

Chatham Grammar

News, Events, and Updates

Term 2 | December 2023

Afternoon Tea for Former Primary School Teachers

At the beginning of Term 2, Year 7 students sent personalised invitations to their former teachers inviting them to visit Chatham Grammar for afternoon tea and a tour.

The special occasion took place on Thursday 30th November 2023. Chatham Grammar welcomed over 30 primary school staff to afternoon tea with their former students.

The primary school staff joined the Year 7 students in the Main Hall where everyone engaged in conversation and enjoyed the scones and cakes on offer. Following the afternoon tea, there was a short tour of Chatham Grammar. The staff thoroughly enjoyed catching up with their former students, and seeing how well they have settled into secondary school life.

Our students were fantastic hosts and were proud to showcase Chatham Grammar.



Christmas Market and Carol Service



Throughout the day on Monday 18th December 2023, two festive events took place.

In the morning, Year 9 students opened their annual Christmas Market. Students have been preparing for the market in their Leadership lessons, where they have been working on their teamwork, planning, and organisational skills to put together a range of Christmas-themed stalls and activities.

In the afternoon, Miss Rogers' choir treated students to a carol service at St Augustine's Church.

Everyone enjoyed a day full of wonderful festivities.

Mayoral Visit

The Mayor, Councillor Nina Gurung, was back at Chatham Grammar for a second time this term - this time to hear from our students about the amazing work they do as leaders in the academy and to deliver some important messages of inspiration to them. The Mayor spoke about her journey in life and her career, and encouraged students to believe in themselves, to be kind towards everyone and aim high.

Cllr. Gurung described how Medway is increasingly becoming more diverse and there's a lot of positive community spirit. She spoke of how important it is that we promote the message of acceptance, valuing one another and elevating each other so that we grow stronger as an academy community, wider community and the borough as a whole.



UKAT Governing Board Update

We have had another busy start to the year for the Governing Boards and staff at the academy. Governors have met twice already and continue to hold leaders to account. They were involved in the recent Ofsted Inspection and wish to congratulate the Principal, Wendy Walters and all of her staff for their continued hard work and dedication to the academy, which was rightly highlighted in the final report.



We would like to congratulate Dr William Collier, who has been appointed Chair of the UKAT Trust Board and moves as chair from the Chatham Grammar Local Governing Board. William is the Director of Education at the University of Kent and has been a Trustee Board member since October 2021 and chair of the Chatham Grammar Governing Board since September 2022. He has a strong background and interests in curriculum and educational development, and a deep commitment to leading change that enhances students aspirations and outcomes. We wish him well in his new role.

The Governing Board would like to welcome Vicky Webster as the new Safeguarding Governor for Chatham Grammar, Vicky rejoins us in this new capacity after previous links to the Trust. Aneesa Hussain also joins us as a Local Governor, she is an ex-student of Chatham Grammar and is very excited to join the Board.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2024.

Partnership Development Programme

The FREE Medway Test (11+) Tuition webinars were successfully delivered on 24th October 2023. Over 240 students registered to participate. The next series of webinars will take place during the Early Spring Break. Registration details will be sent out near to the time.

Registration is now underway for the next series of Super Saturdays delivered in partnership with the University of Kent, starting on 20th January 2024. So far we've had a fantastic response to the Crime Buster series and we are hoping to offer an additional one-off session during March 2024 as it's proved extremely popular. Students in Years 4 and 5 from our partnership schools will take participate in the Science based

sessions, students will be delving into the world of Forensic Science.

For further information about the Partnership Development Programme, please follow our social media platforms or click on the link below:

<https://www.chathamgrammar.org.uk/ukatpartnershipdevelopmentprogramme-1>



Duke of Edinburgh's Award Ceremony



Our Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) presentation ceremony was held at Chatham Grammar on the 16th November 2023. It was an evening filled with pride, accomplishment, and the joy of celebrating the hard work and dedication of our students.

The event brought together students from both Chatham Grammar and Brompton Academy, highlighting the spirit of collaboration and shared accomplishment. Witnessing the unity among these students was a testament to the power of working together towards common goals.

A highlight of the evening was the moment when students were invited onto the stage to receive their well-deserved certificates and badges. Each step of their DofE journey is a significant achievement, and seeing our students recognised for their efforts was truly heartwarming.

