

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Weekly family communication. Friday 2nd October 2026

Dear Families

It has been another wonderfully busy and successful week at The Ramsey Academy, with our corridors and classrooms full of learning, ambition and achievement – something commented on by visiting families during the first of our 'Open Morning' tours. Alongside excellent teaching and learning across the school, it has been fantastic to see so many students representing the academy in a range of sporting fixtures this week, demonstrating the commitment, teamwork and pride that we value so highly.

We have also enjoyed 'Poetry Day' assemblies, which provided students with the opportunity to engage with literature, creativity and self-expression. It has been pleasing to see students embracing these opportunities with enthusiasm and maturity.

This week, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Mead, our former Executive Headteacher, back to the school. During her visit, she commented positively on the warm and purposeful learning environment across the school and was particularly impressed by the significant developments within our classrooms and buildings since her last visit. It was a proud moment to hear such positive feedback and a testament to the collective efforts of our students, staff and wider community.

Today, I also had the pleasure of visiting Richard de Clare Primary School, where I met their enthusiastic Year 6 pupils. It was wonderful to speak with them briefly about life at secondary school. We are looking forward to welcoming these pupils and their families to a special Open Morning on 12th October, providing an opportunity for those who were unable to attend our Open Evening due to being away on their residential visit to experience all that The Ramsey Academy has to offer.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. As we move further into the term, I continue to be incredibly proud of the positive culture, strong learning habits and sense of community that make our school such a special place.

School transport – Bus services

I would like to thank families once again for their patience and support regarding the school bus service issues we have faced this week. We recognise that the recent changes have caused some disruption for several students and families. Please be assured that we continue to hold discussions and maintain regular contact with the transport provider to raise concerns and seek improvements, with the aim of ensuring a safe, reliable and efficient service for all students. We appreciate your ongoing understanding and support as we work through these challenges together.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



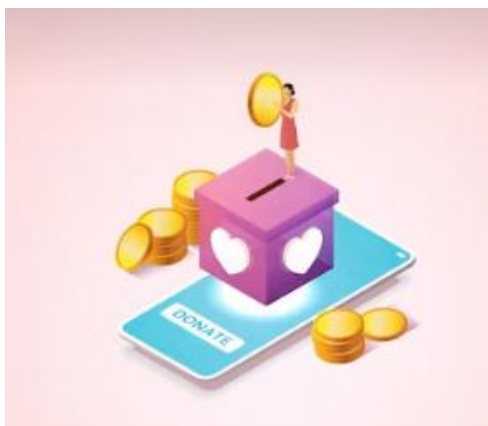
Courtauld Charity Week 12th-16th October 2026

We are delighted to announce our first **Charity Week** of the academic year, taking place from **Monday 12th to Friday 16th October**.

Following a vote by students, **Courtauld House** has chosen to support **Cancer Research UK**, with an overwhelming majority selecting this worthwhile cause. Cancer Research UK funds vital research into the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer, helping to save and improve lives across the UK. Many members of our school community have also been affected by cancer in some way, making this a charity that is close to the hearts of both students and staff. Students will need to bring in small amounts of cash to support these events.



We have an action-packed week planned, with plenty of opportunities for everyone to get involved and raise money for this fantastic cause. Events will include:



- Staff vs Student Basketball
- Guess How Many Sweets Are in the Jar
- Cake sales
- Non-Uniform Day
- Charity competitions and activities throughout the week
- And much more!

We are looking forward to seeing the whole school community come together to support an important cause while demonstrating our Ramsey values of **Resilience, Aspiration and Mutual Respect**.

Please see the details below regarding our Non-Uniform Day and Purple Hamper Donation. Every contribution, no matter how small, will help make a difference and support the incredible work of Cancer Research UK.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity. Together, we can help make a real difference.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



Courtauld Charity Week Purple Hamper Donations

As part of Charity Week, we will be creating several **Purple Hampers** to raffle off and raise additional funds for **Cancer Research UK**.

We would be extremely grateful if students and families could donate any **purple-coloured items**, no matter how small. These donations will be combined to create exciting hampers, with raffle tickets available throughout the week.

Some ideas for purple-themed donations include:

- Dairy Milk chocolate bars
- Milka chocolate
- Parma Violets
- Purple sweets or lollipops
- Blackcurrant squash or drinks
- Grape-flavoured treats
- Purple stationery (pens, notebooks, highlighters)
- Purple hair accessories
- Purple bath bombs or toiletries
- Small purple teddies or novelty gifts
- Purple mugs, socks or keyrings
- Purple gift wrap or small gift items



Donations can be brought into school from **Monday 5th October onwards** and should be handed to your tutor.

Every donation, no matter how small, will help us create fantastic hampers and raise even more money for this deserving cause. Thank you for your support and generosity. ❤️



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



Non-Uniform Day Friday 16th October

To round off a fantastic week of fundraising, we will be holding a **Non-Uniform Day on Friday 16th October**. Students are encouraged to wear **purple** to show their support for **Courtauld House** and **Cancer Research UK**. This invitation is open to **all students**, regardless of which house they belong to.

To take part, students should bring a **£1 donation**. Students who do not wish to participate will be expected to attend school in **full school uniform**.

Whilst students may wear non-uniform, clothing must remain appropriate for a school environment. Please ensure that:

- Clothing is suitable
- No crop tops, belly tops or low-cut tops should be worn
- Clothing must not display offensive language, slogans or images.
- Students continue to follow the school's jewellery expectations, with only **one piercing in each earlobe** permitted for safety reasons.
- Footwear must be safe and practical for moving around the school site. Sliders, flip-flops, slippers and high heels are not permitted.

We look forward to seeing a sea of purple across the school as we come together to support a very worthwhile cause and raise as much money as possible for Cancer Research UK.

Halloween Attendance Raffle!

We are launching our **Halloween Attendance Raffle!**

Students who achieve **100% attendance over the next three weeks** will be entered into a prize draw, with a range of exciting prizes to be won. Every day in school counts, and regular attendance gives students the best opportunity to succeed both academically and socially.

- **Attend every day, be entered into the raffle, and you could be one of our lucky winners!**
- Remember: **Miss a day... scare your chance away!** 🧛 🎃 🏆



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Student arrivals after 8.30am and school day

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the vast majority of families who support the academy by ensuring students arrive on time each day. Your support plays a vital role in helping students start the day positively and ready to learn.

As a reminder, the school day begins at **8:30am**. This means that students should be **seated in their tutor bases and ready to learn when the 8:30am bell sounds**. The bell is not a signal to arrive at school; it is the signal that the school day has started.

Over the past few weeks, we have observed a number of students arriving at, or still walking in the vicinity of, the school as the 8:30am bell sounds. A review this morning showed that a significant number of students were arriving after the bell had rung, despite expecting to make their way to tutor time at that point. We would like to remind families that students entering the school site at 8:30am are already late, as additional time is required to travel to tutor rooms and be ready for registration.

To support punctuality and ensure that all students maximise their learning time, we would like to remind families of our procedures regarding arrival after 8:30am. We have also spoken with students today to reinforce these expectations. Students arriving after 8:30am will be recorded in line with our attendance and punctuality procedures, and we will continue to follow up with students and families where lateness becomes persistent.

Punctuality is an important life skill and helps ensure that lessons begin promptly, disruptions are minimised, and students get the very best start to their day. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring students arrive in sufficient time to be in their tutor base, ready to learn, before the start of the school day.

Morning procedure

Whistle goes at 8.25am outside, Student Gate closed at 8.30am promptly.

1. Students arriving late (after 8.30am or student gate being closed) will enter the school through the main gate and via the canteen fire doors and not through Main Reception.
2. The Head of Year (on rota) and Attendance Assistant will be based in the canteen to:
 - a. Welcome students.
 - b. Sign students in and register them.
 - c. Issue a B1 sanction for lateness where appropriate.
 - d. Ensure mobile phones are placed into pouches.
 - e. Check and correct uniform standards.
 - f. Establish and record the reason for absence/lateness.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

3. Once signed in, students will proceed directly to tutor time via the DT corridor and student entrance doors. Students should not deviate from this route, including visiting toilets or the Head of Year office, unless authorised by the Head of Year and evidenced by a signed note in the student's planner.
4. Upon arrival at tutor time, tutors will check the sign-in time recorded on Arbor and ensure that any late-arriving tutees have arrived within a reasonable period. Any student who fails to arrive within a few minutes of being signed in will receive a B2 sanction for continued lateness. If a student claims to have visited the toilet or Head of Year but cannot provide evidence of authorisation in their planner, the B2 sanction will still be applied.
5. Heads of Year will follow up any persistent lateness, inappropriate reasons for lateness, or patterns of students arriving together, in line with the school's behaviour and attendance policies.
6. Some students may be directed to the Removal Room (RR) following sign-in as part of an established graduated response to persistent lateness. These students will be marked as present on Arbor but recorded as being in the Removal Room.
7. In the event of a late bus arrival, the attendance team will support the Head of Year in the canteen with the sign-in process. Mobile phone and uniform checks will continue as normal.
8. Students arriving after 9.00am should continue to enter school through Main Reception as per current arrangements and plans will then be implemented as appropriate to graduated responses of lateness.

The above will not result impact for the vast majority of our students who arrive on time and will support proportionality for occasional lateness.

We would also like to reassure families that students whose arrival is delayed due to issues with school transport will not be disadvantaged. Where students arrive late as a result of a delayed school bus, they will be welcomed into school and will not be recorded as late, as we recognise that this is outside of their control. This is particularly important given the recent changes and challenges affecting some school transport routes. Our focus is on supporting students to attend school successfully, while ensuring that our punctuality procedures are applied fairly and appropriately.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Ramsey Academy Sporting Success – Week 2 Fixtures Round-Up

Our second week of fixtures has been another fantastic one for Ramsey Academy students, with excellent performances, determination, and pride on display across all year groups.

We started the week strongly with our Year 10 Girls' Netball Team, who travelled to Alec Hunter for a tournament. The girls performed brilliantly throughout the day, losing just one match and representing the school exceptionally well.

On Thursday, our Year 9 Girls' Netball Team took part in their own tournament and impressed with their teamwork, effort, and attitude. Congratulations to all the girls involved. Mrs Duhig was extremely proud of every player and the way they represented Ramsey Academy.

Wednesday saw our Year 7 football team pull on the Ramsey shirt for the very first time. Facing some difficult opposition, the boys never gave up, showing tremendous resilience and demonstrating our Ramsey values throughout. They continued battling until the final whistle and should be proud of their efforts.

Tuesday brought two football fixtures. Our Year 8 team travelled to Honynwood, while our Year 10 team welcomed Alec Hunter in the County Cup. Despite a depleted squad and several players carrying knocks, the Year 8 team continued to compete well and managed to get on the scoresheet with a couple of goals. Meanwhile, the Year 10s produced a dominant display from the first whistle to the last, securing an outstanding 7-0 victory and booking their place in the next round of the County Cup.

Finally, on Monday, our Year 11 team kicked off their final season in Ramsey colours with a County Cup tie against Beaulieu Park. The boys delivered an excellent performance, seeing off the opposition comfortably and progressing to the next round, where they will face CCH.

A huge congratulations to all of our students who have represented the school this week. Your commitment, attitude, and sportsmanship continue to make Ramsey Academy proud. We look forward to seeing more success in the weeks ahead!

-Mr Farrelly

Census

This month, we are completing the annual school census. As part of this process, we ask all parents and carers to log in to their Arbor account and check that the information we hold about you and your child is accurate and up to date. Many details can be updated directly through Arbor.

Previously Looked-After Children - If your child was previously looked after by a Local Authority or other state care immediately before being adopted, or left care through a Special Guardianship Order or Child Arrangements Order, they may be eligible for **Pupil Premium Plus** funding. This may also include children adopted from state care outside England and Wales.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

It is for parents and carers to decide whether they wish to declare their children previously looked-after status to the school. Providing this information enables us to ensure that eligible pupils are correctly recorded and that the school receives the appropriate funding to support their educational needs.

If you wish to declare your child's status, please contact **Mrs Howkins, Assistant Headteacher and Designated Teacher for Children in Care**. We will ask you to provide appropriate evidence confirming your child's eligibility, such as an adoption order, Special Guardianship Order, Child Arrangements Order, or confirmation from the relevant local authority.

Children of Service Personnel - Your child may be eligible for Service Pupil Premium if:

- One parent is serving in the regular armed forces, including those on full commitment as part of the Full-Time Reserve Service.
- One parent is serving in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England.
- One parent died while serving in the armed forces and the child is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or War Pension Scheme.

If your child meets any of these criteria, please contact our Data Manager, **Miss Askew**, by emailing kaskew@ramseyacademy.com so that we can ensure our records are accurate and your child's eligibility is correctly recorded.

Please be assured that any information provided will be treated sensitively and confidentially and processed in accordance with the school's data protection responsibilities. If your child has joined The Ramsey Academy from another school, please do not assume that information about their previously looked-after status or service child status has automatically transferred. We encourage you to contact us so that we can ensure our records are complete and accurate.

Please note that **Pupil Premium Plus** and **Service Pupil Premium** are not personal budgets allocated directly to individual pupils. The school uses this funding to provide appropriate support and provision based on the identified needs of eligible pupils and the wider eligible cohort.

The information you provide will be used to ensure that our school records and statutory census information are accurate and that eligible pupils receive the appropriate funding and support.

Thank you for your support in ensuring that the information we hold is accurate and up to date.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



Year 6 -7 secondary admission round for September 2027 (for families & friends with children in year 6)

The new secondary school admission round opened recently, for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2027.

- The statutory national closing date for applications is 31 October 2026.
- Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2027-28 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Free School Meals

Please refer to email communications regarding the important change to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility which came into effect on the 1st September 2026. Thank you to those who have already submitted your application. Where eligibility is confirmed, the school has been notified, and our systems have been updated.

If your child received Free School Meals last academic year and you have not yet re-applied, their eligibility will now have ended. We therefore strongly encourage all families in receipt of Universal Credit (that have not done so already) to check eligibility online as soon as possible. Navigate to the - The Ramsey Academy - Pupil Premium webpage and scroll to the bottom of this page to find the link to check your eligibility (graphic below to support).

If you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our data manager kaskew@ramseyacademy.com.

<https://www.ramseyacademy.com/Pupil-Premium/>

Apply For Free School Meals

[Free School Meals Application](#)

Travel Aid for Parents of Sick Children (TAPS)

TAPS are a Halstead based charity providing travel support for parents/carers of sick children who require ongoing or one-off medical treatment at a hospital in England. Applicants must live in the relevant catchment area and will need to complete an application form. Information can be found on Facebook – Travel Aid for Parents of Sick Children or contact them via email TAPSHalstead@hotmail.com



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Braintree Youth Project Charity

BYPC provide a range of activities, programmes, discussions, trips and opportunities designed to support young peoples' personal, social and emotional development. They have a dedicated programme for young people aged 11 – 14 which focuses on developing important life skills, confidence, communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and positive relationships with peers whilst ensuring that young people have fun and feel part of a supporting community.



October Half Term Bikeability Courses

Essex Bikeability has a range of cycling courses available, including:

- Bikeability Level 1
- Bikeability Level 1 & 2
- Learn to Ride
- Child Bike Workshop & Learn

These courses are designed to help children develop confidence, improve their cycling skills and learn how to ride safely in a fun and supportive environment.

Venues: Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow and Witham

Book online: essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking

Please note there is a **£15 non-refundable booking fee**. Places are limited, so early booking is recommended.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Local Parent Support Hub

Team Dandelion is a local parent support hub offering support to parents and carers of neurodivergent, fostered, and adopted children. They provide free coffee afternoons where parents can come together to access support, advice, a listening ear, and a sense of community.

A range of local professionals and organisations also attend these sessions, including Essex Family Forum, Families in Focus, and the MAZE Group.

The **Halstead Coffee Hub** takes place on the second Tuesday of every month, and the **Braintree Coffee Hub** is held on the third Tuesday of each month. Both sessions run from **1.00–2.30pm**.

HALSTEAD

St Andrews Church Hall, Parsonage Street, Halstead, CO9 2LD

- Tuesday 13 October
- Tuesday 10th November
- Tuesday 8th December

BRAINTREE - Braintree Baptist Church, Swan Side, Braintree, CM7 3DA

- Tuesday 20th October
- Tuesday 17th November
- Tuesday 15th December



Careers

Please access our careers Padlet for up-to-date information, advice and guidance

<https://padlet.com/alex2536/ramsey-careers-newsletter-polnaluxwpqmtl>

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Mr. C Appleford
Headteacher



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES