

## News, Events and Updates at Chatham Grammar

### Parent/Carer Virtual Evenings

One of the challenges for all schools this year has been how we adapt the way we normally carry out school events to make them safe and meaningful under COVID-19 regulations, so we were very excited to learn about a new piece of software available for schools to use for virtual parents/carers events. These events are so important to us at the Academy as we value the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and engagement in school life and in a year of such disruption these meetings become even more crucial. The SchoolCloud software has enabled us to host parent/carers evenings remotely and to make sure that those conversations can continue so that students are being supported to the best of our ability. We had a very successful launch with the Year 7 and Year 8 Parent/Carer Evenings on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January and 11<sup>th</sup> February respectively. We are looking forward to meeting the rest of you virtually as the year goes on. Please look out for emails regarding signing up to SchoolCloud to enable you to book appointments. For further information regarding parent/carers evenings, please click the following link:

<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/parentcarer-evening-information>

The dates of the up-coming parent/carers evenings are below:

- Thursday 25th February 2021 - Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening
- Thursday 11th March 2021 - Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening
- Thursday 25th March 2021 - Year 12 and Year 13 Parent/Carer Evening
- Thursday 22nd April 2021 - Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening

### UKAT Sixth Form Recruitment Process 2021



The graphic features a background image of two students looking at a tablet. Overlaid on this is a dark grey box with white text detailing the recruitment process. At the top left of the box is the University of Kent logo and 'Academies Trust (UKAT) sixth form'. The title 'UKAT SIXTH FORM RECRUITMENT PROCESS 2021' is centered at the top of the box. Below the title is a bulleted list of key dates and events.

**University of Kent** | Academies Trust (UKAT) sixth form

**UKAT SIXTH FORM RECRUITMENT PROCESS 2021**

- 1st February: conditional letters to be sent to internal applicants informing them of the process.
- 5th - 12 February: letter sent to external applicants to confirm application process. Invitations to Welcome Talks sent out to students.
- 24th February (3.30 - 4.15pm): Welcome Talk (externals).
- 25th February (3.30 - 4.15pm): Welcome Talk (internals).
- 5th March: Deadline for submission of interview forms.
- W/C 15th March: Interviews.
- 1st April (16.00 - 18.00): Live 'Open Evening' online with Sixth Form team and subject teachers (Q&A etc).
- W/C 29th June: Transitions Week.

Following our successful Sixth Form Options Event which took place in November, applications for the UKAT Sixth Form closed on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

For further information on the UKAT Sixth Form, please click the following link:  
<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/sixth-form-apply>

# National Online Safety Certification

We are delighted to announce that Chatham Grammar has successfully completed a comprehensive online safety training programme demonstrating its commitment to keeping children and young people safe online. Parents, carers and staff signed up and completed training online. The whole academy approach to protecting children in the online world has allowed Chatham Grammar to be recognised for its commitment to online safety and are now a National Online Safety Certified School.

**NOS**  
★  
**CERTIFIED SCHOOL**  
National Online Safety  
2020-21

**National Online Safety  
Certified School**

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION**

**AWARDED TO**  
Chatham Grammar

**Successful achieved Certified School Status showing  
their whole school commitment to online safety on**

8TH FEBRUARY 2021

This is to certify that a whole school community approach in online safety is being undertaken by the establishment through empowering its leaders, teachers, governors, all staff and parents/carers. An effective community approach to online safety aims to protect and educate pupils in their safe use of the internet and technology, whilst enabling trusted adults with the essential information to identify online risks, and escalate any incident where appropriate.

**CPD**  
The CPD Certification Service

**Working together towards a safer  
online world for children**  
[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

**NOS** ★ **National  
Online  
Safety**

## Childnet 'Digital Champion'

Congratulations to Lucy in Year 11 who has recently become the Academy's first Childnet 'Digital Champion' following a successful interview. Lucy will represent a youth voice which is essential to the programme's success and also has a couple of events under way working with other digital leaders across the nation. Well done Lucy!

## YouTube Online Safety Competition

Congratulations to Ayosola in Year 7 who recently entered the YouTube Online Safety competition and won!



## Digital Leaders

We are pleased to announce that Chatham Grammar have three new digital leaders from Year 7, following their successful application letters. Welcome to the team Macey, Sophie and Nifemi.

