

Alec Hunter Herald

Living for Learning, Learning for Life

January 2026 Issue 101

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Happy New Year!

Welcome back to a somewhat frosty start to the new calendar year and to the Spring Term, a very important period for our senior students with Formal Exams on the horizon and a lot of hard work ahead. I am sure that their New Year's resolutions have been strongly focused on making great progress over these crucial months with their eyes firmly on the prize of exam success in the summer.

We saw a number of nasty viruses circulating just before the Christmas break, which had a negative impact on attendance of both staff and students, but we hope we are over the worst now and that everyone will be able to stay healthy in 2026. We know it is sometimes harder to encourage your child to show some resilience if they are feeling a bit below par at this time of year, but a loss of continuity in learning can have a very detrimental effect so we appreciate your support in keeping absence to a minimum.

Of course, our Spring Term calendar is also packed with many exciting events to look forward to, as you can see from the diary dates on this page, but in this edition of the *Herald*, we look back on a range of fabulous activities and achievements which occurred in the second half of 2025. Whilst promoting a passion for learning and securing academic progress for every child are our 'bread and butter', it is always a delight to see our young people relishing opportunities to shine in situations beyond the classroom. The *Herald* provides the platform for sharing these with our Alec Hunter community, and I trust you will enjoy reading about them as much as we enjoy facilitating them.

Best wishes to all our families for a happy, healthy and fruitful year ahead in 2026!

Mr Lawn (Headteacher)

Diary Dates

January 2026

- 15th January – Year 11 9-7 Evening
- 16th January – Year 11 Photographs
- 20th January – Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Braintree Town Centre

- 22nd January – Year 11 Geography Fieldwork to Braintree Town Centre
- 23rd January – Year 9 DTP/ACWY Vaccinations
- 28th January – UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge
- 28th January – Jack Petchey Celebration Evening
- 29th January – Year 8 Parents' Evening

February 2026

- 2nd February-13th February – Year 11 Formal Exams
- 4th February – Made in Braintree Competition 2026
- 4th February – Year 9 and Year 10 Drama trips to see 'The Woman in Black', Chelmsford Theatre
- 5th February – Year 10 Apprenticeship Information Event (Braintree Campus, Colchester Institute)
- 12th February – Year 9 Parents' Evening
- 16th-20th February – HALF TERM
- 24th February – Year 11 Food Preparation & Nutrition Practical Assessment
- 25th February – Year 11 Food Preparation & Nutrition Practical Assessment
- 25th February – Year 11 Hospitality & Catering Practical Assessment
- 26th February – Year 7 Parents' Evening (HUNT)

March 2026

- 2nd March – Year 11 Hospitality & Catering Practical Assessment
- 2nd March – Year 10 GCSE Science Live!, Regents Theatre, Ipswich
- 2nd March – 7pm, School Musical Performance
- 3rd March – Year 8 'Romeo & Juliet' at The Globe
- 3rd March – 7pm, School Musical Performance
- 5th March – Year 7 Parents' Evening (ERAL)
- 10th March – **Skills Day** / Year 9 trip to IWM Duxford
- 16th March – Year 7-10 LMTO Workshop
- 10th March – Year 11 GCSE Drama Practical Performance Evening
- 10th March – Year 8/9 Ypres Residential Parent/Carer Meeting
- 17th March - Year 8/9/10 Photographs
- 19th March – Year 10 Parents' Evening
- 26th March – Year 9 Virtual Options Release
- 26th March – Year 11 GCSE Drama Practical Exam Performance, G2
- 27th March – 1.00pm Close**
- 30th March-10th April – Easter Holiday**
- 7th-10th April – Year 8/9 Ypres Residential trip

London Musical Theatre Orchestra

In May and June, a group of Year 7 students had the fantastic opportunity to join the London Musical Theatre Orchestra. LMTO Upbeat is a music-in-schools programme that transforms secondary school students into concert performers in just four weeks. Working alongside a team of West End musicians and Essex Music Service tutors, students had the chance to learn an orchestral instrument (clarinet, saxophone, trumpet or trombone) through the genre of musical theatre. The students enjoyed music and theatre related games and exercises and had the chance to perform alongside professional musicians. All the students who took part in the workshop performed in a concert accompanied by a live band of professional musicians and singers who work in the West End on shows including Les Misérables, Matilda and Phantom of The Opera.



United in Diversity

On 11th June, members of our School Council attended the United in Diversity Event at Braxted Park. The event was attended by over 30 schools from Primary, Secondary and Special Educational

settings. There were inspirational speeches from Essex children about their experiences and overcoming adversity as well as engaging activities such as careers mapping, t-shirt printing, brick laying and sports inclusion therapy. Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Essex, gave a welcome speech and following a conversation with our students, invited student **Holly Webb** to the stage to talk about the work our School Council is doing. Students in our School Council are **Isabelle Thorogood, Austin Croft, Sirage Laaouad, Sophia Tame, Holly Webb, Leyland Smith, Owen Hurry and Holly Spragge.**