With over 70 students in attendance, the evening was a resounding success. It was inspiring to see a large number of young individuals coming together to celebrate their commitment to personal development, adventure, and community service.

As we reflect on this fantastic evening, we look forward to the positive impact these young achievers will undoubtedly make in their future endeavors. The DofE Awards are not just a recognition of individual accomplishment, but a testament to the strength of our academy community and the potential within each student.

Congratulations to every student who received their DofE Award. Their commitment, perseverance, and spirit of adventure has been recognised, and we are immensely proud of their accomplishments.



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**

Year 7 Debate Day



On the final day of Term 1, all Year 7 students had a drop-down Debate Day. Prior to the day, students spent some time in their Leadership lessons learning about how debates work and how to prepare arguments for and against a range of topics. This culminated in students being given the task of researching arguments about the project "space exploration is a waste of time".

Arriving on the day, students were unaware whether they would be for or against the argument they would be supporting, there was great excitement as they were assigned their sides! Thereafter, students split into their groups, prepared their speeches and competed against each other for the right to represent their side in the final battle.

Six students took to the stage to debate the motion and the (constructive) arguments that ensued were impressive both for their intelligence and their entertainment value. Following a lengthy discussion, the panel of judges declared that 'for' had won - but only just! Year 7 student, Hannah, was named Star Debater.

Congratulations to all Year 7 students!

Rotary Youth Speaks Competition

On Friday 10th November 2023, Chatham Grammar hosted and competed in the Medway Rotary Club Youth Speaks competition. This event is open to students aged between 11 to 18 years and is split into two groups; those aged 11 to 14 years and those 14 to 18 years. With the Mayor in attendance, the gravitas of the event was clear to all and each one of our students shone in the spotlight.

Students were invited to prepare and deliver 5-minute speeches on a topic of their choosing. Topics on the night were wide and varied, ranging from the meaning of truth, body positivity, living to be a centenarian, mental health support for young people and what it means to be a woman in today's society.

The standard was extremely high and all of our students represented themselves and the academy with distinction. In the end, Chatham Grammar was awarded both winner (Rose, Year 9) and runner-up (Naomi,

Year 9) positions in the 11 to 14 years category and were very unlucky not to feature in the older category prizes. Regardless, it was an excellent performance by all and an experience I'm sure they'll remember for a long time.

Year 10 Business GCSE Enrichment Day

On Tuesday 12th December 2023, to support Year 10 students on their GCSE Business Studies course, we organised an enrichment day led by the University of Kent, Business School.

The young entrepreneurs enjoyed breakfast whilst creating company names and logos using fantastic AI technology, they also wore formal business dress to help engage them in spirit for the day. The students worked in small teams, and engaged in an interactive session designed for future marketeers to gain a real life understanding of creating a marketing campaign for a leading fashion brand.

Students have developed a range of skills including teamwork, confidence, presentation, planning, organising, awareness of unsustainable development goals, how to create a successful marketing campaign and how to manage a team, product choices and communication.

The students all worked really hard with amazing outcomes.

Here are the results:

Point Media - 1st Place



Fifty Shades of Fabulous - 2nd Place



Patsy - Best Smart Dress Winner

Digital Leaders

The Digital Leaders have delivered assemblies to the entire academy to introduce themselves and to remind students of the basic rules for how to stay safe online. Whilst a few of our members have chosen to focus on their studies, we have recruited three new students. A huge welcome to our new Year 7 Digital Leader, Trinity and our new Year 8 Digital Leaders, Layla and Elizabeth.

The team are busy planning and looking forward to our Safer Internet Week in February 2024, in which we will run quizzes in assemblies and a range of activities in PT time. We will be focusing on how to 'navigate change' with an emphasis on the new 'Online Safety Act' introduced in October 2023.



Young Enterprise



We are pleased to announce the arrival of our new Young Enterprise Company for 2023-2024, 'Sip n Save'.

Sip n Save will be selling personalised reusable cups at £5 each. You can place an order or buy cups from our pop up stalls. We will be running trade stalls outside of the academy so make sure you keep an eye on our social media for these events. Our team this year consists of nine Year 10 GCSE Business students, Pippa, Nylah, Rachel, Julie, Susan, Rachita, Ruby, Ava and Ife.

STEM Club

The new academic year saw the STEM club kickstart its series of themed sessions with students being tasked to design and make their own devices to deliver humanitarian aid. Before testing their devices, students set the scene by scripting and directing their own film news reports, some natural on-screen charisma was on display!

