St. George's School Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025



From the Head

It was a pleasure to welcome all pupils back to school after the summer holiday this morning. We began the new academic year with Assemblies and Chapel services. We saw pupils looking smart, positive, and ready for learning. Thank you for the role you have played in preparing them for the term ahead.

Over the past week we have also had the joy of welcoming our new pupils. Whether joining as day students or boarders, and whether they are with us for two years or seven, we are delighted to have them as part of the St. George's community. We look forward to seeing the many ways in which they will contribute and grow during their time here.

These new arrivals join a school that is flourishing. Last March, our Outstanding Ofsted judgement confirmed the strength of our school. That meant we have been judged outstanding in both our boarding and day provision in the last two years. Alongside this, our pupils' achievements this summer offered further evidence of success: record A Level results under normal examination conditions, consistently strong GCSE outcomes, and, most importantly, excellent levels of progress for pupils. We know that teaching at St. George's adds real value to learning; pupils achieve more with us than they would in most other schools.

Yet what matters most is the flourishing that you, as parents, see in your children. Last year I met with many of you either individually or in small groups to discuss your view of St George's. I greatly valued the conversations I had with you, hearing first-hand how well your children are cared for and how they are thriving. At the same time, we also heard there is more to do, and next week I will share some of our priorities over the next five years.

For now, I wish you and your family a restful weekend as we look forward to our first full week of the new term. Please remember that your child's tutor remains your first point of contact if you have any worries or questions about how they are settling in this term.

Exam Results 2025

We are phenomenally proud of all our GCSE and A Level students this summer, from those who overcame significant challenges through their school career, to those who flew through their exams they have done themselves and us proud and we are delighted to celebrate their achievements.

A Level - The Best Ever

Over half of all grades were awarded an A* or A, this is absolutely incredible, and a testament to the years of hard work from students and the subject expertise of staff.

A Level	2025
Students in Y13 cohort	205
APS per entry	43.3 (B+)
%A*/A	51.6%
%A*-B	76.7%
%A*-E	99.5%

Our now Old Georgian's have been able to pursue a wide range of destinations for their onward journeys from exciting gap years to degree apprenticeships and university places:

- •81% secured their first choice University
- •93% secured their first or reserve choice University
- Oxbridge: 5 of 7 gained their places
- MediDentiVet: 6 out of 7 gained their places

GCSE - Outstanding results as usual!

GCSE Headlines	2025
Progress 8*	*(+0.67)
Attainment 8	6.3
APS per entry	6.4
4+ in English & Maths	94%
Grade distribution	2025
% Grade 9	18%
% Grade 7+	50%
% Grade 5+ (strong pass)	82%
% Grade 4+ (pass)	92%

^{*}Progress 8 is not able to be calculated due to this cohort not sitting KS2 CATs due to the Covid19 Pandemic. This score in brackets is an FFT Aspire estimate (a data analysis system we use) based on CAT tests and further comparisons.

Our students have continued their post 16 education on a variety of pathways best suited to their career aspirations and we are delighted that so many have returned to St George's 6th form. We are also delighted to welcome 71 new joiners from the surrounding schools to our 6th form - welcome to St George's!



HOUSE OF COMMONS

St George's School Sun Lane Harpenden

Our Ref: VC11501

31 August 2025

Dear St. George's School

Re: Congratulations

I am writing to offer my warmest congratulations to you, your staff, and your students on the excellent A Level results achieved this year.

These results are a real credit to the hard work, commitment, and determination of your students, as well as the dedication and support of your teaching and support staff. Together, you have created an environment in which young people can thrive and realise their potential.

I know that these achievements will open up exciting opportunities for your students as they move on to higher education, apprenticeships, or the world of work, and I wish them every success in the next stage of their journeys.

Please do pass on my congratulations and best wishes to all involved.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Collins

Member of Parliament for Harpenden and Berkhamsted

Rugby Tour summer 2025

The St George's rugby tour began on Monday 21st July with a flight to Toronto and a relaxed group dinner. The next day featured a visit to the CN Tower and the first training session on Canadian soil. Wednesday brought thrills at Canada's Wonderland and an unforgettable evening watching the Toronto Blue Jays play the Yankees.

Thursday's beach day at Woodbine Beach was the perfect warm-up for the first fixture against Oakville Crusaders, where the boys delivered a commanding 38–0 win. Friday included a trip to Niagara Falls and the Hornblower boat tour, followed by mini golf and an overnight stay in Niagara. Saturday was spent travelling to Ottawa, and Sunday saw the team exploring the city before a dominant 71–0 victory over Ottawa Irish.

Monday was packed with shopping, paddle boarding, and another fixture against Ottawa Irish at Twin Elm Rugby Stadium, ending in a 58–0 win. The opposing coaches praised the boys' sportsmanship, calling them one of the most gracious teams they'd encountered.

Tuesday featured Calypso Water Park before heading to Montreal. Wednesday included training on a 4G pitch with skyline views, a driving range visit, and Rose's Deli. That evening, the final match against Beaconsfield High School showcased the best rugby of the tour, ending 71–5 with a spectacular cross-field kick setting up George M's try.

The final day included a run around Montreal's F1 track and white-water rafting, followed by a joint meal with the girls' team. Friday wrapped up with a tour of McGill University's sports facilities and a chaotic dash to the airport before the red-eye flight home.

The boys were exceptional—polite, punctual, and a credit to the school. Special mention to captains Jamie and Nathan for their outstanding leadership. No major injuries, and an unforgettable tour all round.

Expectations and Behaviour

At St George's, our Behaviour Curriculum is in place to support and uphold the high standards we set for learning, conduct, and community life. It helps students understand and practise the behaviours that allow them to thrive academically, socially, and personally. The curriculum is structured around our "Behaviours for Aiming Higher."

OBVIOUSLY KIND

We go above and beyond to support and respect others.

OBVIOUSLY RESPONSIBLE

We do the right thing — even when no one is watching.

OBVIOUSLY POSITIVE

We strive to be optimistic, resilient, and embrace challenges.

OBVIOUSLY TOGETHER

We include others, build each other up, and act as one team.

Students see a weekly focus reinforced in Notices and House assemblies, while staff will model and support these behaviours in lessons and across the school. Next week's focus is on Starting Lessons Well. You can support this at home by talking with your child about how they can be obviously responsible, preparing for each lesson and taking ownership of their learning.

OBVIOUSLY RESPONSIBLE...

Starting Lessons Well



- Be on time move quickly and directly to your lesson.
- Be ready line up sensibly, enter quietly, sit down, and get out your equipment (and prep).
- Be focused settle quickly and show you're ready to learn.
- Be proactive start the task, review notes, finish off, or improve previous work.
 - Aim Even Higher help others get ready, share ideas to recap learning, or take the lead in starting discussions.

Edulink

Edulink is our main method of communication and the platform has all the information about your child's progress - from achievement points to progress reviews. This is the platform you need to use to report absences on the day or to request authorisation for known absences.

School Reports

Catering transactions and account balance

⚠ Letters home

Exam timetables and entries

Behaviour and detention records

😾 Achievements and awards

Lesson timetable

Contact details

Medical information

Absence reporting

...and much more.

One of the things which we urge parents and carers to do this week, is to **check and update your child's medical details**. It is so important that we have information about allergens, medication and conditions which may impact their school day. If we know, we can support your child and are keen to do so.

For more information on how to use Edulink, go to the website page: St George's School - Edulink One

Coming Soon: Your Edulink Login Details (parents of new students)

Next week, we'll be sending out an email containing your Edulink username and password—please keep an eye on your inbox.

Parking

As many of you know, we do not have the capacity to allow parents and carers to park on site during the school day or at drop off and pick up times. We kindly ask that you arrange to pick your child up further away from school - Lydekker Car Park (on Sun Lane) is the ideal place and will help you avoid any traffic jams around the school entrances. Not only does 'ride and stride' help to reduce congestion and pollution, improve child safety but it also enables your child to get fresh air, exercise and additional social times with their friends. Thank you.

Next Week

Next week is **WEEK 2** so please help your children to navigate their week 2 timetable and help them to get their books organised.

Wednesday 10th September - Individual photographs for Years 7,9,11,12 and all other students new to the school

Thursday 11th September 4.30 p.m. -Year 12 BBQ

Thursday 11th September - Boarders' Chapel 6.00 p.m.

Friday 12th September - 'Walk-Eat', Talk-Eat' Food Preparation and Nutrition Trip to London 9.00 a.m.

Could your child be eligible for Free School Dinners?

Please check to see if your child could be eligible for free meals as you could also be entitled to other support and help for example, help with the cost of music lessons.

Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

Income Support

Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)

Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit) Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Apply today if you receive any of these benefits. It only takes 5 mins and in most cases HCC can tell you straight away if your child can get free meals at school. Click on the link below:

Free school meals | Hertfordshire County Council

Co-Curricular Programme

There are so many clubs and activities to get involved with so do encourage your children to get involved. They will make new friends; develop new interests and have a lot of fun!

The full programme is attached with this email and is also on the school website.

Participation = sense of belonging and character development = greater happiness. Happy students = successful students!

Musicale

If your child will be starting music lessons with Musicale, they will be invited to join Musicale staff on Monday during break time, to be shown around, find out where to sign in, etc. Please encourage your child to attend as it will help them to find their way and be confident to leave their lessons for a music lesson.

Musicale is based in front of our Goddard block and offers individual instrumental lessons to St George's students, which are generally taken during the school day.

If you are interested in your child having music lessons, please contact Musicale directly at www.musicale.co.uk or contact Serena at serena@musicale.co.uk.

LIVES NOT KNIVES

Event brought to you by Hertfordshire Constabulary CCE Prevention and Diversion

Team. An opportunity to come and listen first hand to inspirational speakers with real life experience of knife crime and serious violence, whilst taking the opportunity to visit The Knife Angel, the national monument against violence and aggression.

Wednesday 8th October 2025 6.30pm - 8.30pm

The Council Chambers, The Campus, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6AE





Booking is essential - Please book here - https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lives-not-knives-serious-violence-awareness-tickets-1478809933319?aff=oddtdtcreator

Parking: Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council does not have a visitor car park, however public car parks and Welwyn Train station are a short walk away.

General Information: The event will start promptly at 6.30pm, please arrive in plenty of time.All attendees will be subject to security searches.

 Each young person will need to attend with one appropriate adult only (parent or professional). Recommended age 13 years +





Not suitable for younger siblings, also babies/toddlers cannot be accommodated.