# eNews

20th November 2026

Good afternoon,

**Building Self-Esteem and Resilience**




On Monday 16th November, we welcomed NHS/Unloc into school to deliver a full-day workshop focused on self-esteem and resilience for 50 students across Years 7, 8 and 9. Through a range of interactive activities and group discussions, students explored the importance of positive mental health, ways to build self-esteem and strategies to develop resilience.

A highlight of the day was a virtual guest speaker, Lawrence from Happy2Host Education, who shared his inspiring personal story. After a 15-year teaching career, Lawrence was forced to leave the profession following an epileptic attack. However, his passion for education and determination to focus on his recovery led him to find a new way to make a positive difference. He spoke about how resilience helped him navigate this change and turn a challenging experience into a new opportunity. Students were really moved by his story and thoroughly enjoyed his presentation.

To finish the workshop, students took part in a creative activity, putting together their own Wellbeing Support Boxes. These included positive affirmations, practical techniques to support emotional wellbeing and useful resources, including Soluna and ChatHealth support cards. The most popular additions were undoubtedly the positive quote stickers and stretchy fidget toys! It was a fantastic day, giving students the opportunity to reflect, share experiences and take away some practical tools to support their own wellbeing.

Thanks to Mrs Basterfield and Miss Audley for organising.

**Winter concert - Mr Taylor**
Congratulations to our fantastic musicians who performed at the Winter Concert on 19th November. Their hard work, dedication, and professionalism shone through in every performance in what was a great celebration of their achievements so far this year. A huge thank you to all of the families, friends, and Vyne staff that came to watch the students performing!

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs N Pearce
Headteacher

**VAST Production of Grease the Musical Young@Part**
We are delighted to confirm that tickets are now on sale for the school production of Grease. Full details below. Scan the QR code or follow this **link** to purchase tickets online.




## Dates to remember

Please click on the link below to view key school event dates

Dates to Remember

## New Communications from Hampshire County Council

**Free School Meals**
Are you currently receiving Universal Credit or another qualifying benefit?

If so, your child may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM).

You can apply online via the Hampshire County Council Free School Meals application page: https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals

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## Previous Communications from Hampshire County Council

### Hampshire Consultation on School Admission Arrangements 2028-2029

Hampshire County Council, in accordance with statutory requirements, is consulting on the 2028/29 admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools within its area and would like to hear your views.

The consultation will run from Monday 9th November to Monday 28th December 2026.

You can view the full consultation from 9am on 9 November at:

Consultation on school admission arrangements for 2028-2029 | About the Council | Hampshire County Council

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### Important changes to HAF eligibility: FSM Status

There are now two types of benefits-based FSM eligibility and not all children who receive free school meals are eligible for the HAF Programme.

Only children who receive benefits-based Targeted Free School Meals are eligible for free HAF places. Children who receive Expanded Free School Meals are not eligible for funded HAF places. Please see the attached flowchart graphic for further information.

Parents/carers can check their FSM eligibility via the Online FSM Application.

### Important changes to HAF eligibility: Discretionary Places

Some free or reduced-cost holiday club places may be available for children who are not in receipt of benefits-based Targeted FSM but who may benefit from attending HAF activities. Further information is available on our FAQs page.

If a child was approved for a discretionary place before September 2026, this approval will not automatically continue for future holiday programmes and families will need to confirm their child's eligibility again before booking future HAF activities.

Once confirmed, eligibility will normally continue for the rest of the academic year, although Hampshire County Council may review eligibility if a family's circumstances change.







# Vyne Music Department News

## Vyne Recording Studio - Back in action!




Following five days of work, thanks to funding from British record label EMI, the recording studio at the Vyne is back up and running, and up to modern standards! Watch this space for student band recordings and podcast projects.

Any students wishing to learn how to use the studio can attend music production club, Wednesdays first break.

## ***Free Tickets - Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra 22nd November at The Anvil***

The school has been given **free** tickets to see the Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra on the 22nd November performing an evening of music from Soviet and pre-Soviet Russian composers, including Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, and Khachaturian.

We have 28 of these tickets available. To apply for free tickets, please complete this online form. Tickets are offered on a **first-come first-served basis** to families of Vyne students (and please feel free to bring the whole family!)

## Train to Teach with South Farnham SCITT

Have you ever considered a career in teaching, or know someone who might? **South Farnham SCITT,** our local teacher training provider, is hosting a series of free information events this autumn for prospective primary, secondary and SEND teachers.

Whether you're exploring a career change, returning to work, or taking the first step towards teaching, these sessions will provide practical advice on training routes, entry requirements, funding and the application process.

With a personalised, school-centred approach to teacher training and opportunities to gain school experience before applying, South Farnham SCITT can help you decide whether teaching is the right career for you. To find out more, book an event place, or speak to the team, visit the South Farnham SCITT website www.sfscitt.org.uk. Please feel free to share this opportunity with family and friends.




## 💙 Support for Students:

If you are a student and need help, advice, or someone to talk to while school is closed or on the weekend, please access the confidential resources below:

🛡️ School Safeguarding Page: The Vyne School Safeguarding Support
🆘 Immediate Crisis / Self-Harm Support: If you are feeling overwhelmed, distressed, or having thoughts of self-harm, please pause and visit the Hampshire CAMHS Crisis Page.
📱 ChatHealth (Text a School Nurse): Text 07505 332160 or visit chathealth.nhs.uk
💚 Kooth (Online Mental Wellbeing Community): kooth.com
📞 Childline: Call 0800 1111 or visit childline.org.uk
☎️ Samaritans (24/7 Helpline): Call 116 123 or visit samaritans.org
🌐 Hampshire CAMHS: hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk
💜 Stop Domestic Abuse: stopdomesticabuse.uk




Our Co-Curricular Programme provides students with a wide range of opportunities to develop their interests, talents and skills beyond the academic curriculum. The programme has two parts: Embedded, with activities and opportunities taking place during the school day, and Extended, offering a range of activities after school. It has been fantastic to see so many students engaging enthusiastically in these opportunities, demonstrating one of our key Vyne Values. Taking part in co-curricular activities is also an important way for students to balance their academic focus with time to pursue interests, build friendships, develop confidence and support positive mental health.




Is your child missing a jacket, lunchbox, or water bottle?
Please ask them to check the lost property box in Student Services during break times.

Please remember to label all school items with your child's full name so that they can be reunited. Items can only be kept for half a term, after which they are disposed of/donated to charity.

**Year 7 - Mr Morey, Progress Leader 7, a.morey@vyne.hants.sch.uk**
***E Lea - Pupil Support & Guidance Manager e.lea@vyne.hants.sch.uk***

It has been another busy, thoughtful, and rewarding week for our Year 7 students.

🎄 **Year 7 Festive Lunch – Friday 4th December**
A polite reminder that on Friday 4th December, we will be hosting a sit-down Christmas lunch for our Year 7 students as detailed in the letter dated 13th November. This is a lovely opportunity for the students to enjoy some festive fun together with their peers in the Main Hall during Period 4.

Students have the option to pre-order a hot Christmas lunch or bring their own packed lunch. The hot Christmas lunch options this year are:

- **Red Option**: Roast turkey with roast potatoes, vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, pigs in blankets, and stuffing balls.
- **Green Option**: Vegetable Wellington (puff pastry filled with vegetables) with roast potatoes, vegetables, Yorkshire pudding, and stuffing balls.

**Cost, Free Raffle & How to Book:**

- **Price**: £3.15 (includes the main meal, a Christmas cookie, and cups of squash).
- **Free Grand Prize Raffle:** There will also be a free grand prize raffle with lots of gifts to be won to reward our amazing Year 7 students for all their hard work this term!
- **Payment:** Please pay in advance via your child's Scopay account under the 'Trips & Events' section, entitled 'Yr 7 Christmas Lunch – 4/12/26'. (Please do not add funds to your child's regular canteen account for this meal.)

**Free School Meals (FSM):** If your child is in receipt of FSM and would like the hot Christmas lunch, please let us know via the sign-up link below.

You can click here to confirm whether your child would like a hot Christmas lunch or will be bringing their own lunch. Please note that the **deadline for ordering a hot Christmas lunch is Friday 27th November.** Due to ingredients needing to be pre-ordered, we are unable to accept any Christmas lunch orders after this date.

If your child would prefer not to eat at the year 7 Christmas lunch then they will still have the opportunity to purchase and eat their food during first break.

🌟 **Things to Celebrate: Wessex Rotary Shoebox Appeal**
A huge thank you to all Year 7 students and families who generously contributed to the Wessex Rotary Appeal. Together, we put together an impressive 16 parcels of gifts for disadvantaged children in Eastern Europe.

The Rotary team has passed on their heartfelt thanks to our school community. The parcels have officially left the UK and are now en route across Europe to children in Poland, Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova. The charity hopes to send us some photographs once the children receive their gifts, which we look forward to sharing with Year 7 in the coming weeks.

🧠 **Assembly Focus: Movember & Mental Health**

On Thursday morning, Mr Gibson led a meaningful Year 7 assembly focusing on Movember and the importance of looking after our mental health. Students explored why opening up, talking about our feelings, and checking in on friends is so vital—especially for boys and men, who statistically find it harder to ask for support.

🎨 **Get Creative: Official School Christmas Card Competition**
Calling all artists! We are inviting students to enter our Christmas Card Design Competition.

- **The Brief:** Designs should reflect The Vyne School as a whole—such as our school values, traditional Christmas themes, or festive school spirit.
- **The Prize:** The winning design will be printed and sent out as our official Christmas card to local community members, partners, and friends of The Vyne.
- **How to Enter:** Please hand in your original design on A4 paper to Mr Wey.

**Submission Deadline:** Friday, 27th November.

🏆 **Achievement Points Leaderboard**
We love celebrating students who embody our 4 Vyne Values: Determination, Opportunity, Valour, and Empathy

Congratulations to this week's top achievement point leaders:

🥇 1st Place: Summer - 166 points
🥈 2nd Place: Laura - 154 points
🥉 3rd Place: Erin - 154 points

Congratulations to you all!

📱 **Mobile Phone Policy Reminder**
Mobile phones must not be out or visible in school at any time, including before the school day starts. They may be used for journeys to and from school, but must be kept away in bags as soon as students enter the school gate.

💬 **WhatsApp Safety Warning**
We have communicated a number of times regarding the dangers of WhatsApp groups containing large numbers of students. Please remember that WhatsApp has an age limit of 13, so Year 7 students should not be using this form of social media. We appreciate your support in monitoring device usage at home to help keep our young people safe online.

⏰ **Punctuality & Transition Times**
Students have a 5-minute transition time between lessons and should not be late to class. Receiving 2 late marks will result in a detention.

