

Newsletter



17th July 2026 Issue 37



Dear Parents and Carers,

And just like that, another school year comes to an end. It really is true what they say – the older you get, the quicker the years seem to pass! Looking back though, there is so much to be proud of. We've shared plenty of memorable moments, celebrated successes big and small, and, through it all, remained focused on giving our young people the very best education and opportunities we can.

As always, none of this happens by chance. Our staff have given so much of themselves this year, and our students have responded with resilience, determination and, in so many cases, a real desire to do their very best. I couldn't be prouder of what we have achieved together. That said...I think we're all more than ready for a chance to recharge over the summer!

What better way to end the term than making today a day of celebration. We have had a wonderful time, finishing lessons, listening to music and dancing at break time, and of course our final assembly of the year together. That one last chance to come together as a community and announce our World Cup Attendance competition winners, our All Star Champion ticket winners and of course the inaugural house results. The year group winners were announced one by one; the tension was building. We know the competition has been close, but who was going to come out on the top. The cannon was ready, what colour would be falling from the sky? The excitement was building, no more waiting.... congratulations to Griffin House - Champions for 2025-26. So many happy young people and staff leaving the building with their medals (still covered in the glitter), what a team effort.

This final week has also seen our House Celebration Assemblies. Welcoming more than 600 parents, carers and family members into school to celebrate alongside us has been incredible. Thank you for taking the time to be there. Watching our students spot familiar faces in the audience and seeing the smiles, pride and excitement on their faces reminded us exactly why these occasions matter so much. Of course, we'll reflect over the summer and think about how we can make them even better next year. I'm sure there will be a few new ideas (and perhaps even a few extra awards!) ready for 2026-27.

Finally, thank you. Thank you for your support, your encouragement and for working alongside us throughout the year. Schools achieve the most when home and school work together, and we never take that partnership for granted. So, for now, I wish you all enjoy a wonderful summer. Take the opportunity to slow down, spend time together, make some happy memories and come back refreshed and ready for another exciting year at Passmores. And, to those staff who are leaving us today, we thank them all for their commitment and service to the Passmores community and wish them well for the future.

Have a fantastic summer everyone!

Natalie Christie
Principal of Passmores Academy

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Friday 10th to Thursday 16th July 2026

Bloor, Darcey	Year 7	85
Kozikowska, Ola	Year 7	83
Holcroft, Sofia	Year 7	76
Richards, Sophia	Year 7	75
Fitten, Callie	Year 7	72
Fisher, Lois	Year 7	68
Newberry, Gracie	Year 7	66
Rees, Talulah	Year 7	65
Tutka, Alicia	Year 7	65
Bacon, Harrison	Year 7	63
Lennard, Kiera	Year 7	63

Last, Charlotte	Year 8	94
Bricknell, Oscar	Year 8	86
Cooper, Ellie	Year 8	83
Gregory, Leo	Year 8	76
Boughlalah, Adam	Year 8	66
Jones, Lillie-Rose	Year 8	61
Fernandes, Roman	Year 8	60
Long, Immy	Year 8	60
Jenkins, Ava	Year 8	59
Knox, Blake	Year 8	58

Butterfield, Harriet	Year 9	66
Toku Appleton, Ethan	Year 9	63
Addison, Anyia-Joan	Year 9	61
Beckwith, Olivia	Year 9	61
Clark, Sophia	Year 9	61
Kuszyk, Patrycja	Year 9	61
Lee, Isaac	Year 9	61
May, Lily	Year 9	58
Hodson, Fin	Year 9	56
Cairns, Frankie	Year 9	55
Hills, Ella	Year 9	55
Wright, Megan	Year 9	55

Keen, Rein	Year 10	81
Euesden, Sophia	Year 10	73
Hills, Ronnie	Year 10	68
Marriott, Caiden	Year 10	66
Walsham, Bo	Year 10	65
Hill, Sadie	Year 10	58
Langham, Freya	Year 10	56
Babb, James	Year 10	55
Zajdel, Roxana	Year 10	32
Windeler, Emylei	Year 10	29

Year Group Attendance w/c 13 th July 2026	
Year 7	87.24%
Year 8	86.91%
Year 9	82.97%
Year 10	79.41%
All Students	84.17%

Farewell to My Beloved Passmores...

To all students, parents, carers and staff – past and present,

As I leave the school, I thought I would take a moment to reflect on my 23 years here – three as Head of Year and 20 as Assistant Principal. I joined in January 2003, at the old Passmores site, as it was a school that clearly had a lot of ambition, had a young staff, and was very near my home in the town centre. It was the job I wanted in a school I knew I would enjoy working in.

When I joined, we had 180 students in each year, including Miss M Midwinter (English) in Year 7 – who would later join our staff. She would become the first of many. Now I regularly teach the children of Passmores students who attended the school back in the day.

The previous Passmores School was a small, square building with peacocks ruling their quad and a small tower in each corner, representing each of our then-dormant houses. We were the school of choice for our local community and, as time went on, we became oversubscribed, as we have been ever since. Nowadays we are routinely asked to educate upwards of 250 students in every year group.

Changing the site of our school, and being involved in the design of our new building, was a once in a lifetime chance, and I am proud of our fantastic new venue. As we moved, we became more popular and were to enjoy serving a new community to us. They were exciting times and many keen staff stayed at the school for longer than the standard time because it felt like teaching in a new place, whilst keeping the best of our old home.

As with every school, the pandemic caused us to close our doors – something we have always tried to avoid - and we became online educators. It was the toughest time for our community as we lost staff and family members from our extended family. Despite this, we pulled together and the school was turned into a safe place for learning in those times we could have it open. Most students, staff and family members, were very pleased to be able to return to a new normal.

And here I am now, thinking back on the thousands of students who I have had the pleasure to work with, the excellent colleagues, and the mixed government backing. It has been the honour of my life to work at Passmores, and I leave with many happy memories. I would like to wish all of you the very best for the future.



Russell King
Assistant Principal



And the prize draw winners are...

Weekly Winners	Half-Termly Winners
Joshua Seip Rio Allen Maya Mustafa Reggie Gould Ayaan Ashraf Ryan Ward Lyla Spence Riley Whelan Jaimie-Leigh Souter Harrison Morgan	Year 7 Kayla Koom-Dadzie Yusrah Oki Gabe Austin Lacey Hymas Year 8 Amelie Owen Corey Thompson Leo Gregory Amelia-Mae Keeble Alice Rethon Year 9 Riley Phillips Faye Golding Amelia Surtees Jasmine Rowlett Alvin Mati Year 10 Lylah Cass-Barnard Ivy-Mae Rann Faith Hurlock
Termly Winner	
Reggie Clarke	

Congratulations to everyone that has been nominated and won a prize this year...
you're all brilliant!

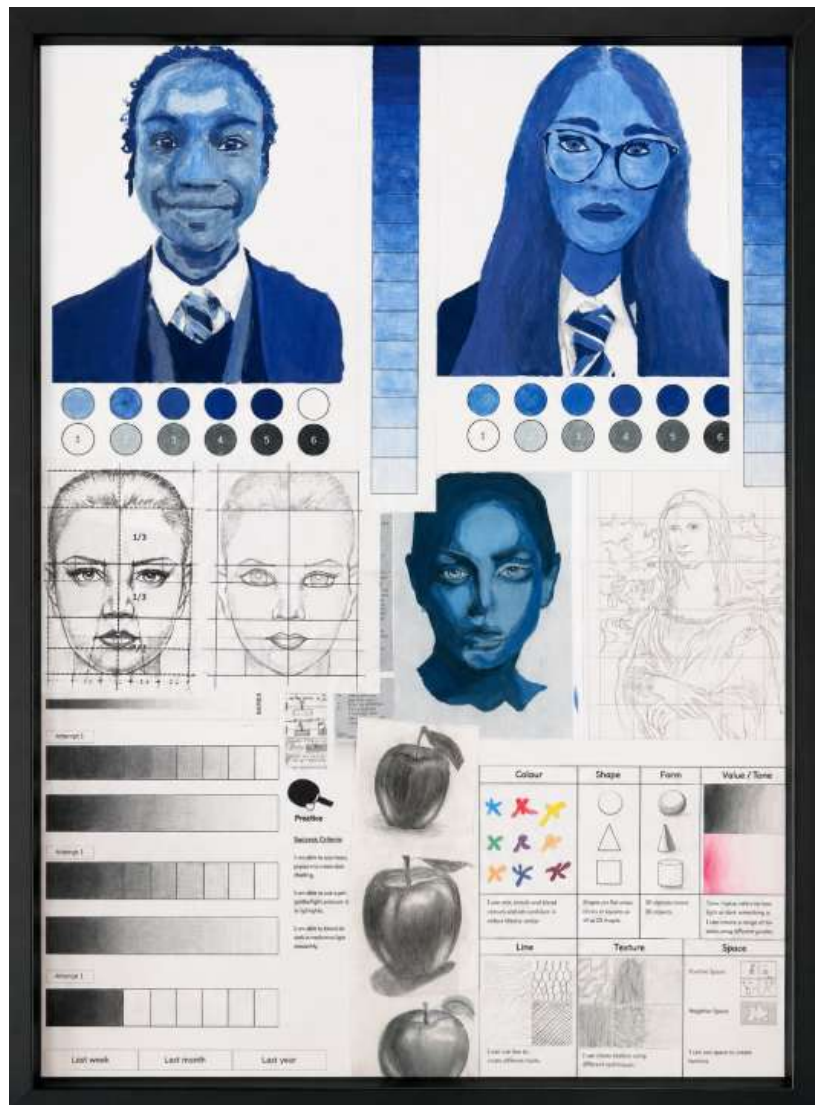
Art – Year 7

Our Year 7 students have had an exciting introduction to the world of art, beginning their journey by exploring the formal elements of art and developing the fundamental skills that underpin artistic practice. They started by learning pencil shading techniques through tonal bars before applying these skills to observational drawings of apples, focusing on light, shadow, and form.

As the project progressed, students studied the work of Leonardo da Vinci, with a particular focus on the iconic *Mona Lisa*. They learned about facial proportions and used the grid method to accurately recreate sections of the famous portrait, building confidence in their drawing and observational skills.

Students also explored the traditional painting techniques of the Renaissance, learning about chiaroscuro, the use of light and shadow to create depth, and sfumato, the subtle blending of tones to produce soft transitions. They experimented with these techniques by creating shade and tint bars using monochromatic colour schemes before applying their understanding to a final self-portrait. Using tints, tones, and shades of a single colour, students produced expressive and thoughtful artworks that showcased the skills they have developed throughout the project.

Year 7 have made an excellent start to their artistic journey, demonstrating creativity, perseverance, and a willingness to challenge themselves. They should be incredibly proud of everything they have achieved this year—well done, Year 7!



Art – Year 8

Our Year 8 students have recently completed their Sweet Treat project, exploring the fascinating relationship between sugar and its effects on our bodies through the lens of art. As part of their research, students studied the work of Peter Anton, whose larger-than-life, realistic sculptures highlight themes of sugar addiction and overconsumption, and Sarah Graham, whose beautifully detailed paintings of sweets evoke feelings of nostalgia and childhood memories.

Throughout the project, students developed their observational drawing skills by creating grid drawings, focusing on accuracy, blending techniques, and the effective use of coloured pencils. They then applied these skills to design and create their own realistic sweet sculptures, choosing from doughnuts, Haribo fried eggs, or lollipops. This final outcome challenged students to think carefully about form, colour, texture, and presentation while bringing their chosen sweet to life in three dimensions.

The quality of work produced has been outstanding, and it has been wonderful to see the creativity, resilience, and technical skills our students have developed throughout the project. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved over the past year and look forward to seeing their artistic journey continue.



Art – Year 9

Our Year 9 students have recently completed their Surrealism project, exploring the imaginative and dreamlike world of one of art history's most influential movements. Throughout the project, students studied the work of Salvador Dalí, André Breton, and Hannah Höch, gaining an understanding of how surrealist artists challenged reality through unexpected imagery, symbolism, and creative experimentation.

Students explored a range of surrealist techniques, creating Exquisite Corpse drawings, dreamlike landscapes, and unusual settings that encouraged them to think beyond the ordinary. Along the way, they developed a variety of artistic skills, including carbon printing, photomontage, watercolour application, coloured pencil blending, and expressive mark making.

For their final piece, students brought together everything they had learned to create a unique mixed media outcome, combining techniques and ideas to produce imaginative and highly personal artworks. The creativity, effort, and resilience shown throughout this project have been exceptional, and the final pieces are a true reflection of the skills they have developed over the past year.

They have worked incredibly hard and should be extremely proud of everything they have achieved. Well done, Year 9!



Essex Boys & Girls Awards 2026

We are extremely proud of Year 10 student, Molly Mooney who was recently nominated by Rainbow Services Youth Project to receive an Essex Boys & Girls Club Award in recognition of her Personal Development.

Molly, her parents, Miss Busson and several Rainbow Services Tutors & Mentors attended the annual EBGC Awards Ceremony at Anglian Ruskin University in Chelmsford on Thursday 9th July, along with many other staff and students from Essex Schools and Youth Groups.

Molly was unaware that she'd won, so her face was a picture when her name was read out as the WINNER!

The citation from Rainbow Services Youth Project, read as follows:

Molly was referred to us at Rainbow Services Youth Project in January 2025 by her school, Passmores Academy in Harlow. At that time, Molly was thought to be at high risk of being School Exclusion. Passmores Academy was keen for Molly to re-build positive relationships and re-connect with her school community.

Before joining the Youth Project, Molly often found herself involved in activities her family disapproved of and struggled with confidence, teamwork, and communication. Since enrolling, Molly has made remarkable progress. Molly completed a Level 1 in Carpentry Skills, a Certificate in Construction Health & Safety and achieving a Gateway qualification before progressing on to a community-based project which she excelled at. Molly also took part in our Firebreak programme, which focuses on teamwork, discipline, and resilience.

Throughout Molly's time with Rainbow Services, her independent thinking and self-belief have significantly grown. Molly can now work confidently both independently and in groups. One of Molly's proudest achievements was helping to build equipment for the Youth Project, which is now used daily by other young people. She also became the first young woman to complete the Firebreak "Leap of Faith" challenge, demonstrating courage and determination.

Looking ahead, Molly has expressed a strong interest in passing on the practical skills and the life lessons she has learnt on our Youth Project courses, by way of mentoring our younger students who are just starting out on their journey within Rainbow Services.

Molly's family have noticed a clear positive change in Molly at home as have we in School.

Well done Molly!



Year 10 GCSE Photography Students Explore London

Last Thursday, our Year 10 GCSE Photography students enjoyed a fantastic photography trip to London to gather images for their coursework portfolios.

Travelling by train from Harlow Town to London Liverpool Street, students began a walking tour through Spitalfields where they captured the vibrant street art and explored composition, colour and texture through their photography.



The route then took us into the City of London, where students photographed iconic landmarks including The Gherkin and the Lloyd's Building. They produced some outstanding images, focusing on strong lines, form, reflections and contrast, demonstrating the photographic techniques they have been developing throughout the course.

After crossing the river, we stopped at the ever-popular Borough Market for lunch, with students taking the opportunity to photograph the colourful food displays and fresh produce before continuing our walk along the South Bank to Tate Modern. The gallery's air conditioning was certainly appreciated after a very warm day of walking!

Our final stretch took us across the Millennium Bridge, past the magnificent St Paul's Cathedral and back to Liverpool Street Station. To round off a brilliant day, Miss Richards treated everyone to a well-earned ice lolly before the journey home.

With plenty of steps completed and some very tired feet by the end of the day, the students should be incredibly proud of their efforts. They returned with hundreds of high-quality photographs, providing an excellent starting point for the next stage of their GCSE portfolios. We look forward to seeing the final outcomes in the months ahead.



Drama

As we make our way to the end of the school year, I would like to take the time to reflect on another successful year of performing arts magic!

- KS4 trips to see Punch, The Woman in Black and Bouncers/Shakers.
- Taking 380 KS3 students to The Harlow Playhouse pantomime.
- Performances of Alan Ayckbourne's Gizmo by our GCSE classes.
- A winter drama showcase where 70 students showed off their hard work from our extra-curricular drama clubs.
- And last but not least, our fabulous summer production, Matilda Jr.

The drama department would like to thank you all for your continued support this year, without which, we wouldn't be able to create the wonderful memories that our young people cherish so much.

Now it's time for us to hang up our character shoes, rest our jazz hands and prepare for another exciting year ahead!

We hope you enjoy making your own memories and stories over the summer!

No Burger Left Behind!

If anyone noticed the large number of burgers and sausages left over after last night's BBQ, you'll be pleased to know that nothing went to waste!



At around 6pm, our lovely Jo Busson collected what can only be described as an impressive amount of food - a bag for life overflowing with cooked sausages and a large kitchen terrine stacked high with freshly cooked burgers! She looked quite the sight carrying it all through the crowds of children dancing along to the disco!

Over the next two hours, every last burger and sausage was delivered to local vulnerable residents and PCLC families, providing a welcome meal to enjoy alongside the football.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in making the BBQ such a success, and especially to Jo for helping ensure that the leftover food could be shared with members of our community who appreciated it most.

It's another wonderful example of our school community looking after one another.

I just wanted to let you know how incredible the Matilda performances were!

I went to the Tuesday and Thursday shows and I think what you, the staff and all the kids achieved was phenomenal. I could have watched it again and again! I've seen Matilda in the West End, and honestly I preferred the Passmores version.

The commitment to their characters, the choreo, the singing - all in the heat - was just incredible. I can't say enough good things about it!

This was my first experience of a Passmores show, and I was blown away.

Thank you for everything you've done for them, I know some lovely friendships have come from this experience, as well as gaining confidence and time on stage.

I have just returned home from seeing my granddaughter perform in this wonderful adaptation of Matilda.

The enthusiasm and confidence that was shown tonight from all the pupils was overwhelming.

The choreography was outstanding and I applaud all the staff for giving their time and energy to coach so many pupils.

*Well done everyone.
It was AMAZING.*

I just wanted to drop you a quick email and say how much I enjoyed the show last night! We came to see Charlie and the chocolate factory last year and I wasn't sure if it was gonna beat that, but it was fantastic!

The set was brilliant too and I loved all the book covers on the steps, I heard a lot of people commenting on them, I think they should be kept as they look great! Really looking forward to coming back tomorrow and seeing it again with the family.

Thanks again for all the hard work and extra hours you guys have done!

The Reviews...

I am writing to express my appreciation for the wonderful work you have done.

The children performed exceptionally well in their first show, and I am very pleased that my granddaughter is a part of this production.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

ROALD DAHL'S

Matilda

THE MUSICAL JR.

DRAGON HOUSE CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY 2026



GRIFFIN HOUSE CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY 2026



LION HOUSE CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY 2026



UNICORN HOUSE CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY 2026



Miss Richard's Great North Run for No Child Without

After completing the London Marathon in 2025, I wanted to set myself a new challenge. On Sunday 13th September, I will be taking on the Great North Run, one of the world's most iconic half marathons.

Over the years, I have been proud to raise money for Passmores Academy's charity, No Child Without, and I felt this was the perfect opportunity to once again support a cause that is incredibly close to my heart.

I am privileged to work at Passmores alongside colleagues who feel more like family. Every day, we see the difference that opportunities can make to young people's lives. Like many schools across the UK, we serve a community facing significant challenges, and for some families, financial barriers can prevent students from accessing experiences and opportunities that many of us take for granted.

