



Weekly Student Bulletin for Notley High School Sixth Form Students Friday 25th April 2025

Dear BSF Students,

I hope that you all had a lovely break and took advantage of the good weather when it was there, the ready availability of chocolate, and some opportunities to lie in and, also hopefully, some study!

Hopefully you have returned feeling well rested and a little less stressed. I am aware that this term can be seen as a daunting one. Remember that the BSF pastoral team are here to help at any time but especially as the exam season approaches.

Notices

Year 12 exam week

I hope this week has gone well for all year 12 students regarding your exams. You have all conducted yourselves really well throughout the week so far. If anything has arisen that you wish to discuss about exams then please do speak to your tutor or one of the sixth form team.

Next week there will still be exams taking place on Monday and then your usual timetables will continue as normal from Tuesday.

Assembly plan:

Tuesday 29th April – Year 12 assembly.

Tuesday 6th May – Year 13 Final Assembly (no assembly for year 12 students)

On these two dates the year group who are not in an assembly should be onsite and carrying out independent study/revision.

General expectations

The start of a new term is always a good opportunity to give a reminder around the general expectations in the Sixth Form.

- Sixth form starts at 8.40am every morning with tutor time – this is a compulsory element to your timetable, as is Tuesday period 1 which is when our assemblies take place.
- Mobile phones/air pods – you should not have phones out during a lesson or during tutor time unless there is a particular reason that your teacher/tutor has instructed you to use if for. This also includes if you go over to the main school at any time. We encourage you to put your phone away during independent study time.
- Signing in and out – please make sure you are signing in and out anytime you are leaving the site and when you return.
- Please make sure you are using the student entrance to the Sixth Form. Students should not be going through the main reception.
- Lanyards – these should be worn and visible at all times.

Important reminders for year 12 students:

- Remember to check your tutor group teams page each week as your tutors add key messages there on the tutor time and personal development information covered that week.
- Remember to log all activities you complete on Unifrog.

Library News

As most of you are aware the eating restrictions have been lifted in the library to allow students to study without the need to leave the library to eat a snack or drink. This can only continue if the library is left clean and tidy throughout the day, after lunch and at the end of the day. The cleaning team would appreciate it if you could remember to put ALL your rubbish in the bins provided. There is a small one in the independent study area and one at the lower end of the library. Thank you.

Year 13 key messages

It was great to see so many of you attending the revision sessions during the first week of the Easter holiday. I hope you found them useful.

Year 13 students will be given the opportunity to start **study leave on Monday 12 May**. There will be a **leavers assembly** the week before this date during the usual period one assembly slot on **Tuesday 6th May** for all year 13 students.

Please remember that lessons will continue to run until the final exam has taken place in that subject area.

Individual students will be contacted to discuss alternative study plans if there are concerns and/or all certain criteria has not been met. Subject teachers will ask some individual students to continue attending lessons/masterclasses within their subject and students should make arrangements to attend these unless there is an exam clash.

You can also continue to use school facilities during study leave if they wish to and can of course still contact teachers for support. As we need to know who is on site for safeguarding reasons, it is important that students **sign in and out** if they are in to study or attend lessons.

Before the 12th May year 13 students are still expected to attend tutor time where the focus will be on revision and exam preparation. Individual tutorials will also continue over the next couple of weeks. During study leave your tutors will still be available every morning for any students who wish to meet with them for any required support.

Book Returns

As we approach exam season for Year 13's please can you start to think about returning any library books, academic reading, or subject textbooks with which you have finished. Books can be returned to Mrs Millbank in the library, left in the blue box on the library desk or on the trolley by the main entrance doors to the library. It is important that you return any books belonging to the Sixth form, so students next year can use them. Please ensure all books are returned no later than your last exam. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Year 13 – Student finance

A reminder to year 13 students to complete the student finance form. The deadline for completing this is the **16th May**.