📔 **Independent Learning**

**Independent Learning Commitment for Year 7s**

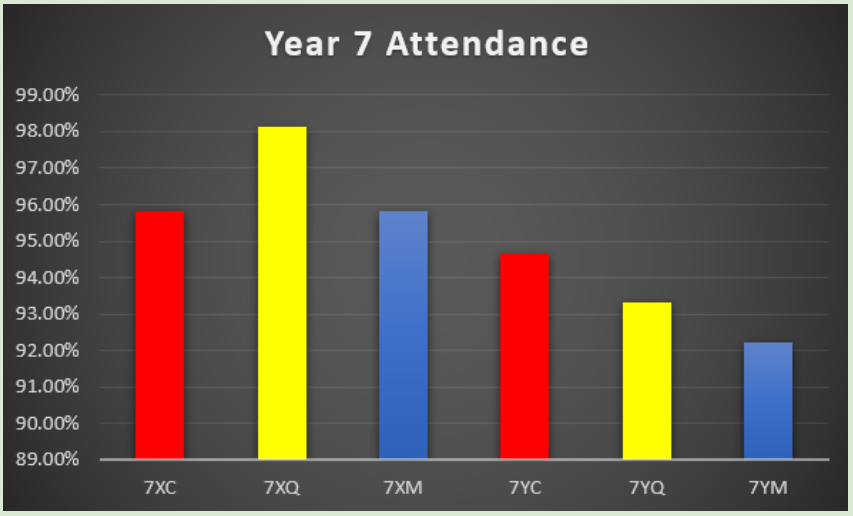
| Subject | Platform set on (if applicable) | Day set | Day due | Time due | Completion expectation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| English | Bedrock | Tuesday | Following Tuesday | 23:59 | 30 minutes |
| Maths | Sparx | Friday | Following Friday | 23:00 | All questions answered. Achievement score to be 100% (adaptive assessment). Approximately 30 minutes. |
| Science | Seneca | Wednesday | Following Wednesday | 23:45 | All questions answered. Average achievement score to be 80% or above. Approximately 30 minutes. |

Independent Learning may be set for other subject areas to support their understanding. Students should be completing this in order to ensure mastery of the subject areas however, sanctions will not be given if students choose not to participate in this opportunity.

## 📊 Year 7 Attendance Update

Our overall Year 7 attendance currently stands at 94.83%, just shy of our school target of 96%. Thank you to all families for your ongoing support in ensuring students are in school, on time, and ready to learn every day.

A huge congratulations to 7XQ (EKL) for leading the year group this week with an impressive 98.15%! Here is how each tutor group is currently performing:




Consistent attendance ensures students remain up to date with subject knowledge, prevents learning gaps, and helps them build strong social connections with peers.

**Mild Illness Guidelines:** As a general rule, students should continue to attend school if they are experiencing mild symptoms (such as a slight cough, runny nose, sore throat, or mild headache), provided they are otherwise feeling well and do not have a high temperature.

# Is my child too ill for school?

UK Government NHS

**Does your child have a high temperature (38ºC or more)?** YES Keep them off school until it goes away. NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

| Should go in | Should go in (let the school know) | Seek treatment before returning to school | Keep them off (at first) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **A cough, cold or sore throat**<br>Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature. | **Cold sores**<br>Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels. | **Impetigo**<br>They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school. | **Ear infection**<br>If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away. |
| **Threadworms**<br>Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment. | **Conjunctivitis**<br>Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly. | **Ringworm**<br>See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment. | **Measles**<br>They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system. |
| | **Head lice & nits**<br>You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP. | **Scarlet fever**<br>They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics. | **Vomiting & diarrhoea**<br>Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours). |
| | **Hand, foot & mouth disease**<br>If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly. | **Chickenpox**<br>Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared. | |
| | **Slapped cheek syndrome**<br>Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome. | | |

**Feeling worried or anxious:** It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

## Year 7 Tutor Contact Details

7XQ E Kispal e.kispal@vyne.hants.sch.uk
7XM A Bartle a.bartle@vyne.hants.sch.uk
7XC G Dollin g.dollin@vyne.hants.sch.uk
7YQ K Reith k.reith@vyne.hants.sch.uk
7YM K Walkden k.walkden@vyne.hants.sch.uk
7YC S Ginn s.ginn@vyne.hants.sch.uk

## Year 8 - Mr Maylen, Progress Leader 8, k.maylen@vyne.hants.sch.uk

This week has been a positive week with lots of great learning happening in lessons.

We are trying to encourage students to take part in the amazing house competitions that happen during the first break on a Wednesday. Do not miss out Year 8—Mr Gibson has some fantastic ideas and fun games!

Please can we also remind our students to continue following the Vyne uniform policy, particularly with tucking their shirts in and wearing their Vyne school ties.

We encourage families to talk through our core principles at home and reflect on how students can bring them to life throughout the half term.

### Notices & Updates

### Independent Learning

Students need to ensure they are completing their independent learning regularly. If students have any questions or concerns about their set work, please make sure they check in with their class teacher before the due date so we can support them.

### Netball news

### Year 8s Push Blue Coats to the Wire

The Year 8 netball team showed incredible grit and determination on Tuesday afternoon, braving cold and wet conditions to take on a fast-paced Blue Coats side.

Blue Coats came out of the blocks quickly, catching The Vyne off guard in the opening quarter with their rapid ball movement. Despite early pressure, the Vyne girls kept their heads up, finishing the first quarter trailing 3–1.

Refusing to let the weather or the early deficit dampen their spirits, the team settled into their rhythm in the second quarter. The Vyne began to string together some

fantastic linkage play, smoothly transitioning the ball all the way from Goal Keeper Emily at the back, right through the mid-court, and into the safe hands of Goal Shooter Eve.

Defensively, the girls were relentless. A standout performance came from **Alex,** who produced a series of exceptional interceptions and completely neutralized Blue Coats' Wing Attack through disciplined, tight marking—giving her opponent barely a moment on the ball all game. That hard work paid off on the scoreboard as The Vyne overturned the deficit to go into halftime 5–4 up.

As the weather conditions worsened in the final two quarters, both teams continued to push hard for the win in a fiercely contested second half. There was some great work across the court from **Chin Yu, Ellie, Jasmine, and Rebecca,** and the match truly could have gone either way. Unfortunately, Blue Coats managed to edge ahead in the closing stages, taking the final victory 10–7.

Despite the result, the determination and teamwork shown by the Vyne girls in tough conditions was outstanding, making it a performance to be very proud of.

**Players of the Match:**
**Emily:** For some fantastic defensive work inside the D throughout the game.

**Eve:** For on-point shooting and sharp, dynamic movement around the attacking third.
Clinical Shooting and Solid Defence Power Year 8 Netball to 20–0 Win

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**Outstanding against The Clere**

The Year 8 netball team delivered an outstanding performance against The Clere, securing a dominant 20–0 victory. From the first whistle, the girls showed incredible teamwork, determination, and composure across the court.

Our passing throughout the game was crisp and accurate, allowing the team to move the ball smoothly down the court and maintain strong control of possession. In the attacking third, **Rebecca, Eve, and Lily** were on top form—confidently shooting from all areas of the circle and converting some truly beautiful goals.

Despite the one-sided scoreline, our defensive unit remained focused and worked tirelessly whenever The Clere pushed forward, making several crucial interceptions to keep a clean sheet.

Full credit must go to The Clere, who showed brilliant resilience, never gave up, and played the entire match with big smiles on their faces.

**Players of the Match: Alex and Lily** — well-deserved recognition for two fantastic performances!

### Year 8 Tutor Contact Details

8XQ Miss A Dewey a.dewey@vyne.hants.sch.uk
8XM Mrs J Budge j.budge@vyne.hants.sch.uk
8XC Mr J Galpin j.galpin@vyne.hants.sch.uk
8YQ Mrs K Gambrill k.gambrill@vyne.hants.sch.uk
8YM Mrs M Dobroczynska m.dobroczynska@vyne.hants.sch.uk
8YC Miss A Woodward a.woodward@vyne.hants.sch.uk

**Year 9 - Mr Marzetti, Progress Leader 9, m.marzetti@vyne.hants.sch.uk**
***S Latorre - Pupil Support & Guidance Manager s.latorre@vyne.hants.sch.uk***

Another week, another netball victory! Between cross country, evening concerts, Movember assemblies and NHS workshops, and free tickets to the Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra at The Anvil, there is certainly never a dull moment. Thank you as

always for your continued support—it has been another brilliant week in Year 9.

**Sports & School Spirit: Year 9 Girls' Netball vs Blue Coats**

**Unstoppable in the Downpour: Year 9s Storm Past Blue Coats to Keep Winning Streak Alive!**
The Year 9 netball team delivered another brilliant masterclass on Tuesday afternoon, travelling to Blue Coats and overcoming miserable weather to extend their impressive winning streak. These girls are genuinely an amazing group of individuals and a fantastic team.

From the first whistle, the Vyne girls were on top form, playing a fast-paced game defined by clean passing and outstanding movement off the ball. They quickly took control of the match, building an early lead and heading into the halftime break with a commanding 4–0 advantage.

The teamwork across the court was outstanding, with the girls supporting each other through every pass, interception, shot, and goal:

Defence: **Mati and Aeryn** formed a rock-solid partnership in the defensive circle.

Mid-Court: **Lakshmi, Emily, and Charley** worked tirelessly throughout the entire game to keep the momentum flowing.

Attack: **Holly, Leila, and Georgie** linked up seamlessly in the attacking circle.

As the weather took a turn for the worse in the final quarter and torrential rain swept across the court, keeping possession of a slippery ball became a real challenge. However, the girls refused to let their standards drop, digging deep to hold off a late push and secure a well-deserved 7–4 victory.

**Player of the Match – Georgie:** Awarded for clinical shooting in the circle, as well as her seamless transition into a defensive role when the team needed her most—proving herself to be a hugely versatile asset to the squad.

**Cross Country**
**Emily** led the way for the Year 9s with an incredible 2nd place finish. I am still awaiting the full results, but I have been assured that every single one of our runners put in an amazing shift. Well done to all involved!

**Year 9 Supporters**
I didn't receive the usual match-day reminder this week—I suspect even our most dedicated group of supporters wisely stayed indoors out of the rain!

**Year 9 News, Shout-Outs & Events**
**NHS Self-Esteem and Resilience Workshop:** An all-day workshop was held this week for invited students across Years 7–9. I am pleased to say it was a huge success, and our Year 9s did themselves proud by actively participating and supporting the younger students. A special shout-out to **Harvey and Logan**, who really stepped up as role models.

**Concert Shout-Out:** Well done to **Gracie, Matipa, Neve, and Oliver**, who represented Year 9 in the school concert!

**Assembly Focus – Movember:** Our assembly this week focused on Movember and men's physical and mental health. Starting in Australia with two friends wanting to do something different, Movember is all about starting conversations. Men aren't always the best at opening up, so this is a vital opportunity to chat and share experiences—especially when 2023 NHS data showed that 22% of 11–16-year-olds met the screening threshold for a probable mental health disorder.

**House Competition Update:** This week's competition was Curling! Those of you old enough will fondly remember the great Scottish Olympic teams of the past. While I'm not sure we quite matched their medal-winning talent, it was brilliant fun and great to see everyone getting stuck in.

**Upcoming Events & Opportunities**
V.A.S.T Bake Sale – Monday 23rd November Got a sweet tooth? Students are invited to come along and support our V.A.S.T bake sale!
**When: Monday 23rd November, First Break**
**Where: Main Hall**

**Free Tickets: Basingstoke Symphony Orchestra** at The Anvil (22nd November) This is a fantastic opportunity to experience something new, see details above.

**Attendance & Achievement**
**Attendance Tracker**
Our attendance numbers remain steady for now, so here is a quick reminder of why we work so hard to get students in every day:

Above 96%: Students achieve an average of a Grade 5 across all subjects and consistently reach their potential.

90% – 96%: Average attainment drops by a whole grade across subjects.

Below 90%: Students face just a 1 in 10 chance of achieving what they are capable of, with average grades slipping dramatically.

**Achievement Points & Tutor Group Rankings**
I have returned to the overall cumulative rankings this week:

9YM
9YQ
9XQ
9XM
9XC
9YC

The top two tutor groups are performing brilliantly, so it is going to take a massive effort from the rest of the year group to unseat them. That said, there is still plenty of time left in the term!

**Extra-Curricular Clubs**
Please encourage your child to keep attending clubs. This week's mental health workshops were a great reminder of how important it is to stay active, try new things, and build friendships outside of lessons.

**Most Popular Clubs This Term:**

**Sporting**: Netball, Football, Badminton
**Creative & Arts**: V.A.S.T, Drama, Art, Baking
**Academic Support**: Maths Clinic, Geography, Science, French, History

**Important Reminders & Contacts**
**Independent Learning (Homework)**
In Year 9, students are expected to complete Independent Learning across three core online platforms (approximately 60 minutes per subject, per week):

| Platform | Subject Set Day | Due Day & Time |
|---|---|---|
| Sparx | Maths Friday | Following Friday by 23:00 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bedrock | English Tuesday | Following Tuesday by 23:59 |
| Seneca | Science Wednesday | Following Wednesday by 23:59 |

**Year 9 Tutor Contact Details**
9XQ: M Holmes max.holmes@vyne.hants.sch.uk
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9XC: R Taylor r.taylor@vyne.hants.sch.uk
9YQ: T Southern t.southern@vyne.hants.sch.uk
9YM: R Crossley-Watters r.crossley-watters@vyne.hants.sch.uk
9YC: M Bamigboye m.bamigboye@vyne.hants.sch.uk

**Year 10 - H Richardson, Progress Leader 10, h.richardson@vyne.hants.sch.uk**
***N Smith - Pupil Support & Guidance Manager n.smith@vyne.hants.sch.uk***

**Our Time To Rise: Tremendous 10 Launches, Over 20,000 House Points Earned, and Year 10 Aims for the Top! 🚀**
Another fantastic week has flown by for Year 10! Teachers across the school have been full of praise for the mature attitude, sharp uniform standards, and incredible focus students are bringing to their GCSE studies—reflected in our year group smashing through 20,093 total House Points! With the exciting launch of Tremendous 10 celebrating everyday brilliance, our upcoming Activate reward trip, meaningful conversations around men's mental health, a shared focus on punctuality, and new opportunities to stretch for the very highest GCSE grades, Year 10 is truly showing what it means to rise to every challenge!

🌟 **Highlights this week:**

🎉 **TREMENDOUS 10 | 🏆 Celebrating Hard Work:** Tremendous 10 has officially begun this week, and we have already given out so many prizes! It is always lovely to remind students how brilliant they actually are and show them that teachers recognise the hard work they put in every single day. The celebration continues right through until Friday 4th December, with plenty more rewards up for grabs—including a large prize draw in our assembly on Tuesday!

🤸 **REWARD TRIP REMINDER | 🏅 Activate (Monday 30th November):** A huge congratulations to our top 12 students who have earned their place on our exclusive reward trip to Activate in Festival Place, Basingstoke, on Monday 30th November! Selected by staff for their outstanding start to GCSE—demonstrating flawless readiness, exemplary classroom attitude, determination, and a proactive response to feedback—these students will enjoy a 60-minute interactive session between 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM (returning in time for Period 5).

**Important Reminders:** Please ensure your child brings a suitable packed lunch on the day (unless eligible for Free School Meals with a pre-requested school lunch). If your child requires essential medication such as an inhaler or EpiPen, they must bring it with them on the day in order to attend. Any queries can be sent to Mr Richardson.

Congratulations to our attending students:

Amelia P, Christina G, Cyla B, Dominik P, Ethan A, Evie C, Imogen S, Jessica M, Jessica L, Jonathan W, Katie W, Scarlett W

**DOMINANT FROM THE FIRST WHISTLE: Year 10 Netball Secure Impressive 12–6 Win Over Blue Coat**

The Year 10 netball team continued The Vyne's winning streak with a superb 12–6 victory against Blue Coat. Setting the tone right from the starting whistle, the squad controlled the tempo of the game through clean, precise passing across every third of the court.

In the shooting circle, **Evie and Cyla** were clinical, boasting an impressively high shot-to-goal conversion rate that kept the scoreboard ticking steadily in The Vyne's favour.

At the defensive end, **Nina, Tessa, Analiese, and Roxy** formed a formidable unit. Their well-timed, accurate interceptions repeatedly disrupted Blue Coat's attack and allowed the ball to transition smoothly up the court through **Jess, Layla, and Cyla.** It was a true squad effort, with every single player fulfilling their role and contributing to a well-earned win.

**Players of the Match: Jess**, for her tireless work rate and link-up play across the entire court, and **Evie**, for her dynamic movement in the circle and sharp shooting.

🎓 **AIMING FOR GRADES 8–9 | 📈 GCSE Extension Opportunity**: We are thrilled with the progress of students showing the potential to reach the very highest GCSE grades! To stretch and challenge their learning even further, we are offering CGP Grades 8–9 Workbooks in Mathematics, Combined Science, and Separate Sciences. Packed with demanding problem-solving questions, these books can be used for independent revision at home as well as extension tasks in class.

**How to order:** Payments can be made via Scopay **by Friday 27th November 2026**, with books distributed to students in January ready for the rest of the academic year.

⏰ **LATES TO LESSON & PUNCTUALITY | 🎯 Every Minute Counts:** Currently, Year 10 are averaging 5.3 minutes late to lessons. Although this doesn't specifically apply to most students, roughly 10% are missing essential minutes of learning, which will impact their attendance and final GCSE grades. Punctuality needs to be upheld consistently from now until the end of their time here at The Vyne to set strong expectations for college life and work life beyond. Thank you for your continued support at home—please get in touch if you are worried about your child receiving consistent late detentions that we may not yet have picked up. As parents and carers, it is our legal responsibility to ensure our children attend school on time, and we are working together as a team to uphold high standards of punctuality and attendance.

🎙️ **This week's assembly:**
**Focus — Movember ("Behind 'I'm Fine'"):** This week's assembly explored the Movember campaign, focusing on men's health, mental wellbeing, and starting open conversations. Students unpacked the "unwritten rules" young men often face (such as "Man up" or "Boys don't cry"), looked at NHS England data showing that 22.3% of boys aged 11–16 met a screening threshold for a probable mental disorder in 2023, and discussed how outward anger or a quick "Yeah, fine" can often hide underlying worry or sadness. The session finished with practical ways to support a mate—reminding students that simply listening and involving a trusted adult, tutor, or Mrs Rodgers can make all the difference.

💬 **Parent Table Talk Prompt:** "Ask your child: 'In this week's Movember assembly, you looked at what goes on behind the automatic answer "I'm fine"—how can we make sure our friends or family feel safe to share how they're really doing?'"

🏆 **House points top 10 this week:**
A huge well done to the students who have accumulated the most House Points this term! Your dedication and hard work are making a real difference to your House's total. Keep up the excellent work!

✨ **Year 10 Milestone & House Standings:** Together, Year 10 has achieved an incredible 20,093 total points awarded, with an impressive average of 134.9 points per student! Here is how our Houses currently stand in Year 10:

🥇 Queen Mary: 7,856 pts (52 students)
🥈 Merton: 6,978 pts (48 students)

🥉 Charles Chute: 5,259 pts (49 students)

| Rank | Name | Tutor Group | Points |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ethan A | 10XQ | 389 |
| 2 | Dominik P | 10XM | 342 |
| 3 | Danish A | 10YM | 283 |
| 4 | Faith H | 10XQ | 283 |
| 5 | Oliver C | 10YM | 275 |
| 6 | Benjamin N | 10XM | 273 |
| 7 | Keirah A | 10XC | 268 |
| 8 | Zander W | 10XQ | 267 |
| 9 | Ella B | 10YQ | 255 |
| 10 | Katie W | 10XC | 250 |

⚽ **READING FC SCHOOLS & GRASSROOTS FIXTURE** | We are excited to announce our first Schools & Grassroots fixture of the 2026/27 season! The Vyne Community School has been invited to watch Reading vs Bromley on Saturday 21st November at 12:30pm at the Select Car Leasing Stadium.

**Benefits for Families: Enjoy 40% OFF** your tickets across selected stands by using our unique code **#VyneCommunitySchool** at tickets.readingfc.co.uk (valid until midnight on Friday 20th November). There is no limit to the number of tickets you can buy, so bring along friends, family, and neighbours for a fantastic day out!

**Benefits for the School**: If our community sells 25+ tickets, our school will be entered into an exclusive draw to win a Reading FC matchday experience! Furthermore, if we sell the most tickets overall, we will be named School of the Match, unlocking incredible rewards like pitch access at half-time, player signatures, big-screen features, and tickets for our hard-working staff!

**Uncover Engineering for Black, African or Caribbean Heritage Students with Oxford University:** Uncover Engineering is a completely free, four-day residential programme hosted directly by Oxford for Year 10 students who are of Black, African or Caribbean heritage. During the trip, students will stay at an Oxford college and take part in hands-on, practical workshops designed by the Department of Engineering Science to show how the maths and physics they learn in school apply to real-world engineering challenges. Beyond the academic sessions, students will experience genuine university living with evening social activities, a traditional Oxford formal dinner and a closing session where parents or guardians are invited to join and learn more about university pathways.

This all-expenses-paid opportunity takes place in Oxford from 30th March to 2nd April 2027. **Applications are open now and close on 31st December 2026.** We strongly encourage eligible students to take full advantage of our link with Oxford. For further information and to make an application for your child to participate in the programme, please go to eng.ox.ac.uk/uncover.

🎨 **Extra-curricular clubs:**
We have a range of free clubs for students to attend after school, these are always on display in tutor rooms. There is no sign up, just come along and be added to the register that day.

Encouraging your child to try just one after-school club is a brilliant way for them to unwind from GCSE study, build new friendships, and discover hidden talents!

📚 **Independent Learning Totals:**
Every week we track who is completing their homework. These are the headlines this week (TBA - share your latest completion percentages and last week's figures to add the weekly comparison!).

💡 **Research Spotlight:** According to the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), effective homework in secondary school has a high impact on student progress—adding an average of +5 months of additional academic progress over a year when students develop consistent, independent study habits.