Student Reviews

Students were then invited to take part in our Forensic Science series, Rachitha in Year 10, reflects on her experience:

“My experiences so far this year in STEM club has been fun and interesting. Recently, we investigated a staged crime scene. We learnt lots about a forensic scientists’ job, and how they gather and collect data! My favourite part was using my problem-solving skills trying to figure out how the victim died, there was so much evidence left in the crime scene, I was really surprised! It was very enlightening being in the shoes of a forensic scientist, as I learnt a lot about the pros and cons of the job. We also had a visit from a forensic scientist from the MET Police; after leaving the discussion I felt amazed at just how many methods there are to collect evidence, the job itself seems so interesting, but intense. I never knew that forensic scientists could do so much to help the police and society as a whole. I was able to broaden my knowledge by learning these new things and by attending this amazing club. As I am unsure of what I want to be when I am older, this club was able to help me further widen my perspective on choices and pathways. Next session, we are going to solve the murder case and I can’t wait, hopefully we can figure out who the murderer is and the motive!”

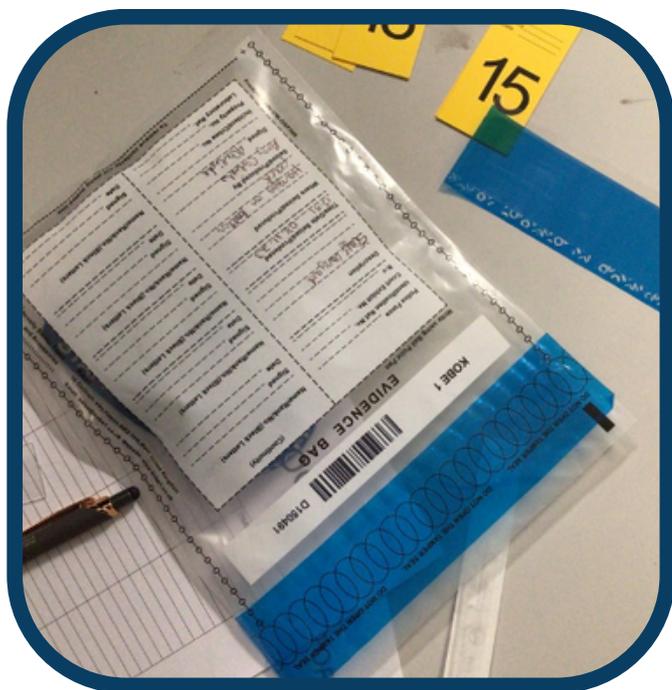
Angel in Year 7, provides another perspective on our most recent sessions: “These past few weeks we have been looking at forensic science. I really enjoyed doing the staged crime scene. I enjoyed looking for small evidence, collecting fingerprints and swabbing the (fake) blood. I was assigned the role of crime scene investigator, as a team we worked together. There were some people who photographed the evidence, some who collected the evidence, while others drew pictures of the crime scene. An example of some of the evidence; a mug with fingerprints, a handbag containing an ID, ultrasound picture and more. We collected evidence wearing gloves and used special bags to package the evidence. I definitely enjoyed listening to the forensic scientist who visited. I enjoyed hearing about what she does for her job and what it is like. I was surprised how much work they do on a daily basis and how busy it is. My favourite part was wearing the special PPE used in a crime scene, and learning more about forensic scientists. I am looking forward to the next session to see who did the murder and I can’t wait to put all the evidence together.”