Student finance form:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance?step-by-step-nav=18045f76-ac04-41b7-b147-5687d8fbb64a>

[Student finance calculator - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator)

Key dates:**Year 12 Progression exams – 22nd-28th April****Year 12 work experience week – 30th June – 4th July** -Please return your forms to Ms Watson as soon as possible.**Year 13 Leavers' event – Wednesday 25th June 2025.** All year 13 students are welcome and can still pay for your ticket via parent pay. Full payment is due by Friday 16th May.**Opportunities for you***This section contains opportunities that are sent through from a variety of different organisations.**The opportunities will vary in nature and be suitable for different students, some of the opportunities will be free and others may have a cost associated to them.***Free Parent Webinar – Elevate Education****Ask Me Anything (Live Q&A)****Tuesday 6th May 6:00-7:00pm (BST)**[Click here to register for free](#)

If no questions spring to mind, why not ask your child whether they have any?

These prompts could be a good place to start:

- **Is there anything about exams you're worried about in particular?**
- **What would make you feel more supported in your studying?**
- **Do you have any questions about what you can expect over the coming months?**

A-Level Revision sessions – Biology and Chemistry (Lincolnshire training hub)

They will be held on Zoom between 6 and 7:30pm.

Tuesday 6th May: A-Level Biology – Liver, Kidney + The Heart.**Wednesday 7th May: Chemistry – Analysis Techniques.**

These sessions are free and will be first come first serve. Please fill in the provided form, and we will send across the log in information closer to the time.

Two individual sessions taught by current medical students and doctors to help prospective healthcare students reach the top grades. Each session includes revision tips, breaking down exam questions and topics recommended by previous feedback.

Tuesday 6th May: Biology – Liver, Kidney + The Heart: Learn about three of the body's organs, their function, how they can go wrong, and major marking points. Also including medicine links to the content, including common diseases, to help you remember the content more by applying it to real life.

Wednesday 7th May: Chemistry – Analysis Techniques: Including Infrared Spectroscopy, Mass Spectroscopy, Proton NMR, Carbon NMR and how to tackle those big mark questions at the end of the organic paper. Including links to how we use these techniques within medicine.

Sign-up link: <https://forms.gle/Se5W15Qrj4bKUZQTA>If you have any questions, please contact ruth.pollock@nhs.net

MedicMentor – Free Live Virtual conferences – Doctors and Dentists

Students who attended our Free Get Into Conferences have been awarded certificates, spoken to doctors and medical students, and now have access to a variety of free programmes, such as our Virtual Work Experience Programmes, which has been expertly developed in partnership with University Hospitals Birmingham Trust.

If you feel that there may be more students in years 9-12 / S2-S5 / NI10-NI13 year groups that are yet to attend, please kindly direct them to the Free Get into Conferences. These events are led by expert Chief Mentors who specialise in medical and dental UCAS applications, providing comprehensive guidance on choosing the correct university, how to write their personal statements, UCAT exam preparation, extracurricular activities, scholarships and more.

For aspiring Dentists: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Dentistry conference date:

Saturday 17th May from 9:30am - 3:30pm

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBACc19kE>

For aspiring Doctors: FREE LIVE VIRTUAL Get Into Medicine conference dates:

Saturday 26th April from 9:30am - 3:30pm

Sunday 27th April from 9:30am - 3:30pm

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

All aspiring doctors and dentists in years 10-12 / S3-S5 / NI11-13 are invited to register.

These conferences offer tailored advice for medicine and dentistry, covering a range of crucial topics:

- Tactically choosing universities
- Personal statements
- UCAT
- Medical & Dental school interview skills
- National Leadership Programmes
- Medical & Dental Awards Programmes
- Extracurricular activities
- Work experience
- Building a CV
- Applying for scholarships

Many students have found that attending these free conferences was a pivotal experience, where everything came together to help them succeed!

Please note that parental attendance is required for safeguarding reasons and to ensure parents are also supported throughout the application process.

Students and parents can register for free at this link:

Medicine: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

Dentistry: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrBuiR7SBACc19kE>

Summer Schools for young people aged 16+ - Ravensbourne University

We have a suite of Summer School activities you can share with students aged 16+. These multi-day events are free, designed to align with Gatsby benchmarks and run by Ravensbourne university tutors.

They all take place on site at Ravensbourne University in North Greenwich, London, and should be booked by the young people individually. Please share the below links with any learners you think could be interested:

23rd-24th June: [Media Summer School](#)

24th-26th June: [Character Design and Cosplay Summer School](#)

26th June: [Fashion Taster Day](#)

3rd-4th July: [Graphic Design Summer School](#)

7th-11th July: [Make It! Work Experience Summer School](#)

Mid and South Essex Health & Care Academy are holding two recruitment events this academic year for Year 13 students coming to the end of their post 16 programmes who are interested in finding entry roles within the NHS or Social Care for their next steps.