📌 **Notice to Parents:** If you or your child have any concerns regarding homework—including how to access assignments, tracking completion, or accessing additional subject support—please do not hesitate to contact the relevant subject teacher directly for guidance.

**Independent Learning Schedule** 🗓️

| Subject | Independent Learning Due Date (11:45 PM) | Break Detention | After-School Support Session |
|---|---|---|---|
| **English** | Tuesday | Thursday | Monday |
| **Maths** | Friday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
| **Science** | Wednesday | Friday | Tuesday |

This schedule outlines students' weekly independent learning tasks and break detentions.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to tutors, Mr Smith or myself.

**Year 10 Tutor Contact Details**
10XQ A Arthur-Worsop a.arthur-worsop@vyne.hants.sch.uk
10XM T Hollingshead t.hollingshead@vyne.hants.sch.uk
10XC S Wey s.wey@vyne.hants.sch.uk
10YQ J Brown j.brown@vyne.hants.sch.uk
10YM N Jamieson n.jamieson@vyne.hants.sch.uk
10YC T Miles t.miles@vyne.hants.sch.uk

**Year 11 - D Vaughan, Progress Leader 11, d.vaughan@vyne.hants.sch.uk**
***C Bristow - Pupil Support & Guidance Manager c.bristow@vyne.hants.sch.uk***

**Year 11 – A Busy Week of Opportunities**

Another busy week for Year 11, with lots happening across our practical subjects and preparations for the next stage of their education. It is lovely to see students taking part in the opportunities available to them, and I want to begin by recognising some of the fantastic work taking place.

**Art, Food Technology and Dance – Celebrating Our Students**
A huge well done to our Year 11 Art students who have completed their mock examinations this week. This involved two full days of practical art projects, requiring concentration, creativity, organisation and commitment. I hope they are pleased with what they have produced and recognise the effort they have put into their work.

A massive well done also to our Year 11 Food Technology students who have completed part of their GCSE cooking examination. I have heard that some excellent food has been created, and I know how much preparation and practice goes into these assessments. I look forward to seeing more of their work and hearing how they got on.

Finally, good luck to our Year 11 dancers who will be sitting their GCSE Dance Performance examinations next week. We have seen them rehearsing and practising, and they are looking fantastic. They have worked hard to develop their performances, and I wish them all the very best. Remember to trust your preparation, perform with confidence and enjoy the opportunity to showcase what you can do.

**Year 11 Progress Evening - Thursday 3rd December 4pm-7pm**
The online booking system is now live!

This is an important opportunity to review your child's mock results and get a breakdown of the areas in which they need to focus their attention ahead of the summer exams. We strongly encourage attendance by parents/carers at our progress evenings but appreciate that this may sometimes not be possible. Should this be the case, we encourage your year 11 child to attend the appointments without a parent/carer present so that they may be updated by their subject teacher on their progress.

If your child is to attend their progress evening appointments without a parent/carer present, please could you kindly let us know via email at enquiries@vyne.hants.sch.uk by Wednesday 2nd December at the very latest.

Please visit our online booking system to book your appointments, login is completed with the following Information:

Student's **Legal First Name**
Student's **Legal Surname**
Student's **Date of Birth**

Please be aware that the booking system will close at **4pm** on **Wednesday 2nd December.** Should you wish to make any changes after this date please contact reception.

If your child receives support from our SEND department and you would like to speak with our KS4 SENCO, Mrs Kingswood, she will be available for a drop-in session throughout the evening.

If you do not have access to the internet and would like us to make an appointment on your behalf, please contact reception on 01256 473003 and if you experience any problems with the system, please email m.edwards@vyne.hants.sch.uk

Could we kindly ask that you do not arrive at the school any earlier than 3:50pm as we are unable to accommodate parents/carers in reception.

The school site can be very busy in the evenings with community bookings so in order to alleviate pressure on parking spaces we ask parents/carers to please consider walking if possible.

We look forward to seeing you on **Thursday 3rd December.**

**College Applications – Keeping Options Open**
Students have now begun completing their college applications during tutor time. We are encouraging all students to apply to multiple colleges and courses where appropriate, rather than limiting their choices too early.

The reason for this is simple: students do not yet know their final GCSE results, and we want them to have as many opportunities available to them as possible when they make decisions about their next steps this time next year.

Applying to more than one college and considering different courses does not mean students have to accept every offer. It simply keeps doors open and gives them greater flexibility when their results are known.

Please continue to talk to your child about their plans, encourage them to research different pathways and ensure they are considering courses that will support their future ambitions. We want every student to make informed decisions and feel confident about the opportunities available to them.

**Prom Fundraising – Getting Ready for the Celebration**
As we begin looking ahead to Prom, I would like to open up the conversation about fundraising and ways we can help reduce the overall cost for students.

Last year's Year 11 cohort undertook a range of fundraising activities to help lower the cost of their Prom tickets. We recognise that Prom can be an expensive occasion, but it is also a celebration that many students look forward to as their final event marking their time at secondary school.

We would love to make the day as special and accessible as possible for everyone. If you have any fundraising ideas, would be happy to support an activity or are able to contribute towards some of the additional extras that help make the event special, please do get in touch. Any suggestions or support would be greatly appreciated.

**Prom Points – How Are You Doing?**
A reminder that students earn Prom Points through a range of positive contributions to school life, including:

- Attendance at school.
- Attendance at compulsory Extended Learning sessions.
- House Points.
- Supporting school events and giving their time to help the wider school community.

Points will go live for the first time next week, allowing students to check their current totals with their tutor and understand how they are progressing.

Students need to achieve **127 Prom Points** to begin receiving their Prom invitations. This is an opportunity to recognise the effort, commitment and contribution students make throughout Year 11, both inside and outside the classroom.

**Behaviour, Attitude and Respect – We Need to Get This Right**
I want to address an area of concern that we have seen increasing over recent weeks. We are experiencing more students missing lessons without permission, arriving late to lessons and, on occasions, speaking to staff in a disrespectful manner.

I fully appreciate that Year 11 is a demanding year. Students are feeling the pressure of their forthcoming GCSEs, thinking about their futures and managing increased academic expectations. We understand this and will continue to support them. However, feeling stressed or under pressure does not excuse poor behaviour or choices that negatively affect others.

Every lesson matters. Teachers are working hard to ensure that all GCSE content is covered, questions are answered and students receive the support they need. We will not tolerate behaviour that disrupts another student's learning or prevents teachers from teaching. Equally, students must treat all staff with respect and follow the expectations in place.

Where expectations are not met, sanctions will be applied in line with school policies. We want all Year 11 students to feel able to learn, ask questions and make progress in

a calm and purposeful environment. The choices of a small number must not compromise the learning of others.

If your child is feeling overwhelmed, struggling with a subject or finding the pressure difficult, please encourage them to speak to their tutor, subject teacher or a member of the Year 11 team. We would much rather help them find a way forward than see them disengage from their learning.

**The Year 11 Canteen – A Privilege to Protect**
I also want to remind students about their behaviour in the Year 11 canteen. This is a dedicated space for our Year 11 students, and we want it to remain somewhere they can relax, eat and enjoy time with their friends.

However, having a space of their own is a privilege, and with that comes responsibility. We expect students to:

- Put all rubbish in the bins provided and leave tables clean.
- Treat the space and equipment with respect.
- Not throw food or leave mess for others to clear up.
- Behave sensibly and avoid being overly boisterous.
- Be kind and respectful towards one another and the staff supervising the area.

Students who do not respect the space will be given a warning then asked to leave and may receive a ban from using the canteen should the behaviour continue. We want to protect this facility for everyone, and that relies on students taking pride in their environment and looking after it.

**Period 7 – Compulsory Extended Day Until 3.45pm**
A further reminder that the Year 11 extended day continues to be compulsory. All students are expected to remain in school until **3.45pm**, whether they are attending an invited Extended Learning subject group, a Subject Clinic or completing Independent Learning and revision in G3/4.

Students do not have the option to leave early because they are not attending an invited subject group. There is provision available for every student, and this additional time is an important opportunity to receive support, consolidate learning and prepare for their GCSEs.

Registers are taken, and students who fail to attend their allocated provision or leave without permission will receive a sanction in line with school expectations.

Please reinforce this at home so that there is no confusion about the requirement to remain in school until 3.45pm. We have put this time in place to support students, and we expect everyone to make full use of it.

**Finally – Working Together for the Best Outcomes**
There is so much to be positive about across Year 11. Our students are completing practical assessments, preparing performances, exploring college opportunities and beginning to think seriously about the next stage of their education.

We want every student to enjoy these opportunities, feel supported and achieve the very best they can. To do this, we need them to take responsibility for their choices, show respect for those around them and make the most of every lesson and every opportunity available.

**Supporting Your Child to Achieve Grades 8–9**
We are delighted with the progress being made by students who have the potential to achieve the highest GCSE grades. To support and further challenge these students, we are offering the opportunity to purchase additional CGP workbooks specifically designed for students aiming for Grades 8–9 in GCSE Mathematics, Combined Science and Separate Sciences. These workbooks contain more demanding questions and activities to develop deeper subject knowledge, strengthen problem-solving skills and

build confidence when tackling higher-level exam questions. They can be used independently at home to support revision and will also provide valuable extension opportunities within lessons.

If you would like to purchase one or more of these workbooks, payment can be made through Scopay by **Friday 27 November 2026**. The books will be distributed to students in January, ready to support their learning throughout the remainder of the academic year. We strongly encourage eligible students to take advantage of this opportunity as an additional way to stretch their learning and work towards achieving their very best.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We appreciate the partnership we have with you and will continue to work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for our Year 11 students.

### Year 11 Tutor Contact Details

11XQ M Cocker m.cocker@vyne.hants.sch.uk
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11YQ S Kadantot s.kadantot@vyne.hants.sch.uk
11YM I Clay i.clay@vyne.hants.sch.uk
11YC K Cunio k.cunio@vyne.hants.sch.uk

Vyne community leisure
classes | events | sports | venues

Our facilities are widely used by a variety of groups and clubs. We have an online bookings facility via SchoolHire which shows live availability of our venues.
A list of regular activities that take place here at The Vyne can be found on our website **here.**

## Local Events and Information






## Festive Friday - 20th November

Friday 20 November from 5pm to 8pm FREE
Across the Top of the Town, Basingstoke town centre, RG21 7QA

Love Basingstoke is back to spread joy and festive cheer at the Top of the Town on Friday 20 November from 5pm to 8pm.

Gather your family and friends to kick off the Christmas season together with an evening packed of FREE festive fun including:

🎁 A Christmas market with small business and local stallholders for unique gifts and tasty treats.
🎵 Enjoy music filling Market Square from a local DJ plus live performances
🌟 Festive entertainment and cheeky pantomime characters from Pumpkin Pantos.
🎨 Get creative with Christmas crafts
⛄Festive games
🎅 Food and drink from Top of the Town businesses

Wrap up warm, soak up the atmosphere and celebrate the start of the season, https://www.lovebasingstoke.co.uk/events/festive-friday

*External/third party events are advertised in good faith. The Vyne School cannot be held responsible for activities organised by third parties*