



# Newsletter

## WORDS FROM MR BACON, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents & Carers

In what is my final newsletter piece as substantive Headteacher at Watling Academy I wanted to take the opportunity to reflect on the last four years.

Watling Academy began in September 2019 with just one member of staff, me(!), and the process of further recruitment began a month later, the month we held our inaugural Open Evening at Denbigh School. At that point, no one knew the challenge that COVID would play during our first year of opening, on top of the difficulties our main build not being ready posed and us having to begin our journey at Fairfields Primary.

Since then, we have appointed over 130 staff, interviewed nearly 2000 candidates for jobs, increased our student numbers from 180 to 1500, as it will be in September, had a successful 'Outstanding' OFSTED inspection and embarked on a journey of firsts. Examples of these notable 'firsts' have included our first overseas trip to Spain, our first Sports Day, our first work experience week for Year 10, the introduction of our Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, our first musical productions - 'Game of Tiaras' and 'Bugsy', appointment of our first House Captains and House Champions and multiple awards for 'MK Cycling School of the Year'.

Next year we look forward to our first set of GCSE examinations for Year 11 and beyond that the opening of our sixth form provision.

Each year has created another landmark but the success story has been how children from across Milton Keynes and beyond have come together to create a brand-new community in our school on this brand-new development. How, from nothing, the students have created an ethos and culture that highlights our values and aims and showcases the best qualities of humanity and society.

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### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- School opens—Y7 only - Wed 4th Sept
- Biometric fingerprinting—Yr7 only—Wed 4th Sept
- School opens—Yrs8-11- Thu 5th Sept
- Y7 CATS—w/c 9th & 16th Sept
- Y11 Learning Pathways Evening —Thu 12th Sept
- School Photos (Yrs 7, 9 & 11 only) - Tue 17th Sept
- Y7 Learning Pathways Evening—Thu 19th Sept
- Y11 Mocks—w/c 23rd & 30th Sept
- Y10 Learning Pathways Evening—Thu 26th Sept
- Y9 Learning Pathways Evening —Thu 3rd Oct
- School Photo Mop Up (Yrs 7, 9 & 11 only) —Thu 3rd Oct
- Y10 Art Trip—Tue 8th & Wed 9th Oct
- Y9 Enrichment Days — Wed 16th & Thu 17th Oct
- Open Evening —Thu 24th Oct
- End of half term @ 3.15pm Thu 24th Oct
- Inset Day—staff only - Fri 25th Oct



## WORDS FROM MR BACON CONT.

Of course, we are not perfect, and I have always been honest that we are still developing as a school, but I have an immense pride in our students and how they collectively embody our values of respect, responsibility and kindness.

I am looking forward to a new challenge as Education Director for the Trust but will still be at Watling for part of the week and look forward to seeing and hearing about the further achievements of our students.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have been supportive of me during my time as Headteacher – students, parents, staff and Governors. I would like to thank one group particularly, and that is parents and carers of Year 10 students who put their faith in our vision for the school and ability to deliver on it. Without you and your support we would never have got going! Thank you for putting your trust in us.

I wish all the very best to Mrs Fry, who will be taking on the role of Headteacher from September. I know she will be an inspirational, determined and intelligent leader and will take the school from strength to strength, with students at the heart of her decision making.

Finally, I would like to give a special thank you to the following members of staff who are sadly leaving us at the end of this term.

Mrs Clawson, Head of English

Mr Evans, Maths Teacher

Miss Kennedy, Geography Teacher & Turing House Champion

Miss Maley, Maths Teacher

Miss Ombregt, Science Teacher

Mrs Robinson, Lead Science Technician

Mr Williams, Maths Teacher

Mrs Abiola, Computing Supply Teacher

Mr Buck, Catering Manager

Ms Mia, Catering Assistant

We wish them all the very best for the future and are sure they will look back on their time here at Watling with fond memories.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing you back in September.

Ian Bacon, Headteacher



# House System

## HOUSE UPDATES

What an exciting half term it has been for our school community!

Our House fete was a fantastic success, with students enthusiastically participating in a variety of engaging stalls and activities. The event was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and a wonderful sense of camaraderie.