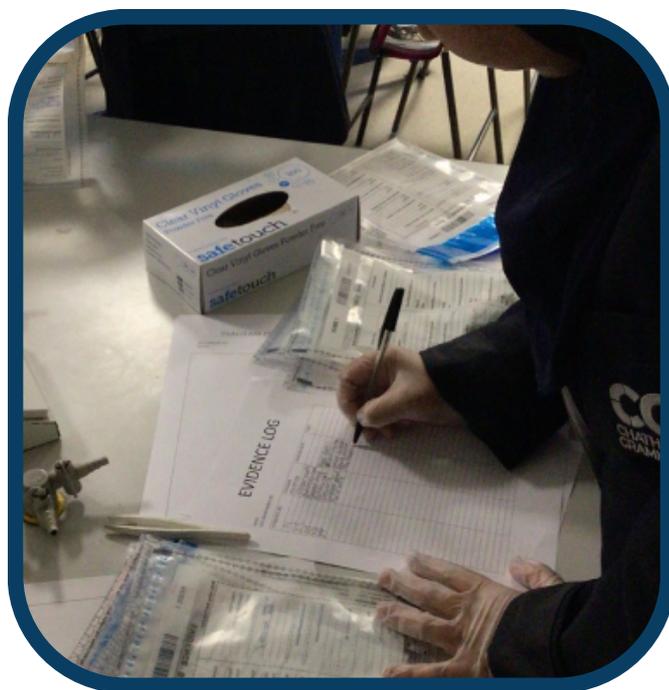
One of our newest members, Jasmine in Year 7, says: “I think joining STEM club is the best decision I have made. It has pushed me academically whilst doing fun sessions such as forensics and the Eggstream Project where we have learnt about a crime scene and created our own products. I rate it 10/10”.

Future sessions include hearing from an astrophysicist about her research on black holes and careers within the space industry, and exploring the world of microbiology!

If students are interested in thinking outside of the box, then this club is for them. Everyone is welcome! If students would like to join, or also have requests for future themes, please email: mundy@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk



Evidence bags from our staged crime scene



Students logging evidence found at the crime scene



Angelou House Charity Day

After weeks of preparation, Angelou House Charity Day proved to be a big success. On Friday 8th December 2023, Angelou's students pulled together as a team to put on an afternoon full of festive fun and games. It was simply inspiring to see our students putting in so much time and organisation for their stalls, all clearly wanting to do their best for our charity, Gillingham Street Angels.

A Year 10 student shares her reflections on the afternoon: "The atmosphere of the Angelou Charity Day stalls was vibrant. It was heartening to see the enthusiastic participation from both students and staff! One highlight for me would be the creativity showcased in the dozens of stalls present. From many innovative and captivating game/competition stalls, like Just Dance, UNO, magnetic darts, festive raffles, balloon pop for prizes, and so much more, to sweets, drinks, and crafts, such as glitter tattoos. Each stall had its original charm. It was evident that a lot of effort and dedication went into the preparations; reflective of the unity and commitment to support a charitable cause. I found the day well organised, which made it easy to enjoy the event, and a symbol of generosity and compassion within Chatham Grammar. I'd like to thank Miss Mundy and Angelou House for organising such a spirited event, and to all students and staff that participated in the stalls or helped with preparations."



The fundraising did not stop at the end of the academy day, Rose in Year 9 organised a fantastic afterschool session decorating delicious homemade cakes and brownies! Rose truly did a fantastic job, making sure each student went home with a unique sweet treat. Another example of an Angelou student showing initiative, drive, and creativity to help make our event a success.

Miss Mundy would like to extend a big thank you to our Site Team for their support leading up to the event, and ensuring the hall was set up for the afternoon's activities. Miss Mundy would also like to thank all within our community who donated to Angelou's Donation Station; we cannot be grateful enough for the generosity of our staff, students, parents and carers. Each donation will be sure to make a huge difference to those who are supported by Gillingham Street Angels. We look forward to welcoming back Gillingham Street Angels to present them with the donations and funds raised from the day.

Term 2 Leadership Points

This term, students have been motivated to earn lots of Leadership Points in their subject lessons. Here are the results for Term 2:

HOUSE	POSITION
Seacole	1st
Kahlo	2nd
Sharman	3rd
Angelou	4th

Cancelled - Little Fish Theatre Company



Our Year 9 and Year 10 students were treated to live performances in the Main Hall of 'Cancelled' from the Little Fish Theatre Company. The story centres around the dangers of social media and modern society's 'cancel' culture.

Story summary:

Bestie is in a mess after Xavier shares photos of her. Rose is trying to be a good friend but doesn't want to get dragged into the drama. Xavier doesn't know how to say sorry to Bestie without losing face to his mates.

All three must confront their own mistakes and figure out how to move forward. They eventually agree to stop engaging online and part ways, hopefully having learned some hard lessons about consent, trust, and forgiveness.



Children In Need



In support of children in need around the UK, on Friday 17th November 2023 there was a Tag day for all Key Stage 3 and 4 students. In addition, Houses worked very hard to prepare and run an afternoon packed full of activities for all to enjoy with all proceeds also going to the charity.

In total, we raised over £500 to donate to Children in Need, thanks to everyone's generosity.

