



SEAX Trust

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS



July 2025 Newsletter

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Dear Colleagues,

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by and I'm once again writing for our end-of-year newsletter! The amount of work each of you do in the year is nothing short of amazing, and it's because of your dedication that our schools have continued to go from strength to strength.

I am pleased to share that our Trust is regarded as a strong Trust by both the Local Authority and the DfE. You may think that this doesn't matter, but because of our reputation we're being invited to support other schools and consider other schools joining our Trust. With that comes more opportunities to innovate, expand how we work with our young people, and influence the future direction of Special Schools. This is incredibly exciting and will mean that there will be opportunities for our staff to take on new challenges and to share their knowledge and experience with a wide audience. Our reputation is built on the work that all of *you* do. The Trust is all of us (not a few in an office) and when we receive praise from important stakeholders, that praise belongs to every single one of you!

It is always very difficult to choose just a few highlights from such a full and inspiring year, but here are some standout moments that have stayed with me:

- Vibrant Voices concert where the **Thriftwood College choir** were the 'One and Only' school to get a standing ovation!
- The way **Thriftwood School** have developed their Communication, Language and Literacy curriculum
- **Kingswode Hoe** Year 10 pupils achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award early, giving them time to work towards their Silver in Year 11
- **Grove House's** production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang which was phantasmagorical!
- The opening of **The Hawthorns School** in an amazing new building
- **The development** of training and professional development over the last year reflects the commitment of the cross-Trust PD team
- And Graham Cove, our outdoor learning teacher at **Langham Oaks**, who won the award for Teacher of the Year in a Special School at the Essex Teaching Awards

I could go on and on about all the amazing things you do day in, day out, but for all the notable and numerous highs, it's the calm, consistent and inspirational approach you all bring, whatever your role in our schools, that truly makes the difference. By working together and sharing what you do and how you do it, you have made this Trust a wonderful organisation to lead.

Have a lovely summer break and come back ready for an even more amazing year in September.

Thank you!
Ruth Sturdy, CEO SEAX Trust



Professional development across the Trust

Coaching

The National College

A comprehensive learning platform offering expert-led training across statutory and developmental areas. We've trialled it for statutory training (e.g. Advanced safeguarding, prevent) and group sessions on topics such as Girls and ADHD.

iris CONNECT

A powerful video-based platform that enables staff to record, reflect on and share their practice. Since January there have been small pilot groups in each school trialling the tool. The AI powered analysis tool provides personalised feedback and insights to support reflective practice and coaching.

Beacon House
Therapeutic Services and Trauma Team

A trauma-informed resource hub supporting mental health and wellbeing. Staff have accessed materials to better understand developmental trauma, attachment and regulation strategies – vital for supporting our most vulnerable learners.

Throughout this year, our academies have been trialling tools for professional development, with a focus on **personalisation, coaching, collaboration, and evidence-informed practice**. This has include using.....

Impact with trial groups

- ✓ Increased engagement in self-directed CPD
- ✓ More targeted coaching conversations using the TGROW model
- ✓ Stronger collaborative learning through triads and peer observation
- ✓ Improved statutory compliance and confidence in safeguarding

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- ✓ Full roll out of IRIS connect for all teaching staff
- ✓ Collection of effective practice using IRIS connect
- ✓ Opportunities for reflection using IRIS connect
- ✓ Whole school training on coaching
- ✓ Opportunities for bespoke training modules created by our staff, for our staff

"Using IRIS Connect has changed how I reflect on my teaching. The AI feedback is like having a coach in the room with me."

"It was really good to be able to look back at things you might not notice when teaching."

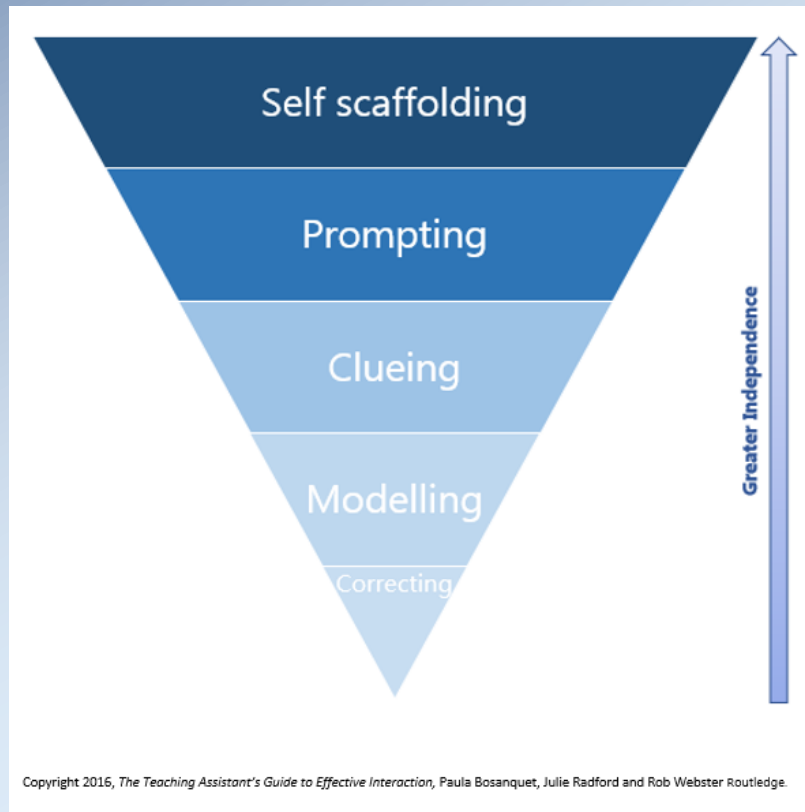
"The video shows how important that 10 second wait is when asking questions."

"Coaching has helped me approach problems from a more positive place, looking for a solution rather than dwelling on the negative."

Professional development across the Trust

The LSA programme has continued this year across the Trust with another 2 of our schools beginning the programme. Staff have shown commitment to engage in the training and to develop their practice in the classroom with pupils. Staff have captured video's, audio recordings and scripts of them working with pupils. This has allowed them to analyse their interactions with pupils and think about how to tweak the interactions to further improve them.

The Scaffolding Framework



Copyright 2016, *The Teaching Assistant's Guide to Effective Interaction*, Paula Bosanquet, Julie Radford and Rob Webster Routledge.

Looking ahead to 2025-26

- ✓ Further opportunities to reflect on the framework in practice, including using IRIS for video reflections
- ✓ Using IRIS to capture examples of the framework in practice
- ✓ Using the Walkthru's to develop pedagogy
- ✓ Additional sessions based on pupil need linking to the framework

"It has made me reflect on my own practice and be more aware of how much support I give."

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"It has made me reflect on my own practice and be more aware of how much support I give."

"This is helping me to understand how much support if any, I should give to the pupils to be able to complete the task or challenge set before them.."

Simon Kyndt
Thriftwood School
and College



Alex Jagger
The Hawthorns
School

Lina Johannsen
Grove House
School



Kate Hart
Langham Oaks
School



Ruth Saban
Thriftwood School
and College



Tom Coxall
Kingswode Hoe
School

Lisa Walker
Thriftwood School
and College



The Professional Development leads across our Trust

If you want to find out more about professional development opportunities, please speak to the lead in your school.

Spotlight on Success

SEAX HR 2024-25

This year has seen the **HR Group** get to grips with a range of very exciting new challenges!

Mikaela Weller from the Central Team and **Helen McLean** from Hawthorns joined the Group at the beginning of the year and we said a sad farewell to **Carrie Massey** from Hawthorns in June. **Ruth Bradbury**, the Trust's Interim CFOO, has been supporting our meetings since she joined the Trust in January and we have been delighted to be able to show her some of this year's successes!



Mikaela Weller
PA to the CEO, Public
Relations & HR Admin
Assistant, SEAX
Central Team



Ruth Bradbury
Interim Chief Finance
& Operations Officer,
SEAX Central Team

What's improved in SEAX HR this year?



Moving from performance-related pay to the Trust's new Professional Growth model



The addition of Education Mutual as an incentive for all staff



The introduction of a new People Strategy, advert templates and a bespoke Investigation Procedure



Provision of a wide range of in-house training, including for our new HR Leads



A new JCC working agreement which means the Trust now regularly meets and works more closely with representatives from teaching and support staff unions



Synchronising the work we do in HR on the Arbor portal



Maintaining a healthy, and very competitive, staff turnover figure and Gender Pay Gap



Introduction of a range of new apprenticeships for staff – including teacher training

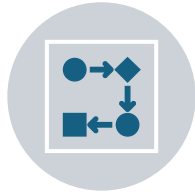
Did you...

...know that SEAX Trust's mean Gender Pay Gap is -0.5%, proving that we pay males and females equally for the work they do.

Have you...

...used the Education Mutual facility yet? You can get a same-day, on-line GP appointment, physiotherapy or counselling via self-referral!

What's next?



We want to offer our staff the very best working experience possible and are now looking at next steps, which include:



Succession planning in tandem with our Career Pathways model



Improvements to HR technology, including on-line application forms



Recruiting new members to the Equality & Diversity and Wellbeing Groups



Reducing workload in our schools



An improved psychological understanding of our organisation.

Do you...

...think you should try the training on the National College website? Here's what your colleagues say:

"Clear to follow" "Good strategies" **"Quick and easily accessible"** **"Relevant"** **"Enormous choice"**
"Vital to our work" **"Give it a go!"**

Why don't you...

...consider teacher training? The Trust is now working with TTP's, so it's an excellent time to speak to your Headteacher about your next career move.

SEAX Trust ICT Support Update

It's been a very busy year once again for the ICT support team!

- **The Hawthorns** moved into their brand-new building (finally!)
- We said a fond farewell to **Dave Markham**, a valued member of the team, who retired - just in time for the heatwave!
- **Thriftwood School & College** have been migrated to our 3CX VoIP telephone service.
- **Additional ICT support resource** has been allocated for what will be another very busy summer for our Team, focusing on system & service improvements ahead of the new school year.
- **Google Workspace Deployment:** Google Workspace has now been rolled out across the organisation. This powerful suite of tools complements our existing Microsoft cloud-based productivity and collaboration platforms, offering staff and students greater flexibility and choice in how they work and learn.
- **Langham Oaks – 1:1 Chromebook Programme:** Every pupil at Langham Oaks now has access to their own Chromebook, supporting a more personalised and consistent digital learning experience.
- **Wider Chromebook Deployment:** Chromebooks have also been introduced in other areas of the organisation to enhance access to digital resources and support blended learning initiatives.





BUSINESS TEAM UPDATE

2025 has been a busy year for staffing updates, and we would like to welcome team members who have joined since the last newsletter. These are:-

January 2025

- Ruth Bradbury - Interim Chief Financial and Operating Officer

March 2025

- Irina Brown - Finance Director
- Jana Kemal - Finance Assistant

Our thanks

- We would also like to extend our thanks to Sam Cooper from SBM Services, who supported the central team with strategic finance until March 2025.

Next up

- The central team and school business staff have worked hard to ensure the 2025-26 budget is ready for Board approval in July.
- Our next challenge will be to ensure that the 2024-25 financial year end is managed smoothly, and that we are prepared for external audit in the Autumn term.

Governance Update

July 2025

During the spring and summer of 2025, SEAX Trust celebrated significant governance milestones. Every academy within the Trust now has a fully established Local Governance Group (LGG), ensuring robust local oversight and community engagement.

Notably, Langham Oaks School welcomed a new cohort of Local Governors, strengthening its governance considerably. Each LGG now includes a dedicated community governor, reinforcing the Trust's commitment to inclusive and representative governance. Meanwhile, the Trust Board has continued to meet regularly, maintaining strategic oversight and guiding key decisions to support the Trust's ongoing development and success.



SEAX Trust Welcomes Jake Pursey to the Board of Trustees

SEAX Trust is thrilled to announce that Jake Pursey, a former student of Thriftwood School, is joining our Board of Trustees. Jake's appointment marks a significant and exciting milestone for the Trust, as he brings a truly unique and valuable perspective shaped by his lived experience within our community.

Jake's journey from student to Trustee is a testament to the inclusive and empowering ethos of SEAX Trust. His insight will enrich our decision-making and help ensure that the voices of those we serve are represented at the highest level. We are confident that Jake will make a meaningful contribution to our mission, and we look forward to working alongside him.

We're excited to unveil our brand-new Trust logo!

In our last newsletter,
we shared that a
refreshed visual
identity was on the
way, and it's finally
here!



This new logo represents our commitment to growth, collaboration, and excellence across all our schools. It reflects who we are today and our vision for the future.

You'll start to see our new logo appearing across our schools, websites, and publications over the coming weeks.



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SEAX TRUST LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME 2024-25

We are proud to celebrate the achievements of the following staff members who have successfully completed the Trust Leadership Programme:

- **Ruth Saban** at Thriftwood School
- **Lisa Walker** at Thriftwood College
- **Simon Kyndt** at Thriftwood College
- **Peter Fairclough** at Langham Oaks
- **Tom Coxall** at Kingswode Hoe

Your dedication, commitment, and leadership journey is inspiring!

This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to your passion for making a difference across our Trust!



ESSEX TEACHING AWARDS 2025

SEAX Trust would like to congratulate **Graham Cove** at **Langham Oaks School** who won **Teacher of the Year** in a Special School at The 2025 Essex Teaching Awards.

These awards give us all the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the inspirational work of our teachers and support staff within our schools.

Diane Rigg founding Headteacher of **The Hawthorns School** received a **Lifetime Achievement** award in recognition of all the work she did to ensure the Hawthorns opened as a brand-new school for children with autism.





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Curriculum and Provision Development

The Volunteer Hub: The Grove Coffee Shop & The Coffee Trike

From concept in March 2024 - Today

Before:



Refurbishment (Sept – Oct)



After:



Work Experience for Post 16

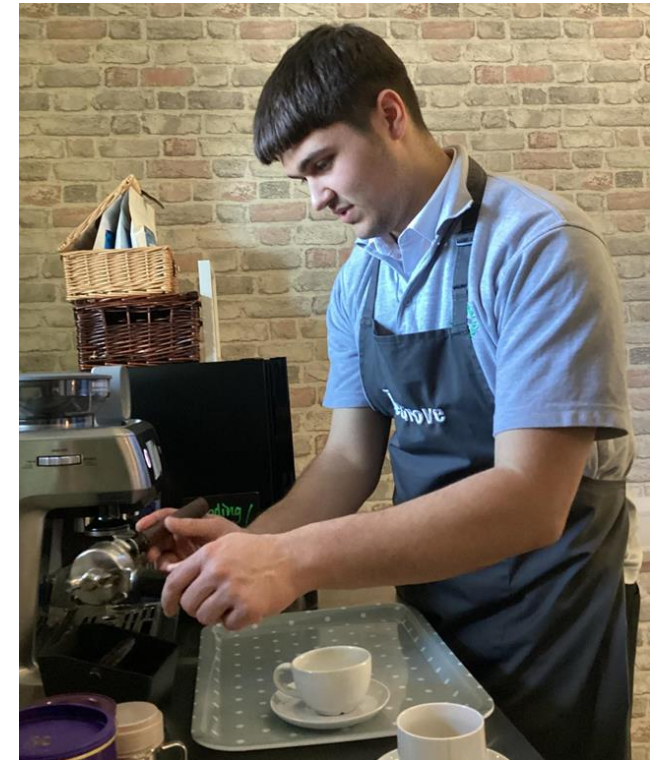
Offer to all Post 16 pupils:

- 1 x day work experience in the Grove Coffee Shop
- 1 x training session on the Coffee Trike
- At least one shift working on the Coffee Trike in the community

During their work experience pupils will:

- Complete AQA Level 1 Barista Training and Level 1 Customer Service
- Serve hot and cold snacks and drinks to pupils at tuck shop
- Serve customers including invited family/friends
- Work towards Level 2 Food Hygiene qualification, delivered to P16 in collaboration between The Grove and Food Technology curriculum

It has also been possible to offer extended work experience placements flexibly where pupils benefit from engaging with vocational activities. Advanced barista training and supervisor training are then offered.



The Trike

Working at The Hawthorns

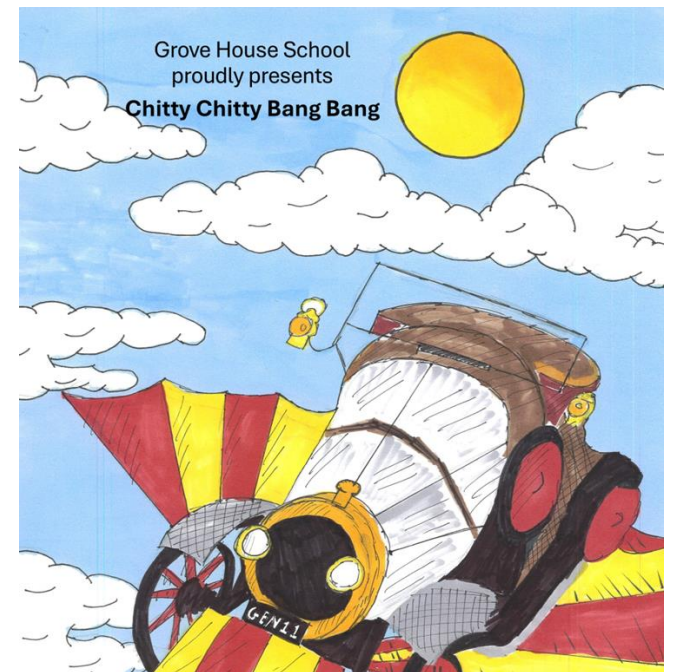


Trading every Thursday morning at The Baytree Centre in Brentwood High Street



Supporting Local Community Events – Brentwood School “Race across The Globe” event, 150 drinks served!





Performances:

- Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 1pm
- Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 1pm and 7pm

It never ceases to amaze me the quality of the shows we have seen over the last 8 years, watching children who face many difficulties progress, evolve and blossom year after year.

Thank you for giving our children, a voice, an opportunity, a chance to shine, when they would often have been overlooked.

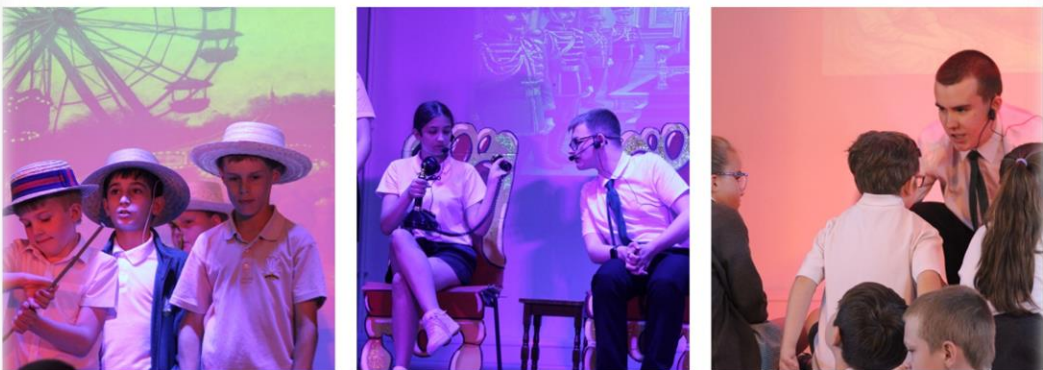
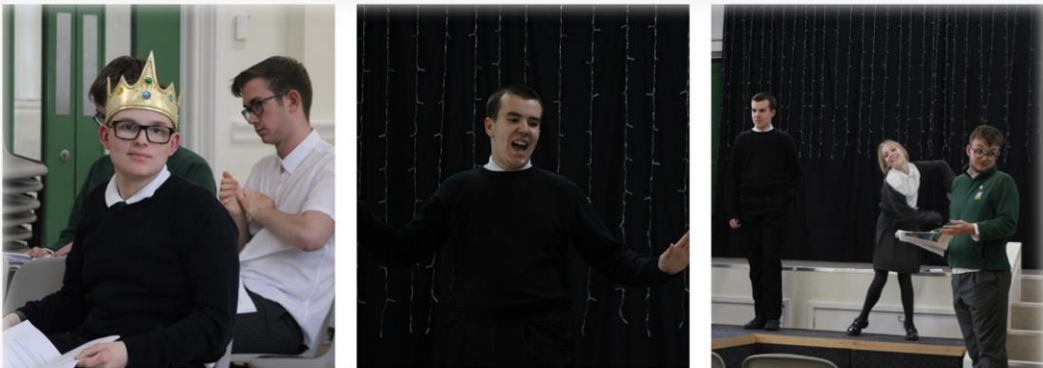
I spent a lot of the show quite tearful, and they're not even my children!

What an absolute amazing show! Such a talented bunch of students Grove House has! They were all so brilliant!

It was FABULOUS! Better than the film by a million miles. I was close to tears much of the time.



School rehearsals



Animation for the opening introduction

Set design





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SPORTS LEADERS- CHELMSFORD MINI GAMES

On Wednesday, I had the pleasure of taking two children to the Mini Games at Melbourne Athletics Stadium. The children were not taking part, they were leaders, and what amazing leaders they were. It started with a lap of the running track with the other leaders and mascots, and the boys were setting the pace the whole way around! They then helped the young children participate in their running races. They timed the races, offered advice and gave them huge support and encouragement! Luke also led a game of Simon Says when there was a gap between races. The boys also found the time to have a quick dance to the music!

Well done Luke and Alfie, you were a credit to yourselves and The Hawthorns School - Susie Lush

July 5, 2025



Sunflowers sale – AC class

Grown from seeds planted in the first week of the summer term by AC pupils.
£3 for each pot with two sunflower plants in each. Cash only .



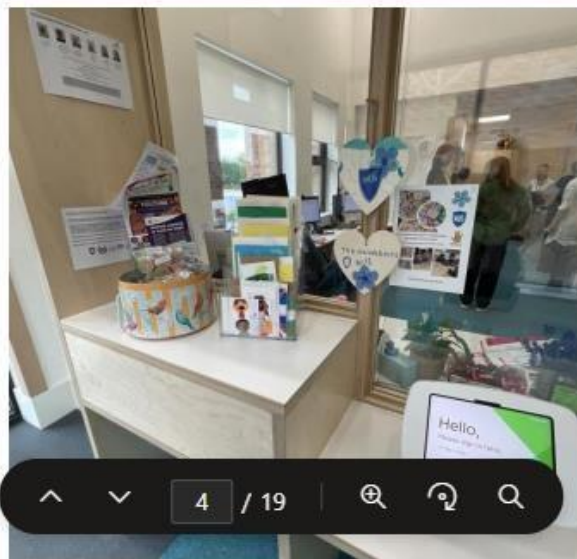
Limited numbers of each available. Orders completed on a first come first served basis.



Handmade Cards £2
Order form – [click here](#)



Both products can be purchased in the main reception or ordered using the links on this page (cash only).



Handmade Playdough £2
Order form – [click here](#)



Limited numbers of each available. Orders completed on a first come first served basis.

Careers Fair at Braxted Park

On Wednesday some of our older children visited this event where they were able to have hands on experiences with a wide range of jobs and opportunities; from brick laying to music, as well as various emergency services. It was a great day, and the children had a superb time.





On Monday we were lucky to have a visit from the Travelling Librarian. She brought with her a huge collection of props for her engaging multi-sensory story telling. She took the children on an imaginary journey through the layers of the rainforest, full of animal sounds, smells and wonderful puppets.



Flich Way and Rayne railway carriage.
Enjoying a walk and a run along Flich Way and waiting to get on the railway carriage at Rayne.

13 June 2025





Invincible Games

10 children from AC, MC and RH attended this sports event at Basildon Sporting Village along with 15 other SEN schools. The children showed great participation and sportsmanship and had a great time.







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Spotlight ON SUCCESS @ KHS!

It has been a super summer term at Kingswode Hoe School with too many events and achievements to highlight! Starting off with sporting success, as well as participating in tournaments with other special schools, we were thrilled to see so many families join us for a picnic at our annual sports day. Pupils pushed themselves again this year and were awarded with special trophies made in our workshop.

SPORTING SUCCESS!



Pupils participated in the 'Invincible Games' in Basildon with other schools. They tried out a variety of sports, including para-athletics, curling, basketball, and cricket. All pupils thoroughly enjoy themselves and represented the school very well. Well done to all!

Our playground pals have also made a big difference during social time and helped ensure everyone has fun outdoors at break and lunch!



Spotlight ON SUCCESS @ KHS!

It has been great to hear more music at Kingswode Hoe this year with our school choir singing 'Try Everything' by Shakira to start off our Year 11 send off and pupils enjoying participating in drumming workshops and music lessons as part of Creative. C5 has had a make over with instruments more readily available to use throughout the year.



Making Music!



Duke of Edinburgh 2025

Year 10 and 11 pupils enjoyed the Duke of Edinburgh residential last week to Rendlesham Forest. A total of 38 pupils took part this year which included 28 pupils camping at Sutton Hoo Campsite. With the weather being very warm, the 15 miles walked, proved to be tough and lots of resilience was needed. Pupils cooked their own meals on day one and enjoyed a BBQ provided by staff on day two. Everyone had an excellent time and received many compliments from members of the public about the pupil's behaviour. A huge congratulations to all involved!



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



SUMMER 2025

Kingswode Hoe School

What we plant today, we grow tomorrow



Spotlight ON SUCCESS @ KHS!

Primary Team Certificate of Excellence

We are delighted to announce that the Primary Team at KHS has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence for their transformation and contribution in recent years.

Here is an extract from their nomination- we are proud of the team that described by Challenge Partners as "the jewel in the Kingswode Hoe crown."

"The Primary team at Kingswode Hoe School have transformed the provision for pupils with a diverse range of special educational needs and abilities. They have established an inclusive and inspiring learning environment through careful planning, consistently strong routines and valuing the contribution and individuality of all pupils and adults in their phase. Visual communication and tools are integral to the team approach which enable pupils to access, understand and respond to tasks and have clarity about expectations which, in turn, helps them feel secure and confident to 'have a go'."



COLCHESTER IN BLOOM

Congratulations KHS Eco School Warriors!

Colchester in Bloom awarded KHS a 'Highly Commended Certificate' for our whole school grounds and a 'Special Award Certificate' for the wildlife/insect challenge. We focused on butterflies this year, where we used recycled wood and cable ties to create them. The pupils then painted them showing the different varieties of butterfly.



SUMMER 2025



Kingswode Hoe School
What we plant today, we grow tomorrow



Spotlight ON SUCCESS

@ KHS!



Year 11 Leavers were sent off in style with a special assembly featuring films they had made and individual speeches.

This was followed by a reception for pupils and their families with a delicious spread laid on by a group of Year 9 who worked hard behind the scenes.

There was a photo mirror for fun mementoes of the day too!

Pupils took a limited-edition canvas goody bag with their leavers' hoody, a mug and other products made in the workshop for this important occasion.



YEAR 11 AWARDS



Environment Award
Charlie



Pupil of the Year
Adam



Headteacher Award
Greeshma



All pupils were presented with a certificate of achievement and made a speech about their memories of KHS and next steps.

Three pupils received individual awards with Charlie taking the first ever 'Environment' award for his contribution to planting and growing, Adam unanimously voted 'Pupil of the Year' and 'Queen' Greeshma taking the crown with the 'Headteacher' award.

Wishing all of our Year 11 pupils success for the future as they move on!

Kingswode Hoe School
What we plant today, we grow tomorrow

SUMMER
2025





SPOTLIGHT
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Langham Oaks Spotlight on Success....

It is hard to spotlight our success for this academic year on to 5 slides.

We had two Ofsted Inspections in the Autumn Term. The long-awaited school inspection and the annual residential inspection. We are pleased to share that both the school and residential provision was awarded “Good” judgements in every area.

I would like to thank all staff for their hard work and commitment during these inspections, to the parents and carers who gave positive feedback and finally to the boys but in particular to those who were brave enough to speak with the inspectors.

Highlights of the report:-

- All pupils access a range of curriculum subjects through three bespoke pathways
- The curriculum contains a variety of opportunities for pupils to read a growing range of books.
- All pupils progress through the school, they achieve success and access important qualifications that help them to access colleges and other destinations
- Staff know the pupils well and chose effective methods to engage pupils with their work
- The improved approach to dealing with behaviour is working well
- Children who stay in residence have improved attendance at school and increased ability to achieve their educational targets
- Children feel secure and relaxed in residence

To access the reports please access:- [Ofsted Information - Langham Oaks](#)

Essex Teaching Awards

The School nominated Mr Cove for an Essex Teacher Award. Graham has led the outdoor learning team for over 20 years and more recently developed the coastal school programme for Year 6 boys.

We are delighted to announced that Graham won the Teacher of the Year Award in a Special School. Congratulations, Graham.



Sporting success

Football – Both our KS4 and KS3 pupils have participated in Football Fixtures this year and we currently sit top of the Latimer League introduced this year and supported by the FA. We bought a new football kit using funding from the Jack Petchey Foundation and the boys proudly wore it in a game against Grove House w/b 2/6/25 which we won 6:5.



On Tuesday, the Langham football team played their first game in the Latimer football league. The league has been created to promote inclusion, resilience and teamwork. The league will see teams play home and away games in a chance to gain points like a traditional football league system.

The first game saw the team travel to Kingswode Hoe School which resulted in a 5 - 2 victory for Langham. The students showed excellent resilience in tough weather conditions and showed excellent maturity and respect for their opponents.

The next game will see the team host St Nicholas School between the 7th & 25th of October.



Sporting triumphs ...

Another medal coming back from Southend. It is a 2nd place this week - a fantastic result as half the team had never played football competitively before!

We only conceded 1 goal in the 7 games we played. Unfortunately, the 1 goal we conceded was against Ramsden which meant they beat us 1-0 to ultimately go on and win the whole tournament on goal difference.

The boys were superb!

First trophy of 2025!

Latimer League

League Table FULL TABLE DATA

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Langham Oaks	3	3	0	0	12	9
2	Grove House	3	2	0	1	5	7
3	Ramsden Hall	3	2	0	1	4	7
4	St Nicholas	3	2	0	1	4	7
5	Market Field	3	1	0	2	-7	5
6	Kingswode Hoe	4	0	0	4	-7	4
7	Casteldon	1	0	0	1	-11	1



Basketball

We hosted a basketball friendly match against Ramsden Hall. The score was 58-18 to Langham. All involved showed excellent behaviour, skill and determination.

Swimming ...



Swimming - all boys in Year 6 have completed their 25-metre swim and have received their certificates with many boys completing this very early in the year

In outdoor learning ...

• Some of the produce that was picked. The food was planted last year and it was finally ready to harvest!



• During our visit to Orwell Country Park, the boys completed the high challenge, working together to climb to the tree at the top. They also enjoyed playing on the rope swing, exploring the beach and cooking up a storm. A brilliant day out enjoyed by all.



Year 7's working together on lighting fires with Mr Cove



Outdoor learning ...

A year 9 student doing a fabulous job in clearing our polytunnel.
Year 6 using their survival and teamwork skills to build dens at Arger Fen Nature Reserve.



During biking, one of our students worked hard to fix his bike, changing his gears and helping with younger pupils.



Some new skills for year 9 in Outdoor Learning ...

Year 9 pupils have been working on safe use of bow saws and a bushcraft hatchet this week. A hatchet requires careful sharpening at regular intervals when in use. Pupils have used a "puckstone" with water in order to hone a fine edge before processing kindling and "feather sticks". Great resilience and concentration!

Mr Cove



Teaching knots ...



Water sports in May ...



Fishing Trip on Friday



Year 7 Team Building Session

A bracing day at Coastal School – sun, wind and even hailstones ...



Year 8 working on birch bark fire lighting skills ...

- Using Silver Birch to light a cooking fire is an ancient skill perfected by our Stone Age ancestors thousands of years ago. Birch contains inflammable oils that, with skill and persistence, will take a spark and ignite.
- In the Palaeolithic period a piece of flint or chert would have been used.
- In 2025 people at Langham Cobs are using a ferrocium rod and steel striker: slightly easier, but still requiring resilience, technique, and a good eye!
- Well done boys!



Coastal School ...

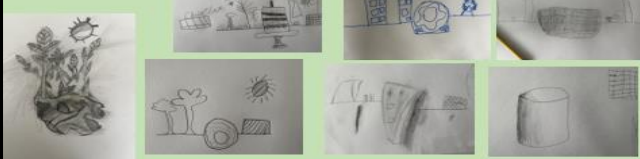
The session included discoveries and an impromptu wellie throwing competition. This was our first Coastal School trip where we welcome students from Kingswood Hse.



Coastal schools continues to be a positive for our pupils. We have been to various locations including the Naze and Orwell Park. All pupils demonstrate excellent resilience and teamwork. We have also had colleagues from KHS join us on one of our trips

In Art ...

Sketches (by Develop 2) based on food and the artist Oldenburg.



Free tickets for Children - The Tendring Show



A very special thank you to Engage 1 pupils for entering the Front Cover Competition for The Tendring Show. As a result of their efforts, we have been offered free child tickets for the show on 12th July 2025.

To claim your free child e ticket(s), simply redeem the promotional code at the checkout from the online ticket page on their website.

<https://www.tendringshow.co.uk/tickets-for-pupils/>

PROMOTION CODE: LANGH



President's Sporting Lunch ...



Christmas lunch ...



In residential ...



We've had an incredible first week back at residential!

On Monday, the boys enjoyed a brilliant BBQ session, one year's parents even brought a special gift to share, which was a lovely surprise for everyone. This, the group project, and the fact that we had a great night with plenty of games all round.

Wednesday was all about teamwork as the kitchen on the boys made their own burgers for dinner, followed by a fun and energetic evening session.

On Thursday evening, A&P being brought in their bags, and the boys showed their talents in a variety of ways, making their own projects and taking them on the bus, with plenty of games all round.

A big well done to all the boys for their enjoyment, kindness, and enthusiasm, what a fantastic start to the year!

Headteacher, Tracy

Food Tech ...

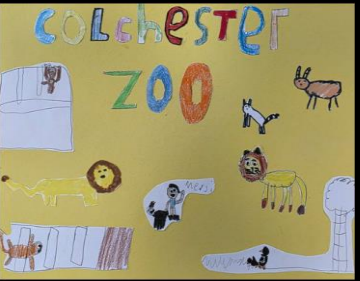
Students had to make their own Christmas cake, as well as their own fondant to decorate the cake.



World Book Day ...



Colchester Zoo Rotary Trip



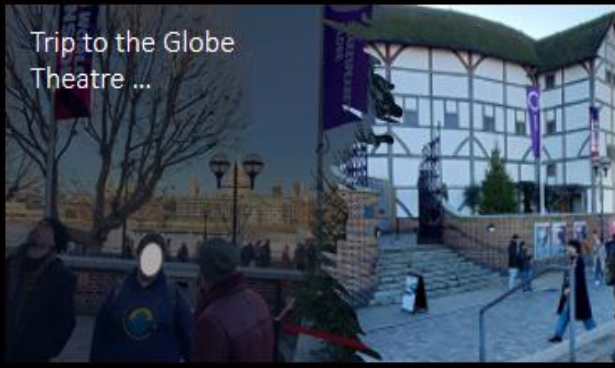
Interactive Storytelling ...



Duke of Edinburgh expedition 2025



Trip to the Globe Theatre ...



Other successful events:-

- Swimming Gala
- Future Chefs competition
- Christmas Enterprise and Award Ceremony
- Trip to Duxford
- Sir Thomas Lipton Sailing Event June 2025 a 3-day opportunity provided to 28 pupils.
- A successful visit to Pizza Express - Pizza making experience. Pupils enjoyed learning about the restaurant and about the hospitality sector as part of the Careers programme

Year 7 pupils in Construction, learning about PPE ...





Pictures from Buoyed Up ...

Langham Oaks
@LanghamOaks

Students from @LanghamOaks School embark on their @DofE expedition. Good luck everyone involved. #Semh

Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Sailing with Buoyed Up ...

Langham Oaks
@LanghamOaks

@LanghamOaks School is pleased to hear that the staff @ColchesterInst enjoyed the SEMH training which was delivered by our Assistant Head - Kate Hart. We look forward to having further opportunities to work together in the year ahead. #SEMh @SeaxTrust #SEND #Post16

Gemma Parrott • 1st
Head of Additional Learning Supp...
13h •

An excellent training session today at **Colchester Institute** titled 'Meeting SEMH Needs Effectively' given to our SEND Ambassadors and GCSE / FSL tutors by the inspirational **Kate Hart** from **Langham Oaks** and **SEAX TRUST**.

What a fantastic day fishing



SPOTLIGHT
ON
SUCCESS





Thriftwood School

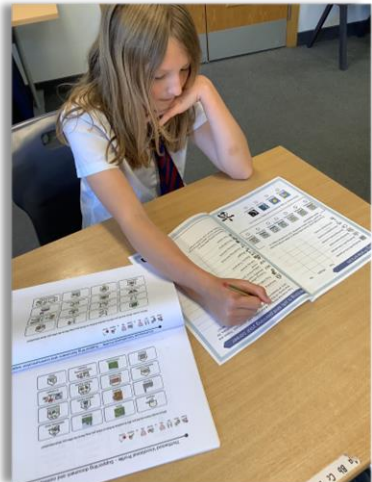
Careers

Our learners have had a rich and engaging experience exploring the world of work and careers this year. At our recent parent vocational profile event, students not only learned about different career journeys and began thinking about their futures in more detail but also demonstrated their hospitality skills by serving tea, coffee, and biscuits to their guests.

Learners have visited a variety of workplaces, highlights being a backstage tour of Chelmsford Theatre, The Window Company and Garron Park cricket ground, where they have engaged in a whole range of work-related activities.



Recently, Year 9 attended a careers event to discover a wide range of job opportunities, and over the year we have welcomed inspiring visitors who shared firsthand experiences from their industries.



We're proud to share that our recent pupil survey was really positive. The results showed that learners are feeling increasingly confident about their futures and excited by the career paths they're beginning to explore.



All of KS3 are currently taking part in the £10 Challenge, putting their enterprise skills to the test by creating stalls and games in preparation for our upcoming family picnic. These activities have helped build confidence, creativity, and a deeper understanding of the working world.



Thriftwood School

Sports day



KS3 Sports Day was a fantastic celebration of teamwork, effort and fun! Learners from across KS3 came together in mixed teams to take part in a variety of activities including molkky, archery, football, hockey, cricket and a challenging balance trail. The focus was on trying their best, supporting one another and enjoying every moment. It was brilliant to see learners cheering each other on, stepping out of their comfort zones and making great memories together. A true day of sportsmanship and smiles!





Thriftwood College

Entrepreneurs

Our Foundation Growth Pathway Wash Club Business!

What a year it has been for our Key Stage 5 FGP Group at Thriftwood College! Not only have they had some amazing experiences of the Work place at Circles Farm and Essex Dementia Care but they have also been going great guns at The Independence Project too with their WASHCLUB Collab!

The team had a lovely visit from Andrew and Kerry from The Independence Project on Friday 13th June to congratulate them on their achievements and they also graciously awarded them with a certificate to add to their portfolio! It was a really great visit and our two new Business and Enterprise Experts also revealed the grand total that the 'Thriftwood Range' at The Washclub had made - OVER £700!!! This was amazing since they only really started making product in November!

We hope that with some investment in resources next year, this exciting project will go from strength to strength!

A hearty thanks to our new partners at The Independence Project and The Washclub and a massive congratulations to the KS5 Foundation Pathway team!



If you fancy treating yourself, check out our shop:
[The Washclub @ Thriftwood College | Soap, Candles, Wax Melts](#)

Green Fingers!

Freddie G achieved our Learner of the Year Award for his options work, one of his chosen subjects is Horticulture. Here he is, tending to the tomatoes in at the community allotment polytunnel. This is part of his volunteering work with Chelmsford City Parks.



Rogers and Attenborough classes have been growing and harvesting pumpkins, garlic, rhubarb, berries and herbs, all of which have been used in cooking and tasting experiences in Outdoor Learning lessons this year and as additional ingredients to college lunches.



Thriftwood College

End of an Era

26 of our students left the college on 20th June to embark on their next adventure. It has been lovely to reflect on the many things they have achieved academically and personally. To mark the occasion the students enjoyed attending the Summer Ball, a special assembly with their parents and a very fun Leavers Day. Our leavers demonstrated all the skills that they have been learning during their time at Thriftwood by managing their emotions, socialising appropriately and enjoying these occasions.



Health & Wellbeing Package for all Directly Employed Staff

DON'T FORGET TO USE YOUR PACKAGE!

Looking after yourself is just as important as looking after others.

As part of our commitment to staff wellbeing, you have access to a wide range of support through our **Health & Wellbeing Package**

What's included in the Health & Wellbeing Package?

Details can be found on the poster here.....



How do I access these services?

Please scan the QR codes with your smartphone

We encourage you to take full advantage of these offerings. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school HR Leads.

Together, let's make health and wellbeing a priority in our workplace!

Education Mutual

Health is on the way

A wide-ranging of comprehensive services at your fingertips

Gold Trusted Service Award 2023 feefo

Gold Trusted Service Award 2024 feefo

Services included:

- Flu Vaccines
- Maternity + Paternity Support
- Bereavement
- Men's Mental Wellness
- Stress Management
- Financial Wellbeing Coaching
- Counselling
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- Live Webinars
- Menopause: Supporting Staff
- Menopause: Navigating your personal journey
- Menopause Counselling
- Physiotherapy
- 24/7 GP Service
- Nurse Support Service
- Surgical Assistance

SCAN ME

Browse the services available:

Please scan this QR Code with your smartphone to read our services in further detail

SCAN ME

How do I access these services?

Please scan this QR Code with your smartphone to complete a Healthcare Request Form

Our Vision



WE ARE A TRUST WHICH:

- **puts no limits** on what we believe young people can achieve; creating opportunities and meeting individual needs so that our young people can live rich and fulfilled lives
- **values our staff and is committed** to providing an environment which creates opportunities for professional growth and development
- **has the courage and drive** to challenge and champion change to enable equal opportunity and equity for all
- **influences, respects, listens and acts** and which in turn is known as a voice to listen to, act upon and respect.

OUR SEVEN KEY DRIVERS:

1. **Ensuring an excellent education** with a focus on meeting individual needs and where no limits are placed on achievement
2. **Young people are prepared for the future;** for meaningful and suitable employment, self- advocacy and independent living
3. **Leadership at all levels** including governance supports our academies and challenges them to better meet the needs of our children and young people
4. **Investing in our staff** means that they are well equipped and passionate about providing the very best for all our young people
5. **Providing a safe, sustainable and stimulating environment** in which we push the boundaries of what is possible through harnessing the power of edtech
6. **Collaboration and sharing** are central to our belief that we all learn from each other
7. **Financial decisions** are always made with our children and young people at the centre of our thinking which results in value for money