## National Safer Internet Day

To celebrate National Safer Internet Day on the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021, we watched a video about why we should be kind to one another online - there is no place for cyberbullying. All students have completed the 2021 safer internet day quiz with their Personal Tutors and tutees.

We have recently invited parents and carers to join us on the national online safety website and we look forward to seeing parents and carers engage and learn more about how to stay safe online.

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## Duke of Edinburgh Award Update

The DofE team are delighted to welcome the recent addition of Mrs Banner in the role of DofE Co-ordinator. Mrs Banner has worked within the UKAT Community team for over 11 years planning and delivering a variety of events, including the Electives programme and is really looking forward to assisting the DofE team, supporting students and learning how to put up a tent!

Mrs Backshell is a new member of UKAT staff who joins the UKAT Community team from an events background having gained a wealth of experience organising and running many different events. Mrs Backshell is passionate about helping others and being outdoors so can't wait to get started!

The DofE programme is now fully underway with students across both Awards busily navigating their eDofE accounts, finalising their sections and uploading evidence to support their chosen activities. It's been fantastic to see so much progress. The students have really embraced the #DofEWithADifference programme.

This term saw the launch of our online Expedition challenges and activities to develop the skills needed on an expedition. Students were initially set a one pot cooking challenge; the aim was to produce a meal using only one pan and one burner to replicate cooking on a Trangia.

We had so many fabulous entries, Daisy in Year 9 was the Bronze Award winner and Maja in Year 10 was the Silver Award winner at Chatham Grammar. The DofE team also chose Florence from Year 9 at Brompton Academy as the overall UKAT winner!

Well done to everyone who participated.

The Countryside Code quiz was the next activity, and the term has finished with the students being set a 5K walking challenge. The DofE team are looking forward to finding out how the students get on when they return after the break. More challenges and activities will take place during Term 4, such as map reading, basic first aid and rucksack packing.

The Cooking elective which supports the Skill section for Bronze Award students will commence during the first week back of Term 4. This year it will be delivered fully online by our external tutor Mrs Malone, as the transition from onsite sessions to online films proved to be very successful during the first lockdown. If there are any Bronze students who would still like to participate, they are able to sign up via ParentPay before the start of Term 4.

For further information about the DofE Award, please visit the DofE and Chatham Grammar websites by clicking on the following links:

<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/dofe>

<https://www.dofe.org/>

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# Green Team Update

We have successfully achieved 'plastic clever status'. It is great to receive recognition for all our hard work and the work of the Geography department for embedding plastic waste awareness into the curriculum in Year 7, 8 and 9. The Green Team have done a fantastic job running Eco weeks, assemblies and many other initiatives. Our continued efforts since 2018 to raise awareness of plastic waste have been commended.

**KIDS against PLASTIC**

In our recent survey at school becoming plastic free was our second biggest priority.

13. Which of the following strategies should the school focus on this year? (choose one)

Working towards being plastic free...	36
Reducing our efforts to recycle...	34
Changing up the school papers...	142
Other	12

Congratulations! Because of the excellent work you have been doing in Geography lessons and the initiatives across the school Chatham Grammar has been given 'plastic clever' status.

February 2021

*"What you have done is amazing! Of course, your work more than exceeds the Plastic Clever criteria, so we're delighted, and more than happy to award you Plastic Clever status."*

Amy and Ella Founders of Kids Against Plastic

Year 7: World map project

Year 8: DROWNING IN PLASTIC

Year 9: Task 1a: Design a sustainable item of clothing.

Task 1a: Design a sustainable item of clothing.

You will need to:

- Research the types of materials that can be used in order to create sustainable school uniform.
- Research whether your clothes can be made in a more sustainable way (i.e. from recycled clothing or from a more ethically friendly manner).
- Write a brief explanation as to why you have chosen to use these methods.



We can now continue with our efforts to become a 'plastic free school' and look at more ways to help the environment. In order to achieve this, we will be looking at more ways to reduce single use plastic around the school. Items which have already been identified include, plastic cups, cutlery, food packaging, pens, chocolate and crisp wrappers. We would like to encourage all students and families to reduce their plastic waste. Ensure you have a reusable drinks bottle, buy plastic free products and remember to use the specific recycling bins in and around school.

## SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE (SAS) FACTS!

1. SAS beach cleans removed nearly 29,000 plastic bottles from our coastline in 2017.
2. Marine animals can be entangled and killed by balloons that end up in the sea.
3. Food and drink related plastic items now make up 1 in every 5 pieces of litter.
4. Empty sachets are regularly found on SAS beach cleans.
5. Every 100 metres of beach is littered with 138 pieces of food and drink waste.
6. Plastic bags can kill marine wildlife by unintentional digestion or inhalation.
7. Plastic straws are in the top 10 items polluting the ocean and harming marine life.
8. In the UK, we use 7 million disposable coffee cups every day.
9. In the UK, 2.5bn cups are thrown away each year!

## THE BIG CG LITTER PICK

If you're bored at home and want to get some fresh air and have something to do. Why not join this litter collection campaign. Check out the website for details and take some picture. Let us know how you get on. <https://www.kidsagainstoplastic.co.uk/map/>

If you don't want to download the app just record where you went and what you found and then let us know, Mr Staiano

It would be great if we had lots of you get involved this half term break!



**Stay safe!**  
Go with an adult! - Make it a family activity.  
Wear strong gardening gloves.  
Use a picker if you can.  
Stay away from busy roads.  
If its sharp - leave it!

If you would like to do more at home during lockdown then join us for 'The big CG litter pick 2021'. Perhaps make this part of your family walk each week. Let us know where you've been and what you found and send in some photos to the following email address:

[Staiano@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:Staiano@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

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## CCF Cadets Virtual Training

New cadets have started their first experience of the CCF by attending fortnightly virtual meetings. The cadets have been learning new skills in:

- Phonetic alphabet
- Fieldcraft: building bashes, cam and concealment
- Painting pebbles for the Nova Project – supporting veterans
- Meet the professionals – interviewing two army Sergeants from 11 Infantry Brigade, learning about their army careers
- Senior cadets learnt additional skills in knots and lashings

For further information the CCF and to apply, please visit the CCF page of our website:  
<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/ccf>

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## Chatham Grammar Careers – Speakers for Schools

As part of the Speakers for Schools programme, students were able to find out what astronaut Tim Peake had to say about careers in the space industry. Ariel in Year 7, took part in the live interview:

### An Interview with Tim Peake

“You need to think of ways how to develop your personality.”

**Interviewer: What qualifications do you need to become an astronaut?**

Tim Peake: They ask you to fill out a form like most jobs and you need a cv. You're also required to have a degree value of education. You can also get in if you have been a pilot for a certain amount of time.

**Interviewer: Is it harder for a British citizen to become an astronaut compared to an America citizen?**

Tim Peake: This has developed over the years now. In the UK we joined the space-force in 2012.

**Interviewer: What are your strength and weakness?**

Tim Peake: He had many weaknesses, and he was in the army for many years this helped him develop experience, resilience leadership and making sure you try. Every time you try you succeeded even if you don't succeed on paper you have succeeded in our mind. It's also important to never give up.

**Interviewer: What would you say to small people with big dreams?**

Tim Peake: You must see what inspires you should have a goal for your life. You have to enjoy the moment and you will have times when you have high and lows. He says you need to be passionate and not worry too much about the destination.

**Interviewer: What made you write your book?**

Tim Peake: It had been in my mind in five years I had kept a diary in space and in training so I can write down as I can in my autobiography.

**Interviewer: Could you describe what it is like to be in space?**

Tim Peake: You have to think about your body and what it feels like. You will be absolutely relaxed, and it is very weird. You can feel your weightlessness whilst looking out at earth. There is no vibration and noises, and you notice how tiny the earth is.

By: Ariel

## Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 2021



The Academy joined in with Place2Be's campaign for #ChildrensMentalHealthWeek from the 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Information was shared daily with tips for how to get advice and support and ways to look after your mental health. Students were also invited to take part in the PPD activities, including rap and superhero themed competitions. For more information about ways to look after students' wellbeing, please visit: <https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/students-mental-health-and-wellbeing>

## LGBTQ+ History Month

To celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month 2021, we have invited students to participate in the Academy's annual Rainbow Cake Competition, with the chance to win a £20 Amazon voucher.

