

George Abbot Bulletin

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



Headteacher's Message

03 September 2021

All

Thank you to all of our families for your support in preparing your children so well for a positive and orderly start to the new term. It has been extremely good to welcome our students back over the last two days, to see them looking so smart, considerably taller, rested and smiling. A special welcome to our new Year 7s and indeed, several other new students throughout the school, not least those who are joining us in the Sixth Form – a warm hello to all of our new families, too. Whether not yet 5 feet tall or well over 6 feet tall, our students were all clearly relishing catching up with their friends and though they might never admit it, also quietly content about the return to routine.

Next, a significant thank you to the staff and many parents/carers and volunteers who have enabled our start of term LFT testing operation to be implemented so smoothly and efficiently. It has been a logistical exercise of some scale, but delivered to the highest standards – I extend my real gratitude to all those involved. A true example of the strength of our George Abbot community.

As you are already aware, school guidance this year is very different from the way we operated last term. We hope that the guidance will result in many less children needing to miss school and for greater continuation in their learning as a result. However, we do still need to exercise caution. The most important things for students to remember are:

- Ventilation and fresh air are really important – this means windows and classroom doors will be open.
- Students will travel to their lessons via external routes entering and exiting corridors by the nearest door to their classroom.
- Hand sanitising continues every lesson – students should also have their own bottles in their bag for additional use.
- Year groups continue to use canteens at set year group times.
- Toilets continue to be organised by year group.
- Students and staff may wear masks but this is absolutely a personal choice.

Students should continue to undertake two LFTs at home, weekly. Please report the result using the links provided on the following page.



We are looking forward to the year ahead very much and thank you for all that you will do in support of our community. The upcoming sequence of Information Evenings will offer us a welcome opportunity to see you all in person (see over the page). Success and opportunity lies ahead, in abundance.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

[Return to home page](#)

Parent/Carer Information Evenings

We are delighted to welcome parents/carers back into school, in person, this Autumn for a series of Year Group Information Evenings.

At these evenings parents/carers will hear important Year Group specific information from the Pastoral Teams and Senior Leadership Team about the year ahead. I

f you are unable to attend the evening, please inform the Inclusion Manager of the year group (contact details below).

The dates and times are as follows:

Year Group	Date and Time	Inclusion Manager
Year 7	Tuesday 7 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Mrs Jenkins: pjenkins@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 8	Wednesday 8 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Mr Marker: lmarker@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 9	Thursday 9 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Miss Northcote: jnorthcote@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 10	Wednesday 15 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Ms Nightingale: wnightingale@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 11	Thursday 16 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Mr Huelin: jhuelin@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 12	Monday 20 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Mr Synge: psynge@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
Year 13	Wednesday 22 September, 6.00pm-7.00pm	Mrs Keegan: skeegan@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Extra Curricular Timetable (from September 2021 to April 2022)

We use a website called SOCS to manage our Extra-Curricular offering at George Abbot. Now term has started, you will see clubs and events begin to appear on this website. It is a great way of learning more about what is available to your son and daughter to ensure they make the most of the huge array of opportunities at George Abbot School. We hope that every student will take part in at least one club each term.

To log in, go to... <https://www.socscms.com/login/5097/parent> and use the email registered with school to log in. If you have forgotten your password follow the instructions provided, likewise if you are a new user you need to activate your account. The site will talk you through this.

It is not essential to sign students up to the clubs prior to them attending, but it is useful for us to know who is attending – so if students know they will be attending they can add themselves to the club. Otherwise, just turn up and have fun!

Extra-curricular clubs in PE will begin on Wednesday 8 September. Not all clubs currently feature, but will do over the coming week or so, please keep checking back for updates.

Please see timetable overleaf.

	Monday			Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			
	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	
1st Break										Year 10 Girls Basketball	SH	JLL	
2nd Break	Year 7 Badminton	SH	BRI	Year 8 Badminton	SH	JNF							
3rd Break				Year 11 Girls Basketball	SH	JLL	Year 9 Badminton	SH	SGB	Year 10 Badminton	SH	AXR	
A f t e r S c h o o l	Year 7 Boys Basketball	SH	External Coach	Year 8/9 Boys Basketball	SH	External Coach + AXR	Year 7 Girls Basketball	SH	External Coach + CEF	Year 8/9 Girls Basketball	SH	JN + LM	
	Orienteering (All years)	Meet at SH	6 th Form	Gymnastics (All years)	Gyms	CEF/JZH	Year 10/11/6 th Boys Basketball	SH/ Gym	SGB				
					Year 8/9 Girls Netball	Courts	External Coach + JLL	Year 10/11/6 th Girls Netball	Courts	JN/JLL	Year 7 Girls Netball	Courts	External Coach
					Year 7 Boys Football	Field	JNF/LM	Year 8 Boys Football	Field	AXR	Year 9/10 Boys Football	Field	SGB
					Year 8/9 Rugby	Field	External Coach + BRI	Year 10/11/6 th Rugby	Field	BRI	Year 7 Rugby	Field	External Coach + JNF
								Year 10/11 Girls Fitness Suite	FS	LAM	Y10/11 Boys Fitness Suite	FS	JZH
				Year 7/8 Girls Football	Astro	PLJ	Year 9/10/11 Girls Football	Astro	PLJ				

**LITTLE SHOP
OF HORRORS**

AUDITIONS!

