



Happy, Healthy, High Performing

17th October 2025

Dear Hayling College Community,

As we approach the end of our first half-term, I am delighted to share the remarkable progress and achievements that have defined our recent weeks at The Hayling College.

The past month has been full of academic excellence, pastoral support, and community engagement. Our Year 11 pupils have demonstrated exceptional commitment, with impressive participation in after-school revision sessions and a superb response to the upcoming mock examinations starting next week. Their dedication is truly commendable, particularly as they prepare for critical academic milestones. The Year 11 dancers have also completed their first Dance NEA, showcasing creativity and dedication. Well done to all concerned!

Our recent Open Events for Year 6 and Parents' Evening for Year 11 pupils have been particularly successful, generating overwhelmingly positive feedback from our parents. The engagement during these events and our Year 6 daily open events has been exceptional, reflecting the trust and confidence the vast majority of our community places in our educational approach.

We've celebrated several important cultural and community initiatives this month. National Poetry Day brought creativity to the forefront, while our House Apple picking competition not only fostered team spirit but also supported our local community by donating produce to the local pantry. Our commitment to holistic education was further demonstrated through the completion of Walktober and our Black History Month commemorations and assemblies.

The start of the month saw us introducing our new catering company to the whole school with a free lunch event, following on from our free daily breakfasts, which was warmly received by our pupils. We've also launched an exciting new Handball Club, continuing to expand our extracurricular offerings and providing more opportunities for pupil engagement.

Our recent external quality review highlighted several areas of significant strength. As part of the process, our values-driven culture was recognised, noting how our staff values amongst the support team of Aim High, Shared Purpose, Keep Improving, and See the Bigger Picture were actively lived by staff at all levels. Leadership was praised for adopting a constructive, reflective approach that promotes trust and professional growth.



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As part of our Local Authority annual review process this month, our Academic achievements were picked out to be particularly noteworthy. Our GCSE outcomes for 2025 show a remarkable 16% increase in pupils achieving grades 5+ in English and maths, with our Attainment 8 score also rising now matching national benchmarks. Attendance has also improved, with an overall rise of 2% and our SEN pupil attendance exceeding the national average.

The review team noted that our new Year 7 adapted curriculum is already making a positive difference. The Lexia reading programme and nurture group approach are showing promising results in building pupil confidence and engagement. Extracurricular opportunities were observed to be expanding, from breakfast clubs to museum visits, ensuring every pupil has the chance to thrive.

Attendance remains a key focus, with Years 8 and 9 leading the way in consistency and commitment. We're particularly proud that attendance has improved across all pupil groups, with Free School Meals (FSM) and Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupils showing the most significant gains.

Recent trips have enriched our pupils' experiences, including visits to the Natural History Museum, Chichester Festival Theatre, and a football competition in Portsmouth. Our Language Nut Competition continues to go from strength to strength, showcasing our pupils' linguistic talents.

I'm pleased to note the superb response to our new mobile phone policy, which demonstrates our pupils' understanding and cooperation with school guidelines.

Important Notice: Please be aware that we have an INSET day scheduled for Friday, 24.10.25.

As we celebrate our Gold Star Learners and continue to push the boundaries of educational excellence, I am immensely proud of our entire Hayling College community – pupils, staff, and parents alike.

Martyn Reah Headteacher



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Next Week's Diary Dates

Monday 20th October – International Stammering Awareness Day

– Start of Year 11 Mocks

Friday 24th – Inset Day

School dates for 2025 / 2026 have been published and can be found at

<https://hayling.hants.sch.uk/parents-carers/key-dates/>

Meet our Staff

We are continuing the series of 'Meet the Staff' entries in the weekly Bulletin, so that the wider school community can get to hear of our fantastic team members at Hayling College.

Please may I introduce you to Mrs Long, Head of Performing Arts.

'Hello, my name is Mrs Long, and I'm really excited to be joining the school community this term as a Head of Performing Arts.

I have been teaching my specialism (Drama) for over ten years—alongside being an examiner for our GCSE exam board, Eduqas.

My passion for the Performing Arts has allowed me to previously direct shows you might recognise, for example: 'Peter Pan', 'The Jungle Book', and 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. And I am very excited to announce The Hayling College's 2026

Musical, 'Sister Act Junior'. I have previously run a specialist Musical Theatre Course, so I am excited to utilise my skills and knowledge for the first time at Hayling. Not to mention, many of my past students are currently performing or touring on West End stages after successfully auditioning to drama school, so I plan to invite them in!

I'm passionate about Drama, not only academically, but because of what it can provide socially. What a joy and wonder it is to witness a student grow into themselves from the



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skills they learn along the way in my studio. Not every student needs to dream of the West End to experience a happy, healthy, and high-performing drama curriculum.

This term, I'll be working with students on a range of exciting social issues, from an Anti-Bullying scheme in Year 8, to Year 10 miniature performances on the political practitioner Bertolt Brecht, to enable devising and Text skills at GCSE level. Ultimately, my aim is to build students' confidence, stretch their theatrical ability, and encourage them to develop their own self-confidence.

In order to do this, students can additionally come along to the Drama Club 'Spotlight' on a Monday or Friday after school, 'Technical Theatre Club' on a Monday lunch time, Or 'Musical Theatre Group', on a Tuesday lunch!

I'm really looking forward to getting to know the students, working alongside my colleagues, and

meeting families in the school community. Thank you for the warm welcome—I'm delighted to be here and can't wait to get started.

We also have exciting news, our two drama studios and performance hall have now been rigged with stage lights. These lights have kindly been gifted and fitted by 'Unique Events', now students on the GCSE drama courses can enjoy the full effects of performing under lights, and technical candidates can be marked live in the space!



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Get Britain Reading campaign!



We would like to share with you information on a campaign launched by The Sunday Times to support Get Britain Reading.

Data shows that people of all ages now read social media posts more often than books.

One in eight children aged five to 18 surveyed by the National Literacy Trust do not have a book of their own. Secondary school heads say many 11-year-olds arrive in Year 7 still in the

early stages of learning to read. The problem affects up to 150,000 children a year in England.

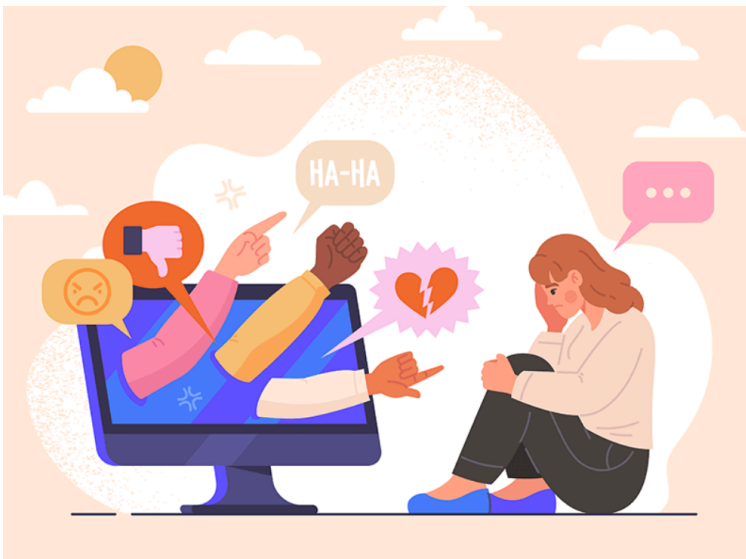
Please check out the link below, where you can make your own pledge to read more, which then unlocks a series packed with ideas, book recommendations, and reading tips.

[Get Britain reading signup](#)



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Anti-Bullying - Cyber-bullying



This week in our Anti-Bullying session, we look at Cyber-bullying and the effects it has on our children.

Cyberbullying can have serious and lasting effects on children and teens.

Being targeted online can lead to feelings of isolation, anxiety, and depression, and may impact a child's confidence and academic performance.

Because digital communication is constant, victims often feel like there's no escape, which can intensify emotional distress. Parents may notice changes in behavior—such as

withdrawal, irritability, or reluctance to use devices. Open conversations about online experiences, along with close monitoring of digital activity, can help protect children and support their well-being.

Please see some slides that you may find useful.

 Anti-Bullying - Cyberbullying



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Y7-9 Students Thrive at Goodwood Forest School!

Students from Years 7, 8, and 9 at The Hayling College recently enjoyed an enriching and exciting experience at the Forest School located on the beautiful Goodwood Estate. This unique outdoor learning opportunity provided pupils with a fantastic chance to step away from the traditional classroom and immerse themselves in nature, fostering personal growth and practical skills.

Exploring Nature's Classroom

The day was a huge success, with students embracing the natural environment of the Goodwood Estate. Guided by experienced instructors, the pupils spent time exploring nature, observing local flora and fauna, and learning about the importance of ecological awareness and conservation. It was an excellent chance for the students to reconnect with the outdoors and appreciate the rich biodiversity of the estate.

Bushcraft Skills

A highlight for many was the introduction to bushcraft skills. Pupils were taught various practical techniques, which included safe tool use, shelter building, and fire lighting. These hands-on activities not only developed their coordination and problem-solving abilities but also boosted their confidence and teamwork as they worked together to achieve common

goals. Learning to manage and respect the resources of the forest was a core lesson of the day.

Fire and Feast!

The perfect culmination of their hard work was the chance to put their fire-lighting skills to use! The students gathered around a safe, open fire to enjoy a well-deserved treat: toasting food. This simple yet deeply satisfying activity provided a memorable moment of camaraderie and reflection on the day's achievements. There was a buzz of excitement and happiness as pupils shared stories and laughter around the crackling flames.

The trip to the Goodwood Forest School was a truly positive and valuable experience for all the Hayling College students involved. It successfully combined adventure, education, and essential



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life skills, leaving the students with great memories and a renewed appreciation for the natural world.

Please see a few photos from our amazing day!





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🌟 Upcoming Events Calendar 🌟

🏠 House Assemblies – This Week

Get ready for an inspiring week! Our amazing **House Leaders** will be leading the House assemblies, bringing students together for team spirit, celebration, and fun challenges.

🎨 Whole School Clubs – Ongoing

Don't forget to check out the **extra-curricular clubs list**! There's something for everyone—why not try something new this term?

📅 Inset Day – Friday 24th

A quick reminder that **Friday 24th is an Inset Day**, so school will be **closed to students**. We look forward to seeing everyone back after the long weekend, refreshed and ready to go!