20th November 2026

The Hayling College

THE HAYLING COLLEGE

Happy, Healthy, High Performing

Newsletter

You Said, We Did! – Your Voice Matters at The Hayling College

Listening to our pupils, parents and carers, celebrating what is going well and working together to make our college even better #ProudlyHayling

Across the country, there is growing concern about the happiness and wellbeing of young people. Recent research published by The Children's Society in September 2026 revealed that 15-year-olds in the UK have the lowest average life satisfaction among the 29 European countries included in its analysis, with almost one in five (18%) reporting low life satisfaction.

This concern is also reflected in national education research. The Department for Education's Pupil Experiences in School report found that, in May 2025, just 59% of secondary school pupils in Years 7 to 11 reported enjoying school most or every day during the previous two weeks.
These findings remind us just how important it is for schools to create an environment where young people feel happy, safe, supported and that they belong.

Against this concerning national picture, we are encouraged that feedback from our parents and carers paints a more positive picture of life at The Hayling College. Our most recent parent survey found that 74% agreed their child is happy at school. Although this is not a direct comparison with the national pupil survey, it is a positive indication of how our families view their children's experiences.

Our parent survey also highlighted further strengths. Of those who responded to each question:
89% agreed that their child can take part in clubs and activities at the college.
84% agreed that their child feels safe at school.
74% agreed that their child is happy at school.

Our pupil surveys have also highlighted positive relationships with staff, opportunities to take responsibility, mutual respect and the clubs, activities and wider experiences that enrich school life.
These are encouraging messages and give us much to celebrate. However, we also recognise that our ambition must be for every pupil, not just the majority, to feel happy, safe, supported and proud to belong to The Hayling College.

20th November 2026

You Said, We Did – Turning Feedback into Action

Over recent years, we have regularly sought feedback through pupil surveys, pupil voice activities, discussions, parent and carer surveys and Ofsted Parent View. We are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to share their experiences, and we want to demonstrate that their feedback really does make a difference.

Both pupils and parents have been clear about areas where they would like to see further improvement. These include greater consistency in behaviour, calm and purposeful classrooms, feeling safe around school, tackling bullying effectively and ensuring that concerns are listened to and addressed.

Parents and carers have also highlighted the importance of clear communication about their children's learning and progress, while pupils have emphasised the need for trusted adults, strong pastoral support, recognition of achievements and opportunities to have a meaningful say in school life.
We know that listening is only the first step. What matters most is what we do in response and whether pupils and families can see and feel those improvements.

Sharing Our Progress
Our end-of-term assemblies this December will focus on the theme "You Said, We Did!", providing an opportunity to celebrate what is going well, acknowledge where further improvements are needed and share the actions we are taking.

During these assemblies, our Pupil Progress Leaders (PPLs) will report back on feedback received from parents and carers, individual year groups and faculties. They will highlight improvements already made and explain the work continuing across areas such as behaviour, safety, communication, pastoral support and opportunities beyond the classroom.

Miss Cox will also explain how pupils can get involved in our Student Council meeting before Christmas, giving them an opportunity to share ideas, represent their peers and play an active role in shaping the future of The Hayling College.

Your Voice Matters
At a time when national research raises important questions about young people's happiness and wellbeing, we are determined to ensure that The Hayling College continues to be a place where pupils feel supported, listened to and able to thrive.

We are encouraged by the positive feedback we receive, but we are not complacent. We recognise that there is more to do, and our ambition is for every pupil to have a positive experience of school, every day. Pupil and parent voice must be an ongoing conversation, not simply something we ask for once a year. We will continue listening, acting on feedback and sharing the difference it is making.

Thank you to all our pupils, parents and carers for their honesty, support and constructive feedback. Your views are helping us celebrate our strengths, challenge ourselves to improve and build an even stronger school community.

You Said. We Listened. We Did. And together, we will keep making The Hayling College an even better place to learn and belong.

Mr Reah

We've Had a Shout-Out from the Young Green Briton Challenge!



We were thrilled to see The Hayling College featured on the Young Green Briton Challenge LinkedIn page, recognising the creativity and innovation demonstrated by our students during a recent Design Workshop.

As part of the challenge, students were tasked with developing eco-friendly beauty products. One group went above and beyond by turning their ideas into reality, sourcing ingredients from the school canteen and Food Technology department to create working prototypes in less than an hour.

The post praised our students' impressive creativity, teamwork, problem-solving and resourcefulness, showcasing the skills that are developed through engaging, real-world learning experiences.

To view the Young Green Briton Challenge's recognition of our students' work, visit their LinkedIn post: Young Green Briton Challenge LinkedIn Post.

Year 7 Netball – Another Fantastic Effort!

Our Year 7 netball team continued their strong start to the season with another impressive performance this week, earning a hard-fought draw against Park Community School.

The team showed great determination, teamwork and progress on court, building on the skills and confidence they have developed over recent weeks. A special congratulations goes to Flynn, who was voted Players' Player by their teammates in recognition of an excellent performance.

We are incredibly proud of the commitment and dedication shown by the team throughout the season so far and look forward to seeing them in action again in next week's matches.

Well done, Team Hayling!

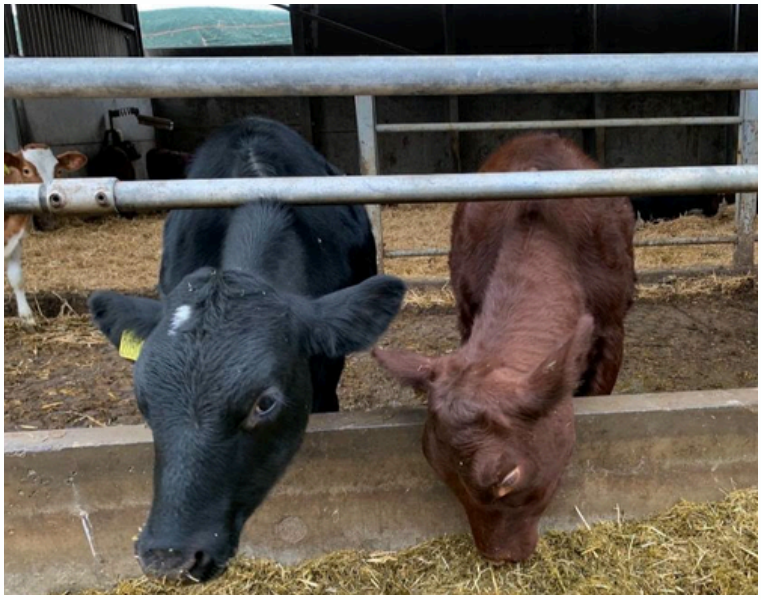


Forest School Adventures!

Our students enjoyed a fantastic day at Forest School, making the most of the windy weather by flying colourful kites high into the sky.

After an active morning outdoors, everyone gathered around the campfire to prepare and cook their own pasta lunch, developing practical outdoor skills while enjoying a well-earned meal.
The day also included a scenic walk to meet some of the local farm animals, with friendly cows and calves proving a particular highlight.

It was a wonderful day filled with fresh air, hands-on learning, new experiences and plenty of smiles. Opportunities like these help students build confidence, independence and valuable life skills while enjoying the great outdoors.









Year 11 Careers and Next Steps

As part of their ongoing careers programme, our Year 11 students recently took part in an informative tutor session featuring a virtual presentation from Sparsholt College.
Students learned about the wide range of courses available, explored the college's excellent facilities and gained valuable insight into the application process. The session provided an excellent opportunity to consider the different education and career pathways available after Year 11 and to start planning for the future.
We would like to thank Sparsholt College for taking the time to speak with our students and help them explore the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. Preparing students for their next steps is an important part of their journey, and sessions like these help them make informed decisions about their future.



Disney's Frozen Jr. Comes to The Hayling College!





The magic of Arendelle is coming to The Hayling College as our talented students bring Disney's Frozen Jr. to the stage!
After weeks of rehearsals and hard work, our cast and crew are ready to share this much-loved story, packed with memorable songs, friendship and Disney magic.
Performance Dates

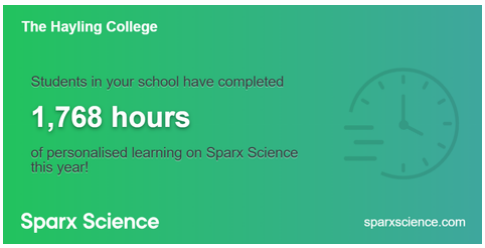
- Thursday 10 December, 7.00pm
- Friday 11 December, 7.00pm
- Saturday 12 December, 2.00pm & 7.00pm

Tickets

- Adults: £10
- Children under 5: £5

Tickets are available from Reception, via SCOPAY, or on the door (subject to availability).
We hope you'll join us to support our talented performers and enjoy this magical production!

Sparx Science Success





Students at The Hayling College have made an outstanding start to the year with their Sparx Science learning. So far, students have answered an incredible 223,248 science questions correctly and have completed 1,768 hours of personalised learning through the platform.

These impressive figures reflect the dedication, hard work and resilience shown by our students both in and out of the classroom.

Sparx Science helps students build their knowledge and confidence through tailored learning activities, and it is fantastic to see so many students engaging positively with their studies. We are extremely proud of their commitment and look forward to seeing these achievements continue to grow throughout the year.

Is My Child Too Ill for School?

As we move through the colder months, coughs, colds and other seasonal illnesses become more common. We understand that it can sometimes be difficult to decide whether your child is well enough to attend school, which is why the NHS has produced helpful guidance for parents and carers.

In many cases, children can continue attending school with minor illnesses such as a cough, cold, runny nose or sore throat, provided they are otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. The guidance also explains when children should remain at home, including if they have a fever, sickness or diarrhoea, or certain infectious illnesses that require a period away from school.

The NHS guidance also highlights the importance of emotional wellbeing. Feelings of worry or anxiety can sometimes cause physical symptoms such as headaches or tummy aches. If your child is finding school attendance difficult due to anxiety or emotional wellbeing concerns, please get in touch so we can work together to provide support.

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please remember to notify the College on the first day of absence and provide a reason for their absence. We encourage all families to read and save the NHS poster,"Is My Child Too Ill for School?", as a useful reference throughout the year.
as a useful reference throughout the year. Further information can be found on the NHS website by searching "Is my child too ill for school?" or by visiting NHS. [https://l....IW0BKmZyW0]

At The Hayling College, we want all of our young people to be healthy, happy and ready to learn. Following NHS guidance helps us maintain strong attendance while protecting the health and wellbeing of our whole school community.

Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)? YES Keep them off school until it goes away. NO Follow the guidance below.

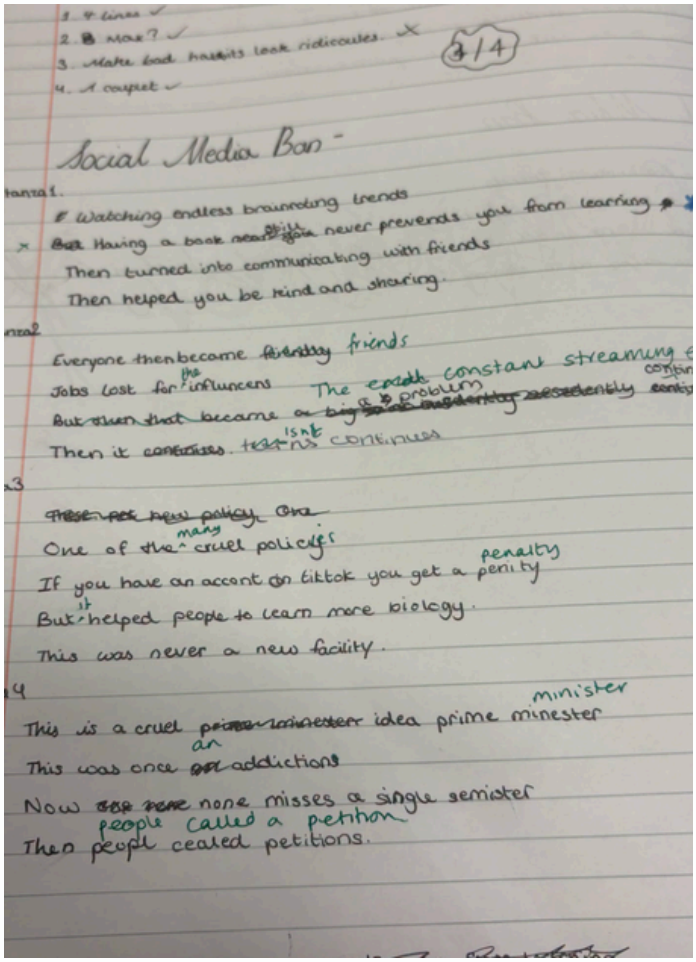
Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

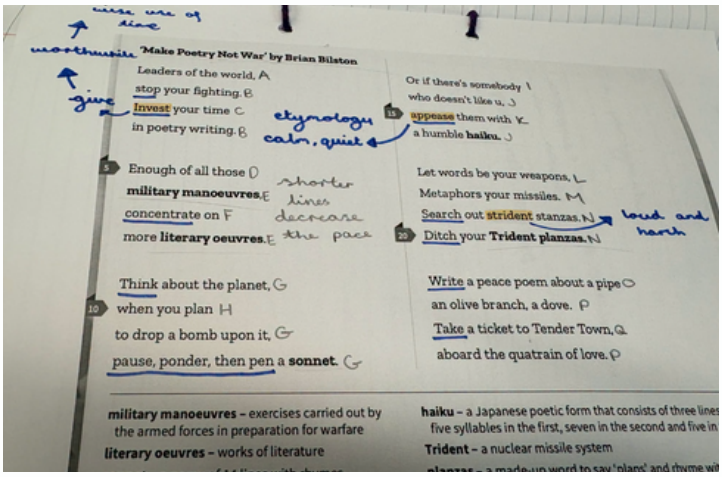
Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	**Cold sores** Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	**Impetigo** They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	**Ear infection** If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	**Conjunctivitis** Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	**Ringworm** See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	**Measles** They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	**Scarlet fever** They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	**Vomiting & diarrhoea** Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	**Chickenpox** Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

Big Voices, Bold Choices!





Inspired by Brian Bilston's poem Make Poetry Not War, Year 8 students have been exploring the power of protest poetry and using their voices to speak about issues that matter to them.

Taking on a challenging poetic structure, students have written poems using five quatrains, regular rhyme schemes and rhyming couplets, while using hyperbole to emphasise the importance of their chosen topics. From climate change to the cost-of-living crisis, students have discovered how poetic techniques can strengthen their message and make their writing more impactful.

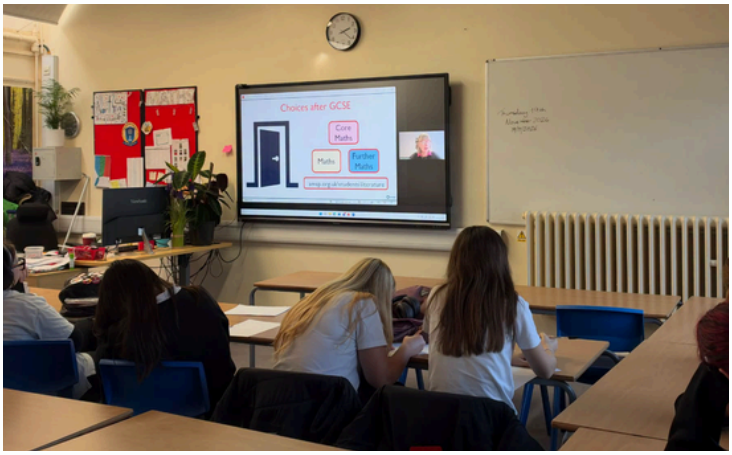
These first drafts demonstrate creativity, passion and the growing confidence of our young writers as they learn that structure can enhance, rather than limit, self-expression.

Maths Week England: Inspiring Future Careers

As part of Maths Week England, our Year 11 High Prior Attaining (HPA) girls took part in the Advanced Maths Support Programme (AMSP) Which Career? live panel event.

Students heard from professionals working in a range of industries, learning about their career journeys, how they use mathematical thinking in their everyday roles, and the benefits of continuing with maths beyond GCSE. The session provided valuable insight into the wide variety of opportunities that studying maths can open up.

We are committed to encouraging more young women to explore STEM and quantitative careers, and events like this help students see the exciting possibilities available to them in the future. Thank you to the AMSP team and guest speakers for an inspiring and informative session.



A Royal Visit to The Hayling College

The Hayling College was honoured to welcome members of the Irish Guards Band for a truly unforgettable day of music, inspiration and performance.
Taking time away from their prestigious duties at Buckingham Palace and the world-famous Changing of the Guard, the musicians visited the college to lead a workshop and concert for our students. Throughout the session, students were captivated by the incredible talent, professionalism and passion displayed by the band members, while also gaining a fascinating insight into life as a military musician.
One of the highlights of the afternoon was a special performance by the string quartet, who delighted students with a rendition of Do You Want to Build a Snowman? from our forthcoming production of Frozen Jr. The performance was met with huge enthusiasm and provided a wonderful connection between the visiting musicians and our own performing arts students.
Opportunities such as this are incredibly rare and provide students with experiences that extend far beyond the classroom. Not only did our young people enjoy exceptional live music, but they were also able to hear first-hand about the dedication, discipline and opportunities that come with pursuing a career in music.
We are enormously grateful to the Irish Guards for giving their time so generously and for inspiring our students with such a memorable visit. To make the day even more special, we have since been invited to Buckingham Palace to watch the band perform, an opportunity we are incredibly excited about.
It was a truly remarkable occasion and one that will be remembered by students and staff for many years to come.



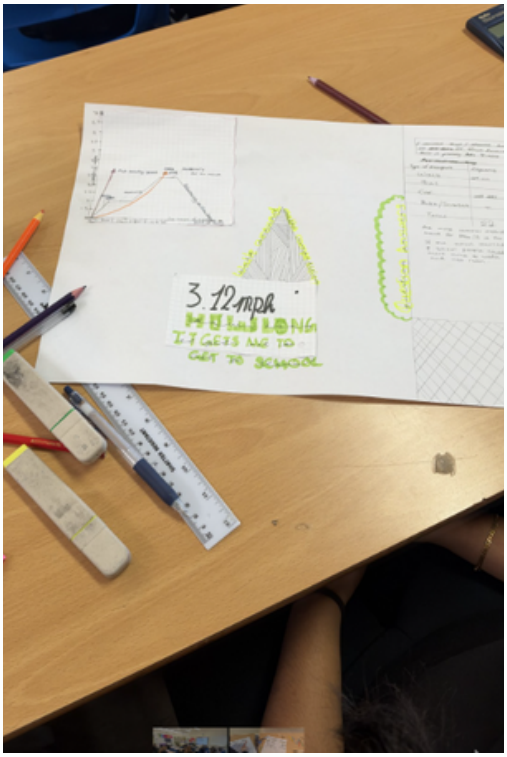




Next Week

🗣️ Student Voice & Feedback Assemblies
All year groups will take part throughout the week.
🚦 Road Safety Sessions
25 Nov: Year 7
26 Nov: Year 9
27 Nov: Year 8
🎄 Christmas Market & Flanders Museum
26-27 November
👥 Parent Surgery
25 November





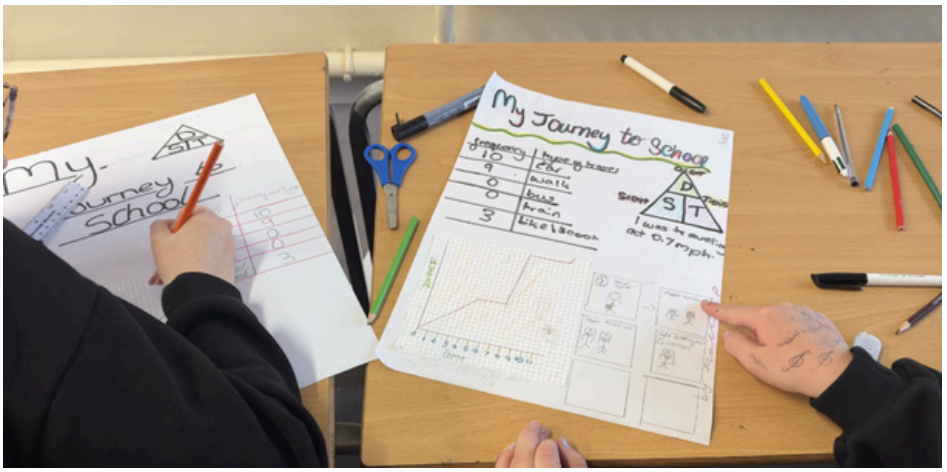
Maths in Motion Poster Competition

As part of our Maths Week England celebrations, students in Years 7 to 10 have been taking part in our second competition, themed "Maths on the Move." Students have been exploring the maths involved in their everyday journeys to school, creating imaginative and informative posters that showcase mathematical concepts in real-life situations.

Their entries include distance-time graphs, calculations involving speed, distance and time, averages, and analyses of different modes of transport. Many students have also used creative storyboards to bring their journeys to life. We have been very impressed by the effort and enthusiasm shown, and all entries will be judged on Monday. Good luck to everyone who has taken part!

Don't Forget Competition #1!

There is still time to enter our first Maths Week competition. We are looking for photographs of lift/elevator capacity signs spotted while out and about, highlighting another excellent example of "Maths on the Move" in everyday life. Entries can be submitted via Google Classroom. We look forward to seeing your discoveries!



More Postcards Heading Home!

Another batch of Good Work Postcards is making its way to families across The Hayling College.
These postcards celebrate students who consistently demonstrate excellent effort, positive attitudes, resilience and achievement in school. Whether they have made great progress, shown kindness towards others, risen to a challenge, or simply given their very best, we want to recognise and celebrate their success.
Keep an eye on your letterbox - there may be a special postcard arriving soon!
A huge congratulations to all of our students whose hard work and commitment continue to make us proud every day.