The recruitment events will be held at our Integrated Care System Training and Education Facilities at Brentwood Community Hospital, Crescent Drive, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8DR on Wednesday 23rd April and Wednesday 25th June 2025 between 10am and 4pm.

Students attending can meet local NHS and Social Care recruitment teams, explore opportunities, find out about apprenticeship pathways and ask any questions they may have about careers in the sector. The recruitment teams attending will also be interviewing on the day for entry roles they have available at the moment and successful students could leave with a job offer at the end of the day.

Please share the attached poster with your young people and encourage them to register to attend using the QR codes.



SpringPod - AAT

I wanted to let you know that two brand-new opportunities with **AAT (Association of Accounting Technicians)** have just landed on **Springpod** — and you're getting early access before they go live to everyone else.

These are designed to help students explore careers in accounting and finance through interactive, skill-building experiences — perfect for introducing them to real-world opportunities in business and bookkeeping.

AAT Virtual Work Experience

Give your students a chance to step into the world of professional **accounting and finance**.

They'll:

- ✓ Explore diverse career paths in **accounting & bookkeeping**
- ✓ Hear from industry experts through **Springpod Sessions**
- ✓ Complete interactive quizzes and activities
- ✓ Earn a **certificate** of completion

- **6+ hours of self-paced content** | **Open to students aged 13+**

<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/aat-virtual-work-experience/WEXP-00447?queryID=171c691e7961e28713d39819156a6e64&pos=1&fromUrl=%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Daat>

Bookkeeping Sprint with AAT

This short course puts students in the shoes of an Accounts Assistant at a fictional company.

They'll:

- ✓ Complete a real-world task – creating an invoice with all the key financial elements
- ✓ Learn from a mentor (AAT bookkeeper & tutor) via short videos
- ✓ Compare their work to a model answer and build key skills in accuracy and attention to detail- Fast, focused and practical – ideal for students curious about business

<https://www.springpod.com/work-experience-sprints/bookkeeping-with-aat/WEXS-00446>

A university application programme for students from disadvantaged backgrounds

[Keystone's](#) University Programme supports high-achieving UK state school students from disadvantaged backgrounds who may lack the guidance and resources needed to gain admission to and thrive at the UK's most competitive universities, including Oxbridge.

Designed for Year 12 students aspiring to study English, History, or Maths, the fully funded programme offers tailored guidance and academic support.

> [Watch this short video to find out more](#)

> [Check if your students are eligible](#)

Key websites to search for/find out about apprenticeship opportunities

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK](#)

<https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/apprenticeships?query=>

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/>

[Prospects | Job & Course Search | Career & University Advice](#)

The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships useful and informative – please share [the link to the guide](#) with your students, their parents, and colleagues.

Students guide to University – Uni taster days

Perfect for students thinking about university and including insights from 65+ university experts, the [Students' Guide to University](#) was released this month. It covers the new UCAS personal statement, information on the first tuition fee rise since 2017, and researching universities during a cost-of-living crisis. Plus, student finance tips from Martin Lewis. Please share the link with students too!

We're here to support your students with university resources too! This includes a university podcast, a platform showcasing universities offering financial support for events, a university event search tool and a video library to explore university subjects. Please share these resources with the students you support, they're all available through the button below.

<https://www.unitasterdays.com/support-for-students/>

Career days for students

There are new dates for our online Career Days, which provide students with the chance to learn about different careers, receive advice on subject choices, and discover how to apply to university. Each session includes work experience in the afternoon, allowing students to get a feel for the day-to-day aspects of their chosen career. At the end of the day, students will receive a certificate confirming their work experience.

The upcoming Career Days are as follows:

Law Career Day - Saturday 3rd May 2025

Vet Career Day - Saturday 10th May 2025

Business Career Day - Saturday 12th May 2025

Engineering & Technology Career Day - Saturday 24th May 2025

Computer Science Career Day - Saturday 31st May 2025

Performing Arts Career Day - Sunday 26th October 2025

Students aged 13-18 can register for any of the above sessions by visiting www.careerdays.co.uk/career-choices-day.

Have a good weekend



Ms A Brewis-Shephard
Deputy Head of Sixth Form