

6 November, 2026

HEADTEACHER

Family Bulletin



What a positive start to the second half of the autumn term. Students have come back with real purpose, and it shows around the school and in lessons. Several visitors joined us this week, including the Chief Executive of Bridge Academy Trust. Each of them told us how calm and purposeful Notley feels, both around the site and in classrooms. That reflects the hard work of our students and staff, and the support you give at home. Thank you.

Year 11: Preparing For Mock Examinations

Year 11 mock examinations begin next week. To help students prepare, we changed the timetable this week to run focused intervention sessions in English, Maths and Science. In English, an external theatre company performed Jekyll and Hyde in school. Seeing the text performed live brings its characters and themes to life, and helps students remember key moments and quotations for the exam.

Attendance at this week's Period 6 sessions in History and Geography was excellent. Thank you to the students who stayed, and to the staff who ran the sessions. Over the next fortnight, please encourage your child to get plenty of rest, revise little and often, and come to every exam well prepared.

Extra-curricular: Back In Full Swing

All of our extra-curricular programme is running again, including lunchtime activities, and lots of students are taking part. Clubs and activities help students build friendships, confidence and new interests, and are a big part of what makes Notley a community. If your child hasn't joined anything yet, please encourage them to try something new this half term.

Jack Petchey Awards
Mrs S Howells, Deputy Headteacher





Olivia was nominated for a Jack Petchey Achievement Award in recognition of her incredible dedication, commitment, and success in horse riding.

Recently, Olivia competed at the Kent County Show, taking on some exceptionally strong competition, including many riders who were much older and more experienced. Despite this, she achieved an outstanding 3rd place in the Open Working Hunter 80cm class, a fantastic accomplishment against such tough opposition.

Olivia also competed in the Performance Pony and 70cm Show Jumping classes. Whilst she did not place in these events, simply competing at this level demonstrates her determination, courage, and talent. She should be incredibly proud of her achievements.

The event involved much more than riding. As it was an away show, Olivia showed real dedication by helping to care for the horses throughout the competition, including early mornings mucking out stables and preparing them to look their very best for the showing classes.

Adding to her success, Olivia has qualified for the Sunshine Tour at the famous Hickstead Showground this September. She has earned qualification in the 50cm, 60cm, 70cm, 80cm and 90cm Show Jumping classes, an amazing achievement and a testament to her hard work and perseverance.

Alongside her achievements, Olivia has built a wonderful partnership with her horse, Chester. Their strong connection and trust in one another are clear to see and have helped them achieve so much together.

Olivia's passion, dedication, sportsmanship, and commitment make her a truly deserving nominee for a Jack Petchey Achievement Award. We wish her and Chester the very best of luck at Hickstead and for their future competitions.



We are delighted to celebrate Marni, who has been recognised by her football club with a Jack Petchey Award for Outstanding Achievement.

This well-deserved award recognises not only Marni's commitment to football but also the determination, resilience and perseverance she demonstrates when facing challenges and setbacks. Her ability to keep moving forward, stay positive and continue pursuing her passion is truly inspiring.

Marni's dedication is a fantastic example of the values we encourage within our school community, and we are incredibly proud to see her efforts recognised in this way.

Congratulations, Marni, on this wonderful achievement. We look forward to seeing all that you accomplish in the future!

Football Success
Mr A Harrington, Head of PE





Our Year 10 football team took on Manningtree High School on Monday and produced a strong performance, despite an unfortunate result.

The team started brightly and deservedly took the lead through Rui S, who was also unlucky not to add a second when his powerful strike crashed against the crossbar. The players worked hard throughout the match and showed great determination against a strong opposition.

As we pushed forward in search of an equaliser, Manningtree capitalised late on, scoring two goals towards the end of the game to secure a 4-1 victory.

A special mention goes to Ben D, who was named Player of the Match for his outstanding defensive performance and commitment throughout the game.



Our U16 girls took on Great Baddow High School in challenging conditions against a strong opposition. With several Year 9 students stepping up to support the team, everyone showed fantastic determination and teamwork throughout the match.

Despite the result, the girls never gave up and demonstrated incredible resilience from start to finish. Player of the Match: Jess G, for an outstanding goalkeeping performance and some excellent saves throughout the game.

Well done to all of the team for their effort, commitment, and positive attitude

Heart Points







Thank you, as always, for your support.



Mr M Barrow, Headteacher

SIXTH FORM AT NOTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

In the sixth form at Notley High School we welcome students from across Braintree and further afield to join our Post 16 courses. In 2025, we had applications from students attending over 40 different secondary schools.

As a sixth form we pride ourselves on strong pastoral care and high academic expectations. We want every student to leave with the tools, skills and confidence to pursue their dreams. We provide opportunities throughout the two years to develop these, ready to head on to University, an Apprenticeship or the workplace.

Study Local, Aim High

Students studying in our sixth form are challenged to be ambitious for themselves and achieve at their best. We pair high academic expectations with constant pastoral support and a personal development programme to give students the tools to succeed. We also encourage students to take on leadership roles within the school community.



Sixth Form Open Evening

Our open evening provides an excellent opportunity for applicants to see our sixth form facilities as well as finding out more about the range of courses we have on offer.

The Sixth Form Open Evening is on:

Thursday 19th November 2026
17:30 - 19:30

Sign up via our website or use the QR code below.

COURSES

A Level

Art
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Computer Science
Drama & Theatre Studies
Economics
English Literature
French
Further Maths
Geography
History
Law
Maths
Media Studies
Music
Philosophy, Ethics & Religion
Physics
Physical Education
Politics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish

Vocational

Criminology
Food Science & Nutrition
Health & Social Care
Performing Arts
Sport

Subject Specific Entry Requirements





Entry Requirements

Applicants are required to meet the sixth form entry requirements in addition to the subject specific requirements for each subject they wish to study.

The sixth form entry requirements depend on which pathway is being applied for:

- A Level Only Pathway - 5 GCSE Grades at Grade 5 and above
- Combined Vocational & A Level Pathway - 5 GCSE Grades at Grade 4 and above