AUDITIONS!



Auditions for this year's whole school production of Little Shop of Horrors will take place on:
Tuesday 7 September in PA1, 3.30 – 5pm

Call backs: Wednesday 8 September

All students are very welcome to audition
No preparation is necessary – audition material will be taught on the day.

Students: please ensure parents/carers know you are planning to audition and you have made appropriate arrangements to get home.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday!

Reporting LFT Test Results

Please continue to report your child's test results to the two following links:

The Government:

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

George Abbot School:

<https://forms.office.com/r/aa5GPS6gQM>

Lesson omission		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
6 September	A	1
13 September	B	2
20 September	A	3
27 September	B	4
4 October	A	5
11 October	B	1
18 October	A	2
HALF TERM		

Notices

Whole School

⇒ Progress Monitoring Dates 2021-22

Please see this academic year's progress monitoring dates attached or on the following page of the website: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/progress-monitoring/>

⇒ Relationships and Sex Education (Year 8, 9, 10, and 11)

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.

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.

Year 8: students recap puberty; important positive aspects of healthy relationships are introduced such as consent and personal identity; FGM; online safety.

Year 9: lessons are on; relationships, peer pressure, domestic violence, grooming, online images, pornography and sexual harassment.

Year 10: lessons encompass positive relationships (including sexual relationships), contraception, sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy choices and issues, and sexual wellbeing.

Year 11: lessons address appropriate behaviour, unhealthy relationships and pornography.

PSHE education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. All PSHE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. The school has a written policy on sex and relationship education and if you would like to discuss or view the Schemes of Work with the Head of PSE, a meeting can be arranged on request.

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 questions, please contact Mrs Murphy, Head of PSHE,
smurphy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

[Return to home page](#)

Whole School

⇒ **FAO: GCSE PE and Cambridge National Sports studies students only**

If you would like to order a new GCSE PE or Cambridge National SPORTS STUDIES Navy blue polo shirt for practical lessons for your son/daughter, please see information below from the school shop:

If you order and pay by 1 October, delivery will be after half term. (Subject to stock availability).

Please order according to the size of your son/daughter's House polo (not the new PE polo). This is the one opportunity only to purchase these shirts.

Sizes available are:

- Age 11/12
- Age 13
- Small adult
- Medium adult
- Large adult
- XL adult

Sizes cannot be changed after ordering so they need to be certain of size. Students may try on in shop if they need to.

Order either by sending in child to shop with payment and size or by emailing spsschoolshops@yahoo.com

Please use header 'GA SPECIAL PE POLOS' and please include child's name, class, size required and a contact number that we can call to take payment.

Opening times - the shop continue to open by appointment - to book appointment either email as above or call 020 8687 1502. Alternatively, if you know the size you require, you can call our office on 020 8687 1502 and pay by phone.

Year 13

⇒ **Exam Access Arrangements (extra time, reader, scribe, use of a computer etc.)**

If your son or daughter had EAA in Year 12, this will continue in Year 13 however, they **must** provide evidence of using them so we can apply to make it official for external exams. They may have evidence of extra time from their mock exams in the summer. **Without this your son or daughter will not have exam access arrangements for external exams.** Most of the Year 13s have not done this yet. Please encourage your son or daughter to do this sooner rather than later. Unlike for their GCSEs, they have to be more involved in getting their EAA for their sixth form subjects. As ever, please encourage your son or daughter to keep in contact with Ms Barratt who can be found in USIC library.

⇒ **ENGLISH - SALE OF TEXTS URGENT REMINDER**

As previously informed in the bulletin sent out at the end of last term, this academic year brings the start of your son/daughter's A Level English Literature courses. Over the course of year they will be studying two texts: 'Othello' by William Shakespeare and 'The Great Gatsby' by F Scott Fitzgerald. Students are strongly advised to buy their own copy so that they can annotate and use again for revision for their future mock exams and their official exams in the summer of 2022.

All of the above texts are available for purchase via the school's WisePay system. Ideally the texts should have been purchased by 1 September but if you have not already done so please purchase as soon as possible. WisePay will remain open until the end of September 2021. Once purchased the texts will be distributed via their English teachers. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their texts free of charge. Also students may use a copy previously owned by an older sibling if they wish. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Year 12

⇒ Exam Access Arrangements (extra time, reader, scribe, use of a computer etc.)