No Child Without is a registered charity established in 2013 to support local young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. The charity provides financial assistance to help students fulfil their ambitions and access opportunities that may otherwise be out of reach. This can include funding educational visits, extracurricular activities, equipment, uniform, clothing and other essential resources that enable young people to thrive.

Every donation, no matter how big or small, will help ensure that no child misses out because of their circumstances.

Thank you for your support, it really does make a difference.

If you would like to donate, please follow the link below.

[JustGiving/Carolyn Richards Great North Run](https://www.justgiving.com/Carolyn-Richards-Great-North-Run)



Carolyn Richards
Head of House | Head of Department - Photography



AEF SUMMER HOLIDAYS SPORTS & ACTIVITIES FOR 11-16 YEAR OLDS

22ND JULY - 28TH AUGUST

FOOTBALL | GOLF | BOXING / GYM | LASER TAG

FREE - FUNDED BY ACTIVE ESSEX FOUNDATION

HARLOW

BOOK NOW: [CLCS.AS.ME/SECONDARYSUMMERACTIVITIESAEF](https://clcs.as.me/secondarysummeractivitiesAEF)



SUMMER TIMETABLE

Book: clcs.as.me/secondarysummeractivitiesAEF

Date	Activity	Time	Location	Notes
22nd July	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
28th July	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
29th July	Golf	6pm	Stansted Golf World	Meet 5pm at Bush Fair Gym
30th July	Boxing / Gym	11:00	Bush Fair	
04th August	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
05th August	Golf	6pm	Stansted Golf World	Meet 5pm at Bush Fair Gym
06th August	Boxing / Gym	11:00	Bush Fair	
07th August	Laser Tag	14:30	Kingsmoor Academy	
11th August	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
13th August	Laser Tag	14:30	Kingsmoor Academy	
17th August	Laser Tag	14:30	Kingsmoor Academy	
18th August	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
19th August	Golf	6pm	Stansted Golf World	Meet 5pm at Bush Fair Gym
20th August	Boxing / Gym	11:00	Bush Fair	
25th August	Football	5pm	Mark Hall Astroturf	
26th August	Golf	6pm	Stansted Golf World	Meet 5pm at Bush Fair Gym
27th August	Boxing / Gym	11:00	Bush Fair	
28th August	Laser Tag	14:30	Kingsmoor Academy	



Experience a Day in the Life of a Healthcare Assistant

You will:

Discover the role of a Healthcare Assistant

Learn about Infection Prevention and Control, including: Hand hygiene, Using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), The 5 Moments of Hand Hygiene and Bed-changing skills

Take physiological measurements and record NEWS observations

Learn Basic Life Support skills

Take part in a Healthcare Escape Room challenge

This fun and interactive workshop will give you a real insight into life on a hospital ward while helping you develop practical skills through realistic clinical activities.

This opportunity is available to students in Year 9 and Year 10.

Date: Wednesday 22nd July or Thursday 23rd July

Time: 10am – 3:30pm

Venue: Brentwood Community Hospital

How to book your place:

You can apply for the opportunity through the [Experience Hub](#)

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

School Address

Passmores Academy, Tracyses Road, Harlow, Essex, CM18 6JH

Main Telephone

01279 770800

passmores@passmoresacademy.com

Student Absence

Report via the  Arbor app

Change of Contact Details

h.day@passmoresacademy.com

Student Services

pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com

First Aid

pafirstaid@passmoresacademy.com

Extra-Curricular Clubs

h.day@passmoresacademy.com

Account / Trips

s.hodges@passmoresacademy.com

Homework

datateam@passmoresacademy.com

Free School Meals

pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com

For a full list of staff contact details, click [here](#)

Reporting An Absence

If you need to report your child absent from school, please ensure you are following the correct procedure on Arbor.



If notifying us via the app:

- Click on the 3 lines (at the bottom left of the dashboard).
- Log Absence (green bar at the top)
- Complete the information and click 'Log Absence'

If notifying us from a web browser:

- Click on the 'Quick Actions' button
- Click 'Attendance'

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 17 th July	End of Term Early Finish for Students
Wednesday 2 nd September	School Opens for Autumn Term 1 (Year 7s only)
Thursday 3 rd September	School Opens for Autumn Term 1 (All Year Groups)



Lost property will be left out on the tables in the **Heart Space** on
Thursday 16th July.

Anything unclaimed will be going to charity.



Thank you for all your
support this year.

Together
We Raised!

£5269.38



Raising money to enhance your young person's education

OUR EVENTS

CHRISTMAS AND SUMMER FETES

Our Christmas Market Night brings in an array of outside stall holders selling lots of gifts and Christmas treats.

PASSMORES' GOT TALENT

We have now held two Talent shows. We doubled the amount of acts this year and introduced staff judges. The students involved can not wait to enter again in 2027

CAKE SALES/BINGO/QUIZ

These events get the brain working and the belly full! Packed with fun and laughter, there's something for everyone.

REFRESHMENTS AT SCHOOL EVENTS

During the year we support different events at the school to sell refreshments. These include: Parents/Carers and Information evenings, music and drama concerts and discos.

ABOUT US

Friends of Passmores is made up of staff and parents/carers of Passmores Academy, we work together to raise money to put back into the school, purchasing products to enhance the education of our students.

We try to hold an event each half term, from fetes, to cake sales, and talent shows.



WHY CHOOSE US?

• Parents/Carers and Staff



A great chance to work with your wider school community and to make a difference in your school.

• A small time commitment – a big impact



You can choose how much time you put into the team, but any time spent will make a big impact to your young persons education.

• Educational Opportunities



The money raised helps your child to enhance their education with new equipment or knowledge.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact us for more information or to join our team.

Email:



fop@passmoresacademy.com

Facebook: passmoresseasonalevents

Instagram: passmores_community



Friends of **PASSMORES**



AGM

*Have your say. Support our school.
Make a difference together. ♥*



DATE

**1st October
2026**



TIME

6pm



MEETING HELD IN

**The Heart
Space**



TOGETHER,
we can do great things!





FRIENDS OF PASSMORES

CHRISTMAS MARKET

4TH
DECEMBER
2026
6PM - 8PM

THE GRINCH IS
BACK

Merry
Christmas

£1 ADULT

50P U16 & OVER 60

FREE UNDER 5



FRIENDS OF PASSMORES

CHRISTMAS MARKET

4TH
DECEMBER
2026
6PM - 8PM

We are looking for stallholders.

Please email

fop@passmoresacademy.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SKIN BETTING

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

'Skin betting' is the term used when players gamble using virtual in-game items, such as weapon 'skins' or character cosmetics. Although these items appear purely decorative, some can hold significant real-world value. Research suggests that children as young as 13 have engaged in this type of betting, often on sites with limited age checks or safeguards, blurring the line between gaming and gambling.

UNREGULATED PLATFORMS

Skin gambling typically takes place on third-party websites that are not licensed or regulated. These platforms often lack age verification, making them easily accessible to children. By linking their gaming accounts, users can deposit skins, place bets, and withdraw winnings as cash or higher-value items – often without adults being aware these activities are happening.

REAL-WORLD VALUE

Skins may look like simple cosmetic upgrades to in-game items and characters, but some are worth hundreds or even thousands of pounds. They can be traded or sold on online marketplaces, meaning they function much like real money. When young people bet with skins, they are risking items of genuine financial value, even if no physical cash is exchanged directly.

INFLUENCER PROMOTION

Some gaming influencers and streamers have promoted skin betting sites in their content. This can make the behaviour appear normal or even desirable, potentially encouraging younger audiences to engage in these activities without fully understanding the risks involved.

SOCIAL STATUS PRESSURE

In games such as Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) and Fortnite, rare skins can act as status symbols. Young players may feel the pressure to own high-value items to fit in with peers. This can lead them to take risks – such as using gambling sites – to obtain desirable skins, similar to how branded goods can influence behaviour offline.

LIMITED OVERSIGHT

Skin betting can take place both in-game and on external websites that parents and educators may not be familiar with. Because skin betting does not always resemble traditional gambling, it can go unnoticed until significant losses have occurred, in both items or money.

GATEWAY BEHAVIOURS

Skin betting mirrors many aspects of traditional gambling, including chance-based outcomes, reward systems and excitement. Early exposure to these mechanics can normalise betting behaviours before children and young people even reach legal gambling age. Research indicates that this may increase the likelihood of developing unhealthy habits later, particularly if early wins create a false sense of control or skill.

Advice for Parents & Educators

UNDERSTAND IN-GAME ITEMS

Familiarise yourself with the games young people are playing and learn whether they include tradable or sellable items. Titles like CS:GO and Rust are known for skin marketplaces, but similar systems are increasingly common across games.

DISCUSS VALUE AND RISK

Help children and young people understand that cosmetic items like skins can carry real-world value. Explain that losing them through betting is comparable to losing money, therefore reinforcing the connection between in-game actions and real financial consequences.

LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS

Be alert to changes in behaviour, such as secrecy around gaming, a strong focus on acquiring specific skins, or a sudden loss of in-game items. These could indicate involvement in skin gambling and provide an opportunity to start a conversation about it.

USE CONTROLS AND SAFEGUARDS

Make use of parental controls and platform settings to restrict trading, purchases, and access to external websites. Where possible, disable marketplace features on games and monitor young people's account activity to reduce the risk of unauthorised transactions.

Meet Our Expert

Nathan David is Head of Foundation and Programme Lead for Esports Coaching at the University Campus of Esports.

Bubba Gaedert is a Senior Lecturer and Head of Events at the University Campus of Esports, as well as President and Co-Founder of the Videogames and Esports Foundation.



The National College

See full reference list on our website

[@wake_up_weds](https://www.wakeupweds.com)

[/www.thenationalcollege](https://www.thenationalcollege.com)

[@wake.up.wednesday](https://www.wakeupweds.com)

[@wake.up.weds](https://www.wakeupweds.com)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.07.2026

Bereavement support for children



Helping 5- to 15-year-olds navigate grief through creativity, connection and understanding.

FREE SUMMER WORKSHOPS
29 July
12 August

Hastingwood,
CM17 9JX



Make a referral

stclarehospice.org.uk/bereaved-children
bereavement@stclarehospice.org.uk

Has your child experienced the loss of a family member, friend or someone significant in their life?

Led by St Clare Hospice's family therapist and specially trained bereavement volunteers, our gentle, creative bereavement workshops provide a safe and supportive space where children can:

- Explore and express their feelings
- Remember their special person
- Build confidence and resilience
- Meet other children with similar experiences so they know they are not alone



Wind Chimes of Remembrance

**Wednesday 29 July
2.30pm to 4.30pm
For ages 5 to 15**

Children will create their own personalised wind chime as a meaningful keepsake to remember someone special. Through creative activities and gentle conversation, we'll explore memories, emotions and ways to stay connected to those we miss.

Spaces are limited. A referral is required to be considered for a place.

The Colour Monster: Music, Art and Movement

**Wednesday 12 August
2.30pm to 4.30pm
For ages 5 to 11**

Inspired by the popular Colour Monster books, children will explore emotions linked to grief through music, art and movement. Together we'll discover that all feelings are welcome and learn healthy ways to express and manage emotions while having fun and connecting with others.



Make a referral

stclarehospice.org.uk/bereaved-children
bereavement@stclarehospice.org.uk



ZINC SUMMER JAM!

FREE TO ATTEND!

Every Wednesday in August

The club days will be packed with fun sports and arts activities to keep you Motivated and Active! Whatever your ability, come and join us!



**Lunch
Included**



Ages 11-17



11-1pm



**Ongar Youth Centre, The Gables
Chipping Ongar, CM5 0GA**

**Book your
place here**



01277 365 626



rhianna.picking@zincarts.org.uk



SA FOUNDATION

WOMEN'S WALKING FOOTBALL

FUN. FRIENDLY. FOR EVERYONE.

Join SA Foundation (SAF) for **FREE** women's walking football sessions and be part of something amazing!



Get active in a fun, relaxed and supportive environment



Improve your health, fitness and wellbeing



Meet new people and be part of a great community



STARTING MONDAY
15TH JUNE – 27TH JULY



Passmores Academy
Tracyes Road, Harlow,
Essex, CM18 6JH



EVERY MONDAY
Time: 5:00pm – 6:00pm



For women 18+
All abilities welcome!

FREE
TO TAKE PART!

**BOOK YOUR PLACE
TODAY!**

Spots are limited –
scan the QR code or
use the link below to book:



<https://book.EnglandFootball.com/Kickabout18/safoundation/Summary/ba64c5ea-50de-4537-a779-242a7f5a8ad3>



safoundation.co.uk



@safoundationuk

**STRONGER TOGETHER
THROUGH FOOTBALL**

Join the pride!

Lions ON THE Loose

Volunteer with *Lions on the Loose* this summer!

St Clare Hospice's spectacular public art trail is coming to Harlow, Epping and Loughton – and we need you to help make it a roaring success!

Volunteer solo, or as a team with colleagues, friends or family, and help make *Lions on the Loose* an un-fur-gettable experience for everyone!



We need:

-  **Safari Squad Rangers and Responders:** Keep our lions safe and happy
-  **Farewell Weekend Volunteers:** Support the grand finale celebrations
-  **In Memory Rangers and Responders:** Help the Lions on the Loose legacy live on

Why get involved?

-  **Make a difference** in your community and support St Clare Hospice's vital care for local people
-  **Have fun:** Meet new people, enjoy the outdoors and be part of a creative, colourful trail that everyone will love
-  **Learn and grow:** Gain new skills and experience – perfect for individuals or corporate volunteering days



lionsontheloose.co.uk/volunteer
lionsvolunteers@stclarehospice.org.uk

Volunteer. Roar. Repeat.



Presenting Partner

hhct Harlow Health
Centres Trust
Promoting Health and Wellbeing

Sponsored By


HASLARS

In Association

St Clare
Hospice



Join the pride!

Lions
ON THE
Loose

Our spectacular public art trail is coming to Harlow, Epping and Loughton – and we need you to help make it a roaring success!

Volunteer with *Lions on the Loose* this summer!



Sign up now



BAFTA AWARD WINNING SOUTH SHORE
MAKERS OF *BATCH FROM SCRATCH*
ARE MAKING A BRAND NEW FOOD SERIES

TIME POOR & LIVING ON CONVENIENCE FOOD?

ARE YOUR FOOD BILLS
OUT OF CONTROL?

DO YOU WANT TO
REVOLUTIONISE YOUR
COOKING HABITS
TO SAVE VALUABLE TIME
& MONEY?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR
HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS
THE UK TO TAKE PART
IN A BRAND NEW SERIES FOR
A MAJOR UK BROADCASTER.

Get in touch today!

<https://bit.ly/44hP3QZ>

For more information on how we process your data
please visit <https://www.southshore.uk/legal/privacy-policy>



2026



10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hoggs Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now 
Free Entry



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Essex Fire Museum Open Days

2026



18th and 30th Of August

10:30AM To 4:00PM

Fire Station, Hoggs Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS



Book Now ➤
Free Entry



Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk



West Essex SEN Fun Day Picnic

Epping Forest District Council

29th July 11-3pm

**Bring a Picnic.
Fruit Bags and
Water
available**

**Yoga
session**



**Special
Guests
'SPACE'**



11-3pm

Activities for 0-25 yr olds

Arts & Crafts, Hook the Duck, Sensory tents, 0-5 year Ball pond, Techno room, and much much more.

11-3pm

Sport Activities for 0-25 yr olds

Out door Table Tennis, Field Tennis, Gentle Cone work, Space hoppers, 0-5 physical area and more.

11pm-3pm

Sing & Sign with Jessie Cat

Singing and sign fun with Rebecca and Jess the Cat.

11-3pm

Lets talk Rubbish info board

Board showing the effects of litter on our environment. Can you guess how long something breaks down in the environment.

1pm-3pm

Fire Engine & Fire Safety Talk (dependant on being called out)

Come along and meet the local firemen. Sit in the fire Engine and have a go at using the Hose. Then enjoy the fantastic safety talk.

11-3pm

Non-contact Boxing

Come and have some physical fun through non-contact boxing.

11-3pm

FREQUENCY MACHINE

DJ interactive work shop

Take part in an interactive DJ workshop and learn more about sounds, beats and basic DJ skills! Plus, design a DJ logo and create your very own DJ name.

11-3pm

Story Time with Essex Library

Come and enjoy listening to a story in our story corner with Ruth from Essex Libraries.

11-3pm

Ice-cream van token zone

Our local ice-cream van will be joining us. Each child/young person attending will receive one free ice-cream.

11-3pm

Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Services

Talk to our team regarding various questions you may have, our Health Visitor, School Nurse, Family Wellbeing Nurse, Speech & language, Nutrition team and Healthy family support practitioners.

**Face
painting**

**EFDC
Short breaks
Talk Listen Cuddle
HomeStart
Active Essex
ACL
Essex Youth
Services**

**Hazelwood Delivery Hub
Waltham Abbey
EN9 3EL**

Commisioned by
NHS
Essex County Council

FREE SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR SECONDARY AGES

INCLUSIVE FUN FOOTBALL

COACHES WILL MAKE SESSIONS INCLUSIVE AND FUN FOR ALL ABILITIES!

Ages: 11 to 16

- Play with Friends
- Keep Active
- Have Fun
- Improve fitness and confidence
- Meet new people

LOCATION

- Mark Hall Sport Centre London Road, Newhall



Book Your Space today



Details

- **Times:** 5pm to 6pm
- **Dates:** July 21, 28
- **Dates:** August 4, 11, 18, 25
- **Refreshments available**
- **Qualified Coaches**
- **Matches Tournaments**
- **Coaching Opportunities**
- **Employment Pathways**



07495 696 878 / 07876 352 025



www.CLCS.org.uk / B.doyle@clcs.org.uk

FREE SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR SECONDARY AGES

BOXING

COACHES WILL MAKE SESSIONS INCLUSIVE AND FUN FOR ALL ABILITIES!

Ages: 11 to 16

- Play with Friends
- Keep Active
- Have Fun
- Improve fitness and confidence
- Meet new people

LOCATION

- Changing Lives Gym, Bush Fair Harlow, CM186PA (Bush Fair Shopping precinct)



Details

- Times: 11pm to 12pm
- Dates: July 30th
- Dates: August 6th, 20th, 27th
- Refreshments available
- Qualified Coaches
- Gym training available
- Coaching Opportunities
- Employment Pathways

Book Your Space today



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FREE SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR SECONDARY AGES

LASER TAG OUTDOORS

Ages: 11 to 16

- Play with Friends
- Keep Active
- Have Fun
- Improve fitness and confidence
- Meet new people

LOCATION

- Kingsmoor Academy, Ployters Road Harlow Essex CM18 7PS



Details

- Times: 2:30 pm to 4pm
- Dates: August 7th, 13th, 17th 28th
- Refreshments available
- Laser range of a Football Pitch
- Outdoors Forest Areas
- Multiple Game types

Book Your Space today



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FREE SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR SECONDARY AGES

GOLF

COACHES WILL MAKE SESSIONS INCLUSIVE AND FUN FOR ALL ABILITIES!

Ages: 11 to 16

- Play with Friends
- Keep Active
- Have Fun
- Improve fitness and confidence
- Meet new people

LOCATION

- Golf World Stansted, Hall Rd, Bishop's Stortford CM22 6FL



Details

- Times: 6pm to 7pm
- Dates: July 29th
- Dates: August 5th, 19th, 26th
- Course play on last day
- Minibus Collection at 5pm from Changing Lives Gym, Harlow
- Driving Range, Short game
- Putting
- High tech Trackman

Book Your Space today



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