

PARENT / CARERS NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL BLOG

Dear parents and carers,

As we near the end of the first few weeks of Term 1, I'd like to reflect on the fantastic start to the academic year at Guilsborough Academy.

Our new Year 7 students have settled in remarkably well, embracing the challenges of secondary school with enthusiasm. Across the academy, there's been a notable increase in positive incidents and a significant decrease in negative ones compared to last year. This reflects the dedication of both our students and staff in fostering a respectful and focused learning environment. Walking through the school, the atmosphere is calm, purposeful, and inspiring, and I want to thank everyone for their contribution to this positive start.

The Parent/Carer Information Evenings we've held have also been a great success. These evenings were introduced to give parents and carers a deeper understanding of what goes on in school on a daily basis, and your engagement has been fantastic. I want to personally thank all who were able to attend for being part of your child's educational journey and for your ongoing support.

In addition to the positive atmosphere, you may have noticed some physical changes around the academy. We have completed the renovation of the Humanities area of B Block, from floors to ceilings and rolled out new screens in classrooms to enhance lesson accessibility, providing our students with improved learning spaces. You'll also have seen our vision, values, and mission proudly displayed around the school site, as we continue to embed these principles into every aspect of school life. There is more improvement work planned for the coming months, which I will keep you posted on.

This term has already seen several trips, including our Careers department facilitating a Pathfinders trip, Year 12 students enjoying Go Ape in Coventry, and three groups of Year 11 Historians visiting Hardwick Hall as part of their GCSE site study. These experiences are invaluable in enriching our students' education and helping them build important skills for their future.

Looking ahead, it's set to be a busy remainder of the term. We have several more parent and carer evenings and events planned before our Open Evening on 3rd October. I encourage everyone to take part in these upcoming opportunities, where possible, to further engage with the school community.

As we move forward into the rest of the term, I encourage everyone to continue with the excellent work you've been doing so far. Thank you again for your ongoing support and dedication – together, we're making this year one to remember.

Mr S Frazer
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary...

- 26 Sept : School Photographs - Years 7 and 12 only
- 26 Sept : Sixth Form Tutor Meet and Greet
- 03 Oct : Year 6 Open Evening
- 04 Oct : Staff Training Day
- 16 Oct : Flu Vaccinations
- 25 Oct : Half Term



SCHOOL FIELDTRIPS

School Trips happening this month...

- 26 Sept - : GOLD DofE
- 29 Sept
- 01 Oct : Evan Hansen @ Curve Theatre
- 11 Oct : Year 12/13 Woburn Trip
- 21 Oct : Headfest Trip (selected students)
- 22 Oct : Year 10/11 Geography Birmingham Trip
- 23 Oct : Year 10 A Christmas Carol

SEND

If you have a query or a question about your child, please initially direct this to your child tutor.

If this is relating to a SEND specific area please email SENDAdministrator@Guilsborough.northants.sch.uk

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

At Guilsborough Academy we encourage all our students to participate in as many extra-curricular activities as possible. Our extra learning opportunities offer students a chance to try something new, develop existing skills while nurturing friendships and broadening experience and enjoyment.

Our extra-curriculum activities range from an array of sporting and fitness clubs and activities, to the annual drama production and various musical events throughout the academic year. However, for those students who don't share these interests, the school also offers table-top clubs, IT and Eco club. The learning resource centre (LRC) also offer activities during social times for students to join in with which include a homework club, puzzles and games, Quidditch and reading.

The timetable below is intended to give you a flavour of what is on offer to you in the Guilsborough Academy Extra-Curricular programme. The very best thing to do, is just get stuck in; it might spark an interest in something that could last a lifetime!

Guilsborough Academy Extra-curricular programme

We offer a wide variety of PE extra-curricular activities. Our sports teams also have regular fixtures both at Guilsborough and in other local schools. The timetable for extra-curricular PE activities can be found below.

PE extra-curricular activities.

EDUCATIONAL TRIP PATHFINDERS

Tuesday 10th September saw the biggest Guilsborough cohort yet attend the 'Pathfinders' university discovery trip. Pathfinders is a programme jointly run by University of Lincoln and Lincoln College, University of Oxford to help inspire and prepare students for higher education. Participants join two events each year across Year 9, 10 and 11.

This month's trip was to Lincoln and had a healthcare focus. Students engaged in lectures about DNA, had a go at some medical situational judgement scenarios, got to quiz current students, and toured the teaching facilities which included some amazing dummies and replica medical kit.

Pictured: Year 9 boys trying out carrying a paramedic's full kit!

Miss Hunt
Director of Careers
EPQ Coordinator and Enrichment Lead



EDUCATIONAL TRIP GO APE

On Friday 13th September we travelled to Go Ape at Coombe Abbey. We were divided into two groups made from the whole year group, we either embarked upon our challenging yet competitive ground games or the other group participated in the exhilarating high ropes of the Coombe Abbey forestry. The ground games were competitive with groups needing to use teamwork in order to solve the problems and win the challenges set before them. This was thoroughly entertaining and required PURE concentration in order for this challenge to be won. Everyone took part in this fun challenge and walked away with a gigantic smile on their faces. This was a great task which brought groups together and encouraged leadership and teamwork. The games consisted of playing a large trivial pursuit, as well as an entertaining and competitive game of volcanoes and craters.

We then went onto the high ropes where there were multiple fun obstacles. We began the course with an entertaining, yet scary, leap of faith falling into a suspended large net. This was an exciting start to the course, however the jump, with a harness on, was not the nicest. We then continued onto another course that consisted mainly of zip lines that had great views of the surrounding trees and fields, we then finished that course with a massive zip line which was approximately 200 metres. Finally, we went onto the last course which was mainly filled with difficult obstacles which again required concentration and determination. One of the obstacles was so difficult that Mrs Tibbles managed to get stuck, however she managed to free herself before having to use the safety whistle! Overall, it was an extremely amusing day which was great for bringing the year together, the staff working at GO Ape and the supporting teachers were a great help. I would highly recommend for the next Year 12 to come.

Ben and Lyall
Year 12



EDUCATIONAL TRIP HARDWICK HALL



Year 11 history students went on a school trip to Hardwick Hall to study for their site question for their GCSE. Here's a write-up from some students...

Firstly, we went on a tour around Hardwick Hall, exploring and seeing the history of Bess of Hardwick and her house. We went around all the rooms, learning about Elizabethan life and seeing how the wealthy lived. The tour guides were very helpful and told us information about Bess and the house; such as the blue room being the most haunted in the house and the windows costing half the price of the house! Also, her love for tapestry was shown throughout the house, and it demonstrated her knowledge, education and wealth by showing classical and mythical figures and women of power. We then ventured through the impressive gardens, with acres of land, an orchard and many spectacular statues which helped create the atmosphere of the Elizabethan era and allowed us to imagine what Bess' life was like. Bess was an inspiring business woman and friend of Queen Elizabeth I, and she owned all the material businesses that built her house. As you drove in, you could see the ruins of her old family home and even though the structure was gone, you could still sense the character of the building. Overall, the trip was insightful and interesting, and the National Trust has kept the life of the building from hundreds of years ago, preserving the old artefacts. The staff were very helpful in answering any and all questions we had and made the trip very educational.

Eliana, Ellie, Emily, Autumn





Scarecrow Festival

The amazing Scarecrow creations by 7EF0.

The Winners chosen by the judge, Mr Hancock



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

A message from the Local Authority regarding updates to attendance procedures

Re: National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absence

I am taking this opportunity to write to inform you of some important changes the Government are introducing regarding school attendance and the issuing of penalty notices when children are absent from school.

A new National Framework for Penalty Notices is being introduced. The regulations will come into effect from the 19th of August 2024. The aim is to improve consistency in the use of penalty notices across England.

The national framework includes:

- A single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) for any unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period. The 10-week period may span different terms or school years. For example, 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the summer term and a further 8 within the autumn term.
- An increase to the rate of a penalty notice from £120 to £160 if paid within 28 days and £60 to £80 if paid within 21 days. If a second penalty notice is issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, the notice will be charged at the higher rate of £160 with no option for this second offence to be discharged at the lower rate of £80.
- A national limit of 2 penalty notices that can be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another tool must be considered (such as prosecution or another attendance legal interventions).

West Northamptonshire Council is in the process of consulting with schools to develop a revised local code of conduct. The document will be published on West Northamptonshire Council's website following the consultation.

We will be amending our School's Attendance Policy in line with the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, a copy can be found on our website.

We believe good attendance is essential to support your child in getting the most out of their education and we thank you for your continued support.

If you have any queries, please contact the school. We thank you for your continued co-operation.

GENERAL INFO

REMINDER

Could you please remind students that aerosols are banned and to refrain from bringing them into school.

This is also causing a problem for those students who have asthma.



THANK YOU



Please remember to label all your child's possessions so they can be easily identified and returned.

LOST AND FOUND

If your child has lost any property, please remind them to visit Student Reception (bottom of A Block) and look through unclaimed items.

THANK YOU

Guilborough Academy is available for hire!



Book your space today

www.school-space.org



SCHOOL SPACE

With excellent communication and a desire to help, the team at School Space helps us provide reliable and consistent venues for our classes.

Dan McAteer, MF Martial Arts



Library Opening Times

Years 7, 8 & 9

Every day at Break & Lunch time.
Except on a Thursday, week 2.

Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form

Break time, week 1: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
Lunch time, week 1: Monday & Wednesday
Break time, week 2: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
Lunch time, week 2: Thursday



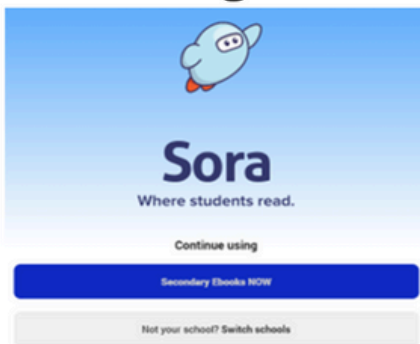
LRC UPDATE

Did you know that our school has access to 1000's of free Ebooks and audiobooks via the Sora app?
It is so easy to get started.

1 In the Guilsborough Academy Student Portal, go to the Sora link.



2 Sign into Secondary Ebooks NOW, then Guilsborough Academy.



Greensward Academy

Guildford High School

Guilsborough Academy

Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham College

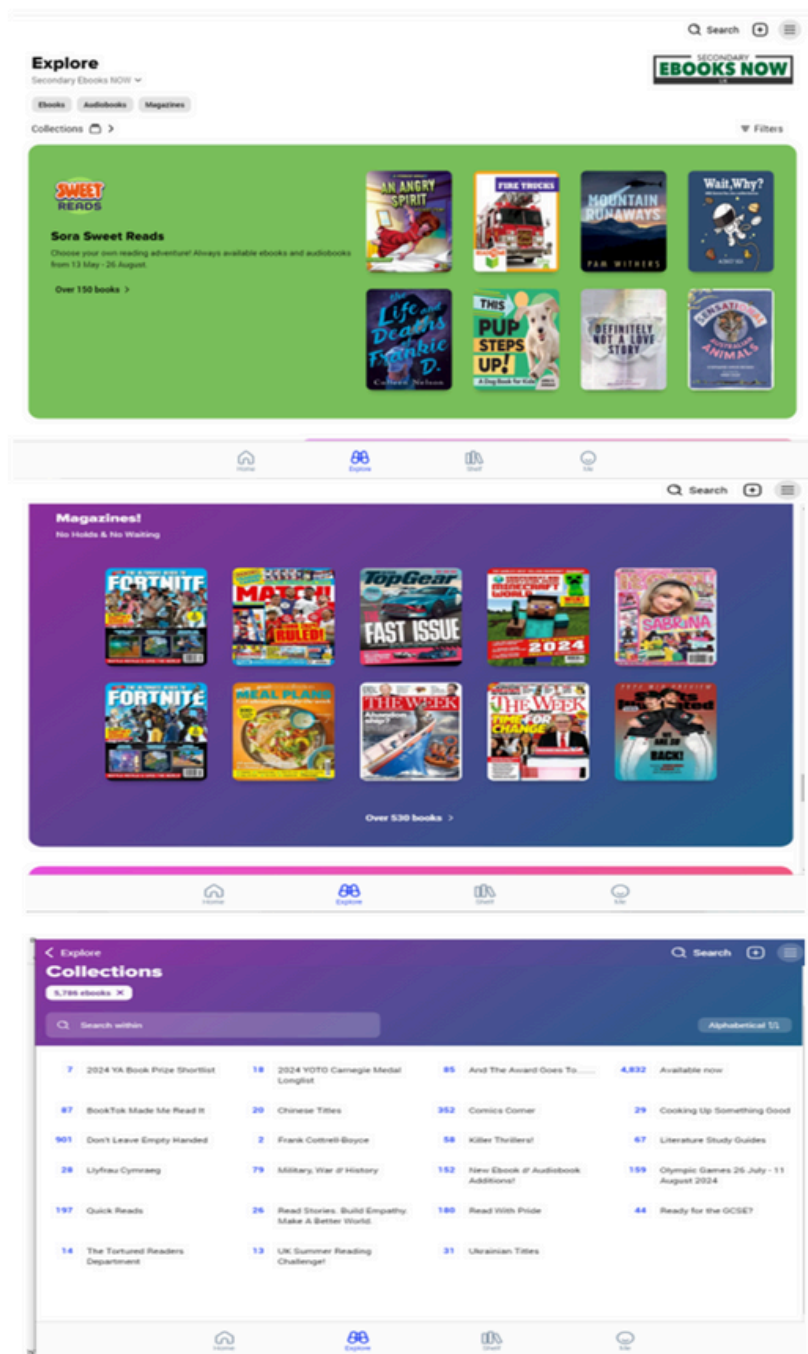
Hammersmith Academy

Hampton Gardens School

LRC UPDATE

3

Start browsing the 1000's of FREE books, magazines and Ebooks Sora have in their library.



You can also install Sora in Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to soraapp.com, and follow the steps above.

Happy reading!

CATERING INFORMATION



Dear Parent/Guardian

IFG proudly serves over 500,000 students nutritious meals each day. Our award-winning teams are dedicated to serving vibrant, appetising food, freshly prepared on site using quality ingredients. To enable us to continue to do this, our **tariff will increase by an average of 2.0%** across our range from September 2024. Below we have outlined some of the cost pressures which have driven this increase.

Food Inflation: As is the case for supermarkets and restaurants across the UK, the rate at which food prices are rising has slowed, however, they remain high. Coupled with climbing fuel costs, we continue to encounter supply chain challenges such as lack of availability and higher prices.

Employee Funding & Retention: In April, the Government increased the minimum wage by 10%, a positive move which will ease cost pressures for many of our colleagues. Alongside this, to retain and attract a high standard of leadership, we have increased wages for supervisory and managerial roles. Despite positive advancements, the combination of these factors means significant ongoing cost demands across our industry, many of which we have absorbed. Our agility has enabled us to avoid an April increase and keep our September increase down to 2.0%, which is notably lower than the current rate of inflation.

We continue to seek ways of reducing these challenges, however, we refuse to compromise on ingredients or service standards. We remain proud to serve a home cooked main meal and dessert, and several alternative meal deal combinations. Additionally, our free porridge provision at breakfast time, meal deals and new 'PowerBites' range at £1.30 are all designed to provide further support and/or more affordable meal options to ensure nutritious food is always accessible. We truly believe we offer students innovative dishes which rival the high street whilst providing families with great value for money.

Through partnering with schools, we continue to see more students enjoying our services. Whilst this is great news and tells us our menus are popular with students, we are always looking to encourage more young people to dine with us. If you have any feedback we would love to hear from you.

We hope you understand our position and your family can continue to enjoy our services. We remain open and honest about our challenges and will continue to seek your input. Should you wish to discuss this letter, or anything else relating to your catering service, please get in touch.

Kindest regards

Bryan Lygate
Managing Director

Impact Food Group Ltd

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T: +44 (0)204 5015000

E: hello@impactfood.co.uk

Registered in England and Wales

Company Reg No 11096050

CATERING INFORMATION

AWESOME THEME DAYS COMING UP

AUTUMN TERM

SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



SPRING TERM

JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH



APRIL



The value of free school meal is £2.60 per day, this will be rolled over each day until Friday, this means any unspent funds during the week can be spent at a later date that same week.

