

End of Year Newsletter 2023-24



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

End of year updates

Dear #teamabbey Families,

We hope this letter finds you well and ready for the long summer break ahead. We also wanted to write to you with a number of changes in school that some of you may have heard about already.

I hope you feel that your child has settled well into their new class and to those of you who are brand new families to Abbey School, can we say a huge welcome. We understand the anxiety that you feel as families when changes happen in school particularly when your child is moving into a different class or department. We try as much as possible to make this a smooth process in the hope that it alleviates your worries over the summer break.

We hope to see as many of you as possible over the new academic year at the many events that we have in school. Please do keep an eye on the parents facebook page "Abbey School Parents and Carers Engaging Together" as so much informal information is shared between families on there.

As always, if you do need to speak to a member of staff please do not hesitate to contact us via seesaw, email or telephone. The contact details have been shared with you.

We do hope you have a wonderful Summer break when it arrives and look forward to seeing your child back on Wednesday 4th September 202.

Yours Sincerely

Mr W Askham
Head of School

Mrs L Windle
Executive Headteacher

Staffing Updates

Maxine Bolsover

This past few weeks we have been celebrating the retirement of our beloved member of staff Maxine Bolsover. Maxine will be known to many of you as a significant support at the most challenging part of you or your child's journey. She has made a huge impact on so many children who have moved through school in her 34 years working at our school, often this impact has been immeasurable for us as a school and that specific child or family. From the bottom of our hearts we wanted to say a huge thankyou to Maxine from everyone over the past 34 years and wish her a very long and restful retirement.

Ruth Lockwood

We are also saying goodbye to Ruth Lockwood our HLTA for performing Arts. Ruth has delivered performing arts to pupils and created a school choir that is thriving. Ruth is leaving us to pursue her career in secondary education and we wish her all the best and thank her for her contribution to #teamabbey

General School Updates

Website

During this academic year we have been planning and preparing a new website. This will be available from the beginning of September can be found on www.abbeyschool.org We are hoping the website will be much easier to navigate for you and has up to date information on there that you are able to access.

Uniform Expectations for 2024 25

We have high expectations that children are dressed in the correct uniform each day- information on our uniform code of conduct is on the school website. Could I respectfully remind you that we do not allow jewellery in school other than a watch, simple ring and stud earrings. We will ask your child to remove any excessive jewellery and request that you pick this up.

Mobile Phones and other electronic devices.

We understand that many of our children use an electronic device on the school bus to keep them occupied. However, these should be done respectfully and quietly in line with the requests of the transport staff. Your child should be handing in any devices to their staff team to ensure the devices are kept securely throughout the day. Any devices that are used inappropriately on the school site will be removed by staff and you will need to pick these up yourself.

Attendance

Codes for pupil attendance are changing in September for all schools so please do support us in sending your child into school each day. We are not permitted to authorise holidays in term time so please be mindful when booking family breaks. We do expect medical evidence to be provided if your child has had an appointment during the school day.

Contacting Staff

Contacting staff

We encourage our staff to have a good work / life balance at all times. This means that they will not return your call/ email/ seesaw message after working hours so please be aware of that. Could I also request that you send in messages that are routed in kindness rather than anger. Nobody in our school community is perfect and we understand how frustrating it can be when your child is upset however a problem or worry is best sorted with a positive enquiry rather than a shout so please be kind at moments of stress and anxiety. The Schools Yellow pages over the next few sections of this newsletter

See Saw

we are moving to See Saw in the new academic year instead of having a class X (Formally Twitter) Page. This is where you will see posts that would have normally have been displayed on twitter. We will still have the @abbey learning X account for general updates. Please see the information about setting your See Saw Account if you have not already done so.



Contacting your class Team

Please be aware that when contacting the class teacher they will endeavour to **return your email SeeSaw or Telephone Message within 24 Hours.**

If you need to speak with someone before the 24 hour window please ring school reception who can direct your call accordingly. Tel – **01709 740074**

Attendance: Please ensure that you ring school to report your child's absence and follow the appropriate option for attendance before 9:00am. Tel - **01709 740074**

Safeguarding: The schools phone system has an option to be put straight through to the safeguarding team. Tel – **01709 740074**

Yellow Page of Contacts

Lower School: Mrs R Yorke

Lower Class and Teacher		E Mail Contact
Class L1	Miss Day	pday@nexusmat.org
Class L2	Miss James	djames@nexusmat.org
Class L3	Mr Pitchford	jpitchford@nexusmat.org
Class L4	Mr Flanagan	MFlanagan1@nexusmat.org
Class L5	Miss Hall	khall@nexusmat.org
Class L6	Miss Levitt	jlevitt@nexusmat.org

Upper School: Leader Ms J Newbolt

Upper Class and Teacher		E Mail Contact
Class U1	Miss Lazenby	Clazenby@nexusmat.org
Class U2	Mr Smith	dsmith2@nexusmat.org
Class U3	Mr Horstead	nhorstead@nexusmat.org
Class U4	Miss Drew	hdrew2@nexusmat.org
Class U5	Mrs Brown	vwarrington@nexusmat.org
Class U6	Mr Newbolt	snewbolt@nexusmat.org
Class U7	Miss Tapp	jtapp@nexusmat.org

WAVEE Post 16: Ms J Newbolt

WAVEE Class Teacher		E Mail Contact
WAVEE 1	Mrs Lewis	dlewis@nexusmat.org
WAVEE 2	Mrs Ross	zross@nexusmat.org
WAVEE 3	Miss Puente	mpunte@nexusmat.org

Abbey@HorizonHub: Leader Miss R Lang

H1 Class	Miss Wilson	hwilson@nexusmat.org
H2 Class	Miss Newall	anewall@nexusmat.org
H3 Class	Mr Warden	kwarden@nexusmat.org
H4 Class	Mrs Binnie / Mrs Proctor	nbinnie@nexusmat.org vproctor@nexusmat.org

If your call is urgent please contact reception who will direct your call accordingly
Contact: 01709 740074

1st Point of Contact Class Teacher

The class teacher will return emails and calls within 24 hours

Please see Contact list for your class teacher contact. Staff will not respond after working hours (5:30pm)

2nd Point of Contact Head of Department

Lower School: Mrs Yorke
Upper School & Post 16 Ms Newbolt
Horizon Hub Miss Lang

ryorke@nexusmat.org
jnewbolt@nexusmat.org
rlang@nexusmat.org

3rd Point of Contact

Head of School: Mr Askham

waskham@nexusmat.org

4th Point of Contact

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Windle

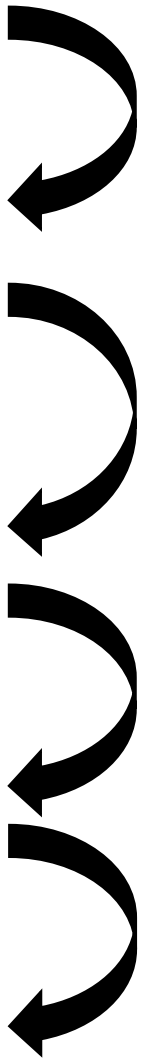
lwindle@nexusmat.org

Other Key Contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms E Shimwell lshimwell@nexusmat.org

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mr T Gee tgee@nexusmat.org

Family Support &
LAC Advocate: Miss K Taylor ktaylor@nexusmat.org



The year ahead at a glance

September 2024						
Mon	Tu	We	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

School Holidays

Inset Days

Bank Holidays

Term / Half Term Dates	Term Starts	1/2 Term Hols Start (off school)	Back to School	Hols Start (off School)	Back to School
Autumn Term	4/9/2024	28/10/2024	4/11/2024	20/12/2024	7/1/2025
Spring	7/1/2025	17/2/2025	24/2/2025	31/3/2025	14/4/2025
Summer	14/4/2025	26/5/2025	2/6/2025	23/7/2025	1/9/2025

Due to unforeseen circumstances the February INSET for the Trust has been changed from the 14th to the 28th

SeeSaw: A Quick Guide

Scenario 1: You are already connected to SeeSaw (used it previously)



Use the [Website](#) or [App](#) to login. Click the 'I am a Family Member' option

If you do not know your password use the Forgot Password link.

If you do not know the email address you used then contact the school to confirm.

Scenario 2: You are new to SeeSaw



Sample's teacher [redacted] has invited you to [redacted]'s journal!

Welcome! SeeSaw gives you a window into your student's learning at school. Your student captures and reflects on their learning during the school day and you receive updates when they share something in their journal.

This invite is intended only for you. Please do not forward this invitation.



You will see an email from **Seesaw** <do-not-reply@seesaw.me> with the title 'You're invited to connect to X's journal on Seesaw!'.

Check your spam or junk folders if you do not see this email. If it still cannot be located then contact the school to confirm the email address to be used.

Click the link at the bottom of the email to connect.

Enter your name and pick a password. Click 'Create Account'. Then click and agree to the Privacy policy

Create Family Account

Already have a family account? [Sign In](#)

 Sign up with Google

or

First Name
Johnny

Last Name
Appleseed

Email Address
[redacted]

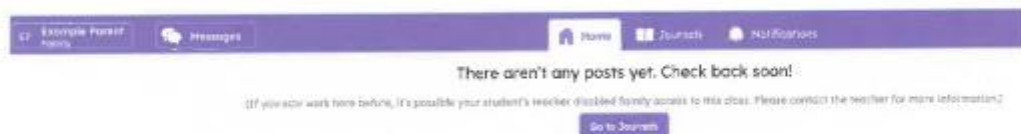
Password
At least 8 characters

Confirm Password
Confirm Password

[Create Account](#)

You are now setup on SeeSaw

For a guide on its features and functions please [click here](#). Use Messages to chat to class teachers, Journals to see your child's work, and Notification to view new messages and updates.



If you have multiple students in school use the top left button to switch between them. If a child is not showing please contact the school.

Transport Information



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Sheffield Transport

5G



ATTENTION!

WE ARE NOW LIVE!

OUR NEW ONLINE SEN TRAVEL SUPPORT APPLICATION



Point your phone camera at the
QR code above or visit the following
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/disability-
mental-health/transport-for-children-
with-special-educational-needs](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/disability-mental-health/transport-for-children-with-special-educational-needs)

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2024

05/07/24



Rotherham Transport

Specialist home to school transport assistance for children and young people with SEND Age 5 - 16 years (statutory school age)

For children who can travel on their own

Children with a special educational need or disability could be entitled to free travel to and from school in South Yorkshire on public transport with a Zoom Zero Travel Pass.

Please see section on the Local Offer under 'Public Transport'.

Although it is the responsibility of the parents/carers to ensure their child attends school, in some cases, the Council can provide assisted support for children & young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) with assisted transport between home and school.

To establish entitlement for eligibility, it is necessary for the Local Authority to undertake a full assessment of the child's individual needs. The child may qualify for assisted support with travel to and from school if they fulfil the following criteria: –

- Are aged up to 16.
- Live in the Rotherham area.
- Have an Education, Health & Care Plan and have physical or medical needs or disabilities which prevent them from travelling independently on public transport
- Have a disability and/or SEND which prevents them to walk even relatively short distances to school, even when accompanied.
- Live over 3 miles from their 'qualifying school'.
- We understand that the needs of each individual child are specific to them. When organising home to school transport the travel planning team will attempt to meet those needs and may require additional information regarding the child to ensure arrangements are appropriate.

In most cases, it will be expected that children will share transport with other passengers where they are allocated space on a vehicle, unless there is a specific requirement for single occupancy. Any assisted transport will be provided for the start and end of the school day.

If organised transport assistance is agreed for your child, the Local Authority can only provide assistance for the usual opening and closing times of the school the child is attending.

Where relevant, you will be asked to upload a copy of the child person's medical report as evidence of any medical or vulnerability conditions. **If your child has an EHCP you do not need to upload additional evidence as the Local Authority are able to access the document.**

You will need to provide the child's height (cm) and weight (kg) so we able to identify any equipment that may be required for the child on transport. Please ensure you have all this information, and any additional information to support your application before beginning the application form

To make an application for transport assistance, please follow the link below.

[External Apply for specialist home to school travel assistance – Instructions \(RMBC\)](#)



Scan to the QR to take you to this page on transport page

Barnsley Transport

◀ School travel for children with special educational, disability or mobility needs (SEND)

If your child has a special educational, disability or mobility need that prevents them walking to school, they may be able to get travel assistance.

Travel assistance may be provided in a number of ways including:

- independent travel training
- personal travel budget
- mileage reimbursement
- school minibus or taxi

For more details, please read section 3 of our [Home to School Travel Assistance Policy](#).

Find out more below about how we decide what help you can get, depending on the age of your child.

If your child doesn't have a special educational, disability or mobility need there are different options available. Please see our [travel to school](#) page.

Under 4 years old



4 to 7 years



8 to 16 years



16 to 25 years



If you live closer than the eligible distance, or don't have an EHCP

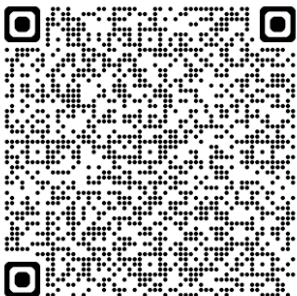


How to apply for travel assistance

You can apply for travel assistance by filling in our application form below.

The deadline for applications for September 2024 is 12 June 2024. Applications received after this date are not guaranteed to be processed for the start of the new academic year.

For pupils placed by the authority after the 12 June please apply as soon as possible. We'll then consider these on a case by case basis under exceptional circumstances.



Scan to the QR to take you to this page on transport page



For more information

Contact us online

See also...

- > Help with travel to school
- > Zoom Zero Fare Pass for travel to school
- > Sustainable school travel
- > Education for children with special educational needs

Doncaster Transport

[Home](#) / [Children, young people & families](#) / [Education Transport](#)

Education Transport

SHARE

The Travel Assistance Service provides travel assistance to and from mainstream schools, special schools, colleges, and to interim tuition services - along with help with board and lodging cost for school residential trips.

Travel Assistance

Depending on the pupil's circumstances, we may be able to provide free travel assistance between home and their educational establishment. This may be done in a number of ways including a place on a minibus or taxi, Independent Travel Training, personal budget payment or in the form of a Zoom Zero Travel Pass.

Further details are contained in the Home to School Travel Assistance Policy available at the link below or please telephone

- 01302 737127/736359/736002

Both free transport, and help with board and lodging costs for school residential trips, are dependant on certain criteria. Visit the pages below for more information:

- [Help with costs for school trips](#)
- [Transport to and from further education colleges](#)
- [Transport to and from school](#)

Urgent Help and Assistance

If you have been forced to relocate due to circumstances beyond your control and need temporary assistance to enable your children to get to school please contact the Travel Assistance Service on 01302 737117/737325/736107 for further advice

Travel assistance to and from schools/colleges for pupils with Special Educational Needs

For information on obtaining travel assistance for pupils with a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan contact the Special Educational Needs Team on:

- Email: sen@doncaster.gov.uk
- Phone: 01302 737210 or 737211


Complaints Procedure

Whilst we make every effort to ensure that we provide high standards of service, if you do have a problem and wish to make a complaint then please put your concerns in writing addressed to Damon Stead, Service Manager, Travel Assistance Service, Civic Office, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3BU. Alternatively please email the Travel Assistance Service at the email address detailed below.

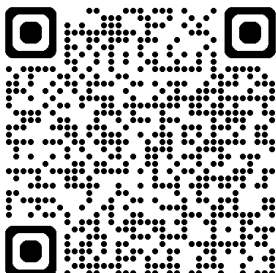
Contact:

- Email: transport@doncaster.gov.uk
- Phone: 01302 737117/737325/736107

Downloads & Resources

 [Home to School Travel Assistance Policy 2022 - 2027](#)
Download (619KB - PDF)

Last updated: 02 January 2024 08:47:43



Scan to the QR to take you to this page on transport page

The little book of
#TeamAbbey
Key Dates

2024-25

All the dates you need for the new
school year ahead. . .
and how you can be part of it!



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve



Our Year Ahead Together

We are delighted to share with you our second "Little Book" of Key dates for 2024-25. The book was well received by our families last year and we wanted to continue with this.

Don't forget, you are also part of the same House as your child and at whole school events we want you to cheer along for your house with your child.

A small disclaimer: Some events may be added to the calendar if more opportunities arise from our community links.

Similarly, we may have to reschedule or cancel events due to extenuating circumstances. We will of course, always update you if this is the case.

We can not wait to see you this year and thank you for your continued support
#teamabbey

Term 11 September – October 2024

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
2 nd & 3 rd September	INSET DAYS No pupils in school	
4 th September	Pupils return to school (normal time)	
5 th September	STEAM Street Jobs Fair	
9 th September	International Literacy day -The Big Write	
12 th September	Flu Vaccination - Main site	
13 th September	YST Cross Country @Abbey Main site	
17 th September	Hesley Woods Team building L6-U3	
18 th September	Hesley Woods Team Building U4-U7	
24 th September	Football League Match	
24 th September	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12:00pm (All Sites)
26 th September	British Food Tasting	Family Cooking Event 4:00-5:00pm (All Sites) Ticketed Event
WC 30 th September	World Space Week	
30 th September	School Photographer - Main Site	
1 st October	Adventure Challenge (Upper School) @ Rother Valley	
3 rd October	Y9 -Y14 Family Event Careers and Options	Families of Parents from Year 9 Post 16 (Main Site 10:00am - 12:00pm)
8 th October	Adventure Challenge Barnsley Horizon Pupils	
10 th October	World Mental Health Day -Pupils can wear Blue if they so wish.	
15 th October	YST Boccia @ St Ann's Leisure Centre (Selected Pupils)	
17 th October	Parents Evening	Parents Eve 4-6pm Appointment options to be sent out via Seesaw
WC 21 st October	Black History Week to celebrate Black History Month - Enrichment Week	
23 rd October	Step into Sport (Selected Classes)	
24 th October	Families into school for Black History Week	Families into school 2:00pm-3:00pm
Friday 25 th October	Pupils Break up for Half Term (Normal Time)	

Term 1.2

October – December 2024

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
4 th November	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
6 th November	YST Netball taster day	
7 th November	School Photographer - Horizon site	
11 th November	Remembrance Assembly	
12 th November	Maths Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)	
13 th November	Anti-Bullying Day (Wear Blue)	
13 th November	English Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)	
15 th November	Children in Need Dress Up Day Girl Power Day	
WC 18 th November	GCSE Mock Examinations (Selected Pupils)	
19 th November	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12pm (All Sites)
19 th November	Football League Match	
WC 25 th November	Winter Wonderland Community Project	
29 th November	INSET Day No Pupils In School	
2 nd December	INSET Day No pupils in School	
4 th December	Christmas Fayre Pupils can wear a Christmas Jumper if they wish	All Sites 1:30-2:30pm
5 th December	Christmas Church Visit Pupils can wear a Christmas jumper if they wish	
11 th December	Lower School Christmas Show	2:30pm Start at St Thomas Community Hall - Ticketed Event
13 th December	Christmas Performance Upper School - St Thomas Community Centre Horizon - at the Horizon Hub	Ticketed Event Upper School and Horizon Christmas Performances 2:00pm Start.
18 th December	Christmas Dinner	
20 th December	Pupils Break up for Christmas 2:00pm	

Term 2.1

January – February 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
6 th January	INSET Day no pupils in school	
WC 13 th January	Exam Walk Throughs (Selected Students)	
16 th January	YST Dance Festival Preparation @ Take 2 Theatre (Selected Students)	
17 th January	Family Coffee Morning	Coffee Morning All Sites (10:00am-12:00)
21 st January	Big Write Day	
24 th January	Holocaust Day Assembly	
29 th January	Chinese New Year	
29 th January	Families into school for Chinese New Year	2:00pm-3:00pm (All Sites)
4 th February	Football League Match	
7 th February	Numeracy Day - Come dressed as a Rockstar for Times Table Rockstar Competition	
11 th February	Functional Skills Maths Examination (Selected Students)	
11 th February	Safer Internet Day	
12 th February	Functional Skills English Exam (Selected Pupils)	
12 th February	YST Dance Festival @ Take 2 In Barnsley (Selected pupils and their families invited)	
14 th February	Valentines Disco	
14 th February	Pupils Break Up for Half Term	

Term 2.2

February – March 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
24 th February	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
24 th February - 7 th March	GCSE/BTEC Mock Examinations	
28 th February	INSET Day No pupils in School	
4 th March	Football League Match	
6 th March	World Book Day - Come dressed as a character from your favourite book	
7 th March	YST Girl Power Day 2	
WC 10 th March	British Science Week	
14 th March	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12:00pm (All Sites)
18 th March	YST Shooting Stars Girls Football Tournament @Millmoor Juniors (Selected Pupils)	
21 st March	Red Nose Day (Donate £1)	
26 th March	Family Easter Egg Hunt	All Invited taking place at Abbey School Main Site 2:00pm-3:00pm
28 th March	Pupils Break Up For Easter	

Term 3.1

April – May 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
14 th April	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
17 th April	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12pm (All Sites)
18 th April	Bank Holiday	
21 st April	Bank Holiday	
22 nd April	Earth Day	Earth Day Community Event 2:00pm-3:00pm
22 nd - 25 th April	Exam Walk thoughts (Selected Pupils)	
29 th April	YST MATP Day	
5 th May	Bank Holiday	
8 th May	VE Day	
8 th May	BTEC Sport Exam (Selected Students)	
9 th May	BTEC Childcare Exam (Selected Students)	
12 th May	GCSE Lit Paper 1	
13 th May	GCSE Biology Paper 1	
13 th May	Football League Match	
15 th May	GCSE Maths Paper 1 Non Calculator	
14 th May	Parents Eve	4-6pm (All Sites) Appointments sent Via Seesaw
16 th May	Heritage Day - Come dressed to represent your Heritage	
19 th May	GCSE Chemistry Paper 1	
20 th May	GCSE Lit Paper 2	
21 st May	YST Upper School Athletics at Herringthorpe Stadium	
22 nd May	GCSE Physics Paper 1	
23 rd May	GCSE English Language Paper 1	
23 rd May	Pupils break up for Half Term (Normal Time)	

Term 3.2

June – July 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
2nd June	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
3rd June	Functional Skills Maths (Selected Pupils)	
4 th June	GCSE Maths Paper 2 Calculator (Selected Pupils)	
5 th June	GCSE English Language Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
6 th June	Eid Party	
9 th June	GCSE Biology Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
10 th June	Functional Skills English (Selected Pupils)	
10 th June	YST Adventure Challenge Primary @ Rother Valley (Selected Pupils)	
11 th June	GCSE Maths Paper 3 Calculator (Selected Pupils)	
13 th June	GCSE Chemistry Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
16 th June	GCSE Physics Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
16 th June	National Sports Week Begins	
17 th June	Whole School Bowling	
18 th June	Inflatables Courage Day	
19 th June	My Personal Best Day	
23 rd June	RSE Day	
24 th June	Nexus MAT sports Day Primary	
25 th June	PRIDE Day (Sponsored Colour Dash)	1:30pm-2:30pm Abbey School Main Site Families invited (Ticketed Event)
27 th June	Year 11 Leavers Date and Prom	
1 st July	Football League Match	
3 rd July	YST Adventure Challenge -Horizon @Rother Valley	
9 th July	Parents Evening and meet the new class teacher Appointment options to be sent	Parents Eve 4-6pm Horizon Oasis and Main Site
14 th July -23 rd July	Transition Weeks Begin - New School Year Begins	
18 th July	YST Sports Day	10:00am-12:00pm Abbey Main Site
23 rd July	Pupils break up for Summer (Normal Time)	



*It takes a village
to raise a child*