CSES Engineering Awards

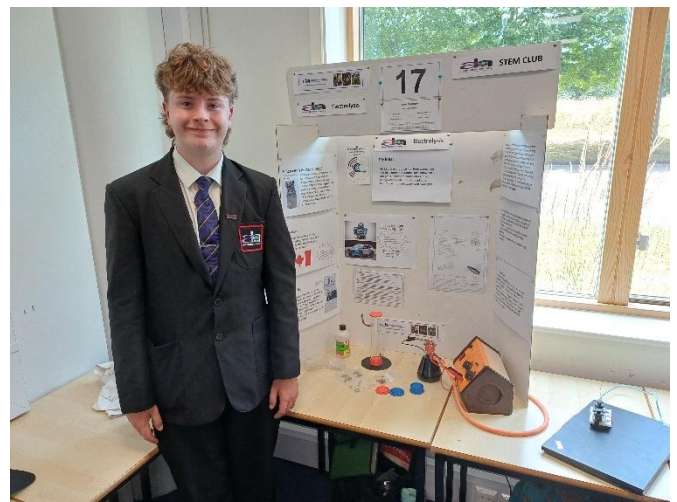
Congratulations to students in our STEM Club who entered the CSES Schools' Engineering Technology Competition at the Anglia Ruskin University on 27th June. Four teams entered with different projects and collectively the group won **STEM Club of the Year!**

Aayla-Rose Brown, Brooke Thompson, Grace Branch, Eva Bass, Amelia Reeve and Iulia Pop with **GOGIRLS** - Converting a pedal go kart to electric power, as a sustainable development of an old item.

Sophia Chesney, Ivy Knights, Freya Kemp and Ezter Pullan with **K9KARE** - An innovative dog lead and bag for extras using crochet wool/materials for construction.

Erika Olteanu, Mia Green and Ella Hall with **Hydro-Bucket** - A complete emergency water filtration kit for use in areas without clean running water.

Lennox Rose-Rogers with **Water Electrolysis** - An investigation into producing Hydrogen and Oxygen from water to develop a clean fuel system.



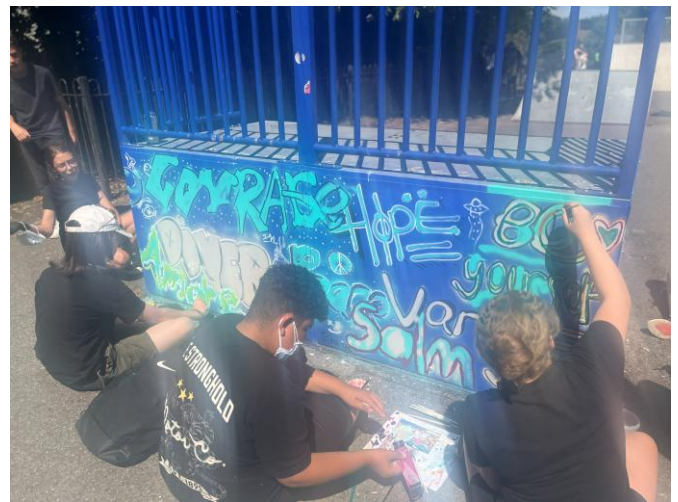
Brilliant Club Graduation

In July, students from Year 9 and 10 attended their Brilliant Club Graduation at Royal Holloway, University of London. Congratulations to **Alex Harding, Lila Wagstaff, Blessing Chiyaka, Olivia Holmes, Evan Marsh, Evie Boyes, Stanley Croft, Mione Biss, Archie Black, Priya Kurapati, Austin Maddocks.**



Skate Park Project

In July, a group of Year 8 students worked alongside local artist and AHA teacher Kerry Judson to design and paint a community mural at Braintree Skatepark. The Learner to Learner project involved students creating designs with Year 5 pupils from local primary schools. The new-look skate park was unveiled by Mr Lawn and Cllr Justin Wrench from Braintree District Council, who is also Headteacher of Great Bradfords Junior School. Well done to all the students involved: **Sirage Laaoud, Noel McAiney, Dylan Wise, Alys Davies, Sophia Tame, Chloe Jackson, Sharon Varughese, Abbi Crook, Millie Green, Mia Green, Lily-Mae Cochran and Scarlett Dufosse.**



Youth Parliament

On 6th November, Year 9 student Bryony Swindale took part in the annual Youth Parliament sitting at the House of Commons. "As part of my role as an elected member of the UK Youth Parliament, myself and 299 other young people from across the UK went to Parliament to debate issues that young people face. During these debates we covered five topics - Health, Housing, Crime, Sustainability and Employment - where ideas were raised by young people for change. This was such an amazing experience, and I have learned new life skills as well as how the House of Commons is run".



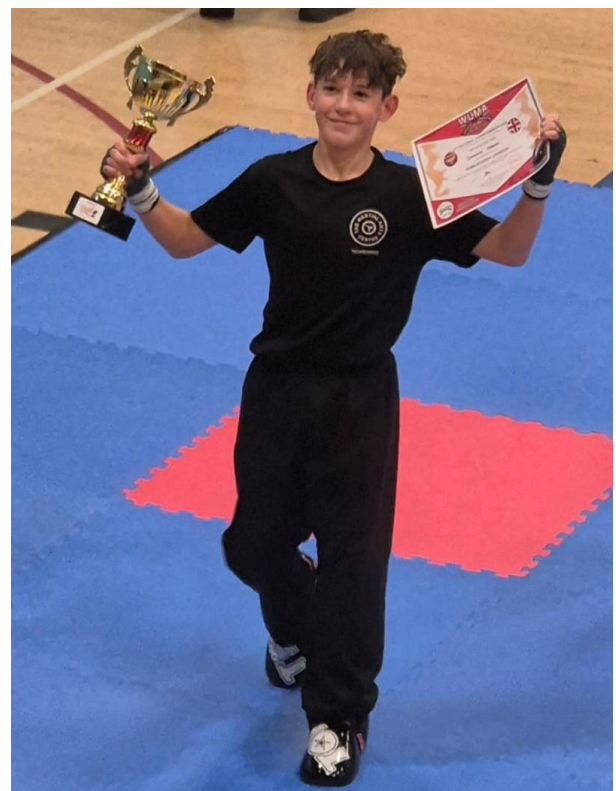
Dance Champions

Congratulations to Year 9 student **Courtney McGee** and Year 8 student **Darcie Webster** who are part of dance team The Dance Exclusive and have been crowned national champions after winning an International Street Dance competition, held in Watford over the summer. Their routine secured them the top spot meaning they will go on to compete at the UDO World Street Dance Championships - a huge global event taking place in Blackpool next summer against groups from all over the world. Good luck!



Kickboxing Champion

Huge congratulations to Year 8 student Dominik Karsai who recently competed at the WUMA National Kickboxing Championships and won his category. The skill and determination that Dominik displayed have secured his qualification for the World Championship taking place next September in Switzerland. Well done, Dominik!



Senior Student Leaders

Following a successful interview process, we are delighted to advise that Year 11 students **Emma Collier** and **Alfie Holmes** have been appointed our **Senior Student Leaders** this year. They are supported by Katie Fehrenbach, Benjamin Hunter, Mercy Adesina, Bella Rudd, Zane Miller, Lily Heighes, Molly Lawrence and Lola Bell who take up the posts of Deputy Senior Student Leaders. Congratulations to these very deserving students.



Remembrance Day

On 11th November, our two Year 11 Senior Student Leaders, **Emma Collier** and **Alfie Holmes** joined Mr Lawn to attend the Royal British Legion Remembrance Service at the Braintree & Bocking Public Gardens. The school was honoured to lay a wreath at the memorial as part of the ceremony, in honour of those who gave their lives in conflict.



Game On! Event

On 15th October a group of Year 10 students travelled to Anglia Ruskin University to take part in the Game On! event. Students participated in workshops and learnt about careers in the games design industry. The event was interactive and the students were encouraged to respond to polls and submit questions in real time using their mobile devices. There were also talks for the students and hands-on activities with which they could engage. Students who took part in this event were **Alex Harding, Evan Marsh, Henry Greatbatch, Millie James, Daniel Danquah, Cale Gilbert, Lennox Rose-Rogers and Madison Theobald.**

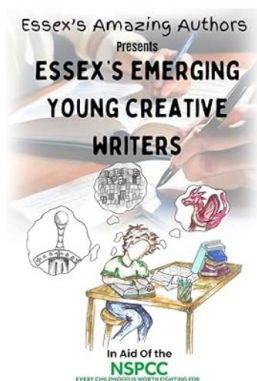


Student Absence

If your child is absent from school parent/carers should contact the school as early as possible. The school has a 24-hour absence line (01376 559359) where an answer phone is available to leave a message if nobody is available to take your call, a 24 hours text only service (07598 393348), an absences email (JJackson@alechunter.com), or you may call into school personally and speak to the office staff. Parents/carers are required to contact the school on every morning their child is going to be absent. Please do not email the Tutor or Student Support Leader as they may not see the email until later if they have prior commitments.

Young Writers Event

In the summer term, students were asked to devise their very own piece of writing to enter into a competition against other students in Braintree. Students were challenged to write a thousand-word story about anything of their choosing, before submitting this to Essex's Amazing Authors. Lots of students from AHA entered this competition and we are proud to announce that five writers from AHA have been published in an anthology of pieces written by local young authors. Our published authors included **Ysabella Diuco, Molly Lawrence, Heather Hart and Ella Cole**. As part of the publicity for the book, Ysabella, Molly and Heather attended a reading event in George Yard, Braintree alongside book authors TG Troupier and Carley-Ann Osborn, and Molly also appeared on local radio Phoenix FM to talk about the project. The book, *Essex's Emerging Young Creative Writers: 2025* is available to purchase [here](#), with profits being donated to the NSPCC.



Headteacher's Surgery: Mr Lawn will be available from 3:30-4:30pm every Thursday to meet with parents and discuss any issues they may wish to raise. No appointment is required, as parents will be seen in the order they arrive, but if you wish to book a specific time, please contact the school office.

Cut your Carbon

In November, 118 students took part in the 'Cut Your Carbon' house competition by completing up to six different carbon-cutting activities for the month. The tutor group with the most participants was **7N**, in second place was **8E** and in third place was **7R**. Well done to everyone who took part. This has added up to the estimated carbon savings shown below. Keep up the great work to help to tackle climate change!

100kgCO₂equivalent is the same as 1666 days of carbon consumption for 1 tree, or 23,200 charges of the average smartphone.

Estimated Carbon Savings

'Cool It.'	97.9 kgCO₂e
'Ditch The Drive.'	180.5 kgCO₂e
'Drop It Like It's Hot.'	822.5 kgCO₂e
'Veggie Vibes.'	1,328.7 kgCO₂e
'Meal Plan-et.'	34.2 kgCO₂e
'Have a Device-Free Day.'	23.6 kgCO₂e

Parents/Carer Drop-In Sessions:

Please be advised that our Home-School Liaison Worker, Sharon McCormick will be holding parent/carers drop-in sessions at Alec Hunter on the following dates:

- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 14th January 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 11th February 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 11th March 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 15th April 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 13th May 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 17th June 2026
- 8am-9.15am Wednesday 15th July 2026

Sharon supports families across our local community. She is available for any parent/carers to pop in to discuss any worries or concerns you may have surrounding your child or family (for example: attendance, difficulties at home, or if you are looking for advice or support resources). Please note, this is a 'without appointment' session so there may be a wait as parents and carers will be seen on a first come, first served basis. Please sign in at reception.

Karate Champion

In November, year 7 student **Harriet Brown** competed in two Karate competitions and won a Gold medal in her Weapons Form and a Silver medal in her Traditional Form. Harriet also undertook 12 hours of grading to be awarded her Black Belt. Harriet has been a junior leader at her karate club since the age of 9 and helps run the class twice a week, supporting the teacher and older students. Congratulations Harriet, you have shown real commitment and dedication in reaching this level.

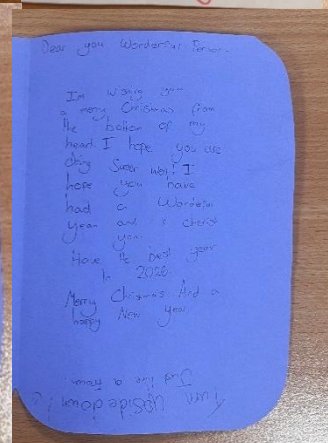
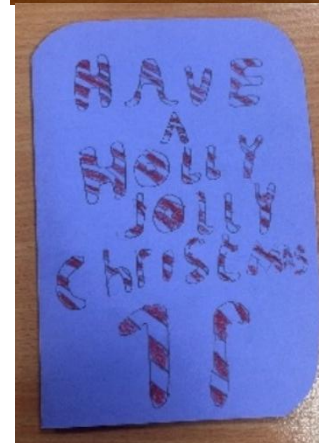


Christmas Card Designs

In December, students were invited to take part in a Design a Christmas Card Competition to earn points for their House. Over 250 cards were received and donated to Kilkee Lodge Residential Care Home for

residents to send to their family and friends. The winners of the competition were:

- 1st Place - **Sophia Sale 8L** with the Christmas dog (**Hawkings**).
- 2nd Place - **Millie Green 9U** with Taz and Bugs Bunny (**Curie**).
- 3rd Place - **Skylar Watson 8R** with the 3D Christmas tree (**Curie**).
- 4th Place - **Toby Ghosh 9N** (**Gandi**)



SENCO Drop-In sessions:

Our SENCo, Mrs Gillett will be holding parent/carer drop-in sessions for students at Alec Hunter on the following dates:

Wednesday 11th February 2026: 3.20pm-4.20pm

Monday 16th March 2026: 8.50am-9.50am

Wednesday 13th May 2026: 3.20pm-4.20pm

Monday 22nd June 2026: 8.50am-9.50am

Mrs Gillett will be available for any parent/carer to pop in and discuss any worries or concerns you may have regarding your child, or if you are looking for advice/support regarding SEN. Please note, this is a 'without appointment' session so there may be a wait as parents/carers will be seen on a first come, first served basis. Please sign in at reception.

Presentation Evening

On Thursday 13th November, we celebrated the academic and personal achievements of last year's Year 11 students at our annual Presentation Evening. Our ex-students were able to meet up with staff and former classmates, catch up on progress since leaving the school and receive their GCSE certificates. A number of special awards were also presented, and these are sponsored by various individuals and local organisations. The awards recognise commitment to sport, academic success and outstanding contributions made by students in each subject area. We are delighted to announce our winners for 2025, as follows:

Subject Awards

English Language	Daisy Borrett
English Literature	Grace Stevens
Maths	Michael Viknius
Geography	Grace Rice
History	Esmée Reeve
RPE	Freya Sahota
French	Charley Butcher
German	Ashleigh Spragge
Spanish	Holly Taylor-Murfet
Computer Science	Jamie Watts
GCSE PE	Charlie Money
Sports & Coaching Principles	Harry Wooder
Combined Science	William Wake
Biology	Adanna Ewunonu
Chemistry	Toby Mayes
Physics	Oskar Jackow
Drama	Timothy Garnett
Music	Oliver Prendi
Dance	Lily O'Connor

Art	Roksana Slomion
Applied Engineering	Isabella Draper
Graphics	Xanthe Hopkins
Textiles	Maisy Dick
Child Development	Roxy Yeaman
Hospitality & Catering	Benjamin Woodman
Food Prep & Nutrition	Lucy Wicks
Business & Enterprise	Chad Yildirim
Travel & Tourism	Keira Gray

100% Attendance in Year 11

Whitney Asa
Alexander Biggs
Michelle Chiyaka
Kai Crouch
Priscila Devasia
Rose Green
Toby Hammond
Lochlan Hyslop
Callum Inskip
Zoe Marsh
Toby Mayes
Leah Piscina
Austin Rowell
Freya Sahota
Jake Simons
Michael Viknius
Callum Wishart

100% Attendance over 4 Years*

Zoe Marsh

*2020-21 excluded due to the Covid-19 pandemic

Thank you to our sponsors:

Great Bradfords FC

Laura Hardison Taylor

Mrs Lynn Jefferis, Mini First Aid

John Ray Trust

Mr Richard Hunter

Mrs Jacqui Leech

McDonald's Restaurants Ltd, Braintree

Mr Simon McElrea & Family

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Mr Stephen Wyatt



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Presentation Evening 2025



The Alec Hunter Award
Grace Southgate

The Andrew Hutchinson
Award
Sasha Hinkson

The Lady Stark Award for
Languages
Holly Taylor-Murfet

The Stephen Wyatt
Humanities College Award
Aiden Trew

The Baldock Cup
For All-round Boys'
Achievement
Brandon Parsons

The Lindsey Cup
For All-round Girls'
Achievement
Holly Underdown

The Drummond Cup for
Outstanding Achievement in
Athletics
Bleu Conti

The Football Cup
For Outstanding Achievement
Max Tritton

The Hardison Taylor Award
Jake Simons

The Wendy Morgan Award for
Citizenship
Henry Poole

The Margery Cup
For Outstanding Girls' Effort
Esmée Reeve

The McElrea Cup
For Outstanding Boys' Effort
Joshua Jones

The Mollie Birmingham Award
For Services to the
Community
Gracie Hogan

The Lord Newton Award for
Progress from KS2
Holly Underdown

The Gavin Leech Award
For students who show the
Greatest Acts of Kindness
Zoe Marsh

The Overall Achievement
Award
Oskar Jackow

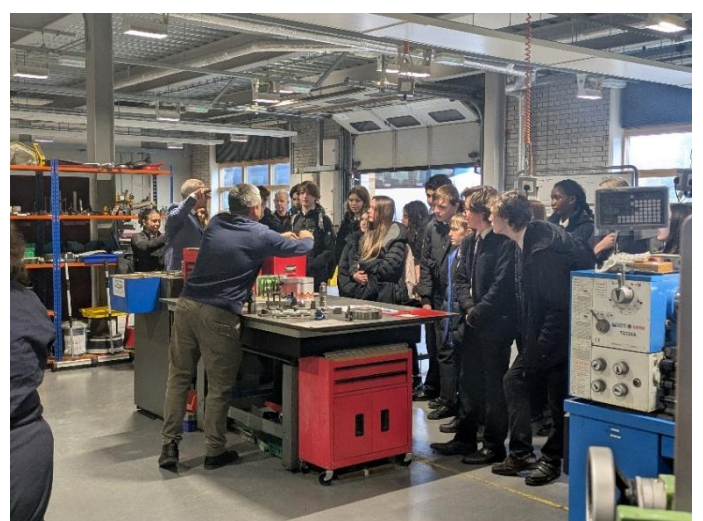
The Netball Cup
For Outstanding Achievement
Tegan Whittaker

The Performing Arts Award
Thomas King



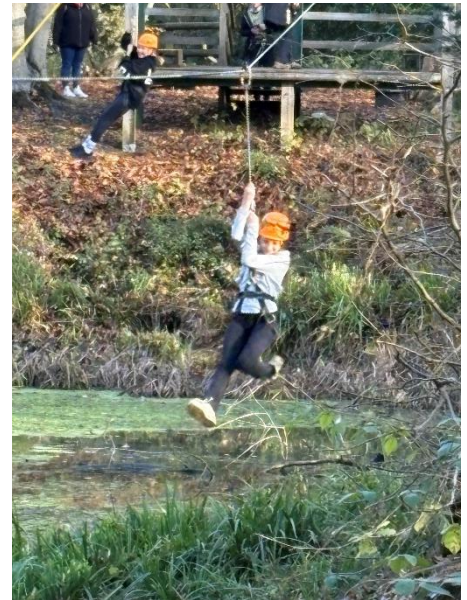
Careers and Further Education Visits

At the end of the summer term, Year 10 students visited a variety of further education institutions to explore what they can expect in the next step of their education. Groups visited **Anglia Ruskin University**, the **Braintree and Colchester campus of Colchester College**, as well as **Emmanuel College in Cambridge**. In addition, the whole year group travelled to the **Braintree Careers Fair** at Chelmsford City Racecourse on 24th September. The Careers Fair hosted over 125 representatives from a range of public and private sector employees as well as universities, local colleges and training providers.



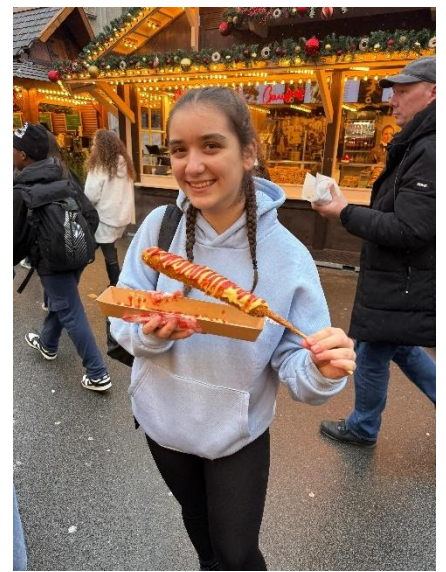
Skills Day – November 2025

On 28th November, it was Skills Day and each year group was involved in exciting activities that took place outside the normal curriculum. We had a record number of off-site trips taking place on that day. All students in Year 7 visited **Thriftwood Activity Centre** in Brentwood for a day of team building and fun outdoor activities including axe throwing, zip lining and archery. Forty of our **Year 8** students travelled to the **Christmas Markets in Lille, France** and the rest of the year group visited **St Paul's Cathedral** in London. **Year 9** students took part in various STEM activities in school – jewellery making, CAD designing and bread making; and some students visited the **University of Essex** to see for themselves what university life is like. They were taken on a tour of the university by student ambassadors and took part in a mini lecture. **Year 10** students were split, with students studying Business going to **Colchester Zoo** to experience real world business, while other students stayed in school to take part in the **Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' Challenge** workshop. This exciting opportunity is part of a nationally recognised programme designed to help young people develop their public speaking and communication skills. The rest of Year 10 travelled to **Silverstone race track** to take part in a **STEM workshop** and visit the museum. **Year 11** Art students travelled to London to visit **Tate Britain**, with the rest of the year group taking part in two workshops delivered by external providers covering revision skills, goals and aspirations. This was followed by an afternoon trip to the cinema to see the film 'Now You See Me, Now You Don't'. This was arranged for the students as a treat in anticipation of the hard work they will be undertaking over the coming weeks and months in preparation for their exams next summer.



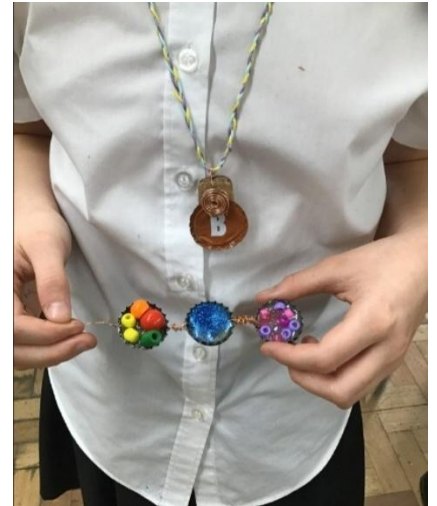
Year 7 Team Building Day at Thriftwood Activity Centre





Year 8 trip to Lille Christmas markets (above), and St Paul's Cathedral, London (below).





Year 9 STEM Technology Day and trip to the University of Essex (above)



Year 10
STEM trip to
Silverstone
Museum





Year 11 Art trip to Tate Britain and Year 11 Revision Workshop and trip to Cineworld.



Sports News & Fixture Results

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 24/09/25	Year 9 Girls	Ramsey School	Alec Lost 13-3	Maisie Height, Olivia Smith, Mollie Thurley, Jessica Smith, Arnette Mavurayi, Scarlett Dufosee and Megan Alexander Player of the match: Jessica Smith

Match Report: All players performed well for their first game of the season. Lots of positives and lots to work on. Overall not a bad start.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 24/09/25	Year 11 Girls	Ramsey School	Alec Won 12-10	Holly Ashley, Aamane Akinsanya, Isabelle Woodward, Abi Robbins, Lily Heighes, Emma Collier, Chloe Hawkins, Izzy Leamey, Lola Bell Poppy Wark and Isabelle Mitchell Player of the match: Isabelle Mitchell

Match Report: The girls had a really good first game. There was some beautiful netball played along with some silly decisions. It was lovely to see the students all support one another and give equal match play to each other. Great start.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 30/09/25	Year 10 Girls	Ramsey School	Alec Won 5-4	Maisey Cooper, Isla Barrett, Olivia Evans, Maisie Baker, Scarlett Cook, Isabelle Reeve, Isabelle McNamara and Willow Bambridge Player of the match: Olivia Evans

Match Report: There was some lovely netball being played. However at times the play became rushed, therefore losing possession of the ball. When we were calm in possession it went to goal. Fantastic captaincy by Olivia really led from the top.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 02/10/25	Under 16 Girls – District Rally	Notley High School and Tabor Academy	Alec lost both games	Lola Bell, Poppy Wark, Izzy Leamey, Emma Collier, Abi Robbins, Holly Ashley and Aamane Akinsanya Player of the match: Abi Robbins

Match Report: Unfortunately we were not at our best on this occasion. Bring on the next rally.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 08/10/25	Year 11 Girls	Honywood School	Alec Won 19-10	Lola Bell, Poppy Wark, Izzy Leamey, Lily Heighes, Abi Robbins, Holly Ashley and Aamane Akinsanya Player of the match: Lily Heighes

Match Report: Lovely match against Honeywood. The team showed some great, dynamic play throughout the court. Amazing shooting and fantastic interceptions gaining possession. Great game, ladies!

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 08/10/25	Year 9 Girls	Honywood School	Alec Lost 29-4	Maisie Height, Scarlett Dufosee, Mia Rapnikaite Jessica Smith, Megan Alexander (Year 8), Mollie Thurley, Olivia Smith (Year 8), Ysabella Diuco Player of the match: Scarlett Dufosee

Match Report: A great effort from everyone. Even though we struggled against our opponent the girls did not give up. They were improving each quarter. Each girl on the team showed determination and resilience. I am so proud of you all. Well done!

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 06/10/25	Year 10 Girls District Rally	Schools within the district	Alec won against Hedingham and Maltings, lost to Gosfield and Notley.	Isabelle McNamara, Isla Barrett, Isabelle Reeve, Maisey Cooper, Scarlett Cook, Courtney Parsons, Olivia Evans, Maisie Baker and Willow Bambridge Player of the match: Olivia Evans

Match Report: Some amazing, dynamic netball was displayed today. Great effort.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 07/10/25	U16 North-West Essex	Gosfield, Notley High and Felsted	Alec lost all games	Scarlett Cook, Poppy Wark, Chloe Hawkins, Lily Heighes, Emma Collier, Aamanee Akinsanya and Holly Ashley

Match Report: Even though we lost every game, each player was still trying their hardest for their team and smiling whilst doing it. Each player showed perseverance and resilience.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 09/10/25	Y11 Girls District Rally	Lots of schools	Alec beat Forest Hall and Hedingham, drew with Ramsey and lost to Notley, HRS and Honywood.	Isabelle Mitchell, Lola Bell, Poppy Wark, Izzy Leamey, Lily Heighes, Abi Robbins, Aamanee Akinsanya and Holly Ashley Player of the match: Abi Robbins

Match Report: It was amazing to see our courts at Alec filled with lots of schools showing some terrific netball skills and competing hard whilst including players with a range of ability levels. Our team showed determination and progress throughout the event. We came up against some formidable opponents, we kept working hard and in some cases came out on top. Well done, ladies.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Netball 19/11/25	Y9 Girls	Tabor Academy	Alec won 7-4	Maisie Height, Scarlett Dufosee, Mia Rapnikaite, Jessica Smith, Mollie Thurley, Amelia Kilduff, Olivia Smith (Year 8), Megan Alexander (Year 8), Grace Bradford (Year 8) Player of the match: Amelia Kilduff

Match Report: What an amazing team effort. Some lovely movement through the court, some great passing and excellent defending. Well done.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Football 17/11/25	Y10 District League	Honywood	Alec won 2-1	Dylan Heard, Leyland Smith, George Patten, Harry Gladwell, Ronnie Joyce, Dylan Joyce, Stanley Haines, Alfie Jones, George Thomason, Thomas Warner, Ollie Dean, Oliver Phillips, Freddie Day, Boris Sosenkiewicz, Alfie Holroyd and Alfie Richardson Player of the match: Stanley Haines

Match Report: The team were settled with some of the new players fitting into their roles and a debut for Dylan Heard in goal. The game was played with a great attitude and we ran out the winners. Final score was 2-1. Stanley was named man of the match due to his great leadership in the centre of the park and his excellent sportsmanship which the opposition teacher praised him for. Well done, boys.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
Football 12/01/25	Girls' District Tournament	Honywood, Hedingham Blue, Hedingham Yellow, Honywood	1-1 2-0 2-1 1-3	Chloe Smith, Sophie Moore, Enenu Paul, Lola McKee, Olivia Smith, Isabelle Thorogood, Beth Selsby, Sophie Sale, Ella Hooper and Ava Bradley Player of the match: Ava Bradley

Match Report: Started off with a great competitive game against Honywood where we drew 1-1. Then played Hedingham Blues where we won 2-0. Into the semi final against Hedingham Yellows where we won again 2-1. In the final we went 1-0 up very early on but unfortunately lost 3-1.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Result	Squad
District Cross Country 12/11/25	Y7-10	Tabor Academy	Year 7 Boys 4 th Year 7 Girls 3 rd Year 8/9 Boys 7 th Year 8/9 Girls 9 th Year 10/11 Boys 3 rd Year 10/11 Girls 3 rd . Pupils who qualified for the next round: Mason Porter Jacob Coates Isabelle Reeve	Mason Porter, Blake Hughes, Liam Humphris, Henry Thomason, Joshua Coates, Jude Hiscocks, Mason Brown, Holly Lucas-Jones, Aysa Yildirim, Emma-Rose Loft, Harriet Brown, Emily Barter, Sophia Heath, Zack Moore, Harry Murr, Charlie Cranfield, Lewis Heath, Owen Bambridge, Maks Meilutis, Megan Alexander, Darcie Webster, Beth Selsby, Millie Ambrose, Jess Rumbelow, Lola McKee, Jacob Coates, Harrison Clift, Stanley Haines, Dylan Joyce, Jarod Clementson, Isabelle Reeve, Scarlett Cook, Willow Bambridge and Ellie Smith

Match Report: On 12th November, we went to Tabor for the annual District Cross Country event. Some great running as a team led us to 3 bronze medals and three students who now qualify for the next round. Well done all, great effort.

Fixture	Year Group	Opposition	Squad
County Cross Country 04/12/25	Y7-9	Chelmsford Sport and Athletic Centre	Joshua Coates, Liam Humphris, Jensen Deacy, Blake Hughes, Jude Hiscocks, Lotti Cook-Rozee, Sofia Heath, Emily Barter, Holly Lucas-Jones, Harriet Brown, Zach Moore, Lewis Heath, Maks Meilutus, Owen Bambridge, Charlie Cranfield, Sonnie Niall, Megan Alexander, Millie Ambrose, Jess Rumbelow, Mia Stevenson and Ella Hooper

Match Report: On a cold wintery day, the students came out to represent Alec in a 3000m Cross Country Race. They were competing against a variety of schools and some with as many as 60 students in a race. Each participant stood at the start line with butterflies in their stomachs, and determination (maybe worry) on their

faces. They kept the mantra P.M.A (Positive Mental Attitude) on a loop in their head, thinking 'I can and I will' finish this race. The British weather did not let us down...as the Year 8 boys race finished, the rain started to come down quite heavily but did our Alec Hunter students give up? No, they carried on through the rain, hail and mud to either run a race or stand on the sidelines cheering each other on. It was an amazing sight to see! We had some strong finishers and others who were just happy to get across the line. Regardless of which position each of them came in, both myself and Mr Cleevly (honorary PE teacher for the day!) were incredibly impressed by the resilience and perseverance that was shown by each student. We are very very proud of each and every one of them and we believe they should be proud of their own achievements.



District Cross Country

Year 11 Netball Team



County Cross Country

LINE MANAGEMENT FROM SEPTEMBER 2025

Please find below our line management arrangements for students. The first point of contact for enquiries should be your child's tutor and then their Student Support Leader or Head of Year depending on the nature of your query.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Attendance / Wellbeing / Behaviour / Safeguarding				
Form Tutor				
Mrs Johnson/ Mrs Porter (Wed) Student Support Leaders	Mr Cleevely Student Support Leader	Mrs Willing Student Support Leader	Mrs Weaver Student Support Leader	Ms Swindale Student Support Leader
Mr Booth (Assistant Headteacher) - Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead Mrs Harold (Deputy Headteacher) - Deputy Safeguarding Lead				
Learning / Behaviour / Academic Progress / Standards				
Class Teacher				
Head of Curriculum Area *(see below)				
Mr Holland Head of Year 7	Mr Moreno Head of Year 8	Mr Lee Head of Year 9	Mr Spooner Head of Year 10	Miss Jones / Miss McKinnon (Fri) Head of Year 11
Mrs Steward (Associate Assistant Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress		Mr M Doolan (Assistant Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress		Mr Birley (Deputy Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress
Mrs Gillett			SENCO	
Miss Greenway			Home School Attendance Officer	

*** Should you have a subject-related query, for example, regarding homework etc., the first point of contact should be the class teacher. Listed below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area, along with the member of the Leadership Group responsible for each Curriculum Area, to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.**

	Head of Subject/Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English	Mrs Schunmann	Mrs Harold
Mathematics	Mrs Baird	Mrs Harold
Science	Mrs Harding	Mr Birley
Geography	Mrs Hughes	Ms Woolnough
History	Miss Depper	Mrs Harold
Religion, Philosophy & Ethics	Mr David	Ms Woolnough
Technology	Mr Todd	Ms Woolnough
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Peralta Jimenez	Mrs Steward
Vocational Education	Miss Judson	Mr Jones
Computer Science/ICT	Mr Costin	Mr Doolan
Physical Education	Mr Edwards	Mr Booth
Performing Arts	Mrs Green	Mr Birley
Art	Mrs De Kadar	Mrs Harold
Special Educational Needs	Mrs Gillett	Mr Birley
Learning for Life	Mrs Hewes	Mr Booth

Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
									1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					
29	30																											
January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
			1	2	3	4							1							1			1	2	3	4	5	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
														30	31													
May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
																					31							

- = Schooldays / Weekends
 = Bank Holidays
 = School Holidays
 = Non Pupil (INSET) Days
 (There is one further date to be confirmed)

Autumn Term:	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 <i>Half Term 20 October – 31 October</i>	70 days
Spring Term:	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 <i>Half Term 16 February - 20 February</i>	55 days
Summer Term:	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 <i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May</i>	65 days
		190 days

Please note: The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies. You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

Academic Year 2026-2027

September 2026							October 2026							November 2026							December 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
										1	2	3	4							1		1	2	3	4	5	6
	1	2	3	4	5	6	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
28	29	30												30													
January 2027							February 2027							March 2027							April 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	25	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		
May 2027							June 2027							July 2027							August 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
31																					30	31					

<input type="checkbox"/>	= Schooldays / Weekends	<input type="checkbox"/>	= Bank Holidays
<input type="checkbox"/>	= School Holidays	<input type="checkbox"/>	= Non Pupil (INSET) Days (There are two further dates to be confirmed)

Autumn Term:	Thursday 3 September 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026 <i>Half Term 19 October – 30 October</i>	67 days
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2027 – Friday 25 March 2027 <i>Half Term 15 February - 19 February</i>	54 days
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2027 – Friday 23 July 2027 <i>Half Term 31 May – 3 June, and May Bank Holiday - 3 May</i>	69 days
		<u>190 days</u>

Please note: The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies. You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.



THE YARD PROJECTS'

The Youth Holiday Club

10-16 Year Olds

GET READY FOR
2026

**TAKE ON THE 2-DAY CHALLENGE AT THE YARD PROJECT – DESIGN, CONSTRUCT, AND CREATE LIKE A PRO
TWO DAYS. REAL TOOLS. REAL SKILLS. REAL FUN.
(NOT ALL PROJECTS CAN BE TAKEN HOME.)**

The Yard Project gives 10–16 year olds the chance to build, design, and create over a two-day workshop — Every week brings a different project, and you'll need to commit to both days to complete your build.

Important Information

- Tools & materials used safely under supervision
- Keep your workspace tidy at all times
- Arrive by 9:00 AM – projects start 9:30 sharp
- Wear old clothes (it gets messy!)
- Steel-toe boots optional, not required *(check upon booking)*
- Hot & cold drinks available + free breakfast
- Bring your own lunch/snacks (shops nearby)
- New project every week – must attend both days to complete
- Form & payment must be done before attending
- Day runs 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM (with break & lunch)
- **CERTIFICATES ON COMPLETION!**

SCAN ME



SCAN TO MAKE YOUR ONLINE BOOKING

LET'S BUILD
SOMETHING
AWESOME



UPCOMING YARD PROJECTS FOR 2026:

FEBRUARY 2026

APRIL 2026

MAY 2026

JULY 2026

AUGUST 2026

OCTOBER 2026



Before attending The Yard Project, please complete an information form. If you require flexible pick-up or drop-off times, be sure to include this in the form. You can fill it out by clicking the link, scanning our barcode, or picking up a copy from our office. Payment for The Yard Project can be made by card or cash.

CONTACT US



01206 416977



info@changeutures.co.uk



<https://bookthatin.com/BookingWidget?id=15131#>



Futures Changing LTF, Unit 12 Grange Way Business Park, Grange Way, CO2 8HF

 **FUTURES
CHANGING**



About the scheme

The NHS Healthy Start scheme helps young families and those who are pregnant to access healthy food, milk and vitamins.

The scheme is available in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

People may be eligible if they have responsibility for at least one child under the age of four or are more than 10 weeks pregnant. Eligibility also depends on the benefit the person receives and what their income is.

People apply for the scheme online and get a prepaid card, which they can use to buy healthy food and milk. They can also get free Healthy Start vitamins.

The prepaid card can be used in most places that sell eligible healthy food and milk items and accept Mastercard®. The card is topped up every four weeks with their payments.

Once on the scheme, people will get:

- £4.25 each week of their pregnancy (from the 10th week of pregnancy)
- £8.50 each week for children from birth to one year old
- £4.25 each week for children between one and four years old

The payments will stop on the child's 4th birthday or if they no longer receive the qualifying benefits.

If you're pregnant or have children under the age of four, you could get help to buy food and milk.

Apply online for NHS Healthy Start.



www.healthystart.nhs.uk
@NHSHealthyStart