We had eight different stalls at the fete, each offering a unique challenge and plenty of fun. Students enjoyed activities such as:

**Welly Wanging:** Testing their aim and strength by throwing wellies as far as they could.

**Guess the Name of the Teddy Bear:** Putting their creative thinking to the test with this charming game.

**Basketball Shoot Out:** Showcasing their shooting skills in a fast-paced competition.

**Human Fruit Machine:** A hilarious and entertaining twist on the classic slot machine game.

Participants were rewarded with a variety of prizes, from shiny new basketballs to delicious, sweet treats. The fete was not only a fun-filled day but also a tremendous success in fundraising, with over £240 raised for our house charities.

This achievement highlights the generosity and community spirit of our students and their families.

The race for the house with the most house points is more thrilling than ever, with the standings extremely close. The competition is fierce, and it looks like it will be a battle right up until the last minute. Who will come out on top? The suspense will be ended on Friday afternoon when Mr. Gibbs announces the winning house over the school tannoy.

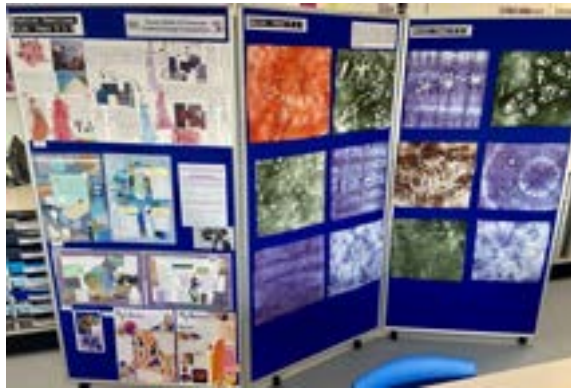
Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to making this half term memorable. Your enthusiasm and support are what make our house system so special.

Miss Kennedy, Mrs Hollingsworth, Mrs Hardie, Miss Palmer and Mr Green

# Fashion Textiles Club

## FASHION TEXTILES CLUB YEAR 8/9

Well done to all the students who attended fashion & textiles club. Throughout the year the students have been busy exploring and developing their design work around the themes 'botanical' and 'underwater'. They have learned many new skills such as flower pounding, batik, dying techniques, fashion illustration and pattern cutting as well as building on their existing creative and technical knowledge. They have all successfully designed and created a garment to complement their string design work. Also, earlier in the year they entered a prestigious national design competition in conjunction with graduate fashion week – I was totally blown away by their design ideas! I am so proud of what they have achieved and showcased; they are all amazing designers!



Miss Naylor

## TRANSITION

### **Transition**

The 1<sup>st</sup> July commenced with our transition week.

After a well-attended transition evening on the Monday, Watling Academy welcomed September's cohort of new year seven students over the next three days.

Students had a chance to experience their first assembly, tour the school, take part in a Reading session in our Library as well as participating in Physical Education, Science and History lessons.

We finished the day with a question-and-answer session and short celebration assembly to recognise where our new students had already exhibited the Watling Academy core values of Respect, Responsibility and Kindness.

Over the course of the day the students had a great time, made themselves familiar with their new surroundings and initial nerves seemed eased. We look forward to welcoming our new year students in September and supporting them through the next step of their educational journey.



Mr Gibbs

# Transition

# MFL: Spelling Bee

## ROUTES INTO LANGUAGES: FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPELLING BEE

### Regional Finals

Eliza G from Rutherford House recently took part in the Stage 4 National Finals for the South of England Routes into Languages Foreign Language Spelling Bee competition. The competition was held on Monday 1st July at the University of Cambridge.

Students had to correctly spell as many words as they could in Spanish using the Spanish alphabet. Reaching this stage is a huge achievement as Eliza was one of the remaining 90 out of over 17,000 students who started the competition.

Nihaal M, also from Rutherford House, took part in Stage 3, the Regional Final for the South of England of the Routes into Languages Foreign Language Translation Bee competition on Monday 3rd June at the University of Bath.

Students had to correctly translate as many of the present tense, immediate future tense and preterite (past) tense sentences as possible in a minute, into Spanish. Reaching this stage is a great achievement in itself as they were part of the last 57 out of the 4,056 students who started the competition in the South. Nihaal did brilliantly well therefore and did herself proud!

Miss O'Dell would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of year 7s. Let's hope to continue this legacy with next years cohort.

Mr Williams wanted to pass on his congratulations to all of year 8-9. The high standard across the year groups is a key factor in pushing students to reach the school and regional finals. As the competition is open to Year 8-9, current year 8 students will have the chance to have another go next year. This will really help you learn key sentences in multiple tenses and be successful in Spanish. Good luck for next year!



Miss O'Dell and Mr Williams

## INTENSIVE DAYS FOR YEAR 7 & YEAR 8 MANDARIN EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME (MEP) STUDENTS

To foster student interest and deepen their understanding of Chinese culture, Year 7 and Year 8 MEP students participated in Mandarin Intensive Days.

Year 8 students delved into the world of Chinese idioms. Working in groups, they brought to life the stories behind idioms like "The Farmer Waiting for a Hare" (守株待兔) and "Drawing a Snake and Adding Feet" (画蛇添足). Students not only practiced their language skills but also gained insights into historical contexts.

In addition to idiom stories, we organised a Chinese singing competition. The students' accurate pronunciation and fluency were impressive, showcasing their dedication and hard work. Another highlight was our thrilling vocabulary competition, which set a solid foundation for the students' studies next year.

With the introduction of China's 144-hour visa-free policy, our students embraced the opportunity to plan virtual trips to various Chinese cities. In groups, they created appealing PowerPoint presentations, outlining their travel plans. The creative ideas were shared with the entire class, sparking high curiosity in exploring different culture.



Building on the success of intensive days, we look forward to the next language and cultural journey with even more exciting activities.

Miss Zhao

# Bugsy Malone

## BUGSY MALONE

This year's whole school production of "Bugsy Malone" was a great success, showcasing the hard work and talent of our students and staff. From engaging performances to the careful work behind the scenes, every aspect contributed to a memorable show.



Our young performers brought the characters of "Bugsy Malone" to life with energy and skill. Each scene was performed with care, and the actors' commitment to their roles was clear.



The lighting design played a key role in setting the mood and highlighting important moments throughout the show. Our talented lighting designers used a variety of techniques to create scenes that drew the audience into the world of 1920s New York.

The costumes for "Bugsy Malone" transported the audience back to the Jazz Age. Our costume designers creating period-appropriate attire that not only looked great but also allowed the performers to move and dance comfortably.

The live band provided an excellent soundtrack for the musical, performing the classic "Bugsy Malone" score with precision, under the guidance of our dedicated music director, adding a lively touch to the production.





## BUGSY MALONE CONT.



The props used in the production were well designed and crafted, adding an extra layer of realism to the performance. Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of backstage crew worked to ensure that the production ran smoothly.

The success of "Bugsy Malone" was truly a collaborative effort, showcasing the diverse talents and dedication of our school community. Every participant, whether on stage or behind the scenes, played a vital role in creating a production that was not only entertaining but also a testament to what can be achieved through teamwork and passion.

As we celebrate the success of "Bugsy Malone", we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved. The performers, designers, band members, and backstage crew, audience members all contributed to a wonderful experience that will be cherished by all who were fortunate enough to witness it.



**Here's to many more successful productions in the future!**

Mrs Brooks, Mr Frost, Miss Darling and Mr Moosajee

## MILTON KEYNES SCHOOL SPORT AWARDS 2024

### Milton Keynes School Sport Awards 2024

We had the honour of being invited to the MK School Sports Awards – an awards ceremony to celebrate all school sport across the City at both primary and secondary level. It was a fantastic night where many awards were given out and a chance to see the successes in Sport across Milton Keynes at all standards and ages.

At this event Watling were nominated and won a number of awards as follows:



**Secondary School Leader of the Year – Jake P, Year 10**

**Secondary School Sportsperson of the Year – Colby T, Year 10**

**Nominated for Team of Year – Watling Athletics Team**

**Winner of Secondary School of the Year – Watling Academy!!!**

This was a fantastic achievement by every member of the school community, not only our superstar athletes for winning so much this year but also to the PE team for organising and giving up their time to do fixtures / clubs and offer opportunities to as many students as possible, but also for the support of parents, carers, admin staff, other teaching staff and senior leadership for allowing us to enter and compete in so many different sports and events.



Miss Willison

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

This year has been our most successful year yet for PE fixtures both in number of sports and wins! Watling have participated in over 150 fixtures in over 10 different sports! These fixtures have ranged from County cup football to rugby friendlies as well as indoor cricket tournaments.



As well as winning 3 leagues and reaching a county cup final, our students have reached finals and semifinals in several leagues and tournaments, falling just short.

Several students have been able to represent the school in tournaments trying their hand at a sport they may never have played competitively before. This has shown just how adaptable our students are and how willing they are to grow individually as well as part of a team.

This year has been the first year at Watling that there have been fixtures/tournaments in dodgeball, futsal and Rugby. It has been amazing to see so many engage in these opportunities.

We cannot wait for next years fixtures and opportunities to get as many involved as possible!



## MILTON KEYNES SCHOOL ATHLETICS 'FEDERATION CUP'

### **The Fed Cup 2024**

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July Watling Academy took 64 athletes to compete in the MK Schools Fed Cup. The competition was held at Stantonbury Stadium and students competed against every other secondary school in PE in track and field events.



We started the morning very strong with every relay team coming in the top 3 in their respective age groups.

Our Yr 9 boys (Maxwell, Zak, Eli and Abiola) and Yr 10 boys (Ryan, Jago, Eniola and Rasheed) also were the only teams to make a sub 50seconds relay – a fantastic achievement!

Unfortunately, the weather then turned and the rest of the day the students competed in very wet and windy conditions.



## MILTON KEYNES SCHOOL ATHLETICS 'FEDERATION CUP' CONT.



Our teams showed fantastic resilience with many events being delayed/ cancelled, students still were managed to achieve some amazing performances including the below.

Sophie – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Yr8 Shot Putt

Robert – 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr8 100m

Isaac – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Yr8 1500m

Nicole – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Yr7 1500m

Kay-ah – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Yr9 100m

Jay – 2<sup>nd</sup> in Yr9 Javelin

Olivia – 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr10 300m and 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr10 800m

Ryan – 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr10 Long Jump

Milosz – 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr10 Shot Putt

Maxwell – 1<sup>st</sup> in Yr9 200m



With these amazing results and many others, it resulted in us as a school Winning the Whole Event!! As a PE department we are so proud of our School Team – Well Done Watling!!

Miss Willison

## SPORTS DAY 2024

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July we hosted our second whole school sports day.

Unfortunately, the weather was against us again, but we managed for everyone to compete in their morning activities. The whole school competed in numerous activities to score points for their house.

Yr 7 and 9 completed their athletic events and Yr 8 and 10 completed their invasion game house tournaments and the alternative activities of Tug of War, Archery and obstacle courses.

Students were fantastic on the morning showing our school values of Respect, Responsibility and kindness and representing their house impeccably.

**Our overall winners of Sports Day were: Marshall**

We hope next year that the weather doesn't impact the day and that we will complete a whole sports day!



SPORTS DAY 2024 CONT.



Miss Willison

## GCSE GEOGRAPHY TRIP

The Year 10 geographers had a fantastic few days in Sheringham in June completing physical fieldwork for their GCSE investigating longshore drift and the coastal management strategies of this stretch of North Norfolk coastline.

We would like to commend our GCSE Geography students for their curiosity, enthusiasm, responsibility and the way they conducted themselves representing Watling Academy on both trip dates.

We would also like to take this chance to thank our amazing staff who volunteered their time to help us run such a successful fieldwork trip.



Miss Staincliffe



## TAKE MATHS FURTHER TRIP

The maths department took 15 year 10's to the Take Maths Further conference at University of Bedfordshire.

The day looked at studying maths beyond GCSE and the prospects of maths beyond A-Level.

The students really enjoyed the day and enjoyed competing against each other in a dragon race, learning how to score the perfect penalty and thinking about the creation of maths. We hope the day really inspired our future A-Level students.

## SUCCESS WITH UKMT JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

We are really proud of the performance of our year 7 and 8 students in the UKMT maths challenge this year. The maths challenge is a series of problem solving questions completed in exam conditions in a 1 hour exam. All of those in set 1 and 2 in year 7 and 8 sat the challenge.

46% of the students who sat the challenge achieved a certificate. This is very commendable and something we should be very proud of!

45 year 7's and 68 year 8's achieved certificate level.

Tudor G, Denis D and Logan G all progressed to the next round and competed in the Junior Kangaroo. Logan and Tudor both achieved a certificate of qualification in the Junior Kangaroo. Denis was best in school and achieved a certificate of merit. Well done to all involved for their incredible achievements and we look forward to their continued progression in maths.



