year 12 Peer Mentor Programme

In the Sixth form, we are currently recruiting a team of wonderful students to work as Peer Mentors. These students will be trained and prepared in their roles as Peer 'buddies' to younger students who may be experiencing a range of personal difficulties and would greatly benefit from the support of an older, supportive mentor. Mentoring is an important role in the pastoral system and our mentors work with pastoral leaders to ensure that our younger, sometimes vulnerable students have a friendly and compassionate older person that they can turn to. If you feel that your child would benefit from a Peer Mentor, you should contact their Head of Year.



The Gallery

The Gallery library has had a fabulous make-over; once more it is a light and airy space with lots of resources to enjoy. If your child would like to visit the library, it is open for students at the following times:

Break	Year Group
Break 1 (10.10-10.30)	Year 7 Monday—Falcon
	Tuesday—Gryphon
	Wednesday—Martlet
	Thursday—Phoenix
	Friday—Wyvern
Break 2 (11.50-12.15)	Year 8 (any house)
Break 3 (13.30-13.55)	Year 9 (any house)



PTA



Next Meeting

Big thanks to those who attended meeting on 22 September. The next meeting will be held on 3 November 2020, details to follow.

Year 7 Parents

It would be great to meet some new year 7 parents. Unfortunately, we can't meet in person at the moment, so we have made a [video to introduce the PTA](#). For those who have ticked the "share data with PTA" box you will be receiving an invitation to join classlist. [Classlist](#) is a private social media channel for parents. You can still raise money for the PTA through the two methods below.

AmazonSmile

If you wish to support the PTA with no extra cost to you, [then shop via AmazonSmile](#). Amazon then donates to George Abbot Parent Teacher Association a percentage of what you spend.

EasyFundraising

So far, we have raised over £14,000 for the PTA for free! [Please sign up to easyfundraising](#). Over 4,000 sites will give us a free donation every time you shop online. This will help us continue to support people that rely on us.

Second-hand Uniform

Our remote uniform shop is working well and open for business. We are only stocking branded goods and have a pretty good range of polos, jumpers, cardigans and rugby tops. Hoodies are in very short supply and currently we only have very small sizes. We accept PayPal as payment and will deliver locally for a flat rate of £2 – leaving the package on your doorstep to remain COVID safe.

Prices are as follows:

£3 PE and house polos

£3 Rugby tops and any other PE jumpers

£5 Blazers, hoodies and PE trousers

£2 PE shorts

£1 ties

Please email: PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk and see if we have what you need.

Keeping in Touch

You can keep up to date with what the PTA are doing by checking out [Twitter](#) (which we are going to start using again!), [Facebook](#) and [webpage](#).

Take care, from the PTA.



Support George Abbot School, Burpham

£14,206.91

Total raised

428

Supporters

Support this cause

George Abbot School
Woodruff Avenue
Guildford
GU1 1XX
01483 888000

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