If your son or daughter had EAA in Year 11, this will continue into Sixth Form initially, but it is very important that they make themselves known to Ms Barratt who is based in USIC library. We need to know which of their sixth form subjects your son or daughter still needs their EAA for. They will also have to build up evidence of needing and using EAA for each subject (more will be explained in the next few weeks.) They need to be more involved in their EAA than they may have been in Year 11, so it is important that they make contact Ms Barratt and it is a good idea to let their teachers know of their needs in due course.

If your son or daughter has joined the school for the sixth form and had exams access arrangements in their previous school, please make contact with Ms Barratt immediately (bbarratt@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

⇒ ENGLISH - SALE OF TEXTS URGENT REMINDER

As previously informed in the bulletin sent out at the end of last term, this academic year brings the start of your son/daughter's A Level English Literature courses. Over the course of year they will be studying three texts: 'Spies' by Michael Frayn, 'The Feminine Gospels' by Carol Ann Duffy and 'All My Sons' by Arthur Miller. Students are strongly advised to buy their own copy so that they can annotate and use again for revision for their future mock exams and their official exams in the summer of 2023.

All of the above texts are available for purchase via the school's WisePay system. Ideally the texts should have been purchased by 1 September but if you have not already done so please purchase as soon as possible. WisePay will remain open until the end of September 2021. Once purchased the texts will be distributed via their English teachers. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their texts free of charge. Also students may use a copy previously owned by an older sibling if they wish. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Year 11

⇒ ENGLISH - SALE OF TEXTS URGENT REMINDER

As previously informed in the bulletin sent out at the end of last term, this academic year brings the start of your son/daughter's GCSE English Language and Literature courses. This term they will be studying Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. The teaching of this text begins immediately in September - students are strongly advised to buy their own copy so that they can annotate and use again for revision for their future mock exams and their official exams in the summer of 2022. In addition to the 'Macbeth' text there is a CGP Text Guide available as an optional extra as shown above. This is offered through school at a substantial discount compared to other booksellers. We are also selling the English Language Complete Revision & Practice Guide as shown above which will supplement their studies for the English Language GCSE course - this was made available to students at the start of Year 10 so your son/daughter may already have a copy.

All of the above texts are available for purchase via the school's WisePay system. Ideally the texts should have been purchased by 1 September but if you have not already done so please purchase as soon as possible. WisePay will remain open until the end of September 2021. Once purchased the texts will be distributed via their English teachers. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their texts free of charge. Also students may use a copy previously owned by an older sibling if they wish. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

⇒ Upcoming MFL Speaking Exams

Please see two letters attached regarding the upcoming mock speaking exams for Year 11 students and a selection of key resources available online and for purchase, which will support and extend your child's language learning throughout the GCSE course.

Year 10

⇒ ENGLISH - SALE OF TEXTS URGENT REMINDER

As previously informed in the bulletin sent out at the end of last term, this academic year brings the start of your son/daughter's GCSE English Language and Literature courses. This term they will be studying the first of their GCSE Literature texts - 'An Inspector Calls' by J B Priestley. The teaching of this text begins immediately in September - students are strongly advised to buy their own copy so that they can annotate and use again for revision for their future mock exams and their official exams in the summer of 2023. In addition to the 'An Inspector Calls' text there is a CGP Text Guide available as an optional extra. This is offered through school at a substantial discount compared to other booksellers. We are also selling the English Language Complete Revision & Practice Guide which will supplement their studies for the English Language GCSE course.

All of the above texts are available for purchase via the school's WisePay system. Ideally the texts should have been purchased by 1 September but if you have not already done so please purchase as soon as possible. WisePay will remain open until the end of September 2021. Once purchased the texts will be distributed via their English teachers. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their texts free of charge. Also students may use a copy previously owned by an older sibling if they wish. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

⇒ GCSE MFL resources

Please find letter attached providing a selection of key resources available online and for purchase, which will support and extend your child's language learning throughout the GCSE course.

Year 9

⇒ GCSE MFL resources

Please find letter attached providing a selection of key resources available online and for purchase, which will support and extend your child's language learning throughout the GCSE course.

⇒ Class Reader - Autumn Term

At George Abbot School, we pride ourselves in offering an exciting, broad and diverse curriculum. This academic year, the English team is delighted to be teaching Angie Thomas' award-winning, contemporary modern classic *The Hate U Give*. Classified as a Young Adult novel, the novel has some mature thematic elements and moderate, colloquial language choices. The text deals with our relevant cultural climate and, as per the National Curriculum, encourages socio-cultural, emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth. We anticipate that students will find this text to be both engaging and relevant and hope that it will allow opportunities for wider discussions at home and at school. If you have any queries then please email the KS3 English Co-ordinator, Ms Tank mtank@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk