



Weekly Student Bulletin for Notley High School Sixth Form Students Friday 6th December 2024

Dear BSF Students,

December has now officially started, and the Christmas tree is up in the Sixth Form. Thank you to Freya P, Hannah T and Arjim H for spending a morning before tutor putting this up. The cheeky elves have arrived in my household, so if anyone has any good ideas of what they could get up to please do send them to me. I am happy to do a prize for the best ide, or any that I use!

This week has also seen the Year 13 Criminology students spending two days doing their internal assessment. Well done to all of you for keeping calm heads for such long sessions – hopefully two hour A-level exams will feel like a breeze after consecutive days of 4 hour exams.

Notices

UCAS

There have been a few more forms sent off, there are more than have been submitted to us ready to send and a few more applications that have now linked to the centre. Please do let Mrs Howells know when you have sent yours and look to organise a time to meet with her to go over your form, and do ask either of us any questions about your applications at any point.

Student of the week/Heart points

There are student of the week nominations being sent through each week by staff. Well done to the students who have been nominated already and received Heart points.

Heart points are now being rewarded for any of the below areas within the Sixth Form. Don't forget what HEART represents and what we look for in the HEART of a sixth form student.



The HEART of a Sixth Former

High expectations → ALPS target grades, High grades, Progression routes, Dress code, Attendance and Punctuality, Role model to younger students.

Effort → Independent study, Learning behaviours, Enrichment, Academic reading.

Active listening & learning → Participation and listening in lessons, 1 to 1 tutorials

Respect → Positive environment, Communication, Staff and students, Role Models.

Teamwork → Collective results, Support system, Sixth Form building and environment.

Enjoy, Enrich, Achieve, Aspire



Year 11 breakfasts – subject ambassador/prefect support

Thank you again to the prefects and subject ambassadors who helped out at the breakfast event this Wednesday, and those from Mr Wilson's tutor group who stepped in to help out as quite a few ambassadors were in the Criminology exam. It was great to see you engaging with the Year 11's we invited and talking to them about some of the reasons they should apply to study here next year.

Enterprise Fair

On Tuesday, we will be holding the Enterprise Fair which hopefully Year 12 are ready for! Year 7 students will be brought over at 9.10 so you need to be set up by then. Your tutors will be in the theatre/café area that morning and will have paper registers so you do not need to go to tutor period, but you must sign in and make sure you see your tutor has seen you so that you are marked in. You can arrive earlier than 8.40 and I would advise you to do so in order to get the spot you would prefer! Do not forget about having a float prepared and ways to make your stall stand out. I am looking forward to seeing what all the companies have produced and also buying a few bits myself.

Year 12 PD - Interview programme

Year 12 have participated in mock interviews this week. These are really invaluable opportunities to gain some interview experience - even though the prospect may well have filled some of you with dread! Well done to all of you who submitted a letter of application and participated in the interviews. I have heard some really pleasing feedback already. Hopefully your experience was a good one, but remember that if it did not go exactly as you hoped, that is also a useful experience.

Year 13 Mock exam week – next week.

Mock exam week begins for year 13s on Monday. All students are expected to be in for tutor in the morning at 8.40am and lessons will still run during period 1 and 2. If students do not have an exam they are expected in these lessons. There will be no lessons running from breaktime onwards. Year 13 students are welcome to remain onsite to study or leave to study at home.

Mock exam dates

Year 13 – Week beginning 9th December

Year 12 – Week beginning 13th January

Opportunities for you

This section contains opportunities that are sent through from a variety of different organisations. The opportunities will vary in nature and be suitable for different students, some of the opportunities will be free and others may have a cost associated to them.

University of Suffolk

National Apprenticeship Week event - Wednesday 12 February 2025: 5.00 - 8.30pm

This event is held on our Ipswich Campus, open to everyone. Whether you want to explore a new career path, upskill, or find out more about the apprenticeship pathway as a student, you're welcome to come along.

More information or to register

<https://www.uos.ac.uk/about/events/employer-and-learner-networking-event/>

Open day dates:

Saturday 29th March 2025

Saturday 5th July 2025

Future Careers Experience – Online work experience course

A self-paced programme where students explore tech pathways with activities like CV-building and employability skills workshops. (approx. 7 hours)

[Defy the limits with Amazon: Future Careers Experience | Springpod](#)

Kooth

Kooth is an online mental health and wellbeing platform, which will be available throughout the winter holidays.

While hours may vary slightly (more information [here](#)), Kooth means your students always have a safe, confidential space to turn to, with professionals ready to listen when things feel overwhelming.

KoothTalks Families

Supporting your child with Emotionally Based School Avoidance

[Link to share](#)

EDT – December STEM Experience and Opportunities

This month we have some exciting opportunities that we would like to make you and your students aware of which are as follows:

Firstly, we would like to invite you and your Year 13/S6 students to attend our ***FREE ‘EDT Placements Open Day Webinar’** that is taking place on Tuesday 10th December at 4-5pm. During this Webinar students will be able to find out more about our Placements programme and how it can help them to find a paid work placement to enhance their skills and gain experience and professional development. Students will also have the opportunity to ask questions to our Placements Team and Placement Ambassadors.

Registration Link : [Click here](#)

***We are currently accepting applications** for our 2025/26 placements (starting July/Aug 25), further information and the application form can be found [here](#).

Accreditation: Platinum [Industrial Cadets Award](#)

***Applications are open** for our [Residential Insight into University Courses](#).

These are summer schools at various top Universities that run over 4 or 5 days where students get a taster of university life and an insight into a specific STEM subject. Students will get the opportunity to experience university style lectures and work on activities and group projects with the support of academics and student mentors. Students will stay in halls of residence and will take part in social activities in the evenings, so that they get the full university experience.

The courses currently available to apply for are as follows, please click on each link to find out more about the individual courses-

[Ocean and Earth Science at Southampton University](#)

[Materials Science at the University of Oxford](#)

[Physics and Astronomy at Surrey University](#)

[Aerospace Engineering at Liverpool University](#)

[Maths at Lancaster University](#)

[Mechanical Engineering at University College London](#)

Application Link : [Click here](#)

For Year 12 students / S5-S6

Courses taking place June-Aug 25

Accreditation: Silver [Industrial Cadets Award](#)

Elevate Education – Free parent webinar

At our last webinar, over 11000 parents tuned in to our free webinar on resilience, where we shared some targeted research-backed advice alongside our live Q&A session.

Our next live webinar will be taking place on December 17th and will help parents to support their child in alleviating stress.

Live Parent Webinar: How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress
Tuesday 17th December 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- ✓ How you can identify early signs of stress in your child
- ✓ Practical techniques to help your child manage their stress levels
- ✓ How you can maintain a dialogue with your child about their mental wellbeing

[Click here to register for free](#)

Applying to Med School - Work Experience - The PremedProjects Team

We're excited to share two exceptional opportunities for your students aged 14-18 to gain **essential medical work experience**, a crucial step for those considering careers in medicine:

1. In-Person Medical Work Experience Course

- **When:** February 2025 (Half Term Holidays)
- **Where:** London Hospitals (Accommodation Provided)
- **Who:** Students aged 14-18 who are interested in careers in medicine
- **What:** In person work experience including visits to dissection rooms, care homes and NHS Kings Hospital.
- **How:** Students can view all details of the course [here](#)

2. Weekly Online Medical Course

- **When:** Every Monday evening at 7.30pm in December 2024 and January 2025
- **Where:** Online
- **Who:** Students aged 14-18 who are interested in careers in medicine

- **What:** Led by NHS doctors, students explore medical specialties, such as radiology, pathology, and geriatrics, through interactive real patient case studies.
- **How:** Students can view all details of the course [here](#)

Both courses are designed to address the challenge of securing meaningful medical work experience, providing valuable insights for university applications and interviews.

We'd love your support in **sharing these opportunities with your students aged 14-18**. Full details, can be found [here](#) and just let us know should you have any questions, we'd be happy to help.

Oxford and Cambridge University's Next Steps Essex webinar series 2025

This annual programme is run in collaboration by Hertford College, Oxford and Emmanuel College, Cambridge and aims to give students the tools to make a competitive application to Oxford/Cambridge.

The programme will consist of four online sessions run by Oxford and Cambridge Outreach staff, each with a Q&A with current undergraduate students:

- Tuesday 21st January: Introduction to Oxbridge (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 4th February: Entry Requirements & Post-16 Choices (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 18th February: Critical Thinking, Study Skills & Super Curriculars (Y11 & Y12)
- Tuesday 4th March: Personal Statements & Applying to Oxbridge (Y11 & Y12)
- *Interview Workshop (September 2025 TBC)*

All sessions take place online between 17:00 and 18:30.

The following eligibility criteria applies for students:

All students from state schools in the local authorities of Essex, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock are eligible to take part.

As long as students meet these criteria then they will automatically gain a place on the programme. The deadline for signing up is 12pm on Friday 13th December.

Students can sign-up using this online form: [Next Steps Essex 2025 Application Form](#)

Have a good weekend



Ms A Brewis-Shephard
Deputy Head of Sixth Form