

# Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 Issue 26



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been here at Passmores, and it has certainly felt like spring has truly arrived. The lovely sunny weather has lifted spirits across the school, and it has been fantastic to see students making the most of the brighter days during break and lunchtime.

It's been another full week with exams all creative subjects have now finished, and moderation is in full swing. The efforts of many have certainly paid off. The speaking exams have got off to a great start too, with some excellent feedback from staff already. This time next week, the Year 11 Celebration Assembly will have taken place, and exam mode will be in full throttle!

Today also brought an extra burst of energy and joy with our surprise samba flash mob during both breaktimes. Students and staff alike joined in, creating a vibrant and uplifting atmosphere across the site. Moments like these remind us how important it is to pause, have fun, and connect with one another.

We have also been delighted by the success of the charity bake sale organised by the Friends of Passmores. The array of delicious treats on offer was impressive, and we are incredibly grateful for the generosity of everyone who contributed, baked, and supported the event. Your kindness will make a real difference.

All of these activities feel particularly meaningful as they tie in so well with April being Stress Awareness Month. Taking time to enjoy simple pleasures—whether that's sunshine, music, or sharing food—plays an important role in supporting our wellbeing. We are proud to promote a school environment where both students and staff can find balance, joy, and opportunities to unwind.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

**Natalie Christie**  
Principal of Passmores Academy

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[www.passmoresacademy.com](http://www.passmoresacademy.com)

## TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026

Abbas, Zain	Year 7	184
Urman, Pola	Year 7	179
Horey, Luke	Year 7	177
Richards, Sophia	Year 7	176
Castle, Archie	Year 7	171
Connor Fry, Amira-Shai	Year 7	171
Craig, Calum	Year 7	168
Pugh, Kadie	Year 7	167
Dixon, Sam	Year 7	166
Taylor, Freddie	Year 7	166

Wang, Ivan	Year 8	176
Mickevic, Nikas	Year 8	175
Hartgrove, Connie	Year 8	171
Owen, Amelie	Year 8	165
Ford, Grayson	Year 8	163
Bricknell, Oscar	Year 8	161
Johnson, Lilly	Year 8	158
Mimms, Joshua	Year 8	158
Last, Charlotte	Year 8	157
Labalpiny, Ashleigh	Year 8	155

Wright, Megan	Year 9	181
Ricketts, Rachel	Year 9	173
Hanks, Liara	Year 9	171
Greenhalgh, Ella	Year 9	169
Lai, Korey	Year 9	169
Man, Rosie	Year 9	167
Hards, Isabella	Year 9	164
Toku Appleton, Ethan	Year 9	164
Gjoni, Leart	Year 9	163
Andrews, Darien Lloyd Anthony	Year 9	162
Wing, Lacey-Mae	Year 9	162

Frimpong, Abena	Year 10	178
Windeler, Emylei	Year 10	168
Gunter, Noah	Year 10	166
Owen, Esme	Year 10	166
Blackham, Ella	Year 10	164
Keen, Rein	Year 10	163
Benge, Maddie	Year 10	161
Chambers, Callum	Year 10	158
Tuna, Masal	Year 10	158
Andersons, Erik	Year 10	156
Redding, Jack	Year 10	156

Zalinski, Adrian	Year 11	151
Aiyamenkhue-edigin, Joanne	Year 11	143
Dinnell, Louis	Year 11	141
Kamara, Abdul	Year 11	141
Man, Charlotte	Year 11	138
Wilson, Mia	Year 11	136
Cope, Lola	Year 11	133
Morris, Elissa	Year 11	133
Raykov, Pavel	Year 11	133
Vobe, Daisy	Year 11	133
Vobe, Evie	Year 11	133
White, Beth	Year 11	133

Year Group Attendance w/c 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	
Year 7	90.97%
Year 8	88.24%
Year 9	86.73%
Year 10	85.85%
Year 11	84.48%
<b>All Students</b>	<b>87.27%</b>

### Thought for the Week...

This week, students were introduced in assemblies to the next strand of our behaviour curriculum, with a clear focus on **classroom culture** and addressing in-class disruption. Establishing calm, purposeful learning environments is essential if every student is to succeed, and this strand encourages students to reflect carefully on their role in supporting positive classroom experiences.



Students explored key questions, including: *What is disruption? What does disruption in lessons look like?* and considered the impact disruption can have on peers, teaching and learning, and ultimately on grades and future prospects. These discussions were closely linked to our school values of **respect, kindness and compassion, and fairness and belonging**, reinforcing that positive behaviour is about supporting one another to succeed.

Student voice has played an important role in shaping this work. Results from a recent survey highlighted that **students arriving late to lessons** is one of the biggest causes of disruption. As a result, this will be the first area we address over the coming weeks. All students have a five-minute transition time between lessons, which is more than sufficient to move around the building. From Monday, students who choose not to go directly to their next timetabled lesson and who are seen in corridors after the five-minute transition period will receive a same-day break or lunch detention. These changes are about protecting the learning of all students and ensuring that valuable lesson time is not lost.

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### In the News



April marks Stress Awareness Month, and this year's theme, "Be the Change," encourages us to think about what we can do to manage our own stress levels while also having a positive impact on those around us.

Students learned that stress can be both positive and negative. Short-term stress can help us to stay focused and motivated, but when stress continues over longer periods, it can have negative effects on both mental and physical health. Recognising the signs of unhealthy stress is therefore an important life skill.

We also discussed practical ways to manage stress more effectively. These include reducing smartphone use or using devices in healthier ways, maintaining a balanced and nutritious diet, and building strong, positive relationships with others. By taking small but meaningful steps, students can develop habits that support resilience and well-being both in and out of school.

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### In Other News

Year 11 students continue to impress as they move through this important phase of their examinations. Their approach to practical and listening exams has been focused and mature, and it has been particularly encouraging to see strong attendance at revision and booster sessions. This level of commitment demonstrates determination and readiness as they approach the final stages of their examinations.

## Looking Ahead to Next Week...

Next week's Thought for the Week will recognise World Autism Acceptance Month, providing students with opportunities to deepen their understanding of autism and celebrate the diversity that strengthens our school community.



In the News, students will reflect on the remarkable Artemis II journey to the Moon, exploring how space exploration continues to inspire innovation, ambition, and curiosity about the world beyond our own.

Year 11 students will also reach another memorable milestone in their school journey. The traditional shirt signing will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, followed by the Year 11 Celebration Assembly on Friday—an opportunity to reflect on achievements, friendships, and the many successes of this cohort as they prepare for the next chapter.



### 24/04/26 Weekly Winners

Natalie Lin  
Heath White  
Joshua Mimms  
Ola Kozikowska  
Kyei Kwarteng  
Ryan Hall  
Molly Wallace  
Sophie Addison  
Nela Ozimek

FRIENDS OF PASSMORES

# CAKE Sale



FOPs held another hugely successful Bake Sale at break time today. Thank you to everyone who donated delicious treats — we sold out completely! We raised an amazing £489.49, beating last year's total of £428.



## SUBJECT/INFORMATION UPDATES

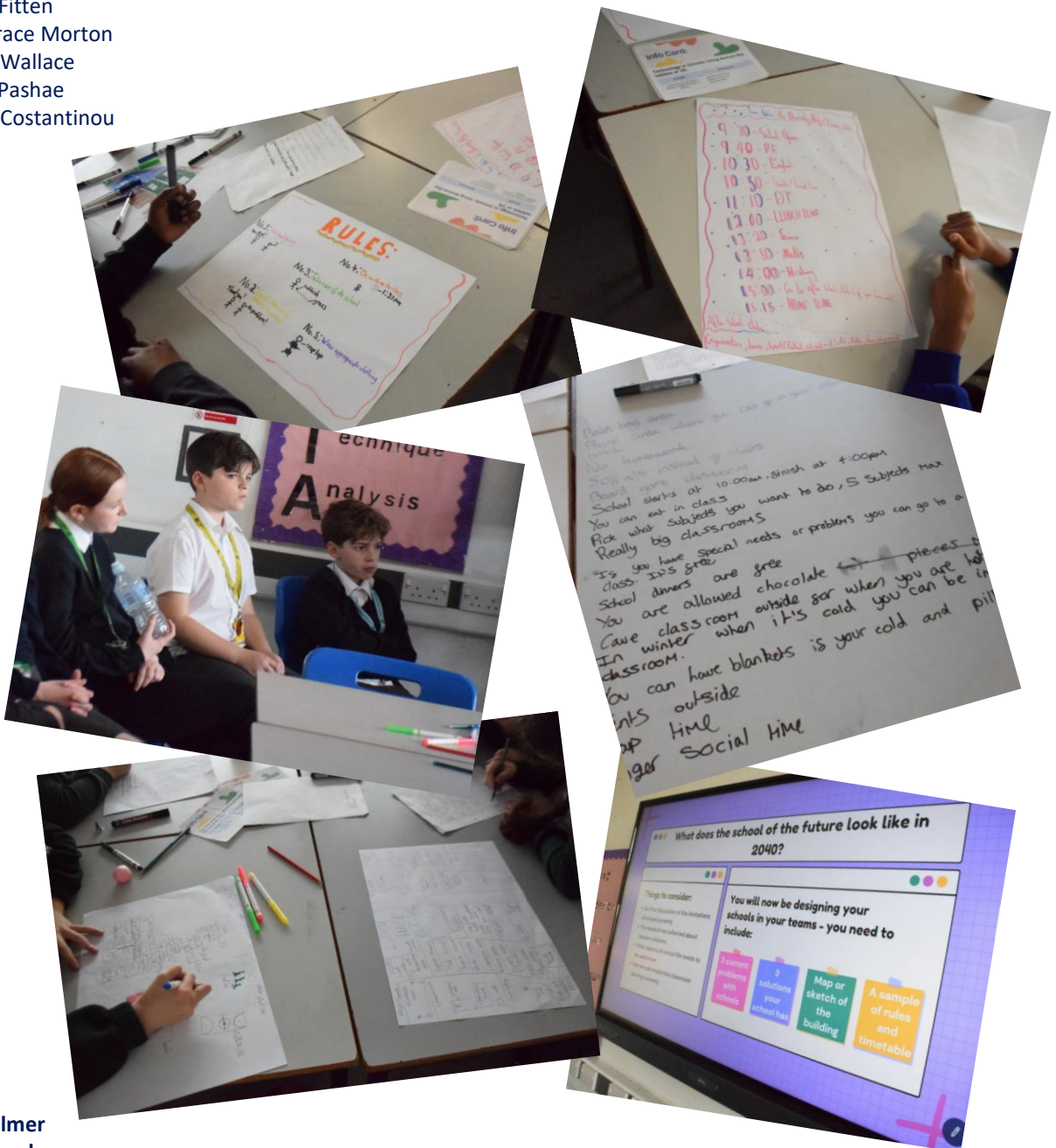
On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Passmores had the pleasure of welcoming a cohort of students from Potter Street, The Downs, Pear Tree Mead and Purford Green to take part in a Mini-Scholar's workshop led by some of our Year 7 Scholars, who themselves participated in a similar workshop in the Spring Term.

The students were tasked with creating a school of the future after having discussions about the current limitations of school and engaging in research which showcased how schools around the world have attempted to solve these limitations. The schools then in teams presented what their school of the future would look like, including a sketch of the building, a mock timetable of what the school day looks like, and the rules students have to follow.

The Primary students worked incredibly hard and rose to the challenge, with the support of our lovely Year 7 Scholars who mentored and coached the groups using their own experience.

A big thank you to the following Year 7 Scholars who were a massive help during the workshop:

- ❖ Callie Fitten
- ❖ Ella Grace Morton
- ❖ Molly Wallace
- ❖ Arian Pashae
- ❖ Vinny Costantinou



# Summer Term 2026 After School Clubs

Department	Club	Day	Time	Room	Staffing
Art	KS4 Art and Design GCSE Club	Thursday	3:15 – 4:00	L105/104	GHS/VFX
English	Book Club	Thursday	3:15 – 4:00	English Dept	NVH and team
English	Creative Writing Club	Thursday	3:15 – 4:00	U107	EBG/EPE
English	Year 11 Homework Support	Tuesday A	1:45 – 2:15	English corridor	LKG
English	KS4 Drop-in support	Friday B	3:20 – 4:20	U103	LKG
French	French Homework Club	Wednesday	3:15 – 4:00	Y101	CFY
Geography	Geography Film Club	Thursday	3:20 – 4:15	U004	VNS
Music	Steel Pans - Student Group 1	Monday	3:30 – 4:30	L19	DBK/JDE
Music	Steel Pans - Student Group 2	Monday	4:30 – 5:30	L19	DBK/JDE
Music	Soul Band	Thursday	3:20 – 4:00	L19	DBR
Music	Piano Club & Music Technology	Thursday	3:20 – 4:00	L110	DBR
Music	African Drumming	Wednesday	3.20pm-3.50pm	L10	DBR
Music	Glee Vocal Club	Wednesday	3:20 – 4:00	L19	PTG
PE	Cricket	Monday - Break 1	10:55 – 11:20	Astro Turf	MGD
PE	Cricket	Monday - Break 2	11:20 – 11:45	Astro Turf	AMN
PE	Cricket	Tuesday - Break 1	10:55 – 11:20	Astro Turf	GCI
PE	Cricket	Tuesday - Break 2	11:20 – 11:45	Astro Turf	JWR
PE	Athletics	Tuesday	3.30 – 4:15	Sports Field	All Staff
PE	Cricket	Wednesday - Break 1	10:55 – 11:20	Astro Turf	RTR
PE	Cricket	Wednesday - Break 2	11:20 – 11:45	Astro Turf	JKG
PE	Tennis	Wednesday	3.30 – 4:15	Tennis Court	JWR/AMN
PE	Rounders	Wednesday	3.30 – 4:15	Sports Field	GCI/ARY
PE	Softball	Wednesday	3.30 – 4:15	Sports Field	MGD
PE	Cricket	Thursday - Break 1	10:55 – 11:20	Astro Turf	OWY
Science	Gardening Club	Wednesday	3:20 – 4:15	L006 / Science garden	SWT
Study Club	Study Club	Tues-Fri	3.15 – 4:15	G105/2	RKG
Youth Club	Youth Club	Tuesday	3.30 – 5:00	Heart Space	AOS

**After School Revision Sessions  
for  
Year 11 Students**

**TUESDAY**

3D Design (until 4:45pm)  
Computer Science  
Creative Media  
English  
Hospitality & Catering

**WEDNESDAY**

3D Design (until 3:45pm)  
History  
Hospitality & Catering  
Maths  
Music  
Spanish (until 4:15pm)

**THURSDAY**

3D Design (until 3:45pm)  
Art  
Citizenship (drop-ins also welcome any day)  
Creative Media  
Creative & Technical Enterprise  
Music  
Science

**FRIDAY**

Drama  
English  
Geography  
PE (after Easter)  
Spanish (until 4:15pm)

# ENGLISH

## HOMework CLUB

**WHEN**  
**EVERY TUESDAY - 3.15PM TO 3.45PM**  
**WHERE**  
**Y101**



Premium access for Year 11 students

Adapt creates a personalised revision timetable and supports students with exam board aligned lessons, audio resources, and lots of practice questions with instant feedback.

- 1 Access online or through the mobile app**  
Go to [app.getadapt.co.uk/login](https://app.getadapt.co.uk/login) or download the Adapt app.
- 2 Email Address**  
Enter your school email address.
- 3 Password**  
Your password will be **ADAPT2425teacherstudent** unless you have changed it. If you have forgotten your password, click 'Forgotten your password?' and a reset link will be sent to your school email address.



Scan QR code or  
follow this link:

[app.getadapt.co.uk/login](https://app.getadapt.co.uk/login)

Need help?  
Email: [adapt@pctlc.co.uk](mailto:adapt@pctlc.co.uk)

**Norwich City Football Development – Open Trials**

Norwich City are holding open trials for next season's Development Centres, which will be taking place over the coming months.

Trials will be held across Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, Suffolk, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire, offering pupils the opportunity to access additional high-quality football coaching alongside their school football.

Full trial details and registration information can be found [here!](#)



FOOTBALL  
DEVELOPMENT

# OPEN TRIALS

**TRIALS IN:**

PETERBOROUGH

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

HERTFORDSHIRE

SUFFOLK

SURREY



SCAN  
HERE  
TO  
BOOK



### Harlow College Careers Fair

Wednesday 29th April 2026, 4.00pm-7.00pm



The Harlow Schools Careers Fair 2025 will bring together employers from across the region as well as national organisations from the following career sectors:

- Business, Finance & Management
- Engineering, Technology & IT
- Science, Care, Education & Public Services
- Creative & Leisure
- Construction & Building Services

They will be joined by careers experts and training providers with information and advice covering apprenticeships, university and career opportunities.

This is a ticketed event than can be booked using the link: [Harlow College Careers Fair](#)

### Stansted Airport College Open Event

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> May 5pm-8pm



Stansted Airport College  
Part of Harlow College

[Stansted Airport College - Join us at Stansted Airport College for our Year 10 focus Open Event](#)

### Young Economist of the year Competition (sponsored by KPMG)

For students in Years 10–13. Students can enter individually or in groups of up to 5.

- **Task:** Submit an essay, presentation, or video/audio answering one of five economics questions (e.g. GDP vs happiness, free trade, dynamic pricing, billionaires, or AI and growth).
- **Deadline:** 29 June 2026
- **What happens next:**
  - 5 shortlisted entries announced September 2026
  - Finalists present at KPMG offices in October 2026 (10-minute presentation + Q&A)
- **Purpose:** Encourage diverse students to engage with contemporary economic issues and share original ideas.

To find out more and apply, go to [Young Economist 2026 | Discover Economics](#)



**Investin** - are offering a number of free online webinars for parents/guardians on 'how to find work experience', 'how to support your young person during exams', and 'everything you need to know about applying to university'.

## REGISTER FOR

**FREE**

**WEBINAR SERIES**

### Parent Webinars in April, May and June

#### WEBINAR SCHEDULE

**How to Support Your Child During Exam Season**  
Wednesday 29th April  
6PM (BST)

Find out how to support your child through exam-related stress and burnout, learn effective revision strategies and explore ways to create a positive, supportive environment.



If you're unable to join live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording after the session.

**How to Find Work Experience**  
Wednesday 13th May, 6PM (BST)



**Click the webinar title to sign up now!**

OK

**Everything You Need to Know About Applying to University**  
Wednesday 10th June, 6PM (BST)



Explore all webinars on our free events page



## **Earniversity - Empowered Pathways Course, for SEND Students**

Aimed at young people who might need things run at bit of a slower pace, it lasts for 10 weeks and is delivered online, with full support for our budding entrepreneurs. It is designed to help young people learn ways to earn money whilst developing soft skills in a supportive environment.

**Empowered Pathways (SEND)** – Starting 27 April – Mondays at 6:00pm

Info pack [HERE](#) and attached, Application form [HERE](#)

## **Earniversity - Wealth Launch Pad**

Aimed at those who are seriously considering their own business in the future. It is a continuation of their Fast Track Challenge that many students have been on, however, they welcome applications from those who haven't been on that course but are keen to gain employability and entrepreneurial skills.

**Wealth Launchpad (Mainstream)** – Running 28th April to 28th May – Tuesdays and Wednesday at 6:00pm.  
Info Pack [HERE](#) and attached, Application form [HERE](#)

## **Year 9 & 10 Work Shadowing Day, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

Work shadowing is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain a real insight into the world of work and to be given the chance to observe a job role which may be of specific interest for future career choices. Letters have gone out to year 9 and 10 parents/carers about this opportunity. Students will need to work with family or a close friend of the family. The deadline to find a placement is Friday 5th June 2026.

On the letters, there is a link to a google form, to be completed once the student knows where they are going. Any questions, please contact [j.kay@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:j.kay@passmoresacademy.com) or [t.bassett@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:t.bassett@passmoresacademy.com).

**SPEAK TO OVER 30 EXHIBITORS!**



**HARLOW COLLEGE  
CAREERS FAIR**

**29 APR. '26**

**HARLOW COLLEGE**

**EXHIBITORS TO BE ANNOUNCED!**



**BOOK  
NOW!**



**THE HARLOW COLLEGE CAREERS FAIR 2026 WILL  
BRING TOGETHER EMPLOYERS FROM ACROSS THE  
REGION AS WELL AS NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.**



Don't wait for autumn – our Open Evenings are summer-only! Book now or miss out.

# — OPEN — EVENINGS

**For September 2027 entry  
1st & 2nd July 2026, 4-9pm**



Attention year 10s  
Scan here to book!



Year 11s welcome

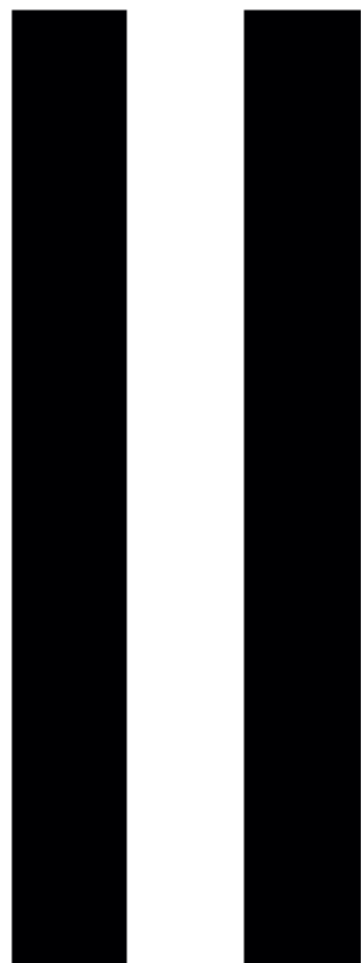
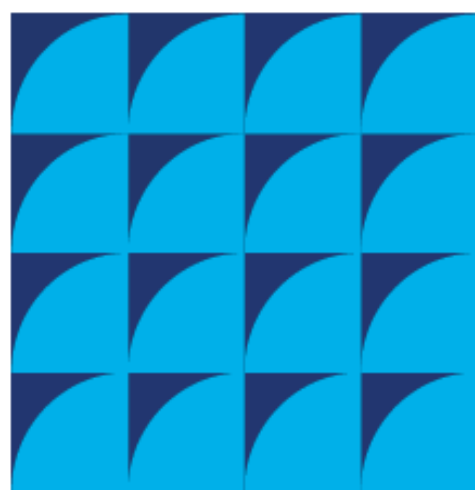
Discover your future at  
Long Road Sixth Form College!

Be Prepared. Be Inspired. Be Long

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



**HARLOW  
COLLEGE**



# **OPEN EVENING**

## **SEND EARLY ACCESS QUIET SESSION**

Book your tickets at:  
[www.harlow-college.ac.uk](http://www.harlow-college.ac.uk)



**29 APRIL  
4.15-5PM**



## ANY OTHER INFORMATION

### KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

#### School Address

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

#### Main Telephone

01279 770800

[passmores@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:passmores@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Student Absence

Report via the  Arbor app

#### Change of Contact Details

[h.day@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:h.day@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Student Services

[pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com)

#### First Aid

[pafirstaid@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:pafirstaid@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Extra-Curricular Clubs

[h.day@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:h.day@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Account / Trips

[s.hodges@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:s.hodges@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Homework

[datateam@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:datateam@passmoresacademy.com)

#### Free School Meals

[pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:pastudentservices@passmoresacademy.com)

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

## Exam Invigilators... We're Hiring!

### *Would you like to become an Exam Invigilator?*

We have dates available throughout the year with hours to suit you.

The hourly rate is £13.03.

If you would like to apply, or would like more information, please contact Sally Beatty:  
[s.beatty@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:s.beatty@passmoresacademy.com)



### *What is an Exam Invigilator?*

An exam invigilator is someone appointed by an educational institution to maintain proper conduct in an examination in accordance with exam regulations. Typically, the main duty of an exam invigilator is to watch examination candidates to prevent cheating. The purpose of exam invigilating is to ensure each candidate sits the examination under equal conditions.

## 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

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Summer Term 1
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 7 & 8 Academic Tutorials
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Half-Term</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Term 2
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>End of Term Early Finish for Students</b>

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

# ZEPETO

AGE RESTRICTION  
**14+**

ZEPETO is a fast-growing app blending social networking with a virtual world experience – attracting around 20 million monthly users, with 15% from Europe. Players create 3D avatars to explore immersive environments, play games and interact with others; however, with minimal safety controls, anonymous chat and monetised content, ZEPETO poses a number of online safety concerns that parents and educators should be aware of.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

Although ZEPETO is intended for users aged 14 and up, it lacks built-in parental controls or age verification, instead relying on safety features on the device it's played on. This lack of a parental controls feature raises concerns about whom children may be interacting with on the platform.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

As a mix between a virtual world and a social media platform, ZEPETO features a wide range of user-generated content. Some areas may reference mature themes, such as TV series aimed at adults, or include inappropriate material created by other users – all of which children may stumble across without warning.

### STRANGER DANGER

By default, users can message and interact with anyone else. This open communication creates an environment where predatory individuals can pose as peers to gain trust, potentially leading to grooming, scams, and exploitation, such as blackmail.

Hi there...

### CYBERBULLYING RISKS

As with many social platforms, children can be targeted for bullying, harassment or exclusion by both strangers and their peers. Unfiltered chat and avatar-based interaction can allow bullying and other forms of harassment to continue, impacting children's wellbeing and mental health.

### ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY

Daily log-in rewards, such as coins, and in-game incentives can encourage compulsive behaviour, with some users feeling pressure to check in constantly to avoid missing out. This can lead to excessive screen time and conflict with schoolwork or offline hobbies or commitments.

### SPENDING REAL MONEY

While the game is free to play, ZEPETO includes a store offering virtual clothing and accessories for avatars. These items are bought with 'ZEMs' – a paid currency – and the appeal of exclusive items or branded collaborations can make it easy for children to overspend.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### ENABLE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Visit the child's profile settings to restrict who can send messages – options include Everyone, Followers Only, or No-one. Encourage children to avoid sharing any personal information on their profile, as this is visible even on private accounts.



### CONTROL SPENDING

To prevent accidental purchases, set up purchase approval systems such as Apple's Ask to Buy or Google's Purchase Approvals. Alternatively, consider removing payment methods or using pre-paid cards with set budgets.

### LIMIT IN-APP TIME

Use parental controls on Android (Google Family Link) or iOS (Screen Time) to restrict app usage by setting hours or daily limits. Encouraging breaks can help children develop healthier habits and reduce app dependency.



### HAVE REGULAR CONVERSATIONS

Talk openly with children about whom they interact with online and the kinds of things they see or experience. Encourage them to speak up if someone makes them uncomfortable or if they come across inappropriate content. Teach them how to recognise red-flag behaviours such as asking for secrets, giving gifts, or requesting personal information.

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®