Chatham Grammar Talent Show

On Tuesday 19th December 2023, students and staff took to the stage to showcase their many talents, of music, dance, and singing acts. The English Department put on an amazing act unleashing their inner rock artistry!

Does Chatham Grammar have talent? It most definitely does!



Secondary School Games Competitions

Secondary School Games Handball Competition



On Thursday 23rd November 2023, students in Year 7 to Year 10 attended the Secondary School Games Handball competition, which took place at Medway Park. Building up towards the event, students trialled and practiced hard for their first competition of the academic year.

Here are the results:

Year 7 and Year 8 - 3rd Place

Year 9 and Year 10 - 2nd Place

Congratulations to all the students that participated.

Secondary School Games Badminton Competition

We have had outstanding numbers of students attend our Badminton extra curricular club on Thursdays. One week, there were over 60 students in the hall, all enthusiastic and enjoying playing extra games. Thank you to all those who attended and well done to those who tried out for the Badminton Team.

On Monday 27th November 2023, eight students attended the Secondary School Games Badminton Competition at Castlemaine Badminton Association in Gillingham. Two teams entered the competition, with both teams playing very well against some tough competition from other schools.



Here are our results:

Team A - 4th Place

**Cara
Martyna
Chloe
Siyana**

Team B - 1st Place

**Lacie
Katelin
Amy
Theo**

Congratulations to all the students that took part.

Current News and Information

For the most current news and information at Chatham Grammar, we invite you to follow our social media pages:

Facebook: @ChathamGrammar
X: @ChathamGrammar
Instagram: @ChathamGrammar



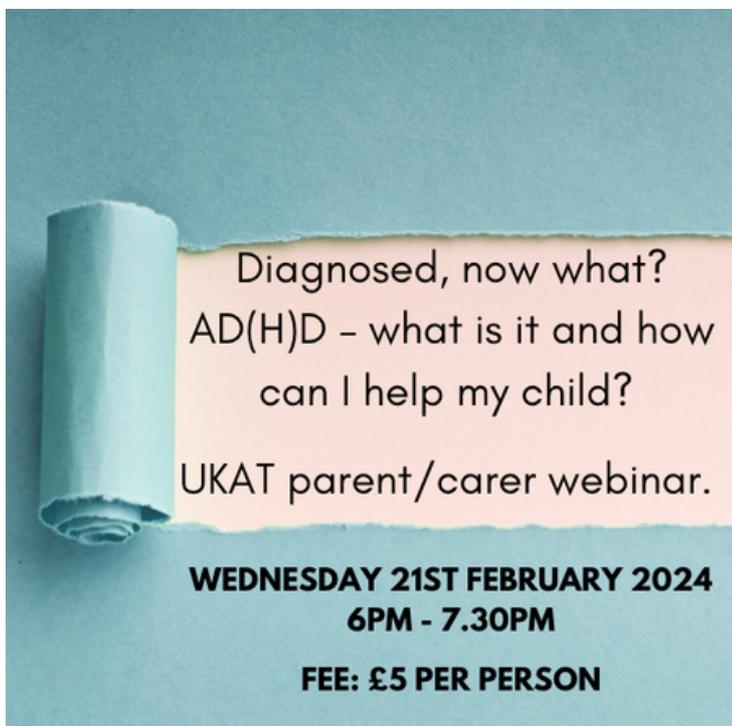
Academy Clubs 2023/2024

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Term 3

Day	Club	Year	Time	Venue	Staff
Monday	Media Society	12-13	12-1pm	Library	Students
	CCF	All	3.15-4.30pm	Dance Studio	PKN
Tuesday	Maths Support Group	All	8.00-8.30am	Maths	HOD
	Harry Potter Reading	All	3-3.30pm	Library	BGO
	Young Enterprise	10	3.15-4.15pm	R01	ESA
	Netball	8	3.15-4.15pm	Courts	JLE
	Badminton	7-9 (GCSE invite only)	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall	EBU
	GCSE PE Exam and Coursework Support	11	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Lobby	JWA
	Psychology	11	3.15-4.15pm	R02	LSH
	Choir	All	3.15-4.15pm	S04/Hall	SRO
	Further Maths	Invitation only	3.15-4.15pm	Maths	HOD
	GCSE Maths Support	11	3.15-4.15pm	Maths	HOD
	IT	7-9	3.15-4.15pm	H17	DAL
	Business	11	3.15-4.15pm	H17	DAL
	Economics	12-13	3.15-4.15pm	H17	DAL
	Wednesday	German	11	8.00-8.30am	H09
French		11	8.00-8.30am	H12	ISA/HEV
Creative Writing		All	3.15-4.15pm	Library	BGO
STEM		All	3.15-4.15pm	L09	EMU
Thursday	Netball	9	3.15-4.15pm	Courts	EBU
	Netball U16		3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall	JWA
	Health and Social Care Coursework Support	10-13	3.15-4.15pm	R04	SPA
	Table Tennis	7-11	3.15-4.15pm	Main Hall	Coach
	Knitting and Crochet	All	3.15-4.15pm	S06	MWO
	Orchestra/Band	All	3.15-4.15pm	S04	SRO
	Psychology	13	3.15-4.15pm	R02	LSH
	History	All	3.15-4.15pm	H07	SLO
	Bronze DOfE	All	3.15-4.15pm	Dance Studio	GMA
	Netball	12-13	3.15-4.15pm	Sports Hall (Brompton)	Coach
	Friday	Med Society	12-13	12-1pm	Library (Brompton)
Digital Art		All	2.10-3.10pm	Library	BGO
Netball		7	2.15-3.15pm	Courts	JLE
Green Team		All	2.10-3.10pm	H02/03	ACY

UPCOMING UKAT WELLBEING SESSIONS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

A poster for a UKAT parent/carers webinar. It features a light blue background with a torn paper effect. On the left, there is a roll of light blue paper. The text is written on the torn paper. The text reads: "Diagnosed, now what? AD(H)D - what is it and how can I help my child? UKAT parent/carers webinar. WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2024 6PM - 7.30PM FEE: £5 PER PERSON".

Diagnosed, now what?
AD(H)D - what is it and how
can I help my child?
UKAT parent/carers webinar.

**WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2024
6PM - 7.30PM
FEE: £5 PER PERSON**

An online webinar for UKAT parents/carers who want to learn more tools and strategies to support their child and themselves.

Wednesday 21st February 2024, 6pm to 7.30pm.

To register for this session, please visit the link and complete the online form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/4yQQVynbq6>

The session will be delivered by Jo Mitchelhill, a therapeutic parenting coach and therapeutically trained foster parent. Jo has over 20 years experience of working in education.

A poster for an empowerment, confidence, and wellbeing session. It has a gold background. The title is in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, it says "HOSTED BY Sherisse Bisram" and includes a circular portrait of Sherisse Bisram. The date and time are "WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2024 6PM - 7.30PM". The location is "AT CHATHAM GRAMMAR (RAINHAM ROAD, CHATHAM, ME5 7EH)". The fee is "FEE: £5 PER PERSON".

**EMPOWERMENT,
CONFIDENCE &
WELLBEING SESSION**

HOSTED BY
Sherisse Bisram

WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2024
6PM - 7.30PM

AT CHATHAM GRAMMAR
(RAINHAM ROAD, CHATHAM, ME5 7EH)

FEE: £5 PER PERSON

A one-off session for parents/carers which aims to provide you with practical tools and skills to help you to understand your thoughts and emotions and in turn, help you to support your children.

To register for this session, please visit the link and complete the online form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/svvsduUXMU>

The session will be delivered by Sherisse Bisram, an Inner Power Activation Leader. Sherisse has over 11 years experience working with young people and adults.

Facilities for Hire

We are pleased to advise that Chatham Grammar's facilities are available to hire. For a full list of facilities available and to book, please visit <https://schoolhire.co.uk/>



Lettings



- Sports Hall
- Dance Studio
- Main Hall
- Classrooms
- Meeting spaces

For more information please visit:

<https://schoolhire.co.uk/>

**FACILITIES
AVAILABLE TO
HIRE NOW**

Free Talk Therapy for Adults

For further information or to book an appointment, please email Counsellors@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk

University of
Kent

Academies Trust
(UKAT)

University of Kent Academies Trust **Counselling Service**

FREE Talk Therapy for Adults
**Monday to Thursday,
4pm - 8pm**

You may find yourself feeling anxious or stressed.

The dedicated team of volunteer Counsellors in training are able to offer you confidential and non-judgemental support.

Counselling offers opportunities to look at other ways to manage difficult situations.
