



Welcome to our first edition of LiFE at Ashby! Within this fortnightly bulletin, we aim to give you the key information you need as parents alongside a round up of all the great things that happen in our school. We know that effective communication is important and so by centralising information for you, we hope this will make things a little easier and reduce the amount of e-mails you get. We are interested in your opinions on this approach and so we will be sending out a quick survey to gather feedback next half term. We will also continue to explore other ways that we can make our communication more effective in the coming months.

Next Two Weeks Events

- Week beginning 23rd September – CAT & Reading assessments for Year 10 students
- Weeks beginning 23rd & 30th September – Baseline assessments in English, Reading, Maths & Science for Year 7 students
- 26th September – European Day of Languages
- 27th & 30th September & 1st October – Year 11 Geography field trips – students attend 1 day
- Thursday 3rd October – Open evening for Y6 students thinking of joining us in 2025. 5pm-7pm with Headteacher talks and 5:30 & 6:15pm

Pastoral & Safeguarding Updates

Policies - Please can parents read our updated [Home School Communication Policy](#) and [Parent/Carer Code of Conduct](#) for Y7 - Y11 Students, then confirm agreement on [this form](#) by 30th September. If you have more than one child at Ashby, please complete it for one child and you will be directed to complete for your other child(ren) at the end.

Attendance - Penalty Notice fines will be considered if there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10-week period.

Uniform - Most students have taken responsibility by adhering to our uniform policy. A reminder that:

- Lanyards and cards should be worn at all times
- Only stud earrings to be worn in ears – no hoops
- Only clear retainers to be worn in other facial piercings
- Excessively long false nails are not allowed due to health and safety reasons

Key Dates

- 10th October KS3 & KS4 Flu Vaccinations
- 17th October - Settling in evening for Y7, Y10 & Y12
- 19th to 27th October - Half term
- Saturday 2nd & Saturday 16th November - Open morning tours of our Sixth form site
- 7th November - Open Evening for students considering Ashby Sixth form
- 14th November - School early finish 2.05pm
- 21st November- Y13 parents evening (face to face)
- 5th December - Y11 parents evening (face to face)
- 20th December at 3:10pm (normal time) - Break up for Christmas

Curriculum Updates

So we can continue to support the professional development of our teaching teams and to foster collaboration across LiFE MAT, all our schools will be finishing early on the following dates to facilitate XMAT professional learning opportunities for our staff. • 14/11/2024 • 16/01/2025 • 13/02/2025 • 13/03/2025 • 08/05/2025 • 26/06/2025 Finishing the school day at 2pm offers significant benefits for teachers by providing dedicated time for professional learning that includes both subject-specific training and career development. Bus travel arrangements will be altered on these days and routine extra-curricular activities will not run.

Operations Updates

Please can we remind everyone to Show **R**espect and Accept **R**esponsibility when dropping off and picking up students from school. Please do not park on double yellow lines, across our neighbour's drives or in places that will put students' safety at risk.

What's been happening...



Our Year 7's enjoyed a range of engaging activities at our Talk the Talk workshop last week where they had a fantastic opportunity to build their Oracy skills.



We got off to a flying start with our Netball afterschool extra-curricular club, across all ages and key stages.

You can view our full extra-curricular timetable [here](#).

Some of our Students enjoying the lovely food that our canteen has to offer.

You can view our menus [here](#).



Our new benches are providing more seating for our Students during break and



Our new canopy area provides a covered space for our Students during break and lunchtime, no matter what the weather brings.



Our Students took part in Jeans for Genes Day, wearing Jeans for a £1 donation to help change lives for people living with genetic conditions.