Free School Meals are either:

Main meal plus a dessert OR fruit OR water

Blue dot meal - 4 items for £2.60

Please visit our website find all the latest catering information and view the weekly menus.

[LINK](#)

4 AMAZING ITEMS £2.60

<p>HOT DELI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garlic Bread Pizza Melt Bap/Boat Cheese On Toast/Bap Pizza Melt Quesadilla BBQ Melt Bap <p>COLD DELI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Selection of Rolls: Ham, Cheese, Tuna, Chicken Mayo, Egg Mayo Carrot Sticks <p>DRINKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 125ml Radnor Drink Carton 500ml Water Bottle 8oz Slush Small Generation Juice 	<p>40Z POTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection of Fruit Pots Selection of Jelly Pots Selection of Yoghurt Pots Selection of Seed Pots <p>HOMEBAKES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mini Muffin Mini Cookie Mini Shortbread Mini Flapjack
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* Not all items are available everyday

VACANCY

Interested in applying to work at Guilsborough Academy?

Please follow the [LINK](#) to our vacancies page to see our current teaching and support positions.



Guilsborough Academy

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust

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CASUAL CONTRACT
£11.44 PER HOUR

Training Provided



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www.guilsborough.northants.sch.uk/vacancies



TRAIN TO TEACH



TRAIN TO TEACH OPEN EVENT

Thursday 7th November 2024

Open evening 5pm - 7pm

GUTP House, Sponne School, Towcester, NN12 6DJ

Please email gutprecruitment@sponne.org.uk with your name and subject of interest to register your attendance

WE OFFER PGCE COURSES WITH QTS IN:

- Business Studies
- Computing
- Design-Technology (including Food)
- English
- Geography
- History
- Maths
- MFL (French, German, Spanish)
- Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- PE

*Bursaries likely available for some subjects. Awaiting DfE announcement, eligibility criteria applies

www.gutp.co.uk



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The Fabric Townhouse,
offering a wide range of beautiful fabrics.

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our haberdashery selection.

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28
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UNIFORM UPDATE

Please follow the [LINK](#) to view the Guilsborough Academy uniform expectations.

Thank you

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Approved Uniform Supplier

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To ensure delivery before the start of term



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Tel: 01327 311125

sales@tailormade-online.co.uk



use your camera to scan the qr code to take you straight to the Guilsborough page

SCHOOL NURSE INFORMATION

NHS SCHOOL NURSE



Did you know that every school has an NHS School Nurse team?

We are a team of Qualified School Nurses, Community Staff Nurses, Healthy Child Practitioners and School Nurse Assistants. We work all year-round Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays).

We are happy to provide information, advice, and guidance on a range of health needs from reception to Year 13.

WE CAN BE CONTACTED:

- By phone 0800 170 7055 option 4
- Live Chat: <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/0-19>
- www.nhft.nhs.uk/childrenshub
- Chat Health (our text-based School Nurse messaging service) for parents and young people aged 11 and over. Monday to Friday 8.30 - 4.30 pm - 07507 329600
- On "X" (was Twitter) SchoolNursesNHFT

YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT US FOR ANY SCHOOL AGED IMMUNISATION QUERIES.

- By phone: 0800 170 7055 option 5
- Website: Children's resources, tips and advice hub | NHFT



SPORTS NEWS

Rugby club for all years runs on a Wednesday after school, 4-30pm collection.

We are working closely with Long Buckby RFC and have some excellent coaches to run the sessions this year, please come along.

New players welcome...

Mr Woolridge
Assistant Principal
Head of Year 7
Assistant Head of Physical Education



LIGHTNING **NORTHAMPTON SAINTS**

SAT 5 OCT @3.00PM
CINCH STADIUM @ FRANKLIN'S GARDENS

Loughborough Lightning **BRISTOL BEARS**

Loughborough Lightning will take on Bristol Bears in their first Premiership Women's Round, kick starting the 2024/25 season!
This fixture is on the 5th October KO @15:00