Mrs Wall

# Broken Wings Performance

## BROKEN WINGS PERFORMANCE

Every year in June our school celebrates 'Refugee Week' to highlight the contributions refugees make to their communities as well as difficulties they face. As part of the celebration, our Year 7 students watched an amazing solo play - 'Broken Wings', performed by a very talented young actress, Alexandra Hovespyan.

Based on real-life experiences, the performance follows the journey of a teenage girl fleeing conflict and eventually arriving in the UK. Drawing attention to the trauma refugee children have experienced through their journeys, and the challenges they face in their new life in the UK.

The performances aim to raise awareness about the sufferings of the refugee children, break down existing barriers, inspire social change and create a safer educational environment for all children.

After the performance, our students took part in the discussion with play director, Georgia Tillery Randak and play writer, Ghusoun Rahhal. A massive thank you to Mr Parks for running a Q&A session and a big well done to all Year 7 students for being a very mature audience.



Mrs Sadowska

## TUTOR CONSULTATION EVENING

We are delighted to share the highlights of our recent 'Meet the Tutor' evening at Watling Academy. It was a fantastic event, and we encourage all of our parents and carers to take advantage of this opportunity to review their child's learning at the end of each year.

The engagement between parents and staff was heartening, creating a truly positive atmosphere. The enthusiasm and interest shown by parents in their children's education were evident throughout the evening, making it a truly rewarding experience for everyone involved.

This year, for the first time, we held the consultation evening in the Sports Hall. The feedback from both staff and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the new venue for its spaciousness and excellent facilities. The Sports Hall provided an ideal setting for fostering open communication and a collaborative spirit.

A special mention must go to our Art and Design Technology departments. Their display of students' work was nothing short of spectacular, showcasing the talent and creativity that flourishes at Watling Academy. The exhibits, which spanned various projects completed over the year, were a true testament to the hard work and dedication of both students and staff.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made the evening such a success. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated, and we look forward to many more events that celebrate the strong partnership between Watling Academy and our wonderful community of parents and carers.



Mr Parks

## LIBRARY

### Year 7 Accelerated Reader

Year 7s have had a brilliant year with their Accelerated Reader book quizzing. Please continue to quiz on any books read over the summer holidays and complete the Summer Reading Passports handed out in lesson this week for House Points and prizes in September.

**Words Read:** 88,572,181

**Quizzes Taken:** 2,403



**Accelerated Reader Points earned:** 12,543

Congratulations to 7M COL who earned the most Accelerated Reader points of any class this year – a whopping 1,900 points!

### Summer Reading Challenge

On 11<sup>th</sup> July, Karen Fleming from Milton Keynes Libraries came in to speak to Year 7s about their Summer Reading Challenge, which runs from 19<sup>th</sup> July until 7<sup>th</sup> September.

You can sign up at your local library from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and read any books of your choice to collect special stickers and, after reading your six books, you'll be presented with a medal and certificate of achievement – all for FREE.

You can also take part online! Sign up at [summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) where you can use the book sorter to discover new books, find fun reading activities, play games, watch videos and write book reviews.

If you don't already have a Milton Keynes Library account, you can join online to take advantage of this free resource: [Join the library | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](http://milton-keynes.gov.uk). A Library account will also give you access to a broad range of magazines and newspapers.



Miss Williams

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Our Student Council has had a busy and productive year. At the start of the year, we introduced the new role of House Captain, two students from each House campaigned and were elected to this position which is the most senior student role.

The House Captains have led the House Representatives (class representatives), taken House assemblies, been involved in the bidding process for our school caterers and been involved in organising House activities ranging from Dodgeball tournaments to the House Fete.

Next year we have decided to keep our House Captains in place and will elect Deputy House captains who will work with the House Captains before stepping in to their role when they leave.

Our intention has always been to have a student council/student voice that has a meaningful say in how the Academy runs, throughout the year we have gauged student opinion from a number of sources,

- ⇒ Year 7's have 'Hot Chocolate Friday' where students have been given the opportunity to speak with a senior leader about their experience at Watling.
- ⇒ We run a student voice where selected groups complete a questionnaire and sit in a discussion group where they can identify strengths of the Academy as well as identifying improvements.
- ⇒ House representatives work with their class to offer feedback to the senior leaders in the Academy. Most recently they completed a piece of work on the clubs we offer.

Whilst we are unable action all requests from our Student Voice we are proud of the contributions our students have made so far in shaping how the Academy runs.

Feedback from the above has resulted in numerous changes from the way we organise staff at lunch and break times to influencing the content of staff training.

Two areas where I feel the 'student voice' was really heard was with the introduction of a Platinum badge to recognise the students who have made an exceptional contribution to the Academy as well as the amendments made to the uniform policy where students asked for the option of wearing the school blazer or jumper; after working with Mr Bacon this change was implemented.

Whilst we are unable action all requests from our Student Voice we are proud of the contributions our students have made so far in shaping how the Academy runs.

Mr Gibbs

## CANTEEN NEWS

We are delighted to announce our new partnership with Cucina, who will be taking over the food service at Watling Academy in September.

Cucina will be serving freshly prepared, nutritious food, made using quality seasonal ingredients. There will be a wide range of hot and cold food options available every day, including meat, vegetarian and halal dishes.

Alongside the exciting new menu will come a refit of our canteen area, as shown below.

We hope that the students will enjoy the new restaurant facilities, and the range of new dishes that will be on offer in the autumn.

Menus and the restaurant tariff will be published on the school website over the next few weeks.



## PARKING

Thank you to those parents, carers and visitors that support the safety of the Whitehouse community by parking and driving responsibly,

Please continue to consider the impact on the local community when parking, and let's work together to keep everyone as safe as possible.



Miss Rhodes

## SAFEGUARDING & MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding, please speak to one of the following members of staff: Mr Say, Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Thompson, Mr Humphris, Mrs Bennett or speak with reception to contact a member of the team.

Alternatively, you can message the safeguarding team directly at [safeguarding@watling.academy](mailto:safeguarding@watling.academy)

Mr Say

We hope you have a restful summer. For those that may need extra support please find below some information for Young Person's Sanctuary through Mind BLMK open 365 days a year.

The poster is for 'Young Person's Sanctuary' by Mind BLMK. It features a dark blue background with white and light blue text and graphics. At the top left, the title 'Young Person's Sanctuary' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the subtitle 'Supporting young people with mental health across Milton Keynes.' is in a smaller font. The Mind BLMK logo is in the top right corner. In the center, there is an illustration of two young women talking. One has a speech bubble that says 'my needs are listened to.' Above them is a circle containing '14-17yrs'. To the left of the illustration, there is a location pin icon with the text 'Where? Milton Keynes' and a circle with 'no referral needed'. To the right, there is a circle with 'Mental Health Drop-in', a circle with 'A safe and inclusive space', and a sun-like icon with '365 days a year'. At the bottom, the location 'CAMHS Eaglestone Health Centre, Standing Way, Milton Keynes MK6 5AZ' and the hours 'Monday - Sunday (4.00pm - 10.00pm)' are listed, along with the website 'www.mind-blmk.org.uk'. A QR code and contact information (phone number 0300 330 0648 and email yps@mind-blmk.org.uk) are in the bottom left. The NHS logo and 'Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust' are in the bottom right.

**Young Person's Sanctuary**

Supporting young people with mental health across Milton Keynes.

**Mind BLMK**

Where?  
Milton Keynes

14-17yrs

my needs are listened to.

Mental Health Drop-in

A safe and inclusive space

365 days a year

no referral needed

**Location:**  
CAMHS Eaglestone Health Centre, Standing Way,  
Milton Keynes MK6 5AZ

Monday - Sunday (4.00pm - 10.00pm)

[www.mind-blmk.org.uk](http://www.mind-blmk.org.uk)

To find out more:  
0300 330 0648  
[yps@mind-blmk.org.uk](mailto:yps@mind-blmk.org.uk)

**NHS**  
Central and North West London  
NHS Foundation Trust

## SUMMER HOLIDAY, ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME #HAF2024

**FREE activities and food from 29 July to 22 August for children, young people and their families who are in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals**

### **What is the HAF Summer Activities and Food programme?**

A range of free activities and food for children, young people and their families who are in **receipt of benefit related Free School Meals (FSM)** to access from 29 July to 22 August.

From fun activities to multi sports camps, mobile farms, beach trips, teen basketball camps, outdoor adventures, football camps, film making, music, gymnastics, arts, and crafts and more, we hope there is something for everyone.



Children and Family Centres servicing all of Milton Keynes will be delivering all-inclusive family HAF trips for children in receipt of **benefit related Free School Meals (FSM)** to their reach areas and can be found on our booking system:

[HAF Milton Keynes · Eegu.](#)

Please book with the centre that covers the area where you live, further information on Children and Family Centre services and each centres reach areas can be found [here](#).

### **Where can I find the activity programme?**

Evouchers should have been distributed to children and young people identified through the school census that are **in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals (FSM)**

All HAF activities and sessions will be found in one place and are easy to book by registering with our online booking system with the programme available to view at <https://eegu.org/hafmiltonkeynes> with bookings commencing on 1 July.





Essex Partnership University  
NHS Foundation Trust

# VACCINE CATCH-UP CLINICS

For more information or to book an appointment  
please call **0300 790 0594**

Has your child missed their routine school vaccinations?

Do you have questions about these vaccinations?

[NHS vaccinations and when to have them www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

**Walk in Clinics – Prebooking not required**  
**10am to 2pm**

**Giffard Park Community Centre MK14 5GJ**

Thursday 25th July, 1<sup>st</sup> August,  
8<sup>th</sup> August, 15<sup>th</sup> August,  
22<sup>nd</sup> August, 29<sup>th</sup> August

**Limited bookable appointment available, please  
call to prebook: 0300 790 0594**

HPV\*\* (from Year 8)  
DTP & Meningitis ACWY (from Year 9)

\*\*Eligible boys born after 01/09/2006



Join professional sports men and women, for this fun free camp!

**Win Prizes Everyday**

**FREE THIS SUMMER!**  
Aged 12-16 in  
Milton Keynes?

**5th** **Summer**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**Hangout**  
**GAMES**

**WHERE & WHEN?**  
Dates:  
MON 12TH - WED 14TH AUG  
MON 19TH - WED 21ST AUG  
Times: 11am-3pm  
Location: St Paul's School  
MK6 5EN

**WIN!**  
SPORT DIRECT.co.uk  
Gift Card

Football Netball Basketball  
**TOURNAMENTS**

If you receive Free School Meals Book here: 

**BOOK NOW**

If you are non Free School Meals Book here: 

[Sonit.co.uk/the-hang-out-games](https://sonit.co.uk/the-hang-out-games)

## WATLING NOTICE BOARD

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25

- School opens—Y7 only - **Wednesday 4th September**
- Biometric fingerprinting—Yr7 only—**Wednesday 4th September**
- School opens—Yrs8-11- **Thursday 5th September**
- Year 7 CATS—**weeks beginning 9th & 16th September**
- Year 11 Learning Pathways Evening —**Thursday 12th September**
- School Photos (Years 7, 9 & 11 only) - **Tuesday 17th September**
- Year 7 Learning Pathways Evening—**Thursday 19th September**
- Year 11 Mocks—**weeks beginning 23rd & 30th September**
- Year 10 Learning Pathways Evening—**Thursday 26th September**
- Year 9 Learning Pathways Evening —**Thursday 3rd October**
- School Photo Mop Up —**Thursday 3rd October**
- Year 10 Art Trip—**Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th October**
- Year 9 Enrichment Days—**Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th October**
- Opening Evening for Prospective New Students—**Thursday 24th October**
- End of half term @ **3.15pm Thursday 24th October**
- Inset Day—staff only - **Friday 25th October**

### POLITE REMINDER ABOUT STUDENT ABSENCE PROCEDURE

In the event your child is unable to attend school, you must advise our Attendance Officer of any student absence **before 8:00am each day of their absence**. You must also notify us of any appointments made during the school day. However, we do ask that you book appointments outside of school.

Absences can be reported by telephoning **01908 794094** and selecting **Option 1**, using the ParentMail app, or by emailing **attendance@watling.academy**. Please include your child's name, full details of the absence, and when you expect your child to return to school.

Watling Academy, Barrosa Way, Whitehouse, MK8 1EP

Phone: 01908 794094

Website: [watlingacademy.net](http://watlingacademy.net)

Email: [admin@watling.academy](mailto:admin@watling.academy).