

Woodford County High School



Weekly Student Bulletin



Tuesday 9th May 2023

Welcome to Bulletin No 72

The aim of this bulletin is to give you important information and reminders from your Heads of Year or other members of staff.

It will include information about events taking place at and around school that you can take part in.

Also there will be wellbeing and support advice as well as reminders about how to access support if you should need it.

House Points
WCHS Theatre Society
Mrs Horns's Webinars
LIBRARY BOOK RETURN
Share Kindness Online
Important Safeguarding Information
Maths Club
Music Extra-Curricular Timetable
NEW Join the National Youth Orchestra
Geography Department Instagram Page
PE Extra-Curricular Timetable
Running Club
Netball Club
Boxfit
Amnesty International
Meet your Pastoral Team
Free Sanitary Products
Mindfulness Pages:
Strategies for Anxiety
Dealing with Exam Stress
99 Coping Skills
Five Ways to Wellbeing
How to Meditate
Beditation
NEW Things you should know to meditate
Beditation
Mindful Walking
Sleep Hygiene
My Circle of Control
Helpful Websites
LGBTQ+/Pride Youth Network
Tootoot
Careers
Mock Interview Day - Year 12s
Summer Short Courses
London Institute of Banking & Finance
Redbridge Youth Hub

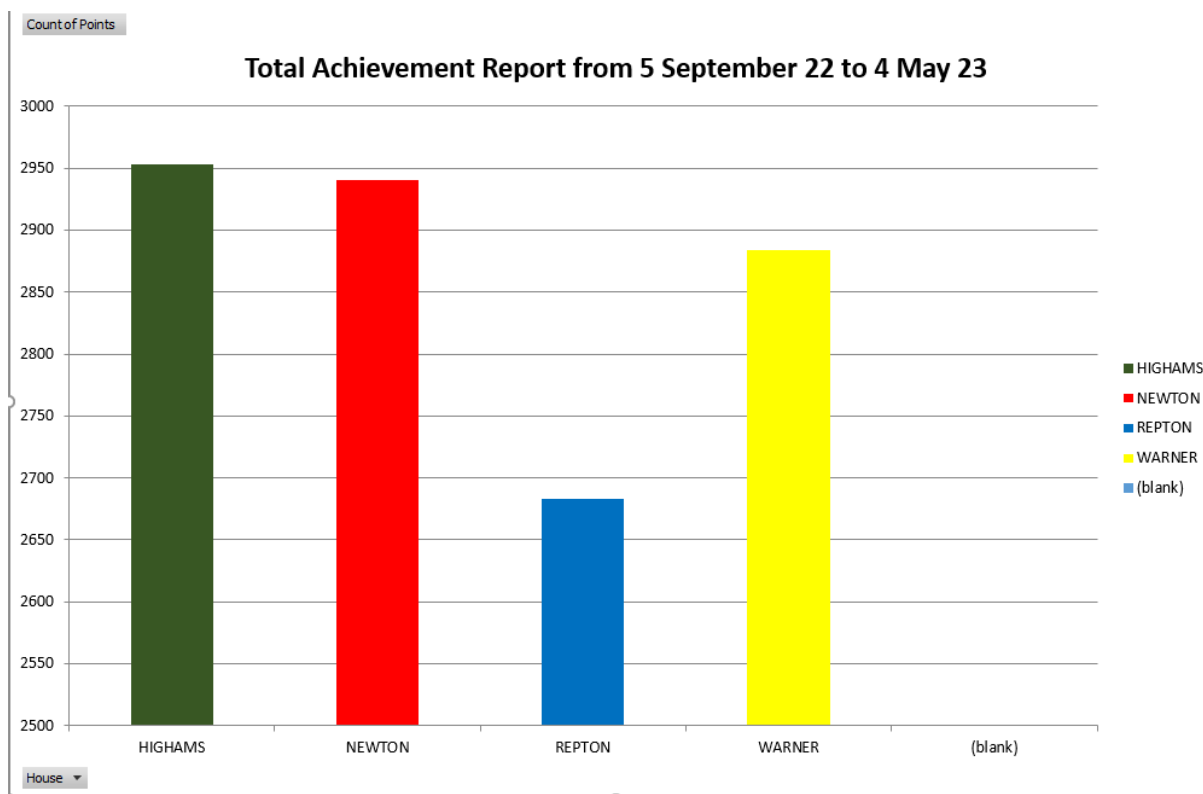
Achievement Report total from 1st September 2022 Weekly Feature

1st Highams

2nd Newton

3rd Warner

4th Repton





WCHS

THEATRE

SOCIETY

Patriots

Wednesday 7th June @ 7.30pm

Noel Coward Theatre

TICKETS AVAILABLE

TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR ...

Heathers 27th June. The Other Palace @ 7.30pm (15+ age rating)

The Crucible 3rd July. Gielgud Theatre @ 7pm

The Effect 11th September. National Theatre @ 7.30pm

Dr Semmelweis 13th September. Harold Pinter Theatre @ 7.30pm

Six the Musical 3rd October. Vaudeville Theatre @ 8pm.

My Neighbour Totoro 28th November. The Barbican Theatre @ 7pm (£30)

The WCHS Theatre Society is a PFA initiative. An adult must accompany lower school students – this is not a school trip and it is not supervised.

ALL TICKETS £27.50

TO BOOK TICKETS + MORE INFORMATION - EMAIL MS HORN IN
THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY@WOODFORD.REDBRIDGE.SCH.UK



SUMMER 2023 WEBINARS

May 2023

- 2nd May @ 2.00pm Global Poverty – Is The World Becoming A Better Place?
- 9th May @ 12.45pm Biology/Medicine: Exploring Antibiotic Resistance
- 9th May @ 2.30pm Performance Psychology – Theory to Improve Practice
- 10th May @ 11.10am English: A Streetcar Named Desire
- 10th May @ 12.45pm Geography: Volcanic Lessons from the Eastern Caribbean
- 11th May @ 12.45pm Media Representation
- 11th May @ 2.15pm CS: Predictive Analysis with Python in the Healthcare Sector

To register, see Mrs Horn

May 2023

- 15th May @ 1.00pm Geography: Deserts
- 15th May @ 4.15pm English: Analysing Previously Unseen Text/Poetry
- 16th May @ 11.15am Social Care Intervention – Making the Right Call
- 16th May @ 4.15pm Engineering: Sustainable Energy
- 17th May @ 12.45pm Geography: Earthquakes – Why? How? Where? When?
- 17th May @ 3.35pm Politics: UK Voting Behaviour
- 17th May @ 5.45pm Nursing: Live Treatment

To register, see Mrs Horn

May 2023

- 18th May @ 4.30pm HE: What's It Really Like to be a Student?
- 22nd May @ 2.00pm Art: Analysing Previously Unseen Art
- 23rd May @ 12.45pm Film: Unlock the Different Gothics of Moon & Ex Machina
- 23rd May @ 2.00pm History: France in Revolution
- 24th May @ 11.15am History: US Civil Rights Movement
- 25th May @ 12.45pm Medicine: Gene Sequencing Development
- 25th May @ 3.45pm The Future of the UK Car Industry

To register, see Mrs Horn

June 2023

- 7th June @ 3.45pm MFL: Spanish Film Society
- 8th June @ 4.30pm Law: Spotlight on Current Legal Cases
- 12th June @ 11.10am Natural Sciences: Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy
- 12th June @ 2.00pm Psychology: Research Methods – Focus on Ethics
- 12th June @ 4.15pm Classics: Homer's Iliad
- 13th June @ 11.15am Economics: Externalities & Government Intervention
- 13th June @ 4.30pm HE: How to Choose the Right Course for You
- 14th June @ 3.45pm Politics: A United Kingdom?

To register, see Mrs Horn

Year 11 & 13 RETURN Your Library Books



A polite reminder for students in Years 11 & 13 to return all Library books borrowed before departing on study leave. If you are unsure of the status of your Library account see me in the Library to discuss.

Many thanks,
Danielle Horn
Librarian

Currently reading Entangled Life

10 Ways You Can SHARE KINDNESS ONLINE

Last year, around one in five young people aged 10–15 in England and Wales admitted experiencing online bullying: most commonly being insulted or sworn at, or having hurtful messages sent about them. To someone who's being bullied, the world can seem like a bleak, negative place – but just one kind word can be a ray of hope: a turning point that brightens their day and refreshes their perspective. That's why 'One Kind Word' is the theme of Anti-Bullying Week 2021. We're supporting this year's event by bringing you ten top tips for beating online bullying by replacing it with kindness.

1 PRAISE WHERE IT'S DUE

Sometimes a friend or relative might post online about something they're proud to have achieved: maybe an exam they've passed, a new skill they've learned or a task they've completed. Celebrate their hard work and determination by being kind enough to praise them for it publicly.

2 REACH OUT

It's not always easy to tell what kind of mood someone is in just from what they post online. Simply dropping somebody a message to say 'hi', to ask if they're OK or to tell them that you're thinking of them could totally make their day.

3 RECOMMEND FUN THINGS

If there's something you enjoy doing online – perhaps you play a particular game, or you've found a really cool site – share it with someone you think will enjoy it. Even recommending a film or TV show you think they'll like can bring a little happiness to someone who really needs it.

4 OFFER TO HELP

Sometimes you might see a friend or family member posting a question online or asking for help with something they can't do themselves. Don't just ignore it – if you can help, get in touch. Something that's difficult for them might be no trouble for you!

5 POST POSITIVELY

Lots of people seem to go online purely to complain about things or be negative. Just because you're communicating online (and not face to face) doesn't mean you can't be positive, though! Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten someone else's day.

6 SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION

If somebody that you know has done something positive or shown kindness themselves, go online and thank them with a message or a post. Expressing your gratitude costs nothing and showing someone that you appreciate them will really make them feel good.

7 BE UNDERSTANDING

Showing empathy towards others is an act of online kindness which often gets overlooked. If you notice that someone you know is upset, drop them a message. Sometimes people just need someone else to listen to them and understand their situation.

8 SHARE INSPIRATIONAL POSTS

When you see something online that inspires you or makes you feel happy, share it with people you know. A spot-on quotation, a beautiful photo or an uplifting video can lift someone's spirits and help them to feel better about life.

9 THINK BEFORE COMMENTING

Thinking before we act can be just as important as acting in the first place. Taking a second to consider what you're saying in advance could stop you from posting something negative, hurtful or offensive – even if you don't mean to. It's better to post positively or not post at all.

10 LIKE, LOVE AND ENGAGE

If somebody posts something that you like on social media, don't just scroll past – take the time to like it, love it or leave an appreciative comment! Reacting positively to other people's posts might seem like a small gesture but could mean a lot to them.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with more than 10 years of experience in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION

Dear All

Below is a link to safeguarding information from the NSPCC. It also contains very helpful information to make you aware of the dangers that young people may face. Please take a look it is very informative.

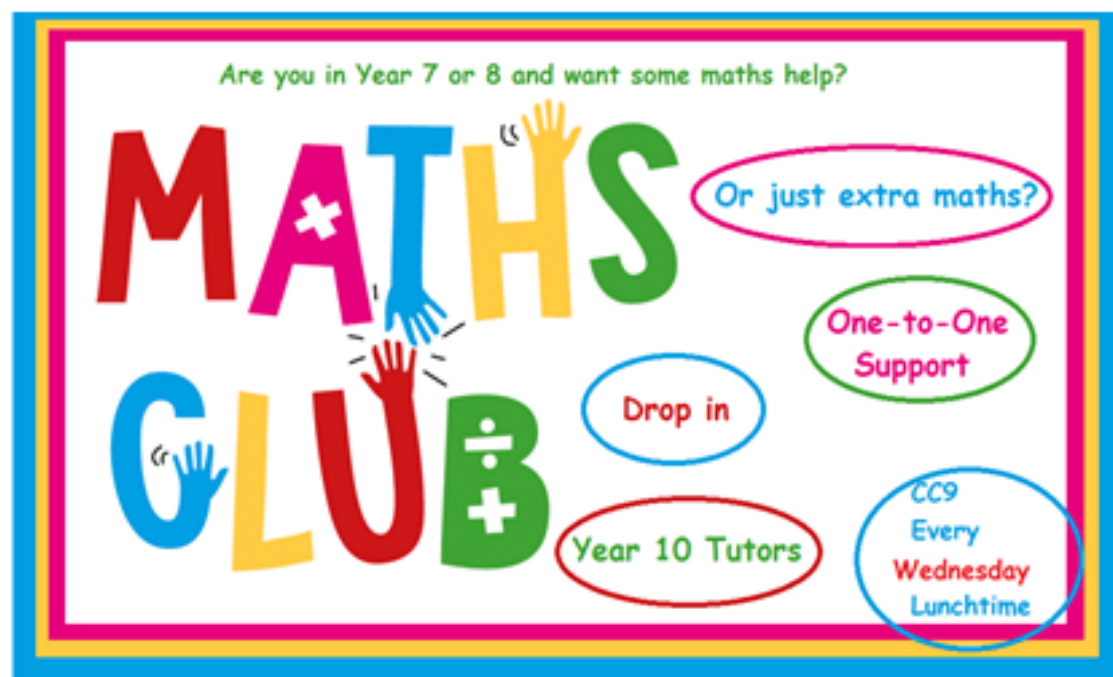
It includes some information about bullying and cyberbullying; child sexual exploitation; criminal exploitation and gangs;
online abuse, child trafficking; sexual abuse; domestic abuse, emotional abuse, female genital mutilation, neglect, non-recent abuse and physical abuse.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/>

If anything you read rings true to you, please come and speak to either Mrs Greenfield, Mrs Holman, Mrs Marku, Mrs Kaye or Mrs Menon.

Be safe

Mrs Greenfield



Maths Club is a drop in session open to all Year 7 and Year 8 students run by Ms Gribble and older students. Students will normally receive one-to-one support and can ask for maths challenges or specific maths topics they would like help with.

The sessions start at 1:40pm and finish by 2:20pm in CC9.

Music Extra-curricular Timetable: Summer 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Junior Choir (Main hall) 13:30- 14:00 Senior choir (Main hall) 14:00-14:30 Brass Ensemble (SF2) 13:45-14:15 Kalimba Club (Conference room) 13:45-14:20	Junior Band IBO (SF1) 13:30- 14:10 Musical Theatre club (Practice room) 13:40-14:15 Flute ensemble KHN 13:40-14:10	Jazz Band KHN (SF1) 13:40-14:15 String orchestra IBO (SF2) 13:40-14:15 Carnatic Ensemble (Conference room) 13:40-14:15	Theory and GCSE/A-level support IBO (SF2) 13:40-14:15 Guitar Ensemble (SG7) 13:30-14:15	Orchestra IBO (SF1) 13:40-14:15
After school		Chamber groups IBO (SF1/2) 15:45-16:30			

This week the Senior choir will take place on Thursday in SF1, 1:40-2:20pm. After this week, Senior choir will return to Monday lunch in the hall.



www.nyo.org.uk

Open a door to new ideas, new friends, and new music to explore.

The National Youth Orchestra

Tune into the greatest adventure you can experience through orchestral music. Take on audacious musical challenges, share music with other young people, and open up your future alongside other teenage musicians.

Our audition process is free, every candidate is offered feedback, and everyone is recommended a new opportunity.

NYO is for musicians playing orchestral instruments. The benchmark level is grade 8 and above—there is no need to have taken graded exams.

Applications are now open and close on 29 May 2023; sign up as soon as you can for top tips and time to get ready to do your best.

First-round video auditions deadline is 11 June 2023.

Invitations for final assessment days will be made by 14 July 2023.

Final round assessment days are held 2-17 September 2023.

No musician offered a role in NYO 2024 will be turned away; we offer generous financial support.

NYO Inspire Programme

Take your skills and talents to the next level with other young people from across the nation.

NYO Inspire opens up a series of high-quality ensemble music opportunities that are free for everyone. And a community full of people who love to play music together. There are no auditions—and the sooner we hear from you the more music making we can invite you to join. Applying before 31 July puts you on our radar to make the most of the opportunities in 2024.

NYO Inspire is for musicians playing orchestral instruments. The benchmark level is grade 6 and above—there is no need to have taken graded exams.

NYO Inspire aims to accelerate learning in and through ensemble music for those musicians traditionally underrepresented in the orchestral sector and who may experience barriers to take their playing to the next level.

We accept applications from teenagers who are:

- Musicaian aged 13 to 18 on 1 September 2023 and...
- Who play at Grade 6 standard and above—there is no need to have taken graded exams...
- Who are a British citizen, or resident or studying in the United Kingdom and...
- Who are state-educated or home schooled (of, if you are now at university, you need to have attended a state school or have been home schooled0 OR...
- Musicians who are Black, Asian or ethnically diverse
- And...who are not studying full-time at a college of music, or on a join course with a music college.

Visit the NYO Inspire page for more information.

Join NYO & NYO Inspire 2024!



Welcome to the new Geography Department Instagram Page



wchs_geog

WoodfordCHS_UK_Geography



Instagram

Please follow the PE Department on Instagram
@wchsukpe for all the latest updates



P.E. EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	<u>Mon</u>	<u>Tues</u>	<u>Weds</u>	<u>Thurs</u>	<u>Fri</u>
<u>Before School</u> <u>7.50-8.20am</u>					Badminton for y12 & 13 ONLY STA Sports hall (until 12/5/23) Morning Mile STA
<u>Lunchtime</u> <u>1.30-2pm</u>	Y7 & 8 Badminton Sports Hall VJA (until 12/5/23) Running Club with Sara GC	Cricket VJA & GC Hafsah Outdoor Games HBA	Rounders for all STA, KRU, HBA, VJA	All Years – Athletics KRI & KRU (see notice board for updates) Netball for All GC Kosom	All Years – Athletics KRI & STA (see notice board for updates)
<u>Afterschool</u> <u>3.30-4.20pm</u>			<u>Fixtures</u>		





RUNNING CLUB

EVERY MONDAY FROM 1:30PM TO
2:00PM

HOSTED BY SARA KHAN AND KOSOM
SADIQ

FOR ALL
YEARS

NETBALL

**Starting
Thursday Lunch
1:30pm - 2:10pm**

Top Netball Courts

Run by Kosom Sadiq and
Sara Khan



£2.50
Per session

BOXFIT

AT HAINAULT YOUTH CENTRE

Female only

For 11-18 year olds

Also open to relatives
(mother / guardian) wanting
to attend with their
teenage child

Tuesday 6pm-7pm

Book your session here:

<https://vrcl.uk/boxfit>



Vision
Redbridge Culture & Leisure



London Borough of
Redbridge 









About Amnesty Society

Woodford County's Amnesty International Society will be restarting this year! Amnesty International is the world's largest human rights organisation. They investigate and expose abuses, educate and mobilise the public, and help transform societies to create a safer, more just world. In our Amnesty Society, we too, will be helping to raise awareness about the importance of human rights, as well as educating ourselves about and fighting against any human rights violations. We hope to hold fundraising events in support of human rights, so please come along if you have ideas! The society will be run by me, Prabha Sinha, and Andrea Sylvester-Concharles in Year 12. We both want to help support Amnesty's work, and if you do too, come along to H3 on Thursday!

Prabha Sinha, Year 12

Meet your Safeguarding and Pastoral Team

				
Ms Pomeroy Headteacher & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Greenfield Assistant Headteacher & Designated Safeguarding Lead, SMHL Head of KS3	Mrs Holman Student Guidance Officer & Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mr Saxton SEND Coordinator	Mrs Kaye Health & Welfare Officer

				
Mrs Menon SEND Officer	Mrs Marku Student Guidance Assistant	Ms Bird Health & Welfare Assistant	Ms Hasler Head of Sixth Form	Dr Ashraf Head of KS4

KEY STAGE 3		
Mrs Hawks Head of Year 7	Mr Mills Head of Year 8	Ms Keith Head of Year 9

KEY STAGE 4		KEY STAGE 5	
Ms Hossein Head of Year 10	Ms Grant/Ms Rehman Head of Year 11	Ms Valente Head of Year 12	Mrs Easton Head of Year 13



If you would like some sanitary products for school or home, please contact **Mrs Kaye** or **Miss Bird** in the **Medical Room** and we will discretely provide you.





Strategies that can help with anxiety:

Calming or Grounding techniques are a good way to reduce our heart rate/blood pressure when feeling worried or anxious. It helps us refocus our attention and overcome those unpleasant feelings so we can feel better and do more.

5 4 3 2 1

Take notice of your senses by thinking of:

- 5 things you can see
- 4 things you can hear
- 3 things you can feel/touch
- 2 things you can smell
- 1 thing you can taste

Facts

Think about and name facts about what is going on right now. For example, think:

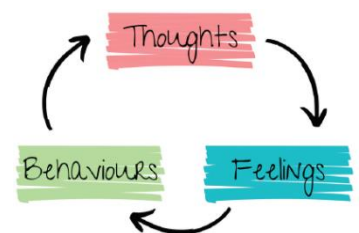
- My age is...
- My name is...
- I am wearing...
- The weather is...
- I am in...

Room Search

Think of a category and search the room for it. For example, look for:

- Everything that is a ... colour
- Everything that is a ... shape
- Things that feel of...
- Things made of...

By **thinking** about things to help us calm down we can then **do** the things we want/need to do and **feel** better and happier.



Video to try a grounding technique! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5a88mUAzNLk&t=6s>

Exam Stress (Information from MIND)

Exams can come with a lot of pressure and make us feel really stressed.

You might feel especially worried because of changes to exams and assessments since the start of the coronavirus pandemic.

If you're struggling to cope, you're not alone. We're here to help you manage your feelings around exams and find ways to cope.

What is exam stress?

Lots of us know what it's like to feel stressed, but it's not easy to describe what stress is.

There's no single definition of stress, and it might feel different for you than it does for someone else. How we experience stress can feel different at different times. It can also depend on what's causing it.

Exam stress can be more than feeling nervous on the day of an exam. It can also be how you feel building up to exams, during exams and when waiting for results.

Young people, interviewed by MIND, described exam stress as:

- “Like a weight placed on top of you. While you want to succeed, I find it really difficult to because of the pressure.”
- “Where I'm constantly feeling overwhelmed by the idea of studying or doing the exams and it causes me to lose focus. This lack of focus leads to me feeling like I'm going to fail and adds to the stress – like a snowball effect.”
- “Knowing you have so much to do in so little time. Imagining how you know you're going to fail and feeling so stupid because you simply can't remember anything.”

- Feeling stressed, worried, or under pressure around exams can be difficult to manage. But there are things that can help – it's about finding what's right for you.

What causes exam stress?

Exams can be stressful on their own, but other things might cause you to feel worse. These might include:

- Feeling like you're not ready or prepared for exams, like leaving revision too late.
- Worrying about how you'll feel and perform during the exam, especially when you don't know what will be in it.
- Pressure from others, like parents, carers or teachers.
- Pressure from yourself to get certain grades.
- Comparing yourself to others, like believing you have to get the same results as your friends.
- Worrying about the future, like getting into university or getting a job.
- Coping with life changes, like moving from secondary school to college.
- Having difficulties at home or in your relationships with family, friends or partners.
- Having caring responsibilities for a family member or someone you live with.

You may also feel stressed for reasons that aren't listed here. We're all different and that's okay.

Good webpage from Young Minds:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/>

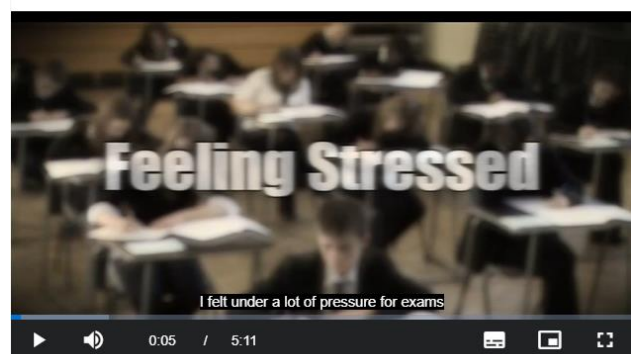
Try this guidance written by the NHS. There is a very helpful video made by teenagers to say how they feel about exams and then how they coped with their GCSE exams.

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/help-for-teenagers-young-adults-and-students/tips-on-preparing-for-exams/>

Scroll down the page of the link above to find the video

Coping with exams

In this video, teenagers prepare themselves and build the confidence to sit their GCSE exams.



99 Coping Skills

1. Exercise (running, walking, etc.).
2. Put on fake tattoos.
3. Write (poetry, stories, journal).
4. Scribble/doodle on paper.
5. Be with other people.
6. Watch a favorite TV show.
7. Post on web boards, and answer others' posts.
8. Go see a movie.
9. Do a wordsearch or crossword.
10. Do schoolwork.
11. Play a musical instrument.
12. Paint your nails, do your make-up or hair.
13. Sing.
14. Study the sky.
15. Punch a punching bag.
16. Cover yourself with Band-Aids where you want to cut.
17. Let yourself cry.
18. Take a nap (only if you are tired).
19. Take a hot shower or relaxing bath.
20. Play with a pet.
21. Go shopping.
22. Clean something.
23. Knit or sew.
24. Read a good book.
25. Listen to music.
26. Try some aromatherapy (candle, lotion, room spray).
27. Meditate.
28. Go somewhere very public.
29. Bake cookies.
30. Alphabetize your CDs/DVDs/books.
31. Paint or draw.
32. Rip paper into itty-bitty pieces.
33. Shoot hoops, kick a ball.
34. Write a letter or send an email.
35. Plan your dream room (colors/furniture).
36. Hug a pillow or stuffed animal.
37. Hyperfocus on something like a rock, hand, etc.
38. Dance.
39. Make hot chocolate, milkshake or smoothie.
40. Play with modeling clay or Play-Dough.
41. Build a pillow fort.
42. Go for a nice, long drive.
43. Complete something you've been putting off.
44. Draw on yourself with a marker.
45. Take up a new hobby.
46. Look up recipes, cook a meal.
47. Look at pretty things, like flowers or art.
48. Create or build something.
49. Pray.
50. Make a list of blessings in your life.
51. Read the Bible.
52. Go to a friend's house.
53. Jump on a trampoline.
54. Watch an old, happy movie.
55. Contact a hotline/ your therapist.
56. Talk to someone close to you.
57. Ride a bicycle.
58. Feed the ducks, birds, or squirrels.
59. Color with Crayons.
60. Memorize a poem, play, or song.
61. Stretch.
62. Search for ridiculous things on the internet.
63. "Shop" on-line (without buying anything).
64. Color-coordinate your wardrobe.
65. Watch fish.
66. Make a CD/playlist of your favorite songs.
67. Play the "15 minute game." (Avoid something for 15 minutes, when time is up start again.)
68. Plan your wedding/prom/other event.
69. Plant some seeds.
70. Hunt for your perfect home or car on-line.
71. Try to make as many words out of your full name as possible.
72. Sort through your photographs.
73. Play with a balloon.
74. Give yourself a facial.
75. Find yourself some toys and play.
76. Start collecting something.
77. Play video/computer games.
78. Clean up trash at your local park.
79. Perform a random act of kindness for someone.
80. Text or call an old friend.
81. Write yourself an "I love you because..." letter.
82. Look up new words and use them.
83. Rearrange furniture.
84. Write a letter to someone that you may never send.
85. Smile at least five people.
86. Play with little kids.
87. Go for a walk (with or without a friend).
88. Put a puzzle together.
89. Clean your room /closet.
90. Try to do handstands, cartwheels, or backbends.
91. Yoga.
92. Teach your pet a new trick.
93. Learn a new language.
94. Move EVERYTHING in your room to a new spot.
95. Get together with friends and play Frisbee, soccer or basketball.
96. Hug a friend or family member.
97. Search on-line for new songs/artists.
98. Make a list of goals for the week/month/year/5 years.
99. Face paint.

BOYS TOWN
National Hotline

www.yourlifeyourvoice.org



If you are finding things challenging, as we all do from time to time, do remember to check that you are including the 5 ways to well-being in your daily life, in whatever way you can. Remember the 5 ways to well-being are:

Connect (Talk and Listen, feel connected, be there)

Be Active (Do what you can: Enjoy what you do: Move your mood)

Take Notice (Remember the simple things that give you joy)

Keep Learning (Embrace new experience, see opportunities, surprise yourself)

Give (Your time, your words, your presence)

It is often helpful to talk through concerns or worries with family or a friend so do both reach out to others and be there for your friends and family should they need to talk to you. Sometimes talking through a worry can really help.

Sometimes it may be helpful for you or a friend to access support to access help outside of or in addition to family and/or friends. You can contact the school in several ways to do this and there are various people who can offer help and support.

CONFIDENTIALITY

If you speak to a member of school staff about a private matter this will usually remain confidential between you and that member of staff. If the member of staff thinks that it is a good idea to involve someone else such as another member of staff, an external agency or your parents they would talk to you about this and get your consent. However, all members of staff have a duty to pass on information to only the school Safeguarding Team if they had concerns about your own safety or that of another member of the school community. The Safeguarding Team is limited to Mrs Greenfield and Mrs Holman.

HOW TO ACCESS SUPPORT

Tootoot – this is a way of contacting the school anonymously. You can access Tootoot from the School Website and you would have been sent a login to your school email at the start of the year. You can use Tootoot to get help with problems that you are having at school or to report something you are worried about. There is a small selection of staff who will receive your message when it is sent and will endeavour to answer as soon as they can.

Form tutor – the first place you should go if you have any problems is to your form tutor. They will offer advice if they can and /or will direct you to the relevant person in the school who can help. Currently you may be able to speak to your tutor at the end of a Teams Meeting or by emailing into the relevant KS Administrator asking your Form Tutor to contact you (you would not need to give any details). You could also get a message to them through Tootoot but would need to give your name so that they would know who to contact.

Head of Year – form tutors usually work closely with Head of Year. You can also go directly to your Head of Year if you would prefer to do this.

Continued below/

Student Guidance Team – Mrs Holman and Mrs Marku are available to speak to you if you have a problem, whether related to school or more personal and will guide you as to the best way to deal with the problem. They may offer to see you again themselves or advise you to see a school counsellor.

School Counsellor – Feeling overwhelmed? Scared because your parents are splitting up? Feel like you don't fit in? Sometimes it's just not possible to sort through tough times alone. Problems can build up and you may lose sleep, find you can't concentrate on school work/homework, or even become depressed. When you need to talk to someone, your school counsellor can be a great person to help you through your bad times. They will listen and help. They'll take your problem seriously and work with you to find a good solution. School counsellors are trained to help with most issues. Please speak to your Form Tutor or other member of staff or enquire via Tootoot. Speaking to a counsellor is informal, just like a chat.

Counselling is very informal, like having a chat and the Counsellors may ask questions or give advice. The sessions are about you and is your time to speak about what is worrying you.

Students if you are experiencing low mood or anxiety and would like support for this in the form of eight on-line sessions with an Education Mental Health Practitioner, you can contact Mrs Holman for more information and sign-up.

Mrs Holman/Mrs Marku are based in the Student Guidance Office, formerly SG4.

MINDFULNESS PAGES

Things You Should Know to Meditate



- Create a distraction-free space without phones or TVs and a comfortable place to sit.
- Set a timer for 5 to 10 minutes (or shorter), close your eyes, and focus on your breathing until the timer dings.
- Concentrate on your inhales and exhales if your mind wanders while meditating—it may even be helpful to count your breaths.
- Meditating can help you relax while lessening stress, relieving anxiety, and channeling your focus.

Beditation

1. Lie down on your back in a safe space where you won't be disturbed.
2. Cover yourself with a blanket to keep warm. Or settle down in your bed to sleep.
3. Allow your eyes to close.
4. Place your hands on your belly and gently settle your attention on the rising and falling of your diaphragm as you breathe in and out.
5. Take a few moments to feel your whole body lying there, register where you notice the points of contact with the mat or the bed.
6. Take an intentional breath in & imagine the vitality of the inhalation travelling all the way down to into your toes and feet. As you exhale, notice any sensations you feel there.
7. When you are ready to leave the toes and feet, take a deeper breath in and allow any tension or discomfort you find to dissolve in awareness as you exhale and move your attention up into the lower legs and knees.
8. Continue to move up through the rest of your body. If you experience any discomfort such as cramp, it's best to release the tension by moving or massaging away the discomfort before continuing with the scan.
9. The important point is to allow yourself to fully relax, and to drift into sleep as your body pulls you in that direction.
10. If you wish to remain awake, try doing the body scan on a yoga mat with your eyes open during the day.

Here is a link to Professor Mark Williams 40-minute, guided, body scan meditation:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyRNHvPPNbE

Mindful Walking

Walking is something we do every day without stopping to give it a second thought. Given the option, most of us would rather take a lift than walk to the shops. But this simple form of exercise has many stress relieving benefits.

Shirin Yoku or forest bathing is a form of meditative walking that is very popular in Japan. Designed to help people take time away from their screens, Shirin Yoku trails are chosen for their beauty and tranquility. Forest bathing is known to improve immune function and lowers anxiety.



Mindful walking has been scientifically proven to reduce the harmful physical effects of stress and increase peace of mind. It can be practiced outdoors anywhere you feel safe enough to walk with greater awareness.

The steps that follow describe how to perform mindful walking:

Preparation for mindful walking:

- Find somewhere safe to walk where you will not be disturbed: your garden, a city park, country lane, or a busy street – are all equally good.
- Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for walking.
- Stand still and become aware of how you feel.
- Consider your posture, the weight of your body, feet in your shoes, and your muscles as you balance.

Mindful walking instructions:

- Take a few deep breaths and slowly bring your awareness into the present.
- As you begin walking notice how your feet feel when they make contact with the ground.
- Slow down and notice the sights & sounds around you.
- Deepen your breathing if it feels comfortable.
- When your mind drifts, gently guide your thoughts back to the sensations of walking and breathing.
- Continue walking for as long as you feel safe and comfortable.

Mindful walking is free and doesn't require any specialist equipment. Half-term may provide the perfect moment for you to try this form of moving meditation for yourself.

Emma Liebeskind
Mindfulness Teacher
Sixth Form Enrichment

Sleep Hygiene



What is sleep hygiene?

- Sleep hygiene are ways that you can set yourself up for better sleep.
- Strong sleep hygiene means having both a bedroom environment and daily routines that promote consistent, uninterrupted sleep.
- Keeping a stable sleep schedule, making your bedroom comfortable and free of distractions, following a relaxing pre-bed routine, and building healthy habits during the day can all contribute to ideal sleep hygiene.
- 8-10 hours of sleep is recommended for adolescents.
- Everyone can tailor their sleep hygiene practices to suit their needs. Positive habits can make it easier to sleep soundly throughout the night and wake up well-rested.
- Can you think of some more suggestions for good sleep hygiene?



TALK & LISTEN,
BE THERE,
FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN,
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,
MOVE YOUR HOOD



REMEMBER
THE SIMPLE
THINGS THAT
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW
EXPERIENCES,
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,
SURPRISE YOURSELF



Your time,
your words,
your presence

MY CIRCLE OF CONTROL

I WILL FOCUS ON WHAT I CAN CONTROL



THINGS THAT ARE OUT OF MY CONTROL

What other people do	Things from the past	Other people's choices
What other people say	How other people feel	The weather

Helpful websites:

You can text: YM to 85258 for free 24/7 support

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

YOUNGmINDS

Online well-being platform that is accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop and free.

<https://www.kooth.com/>

kooth

HOPELINEUK (PAPYRUS)

Phone: 0800 068 4141

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>

Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org

Text: 07860039967

(Mon – Fri 0900 – 2200 and Sat – Sun 1400 – 2200)

 **PAPYRUS**
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE

Sexual Abuse

There is a helpline run by the NSPCC and is available to current or past victims as well as parents, carers or professionals with concerns. The number is 0800 136 663. The helpline is free and anonymous, and will be open Monday to Friday from 8am – 10pm and Saturday to Sunday from 9am – 6pm.

NSPCC

The Mix Crisis Messenger

shout
85258

Free 24/7
CRISIS TEXT LINE |

THE MIX
Essential support for under 25s
☎ 0808 808 4994

**gr'ef
encounter**

supporting bereaved children & young people

gr'eftalk helpline

0808 802 0111

Weekdays 9am-9pm

 **CHAT**

 **EMAIL**

 **CALL**

Young Carers:



Redbridge Carers
Support Service

Phone: 020 8514 6251

Email: office@rcss.org.uk



020 8496 2442

young.carers@walthamforest.gov.uk

Drugs and Alcohol Help and Advice

Redbridge Fusion NELFT Free and friendly confidential service to young people in the borough of Redbridge under the age of 18.

Station Road Centre, Station Road,
Barkingside,
Essex IG6 1NB

Tel: 020 8708 7801

Fax: 020 8708 7802

Email: fusion@redbridge.gov.uk

Opening times: 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday



NHS Foundation Trust



Drugs A-Z News ▼ Help and advice Contact

Search Q

0300 1236600

**Honest information
about drugs**

<https://www.talktofrank.com>

LGBTQ+

Dear Students,

Pride is a movement which celebrates diversity as well as protesting against discrimination and violence as whilst the rights of the LGBTQ+ community have come a long way, there is still not full equality. There is plenty of information online about the history of the development of the rights for the LGBTQ+ community available online, for example –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/40459213>

Remember, Pride is all about inclusivity and diversity. The priority is the promotion of equality and creating a community and a safe space for people to be who they are.

If you, or anyone you know, has any questions about this or feel that they need some support then you can speak to a trusted adult at school such as your Head of Year or Form Tutor. Alternatively, the following websites might be of use –

- **Stonewall**

For further information about LGBTQ+ and support, please see –

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/>

- **Give us a Shout**

Accessed on –

<https://giveusashout.org/>

Or can be reached 24/7 via text on 85258

- **The Proud Trust**

For information about local support groups, you can use –

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/>

- **Mermaids** (especially for young people who feel at odds with the gender they have been assigned)

Accessed on - <https://www.mermaidsuk.org.uk/>

Or you can call from Monday-Friday 9am-9pm on **0344 334 0550**

- **Switchboard** (an LGBTQ+

Helpline) Accessed on –

<http://switchboard.lgbt/> for online chat and email service

Or you can call from 10am-11pm everyday on 300 330 0630

Please look out for some information from me with regard to the Pride Youth Network!

Take care now.

Miss Keith

Pride Youth Network Co-ordinator



PRIDE YOUTH NETWORK!

**Meetings every Thursday
lunchtime 1:30 – 2:00pm in SF7**

Safe space for all

Feel free to bring your lunch

**Please speak to a PYN Ambassador or Miss Keith
if you have any queries or suggestions**





Dear Students

Woodford County High School subscribes to Tootoot, this is an online reporting platform and app for students. We are aware that there may be times when you may not feel comfortable to speak to someone face- to face about your concerns, or may be concerned about being identified or potentially making matters worse.

With Tootoot, you are able to safely and anonymously report your concerns and worries to mentors (WCHS safeguarding and pastoral team), so use this as a first step to resolving your concerns. ***Although anonymous please be aware that in the event of a serious safeguarding issue, (i.e. where a student is in danger of imminent harm) it would be possible for the Designated Safeguarding Leads to gain access to identify the student.***

Tootoot is accessible anywhere, anytime and on any internet-enabled device, if there is something that is concerning you, or making you feel unsafe (whether an issue personal to you or a wider concern about others in school) you can use this platform to raise your concern. School should be a safe place where you can grow in confidence and learn, no one should ever be bullied. When reporting you will also be able to attach supporting evidence, such as images, screenshots or documents etc.

Ms Hasler and Mrs Easton, as well as the school's Student Guidance Officer Mrs Holman and Assistant Student Guidance Officer Mrs Menon, will be happy to discuss any concerns you may have in person.

Please note that Tootoot **should not** be used for day to day school- related questions, please speak to your form tutor, teachers or Key Stage Administrator for these. You are also able to contact your teachers via email who will get back to you during a school day.

Keep an eye out for an email from Tootoot with your login details, which will be sent out via the Tootoot system. Your accounts are linked to your school email therefore should you forget your details going forward, you will always be able to use the "Forgotten your login/password?" feature on the home page to receive a password reset link.

Regards

Mrs Del Giudice

Mock Interview Day



Woodford Careers Department is organising a Mock Interview day for all students in year 12 towards the end of the summer term (July). The idea is to give all students a generic mock interview for a job, following which they will receive feedback on their performance and on their pre-submitted CV.

In order to do this we will need a good number of employers who would be willing to devote a morning of their time to interviewing five or six students, depending on the number of responses received.

Are there any parents who would be willing to come in to school to help us? If this is something that you have experience of, would like to be involved with and would be able to offer a few hours for the morning, please contact the Careers Coordinator at smithm@woodfordredbrigde.sch.uk and I will be happy to give some more details. Thank you for your support.



Time control

Six rounds of rapid games with 15 minutes for each player and 10 seconds increment for each move.

Eligibility

Open to all juniors born after 31-Aug-2004.

There are five main age sections: U8, U10, U12, U14 and U18. Ages are calculated as of 31-Aug-2022. Please visit the page below for detailed "Age Categories" calculations.

<https://bit.ly/UKCC-2023>

Prizes and Qualification for Gigafinals

The top boy and top girl in each section will receive trophies with medals for second and third-placed boys and girls. These players will qualify for the Gigafinals. Please note that ties for third place will all qualify, but tiebreak rules will be used to determine trophies and medals. All players scoring a minimum of 3.5 points will qualify for the Gigafinal.

The top 3 U7s, U9s and U11s will also qualify automatically (boy and girl) – assuming they haven't done so already using the criteria above.

Registration

Please register on the UKCC website using the link below or Scan this QR code:

<https://bit.ly/Essex-MF-2023>



Venue

The games will take place in the "Moot Hall" on the 2nd floor of the Town Hall.

There will be sitting spaces for parents/guardians in the following rooms of the same building:

1. Community Room (Ground Floor)
2. The Grand Jury / West Committee Room (1st Floor)
3. The North Committee Room (1st Floor)

We encourage one parent/guardian per child at the Town Hall to abide by the fire safety regulations. Colchester Castle and Castle Park are within 100 meters of the venue. If the weather permits, these are lovely outdoor spaces for accompanying family members.

Schedule

Arrival 09:30

Playing hall meeting 09:45

Round-1 10:00

Round-2 11:00

Round-3 12:00

Lunch break 13:00

Round-4 14:00

Round-5 15:00

Round-6 16:00

Prize giving 17:30

Refreshments

All popular food chains are available nearby. We will confirm the on-site arrangements nearer the time.

Travel

1. Car

There is **NO** onsite parking. The Britannia car park is about 8-10 minutes of walk and costs only £1 on Sundays. A closer alternative is Greyfriars Hotel Car Park by Castle Park, which costs £5 for 12 hours on Sundays. Several other public car parks are within a 10 mins walk from the venue.

Further details on <https://bit.ly/COL-CAR-PARKS>

2. Park and Ride

Details on <https://bit.ly/COL-PnR>

3. Trains

There are two stations in Colchester. The Colchester Town station is only 10 mins walk away. Colchester North station is only 20 mins walk away. Please check <https://www.greateranglia.co.uk/> for the service.

Notes

A professional photographer will take photos which may be published on chess websites or in chess-related articles. If you do not wish your child to be photographed, inform the organisers in the "Requirements" box of the registration form.

Please note that the organisers take no responsibility for looking after the children outside the playing hall. The organisers also cannot take responsibility for any theft or accident during the event. The organiser reserves the right to change the above on the day if required.

Summer Short Courses 2023

Ages 14-16



The Bartlett School of Architecture on-campus short courses have been specially designed for younger students looking to develop their understanding of architecture at university level.

As 14- to 16-year-olds approach the important decision about their GCSEs and A-levels soon, these courses will help them gain a better understanding of the built environment and its impact on our lives.

Our 1- to 2-day courses give an introduction into the specific skills an architect needs while also allowing students to develop their collaborative capabilities.

2-day courses

Option 1: 25-26 July

Option 2: 27-28 July

£240 (inc. VAT)

All courses will be held at The Bartlett School of Architecture, 22 Gordon Street, WC1H 0QB and run from 10:30-16:00.

1-day courses

Specialising in model making

Option 1: 25 July

Option 2: 26 July

£120 (inc. VAT)

Course fees include teaching and material costs only.

We offer a range of short courses for other age groups. We also offer a number of scholarships.

Specialising in drawing

Option 1: 25 July

Option 2: 26 July

£120 (inc. VAT)

Please visit our website for more information on how to apply.

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/architecture/programmes/short-courses-0>



The London Institute of Banking & Finance

If you are in year 12 and are considering studying finance, economics or business you may be interested in applying for a [Summer taster programme](#) with the London Institute of Banking and Finance.

Are you thinking of a career in the financial services but don't know where to start? Our [summer taster programme](#) is for you!

Join us over three days where you'll be able to experience a variety of workshops, talks and lectures led by industry experts. You'll also get a sneak peek into student life with LIBF through social activities, networking sessions and a guided tour around the city.

There are spaces available for both July and August so make sure to register your place to avoid missing out!

London Borough of
Redbridge



REDBRIDGE **YOUTH HUB**

**A virtual one-stop shop for
young people aged 16-24**

Find information and resources on

- ◆ education
- ◆ employment
- ◆ careers advice
- ◆ training
- ◆ apprenticeships
- ◆ managing money
- ◆ health and
well-being support



www.redbridge.gov.uk/youth-hub