Students are required to send a photo of their cake/cupcakes, together with the recipe by the closing date of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021, by using the following link: [cgcompetitions@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:cgcompetitions@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

A poster for the Rainbow Cake Competition. It features a rainbow-colored background on the right side. The text on the left reads: 'CG CHATHAM GRAMMAR LGBTQ+ MONTH 2021 RAINBOW CAKE COMPETITION Students are invited to create a 'Rainbow' cake or cupcakes to celebrate LGBTQ+ month 2021. Students will be required to submit a photo of their cake/cupcakes, together with the recipe by the closing date of Friday 19th February 2021. Winner will be announced: Wednesday 24th February 2021 PRIZE: £20 AMAZON VOUCHER Stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community.'

**CG** CHATHAM  
GRAMMAR  
LGBTQ+ MONTH 2021  
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AMAZON VOUCHER**  
Stand in solidarity with the  
LGBTQ+ community.

## Keep Up to Date on our Social Media Platforms

For the most current news, information and competitions at Chatham Grammar, we encourage parents and carers to follow our social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by searching @ChathamGrammar.



## Mother's Day and Spring Photography Competitions

We regularly publish competitions that are open to students, parents and carers – please keep a look out for our upcoming Mother's Day and Spring Photography competitions on our social media channels and website.

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## Library Support Continues During Lockdown

It's been a different term for the library, but we have a fantastic community on our Edmodo groups: The Library, Library Artists, Reading Club and Creative Writing Club. We have been celebrating LGBT+ history month, sharing support and - this week – sharing snow pictures.

### Year 7 and 8 Curriculum Support Groups

Miss Goosey has started some Teams meetings to support Years 7 and 8 with their maths and science home learning this term. The Year 7s have one Year 8 mentor who supports them with their tasks. The students have also been teaching me some maths in the process! These will be continuing into the next term and the Year 7s want to expand to include History, Geography and English.

### Year 7 and 8 Well-being Breaks

As we're all sitting at home on our own, Miss Goosey has organised some well-being breaks on Teams so that Year 7 and 8 students can spend their breaktimes socialising with students they might not know very well. These will be continuing into Term 4.

### ELSA Teams Support

Miss Goosey is available to students as the Academy ELSA for quick catch-ups on Teams to support with mental well-being at home. Students can email Miss Goosey by using their UKAT email address or contact her on Edmodo for support.

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# Online One-to-One Instrumental Lessons



## Online one-to-one instrumental lessons available



During the current pandemic, our professional, DBS-checked Instrumental tutors are currently delivering online lessons.

The instrumental teachers are as follows:

- Beverley Prankard (Trumpet and Flute)
- Paula Shoobridge (Clarinet and Saxophone)
- Danielle Hartley (Piano)
- Chris Garth (Guitar and Bass)



For further information or to book, please contact Miss Coupé Head of Music by emailing:  
[chloecoupe@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:chloecoupe@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)

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## Staff Shoutouts

We have been overwhelmed with all of the messages from parents, carers, and staff members wishing to thank members of staff for their hard work and support during the remote learning period. Here are just a few of the staff shoutouts:

### Ms Ward, Miss Durber and Miss Lockett

I would like to single out Ms Ward, Miss Durber and Miss Lockett for their outstanding teaching in 8P1 lessons. All three share the same enthusiasm for their subjects – such a joy to listen to!

Thank you from a Year 8P1 Parent.

### All Staff

We as parents would like to say ‘thank you’ to staff at Chatham Grammar for their continuous hard work during the remote learning period. Our daughters in Year 10 and 7 are engaged and working well with the support of their teachers.

Thank you from Mrs Ramasawmy.

### The Wellbeing Team

Thank you for overseeing the critical workers and vulnerable students, keeping them motivated and cared for with hot chocolate, biscuits, and a listening ear. You are in every day and are absolute stars!

Thank you, from  
Ms Franqueira.

### Ms Thomas

A big thank you for being so supportive and helpful at a uniquely difficult time!

From Ms Byron.

### Miss Hayes

I would like to give a shoutout to Miss Hayes for always going the extra mile by supporting my daughter in all aspects of her learning. She is truly amazing!

Thank you from a  
Year 11 Parent.

### Mr Guyenot

Thank you for always being so patient when dealing with my IT issues. It is always appreciated!

From Ms Byron.

### Ms Charles

Thank you for being such a great student teacher!

From Ms McGuicken.

If you would like to send us a Staff Shoutout, please email:  
[socialmediacg@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk](mailto:socialmediacg@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk)