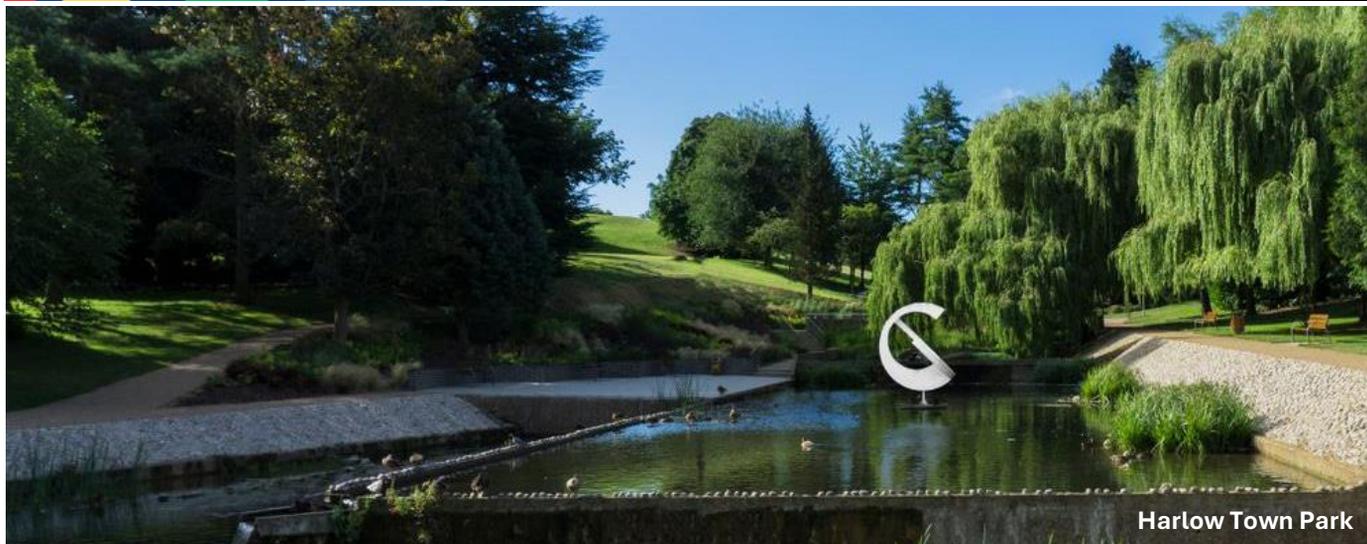


# Newsletter

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Issue 34



Harlow Town Park

Dear Parent/Carers,

It's official—Year 11s have wrapped up their exams!

No more tests, no more stress.

They have all worked incredibly hard, now it's time to enjoy the freedom. We look forward to celebrating with those who are coming to The Prom next Thursday.

This week I have had the pleasure of attending two events. Firstly, on Tuesday I was at the Playhouse for the Jack Petchey Awards, more details are provided within the newsletter, but as always it was joyous. And then Wednesday I headed to Hylands House for the Essex Teaching Awards. Our Hub Team and Sue Padbury both came away with Highly Commended Awards. It was a wonderful occasion, and we can't wait to recognise staff again next year.

Although it has at times been unbearably hot, our students have been great this week and moving to PE kit has definitely helped many. However, we are hoping for a tad cooler weather for Sports Day next week!

And to our year 7's heading off to Mersea on Sunday, have the most wonderful time!

**Natalie Christie**  
**Principal of Passmore Academy**



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## USEFUL LINKS

[Parents/Carers Letters](#)

[Clubs and Activities](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[ParentPay](#)



## TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

13<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Mahon, Olly	Year 7	59
Chui, Kingsley	Year 7	57
Ford, Grayson	Year 7	51
Mimms, Joshua	Year 7	45
Campbell, Janelle	Year 7	44
Mahon, Charlie	Year 7	43
Seip, Joshua	Year 7	42
Aimes, Annabel	Year 7	39
Byrne, Harley	Year 7	39
Euesden, George	Year 7	39
Owen, Amelie	Year 7	39

Phillips, Riley	Year 8	47
Martin, Emelia	Year 8	43
Addison, Anyia-Joan	Year 8	39
Ozimek, Filip	Year 8	38
Boorman, Isabelle	Year 8	36
Evans, Tillie	Year 8	36
Fleming, Ellie	Year 8	36
Stewart, Isobella	Year 8	36
Padley, Darcii	Year 8	33
Beckwith, Olivia	Year 8	32

Allen, Mia	Year 9	31
Chambers, Callum	Year 9	31
Broughton, Marnie	Year 9	30
Brown, Charlie	Year 9	29
Youens, Ryan	Year 9	28
Cowan, Lexi	Year 9	26
Judge, Ella-Rose	Year 9	26
Oprea, Maya	Year 9	26
Zuna, Hayden	Year 9	26
Hills, Ronnie	Year 9	25
Sherif, Malaka	Year 9	25

Jay, Ronnie	Year 10	31
Sunshine, Pj	Year 10	28
Watters, Chloe	Year 10	27
Anderson, Frazer	Year 10	22
Molineaux, Charley	Year 10	22
Stevenson, Harry	Year 10	22
Williams, Fin	Year 10	22
Dinnell, Louis	Year 10	21
Norden, Sawyer	Year 10	20
Vaux, Oliver	Year 10	20

### Year Group Attendance (9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025)

Year 7	90.24%
Year 8	90.08%
Year 9	85.7%
Year 10	86.93%
Year 11	50.09%
<b>All Students</b>	<b>80.74%</b>



## Thought for the Week

This week, tutor time marked LGBTQ+ Month. Students explored why celebrating this month is so important and how it contributes to a more inclusive and respectful school environment. The session aimed to:

- Promote acceptance and respect for all identities
- Raise awareness of LGBTQ+ history and contributions
- Challenge harmful stereotypes and myths
- Support LGBTQ+ students through visible allyship
- Encourage empathy and emotional intelligence
- Foster a sense of belonging
- Prepare students for life in diverse communities
- Reinforce human rights and equality
- Connect with curriculum areas such as PSHE, history, and literature
- Celebrate the strength and beauty in diversity

These conversations are vital in creating a safe, supportive and empowering school environment for everyone.

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## In the News

This week also saw students engage with Drowning Prevention Week, a timely and vital topic as summer approaches. Students learned:

- How to stay safe near water (pools, rivers, lakes, the sea)
- The dangers of cold water shock, currents, and unsafe swim areas
- How to respond safely in emergency situations
- The importance of personal responsibility and peer education
- How water safety links to broader themes in PSHE, PE, and science

The session empowered students with knowledge that could potentially save lives—either their own or others’.

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## Other News

It’s been a busy and exciting week at Passmores!

- Year 10 students began their mock exams with focus and determination. Staff have been incredibly proud of their attitude so far.
- Year 7 and 8 students took to the field for their Sports Day events. The House spirit was electric, with teamwork, encouragement, and some impressive performances on display. Every point earned adds up in what is becoming a tightly contested competition.

*Continues on the next page...*

## Looking Ahead to Next Week...

Next week is shaping up to be one of the busiest of the year!

- Thought for the Week will explore different Paths to Success, encouraging students to think about personal goals, resilience, and defining their own version of achievement.
- In the News will see students tune into BBC Newsround, discussing the latest headlines and sharpening their awareness of the world around them.
- Year 10 mock exams continue.
- Year 7 students will head off on their exciting Mersea trip.
- On Thursday, we welcome future students during Year 6 Induction Day and celebrate our leavers at the Year 11 Prom.
- And to finish the week on a high, it's the whole-school Sports Day on Friday — a chance for the Houses to battle it out and for students to showcase teamwork, pride, and athleticism.

Wishing everyone a brilliant week ahead — bring your best energy as it's going to be a busy one!



★ **This week's lucky recipients in the prize draw are...** ★

Logan Blackburn-Curpen  
Charis Hartgrove  
Amanda Krupowies  
Aaron Charlton  
Megan Wright  
Finley Jackson  
Ivie Brewer

## School Production News

Happy Friday once again peeps! We're back with news of our performance earlier this week at the Jack Petchey Awards ceremony at Harlow Playhouse.

Some background info for you first.... The Jack Petchey Foundation have been giving funding awards to young people and various group leaders since the late 90s. The foundation was set up to encourage and reward young people that demonstrate outstanding achievement in an area of their choice. The awards are nominated by staff or leaders usually and a panel of young people choose the winners (anonymously of course), empowering our younger members of society, and drawing down funding to a variety of youth groups from arts to sports to academia and more. All winners are invited to an awards ceremony, and they choose where the £300 funding reward gets spent. As you can imagine, thousands of youth groups have benefitted from this foundation over the years in schools as well as in community groups.



So, as subscribers to the Jack Petchey Foundation, we are invited to perform at the ceremony every year. It provides our young performers with a wonderful opportunity to showcase their talents in a professional theatre and keep Passmores Academy in the spotlight for arts education.

After a last-minute rehearsal and re-work of some choreography after school on Tuesday, we shipped all our Golden Ticket Winners and Wonka into the minibus and across the town in time for a costume change and soundcheck at The Playhouse. We had the illustrious position of opening the event and the choice to do "Strike That, Reverse It", the act 2 opener from Charlie & The Chocolate Factory, turned out to be a perfect decision. Cast members did a fantastic job of exuding energy and wonderful characterisation throughout the 5 ½ minute track. Their delivery of the song and the storytelling involved was excellent and was received with whoops and cheers from the audience at its close. What a fabulous evening! The performance has also been entered for a new competition by the foundation, the Take the Stage Challenge. Our performance will be submitted, alongside others, from groups all over the country. Each term, the winning performance will receive a £1,000 prize, with additional runner-up prizes of £500 and £250 for their school or youth organisation. Watch this space to see if we are good enough to get one of these! Obviously, this has just left us all in an even more excited and enthused state as we hit the final two weeks of rehearsals.



*Continues on the next page...*



[Click here to watch recording](#)

So, getting back to business... A reminder that all cast members are required for all rehearsals as we pull everything together this fortnight. We know that we are going to be missing a number of our younger cast members as they venture off to Mersea on Sunday, please be reminded that they are all expected back at rehearsals on Thursday next week.

An update on tickets.... seats are booking fast; we are over half full already for the Tuesday and Thursday performances, and nearly at the halfway mark for the Wednesday evening. If you haven't booked your seats yet, please get in there to avoid disappointment. It is likely that all three performances will sell out and we would hate for you to miss your chance to experience the joy, chaos and all-round wholesome, feelgood vibes that come from an evening of entertainment by our talented performers.

Tickets can be booked here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/passmoresacademy> make sure you get yours sorted to avoid disappointment.

No doubt we'll be back with a pre-show update soon. In the meantime, enjoy the sun, remember to wear sunscreen and enjoy the summer solstice and longest day of the year this Saturday.

## Duke of Edinburgh

We are very proud of our year 9 & 10 students for completing their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze & Silver Assessments. The dedication & teamwork from both groups was amazing! They showed excellent navigational skills throughout the whole trip.

Every student helped, whether it was navigation, putting up the tents, cooking or even just keeping up the morale! It was lovely to see everyone care for each other.

Excellent work everyone!





## Sports Day

Our annual school sports day will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

We would request parents and students to take note of the following details:

- Students must arrive in House colours or Passmores PE kit. This includes correct footwear for the day (no Vans/Converse/flip flops/sliders/crocs).
- Students must have all books and equipment for periods 1 – 4 in case of postponement due to unsuitable weather.
- Break and lunch will be slightly altered in order to run the day more effectively.
- If it is warm students should have SUN PROTECTION / CAPS / STILL DRINKS.
- Students will need preventative medicine if they suffer from asthma or hay fever. There will be first aid on hand, with an adult outside for the duration of the day whilst the events are going on.
- Any questions, please feel to contact Mr Martin: [a.martin@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:a.martin@passmoresacademy.com)



## Long Road Sixth Form College Open Evenings

Year 10 students and their families are invited to attend their Open Evenings on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd July 2025.

The event is also open to Year 11 students who would like another opportunity to visit the college before making their final post-16 decisions in August.

Booking is now live, and all attendees must book a ticket in advance to ensure the event remains safe and enjoyable. Tickets are limited to a maximum of four per booking.

[Long Road Sixth Form College - Open Evenings](#)



## Reminder of the Work Shadowing Day, Wednesday 2nd July 2025

Thank you to everyone who has completed their work shadowing day form, it is lovely to see the range of employers our students will be spending the day with on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July. This is a great opportunity for our year 10 students to observe a job role which may be of interest to them, but also a positive activity to experience what it is like to go to work and something they can add to their CV's. We are still accepting forms, so please can you get these in as soon as possible. The link to the parent consent form is: [Parental Consent Form](#)

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs Kay, at [j.kay@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:j.kay@passmoresacademy.com). **If your young person is having difficulty finding a placement, please ask them to speak to Mrs Kay or Mrs Bassett in school.**



The Army Foundation College invites you to a virtual Harrogate open event on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 6.00pm. To book your place register on [Army Foundation College Harrogate Virtual Open Day](#)

## New Courses for year 11's at Hertford Regional College to start Sept 2025

### Level 1 Plastering Course:

This is a new course, which aims to progress students either to a Level 2 Plastering course after completion of our Level 1 course or to apply to an apprenticeship programme. They can also apply for another study programme course in construction or a different industry completely. The level will be determined by their tutor and based on grades.

### T level foundation course in science and engineering

The T level foundation courses are for students who want to complete a T Level course but have not achieved their English and/or Maths GCSE. The foundation course provides them with the underpinning knowledge towards starting their T Level, whilst giving them time to resit and attain their Maths and/or English.

Here is a government link explaining the foundation courses.

<https://support.tlevels.gov.uk/hc/en-gb/articles/5622112789138-What-is-the-T-Level-Foundation-Year>

Here is the link to our foundation course in science:

<https://hrc.ac.uk/our-courses/t-level-foundation-applied-science-and-technology/>

Here is the link to our foundation course in engineering:

<https://hrc.ac.uk/our-courses/t-level-foundation-year/>



## Harlow Museum

### Summer Volunteering

Tuesdays & Thursdays in August

Are you age 16+ and considering a career in teaching?

Think about volunteering at the Harlow Museum Summer Programme this August.

What you need:

- An interest in working with children.
- A willingness to have a go at craft activities
- Availability on some Tuesdays or Thursdays

What you get:

- Experience and a reference for your C.V.
- Support from our team of experienced staff and volunteers







## PAVLOU & POWER: THE PAMPER HOUR



## GET PROM READY WITH US!

Date: Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Time: 4pm - 6pm

Location: Activity Studio

### What's available?

- Hair styling (curls, slick-backs, waves and more)
- Make-up support (bring your own)
- Chill-out corner with treats and tunes

It's that time of year when lockers need to be renewed or emptied so that they can be reallocated to other students.



*(Year 11's... don't forget to clear your lockers and hand your keys back in!)*

If you any assistance, contact Kelly Kemsley in our Student Services office



There are lots of old padlocks in our bike sheds that don't appear to belong to any bikes!

Over the summer holidays, any unclaimed padlocks will be cut off and disposed of, so if you currently have a padlock in the bike sheds that is still used, please ensure that this is removed prior to the end of this school year.

Thank you!

## LOST PROPERTY



Lost property will be left out on the tables in the Heart Space on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.**

Anything unclaimed will be going to charity.



**Attention...  
All Year 11 Parents & Carers...**

Please can you ensure any medication you have in school is collected by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June. After this date anything left will be disposed of.

Thank you

## New School Mural

We're working with Murwalls again to create a brand-new mural for the school - and this time, we want it to reflect *our school* community in a personal and meaningful way.

The theme is **togetherness, local community, and identity** – what connects us, what makes our area unique, and what we value as a school.

**We'd love ideas from both students and staff.**

You can send in:

- A person who inspires you (local legends welcome)
- A symbol, object, or pattern that means something to you
- A phrase, quote, or even just a word that feels powerful
- A quick sketch or abstract idea
- Something that represents the local area, our values, or just something you think would look brilliant on the wall

**Deadline: Friday 11th July 2025**

We have introduced this project to students during tutor time this week, and design sheets can be collected from forms.

If you fancy submitting something, or even just chatting through an idea, we'd love to hear from you. No pressure to be an artist – it's all about the message and meaning.

Thanks for getting behind this and helping us make something great!



On the 28th June, Friends of Passmores are holding their annual Summer Fete.

After cancelling last year's event, we would really love this year to be bigger and better than ever!

We have a few stall holders already booked but we would love more. Including, inflatables, games, clothing, and unique gifts.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with setting up and clearing down.

Please contact the team on the below email address if you can help:

fop@passmoresacademy.com.



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	FOPs meeting for Summer Fete (5:30pm)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Prom
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Friends of Passmores Summer Fete (11:00am – 3:00pm)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 10 Work Shadowing Day
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Induction Evening
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July – Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	School Production – Wonka
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6-8 Rounders & BBQ
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Inflatables Day
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Early Closure for Students (12:30pm)



Interested in becoming a primary or secondary teacher?  
Contact Gareth Walsh on [g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com)



The Children's Society East

Our CHHAT groups focus on promoting positive emotional and mental wellbeing for 8 – 18 yr olds, with these particular sessions focussing on children in **years 8 & 9**.

The team use a range of techniques tailored to support each young person to develop their emotional resilience; with the group programme aiming to help young people build self-esteem and confidence.

The service is open to children and young people who have parents or family members who are misusing substances or have been impacted by a family member's mental health.

We aim to create a safe, confidential space for these children and young people and will signpost/support additional referrals if appropriate.

**Venue:**

Passmores Academy,  
Memorial Hall in the Heart Space

**Session Dates:**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July – 10:00am to 12:30pm  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July – 1:00pm to 3:15pm  
Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July – 10:00am to 12:30pm  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00am to 12:30pm  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August – 1:00pm to 3:15pm  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00am to 12:30pm  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August – 1:00pm to 3:15pm  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00am to 12:30pm  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August – 1:00pm to 3:15pm  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August – 10:00am to 12:30pm

If you would like to find out more, or book a young person in to attend our group, then please contact one of our CHHAT practitioners on **01245 493311** or email [kim.stayt@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:kim.stayt@childrenssociety.org.uk)

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE  
SPECIAL DRAW

Draw open 16-22 June 2025

7 DAYS, 10 CHARITIES  
£5,000 EACH  
NOMINATE NOW



Ecclesiastical Insurance Office plc is the promoter

## NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN!

16th June - 22nd June

In recognition of all the charities who work to support **Children and Young People**, we're giving **10 charities £5,000 each** in this limited-time special draw.

All you need to do is nominate a charity **whose core charitable purpose is to support children and young people (aged 25 and under)**.

[VOTE HERE](#)

[Terms and conditions apply.](#)

*(See below example form for how to complete)*

Draw

Search for an organisation, group, charity name or charity number 

No Child Without  Registration example

Charity name: 1152609 - NO CHILD WITHOUT

Charity type: Education and skills

Your name: First name  Last name

Your email address:

Your location: Essex

Your age range: Please select age range

What is your connection to this charity?: None - No Connection

What is your connection to the Benefact Group?: None - No Connection

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE KIDS

AGE RESTRICTION  
4+

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT BYPASSING FILTERS

18  
CONSENSUS

YouTube Kids is less likely to show inappropriate material than YouTube, but there have been reports of the app showing age-inappropriate content to young viewers. One investigation found that YouTube Kids had shown videos that promote skin bleaching, weight loss, drug culture and firearms to children as young as two, as inappropriate content had bypassed the platform's algorithms and human moderators.

### BE WARY OF ADVERTISING

BUY NOW!

Like Google's regular YouTube app, YouTube Kids features pervasive advertising before a video plays. While these adverts are designed to be family friendly and are subject to a strict review process, it's worth noting that YouTube Kids collects information around children's viewing to inform targeted content and advertisements.

### DESIGNED TO BE ADDICTIVE

YouTube Kids is designed to be addictive. The platform's design features, such as the constant stream of new videos and the reward system of points or virtual stickers, can be very engaging and make it difficult for children to switch off. Research has shown that spending too much time using digital services such as YouTube can lead to screen addiction, affecting children's daily routines, studies, and even their social lives.

### SETTINGS CAN BE CIRCUMVENTED

YouTube Kids offers built-in parental controls, enabling you to set screen time limits and curate the content children are able to view; however, children are often more tech-savvy than we think. They can easily bypass or tweak these settings if they have access to the associated Google account password, thereby exposing themselves to age-inappropriate and potentially dangerous content.

### AI-GENERATED MISINFORMATION

There is also a risk of children accessing videos that contain disinformation and misinformation. A BBC investigation found that some YouTube channels are using artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create misleading 'scientific' videos that are recommended to children as educational content. These videos included conspiracy theories and ideas that lack scientific backing.

### DATA COLLECTION RISK

While there are limits on the data that YouTube can collect on children under 13, children can still inadvertently give away sensitive information when using YouTube Kids. The platform collects data on children's viewing habits, content searches and location, which YouTube and third-party advertisers can use.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### PARENTAL CONTROLS

YouTube Kids offers several settings that allow you to manage what content children can view. For example, you can choose what level of content you want them to access, such as 'Preschool' or 'Younger'. You can also turn off the search function, so that only those videos approved by the YouTube Kids team themselves will appear on a child's recommendations list.

### CHECK WATCH HISTORY

YouTube Kids has made it easy for you to keep an eye on what the children in your care have been watching on the app. By clicking on the 'Recommended' icon at the top right of the home screen, you can see which videos they've been viewing, and how much of each. If a child watches YouTube Kids while signed into a Google account, you can check their history through Google's 'My Activity' page.

### SET TIME LIMITS

The built-in parental controls let you keep a tab on how long children spend watching videos. You can set a timer that limits screen time and disables the YouTube Kids app once a specified length of time has been reached. It's also worth speaking to children about the dangers of spending too much time on YouTube, to ensure they remain focused on other, more important activities.

### WATCH TOGETHER

It's important that you try to make YouTube Kids a fun and positive experience for children. One way to do this is by introducing watching sessions, where you all gather around and share the most enjoyable videos that you have recently watched. This can be a great way of giving you both new things to talk about and of keeping an eye on what they're watching.

### Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced journalist with more than 10 years of experience covering the technology industry. Previously a senior cybersecurity reporter at TechCrunch, Carly is now a freelance journalist, editor, and copywriter. Her bylines include Forbes, TechRadar, The Inquirer, The Metro, Us Weekly, and WIRED.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

**YOUTH  
SERVICE**

# HARLOW SUMMER ACTIVITIES

JOIN US FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE FEW DAYS FILLED WITH EXCITING ACTIVITIES. WHETHER YOU'RE INTO SPORTS, ARTS, COOKING OR GAMING, WE'VE GOT SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.

FOR AGES 11-19 AND UP TO 25 WITH SEND (SECONDARY SCHOOL ONLY)

BOOK NOW USING THE QR CODE



MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> - THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST



XPERIENCE YOUTH CENTRE, BROADLEY ROAD, HARLOW, CM19 5RD



11-2PM



BRADLEY.WALKER@ESSEX.GOV.UK

**Celebrating 50 years: Est. September 1974**

# OPEN EVENINGS

**For September 2026 entry**

**2ND & 3RD JULY 2025**

**From 5 until 9pm**

Come and study with us at Long Road Sixth Form College. Explore our green and leafy campus, meet our staff and students, and design a study programme that is tailored to **YOU**. Whatever choices you make, as a member of our friendly and vibrant community you will develop the skills, independence and focus you need to keep moving forward.

**Be Prepared. Be Inspired. Be Long**

**Attention year 10s  
Scan here to book!**

**Year 11s welcome**



**These are  
our only 2025  
Open Evenings,  
so be sure to  
attend!**

**#BeLong**

**[www.longroad.ac.uk](http://www.longroad.ac.uk)**



SUMMER TERM

# THE ESSEX LOCAL OFFER SEND ROADSHOWS



Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex Local Offer Roadshows.



You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



This term we are in Braintree, Hockley, Tiptree and Chipping Ongar



Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

In Partnership with

