



12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## A Busy Week Back at Pakefield High School!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a fantastic first full week back at Pakefield High School, and we're delighted with how well our students have settled into the new school year. The atmosphere around school has been positive, purposeful, and full of energy.

We know many of you have been keeping an eye on your child's **Positive Points** and **Golden Tickets** via ClassCharts, and it's been a real pleasure to celebrate so many achievements with our students already. Their enthusiasm, hard work and respectful behaviour have made a brilliant start to the term.

### GL Assessments

At Pakefield High School, over the next few weeks we are completing the GL Assessment Progress Tests to help us understand how well our pupils are progressing in key subjects: English, Maths and Science.

Students in Year 7 will complete tests in all three subjects, whilst students in Years 8 and 9 will complete these in English and Maths. All these assessments will be completed in classes.

Progress Tests are nationally standardised assessments that measure your child's attainment and progress in:

English – including reading comprehension and writing skills

Maths – covering number, shape, space, and problem-solving

Science – exploring scientific knowledge and understanding

They are designed to give teachers a clear picture of how each child is doing compared to other children of the same age across the UK. This will give us the opportunity to identify strengths and areas for support as well as help teachers tailor learning to meet individual needs and provide a national benchmark for achievement.



## How Can You Support at Home?

Talk about learning – ask your child what they’re enjoying or finding tricky

Encourage reading and problem-solving – these skills support all subjects

Alongside this, we are also giving all students in years 7 to 10 the GL Assessment New Group Reading Test (NGRT) to help us understand how well our pupils are developing their reading skills. The NGRT is a nationally standardised reading assessment that measures:

- Reading comprehension
- Word recognition and decoding
- Vocabulary knowledge

It adapts to each child’s ability, ensuring the questions are appropriate for their reading level.

This will enable us to identify strengths and areas for support in reading and gives us a detailed picture of your child’s reading age and comprehension level. This helps us plan targeted support and enrichment activities where needed.

## How Can You Help at Home?

- Read regularly together – even 10 minutes a day makes a big difference
- Talk about books – ask questions about characters, plot, and vocabulary
- Encourage a love of reading – let your child choose books that interest them

If you have any questions about the Progress Tests or the NGRTs, please don’t hesitate to contact the school. We will report to you your child’s standardised scores in the report due this half term.

## Join Our Governing Board – Make a Difference in Our School Community

We currently have a vacancy on our school’s governing board and are inviting expressions of interest from parents or members of the wider community who are passionate about education and committed to supporting our school’s continued success.

Being a governor is a rewarding role that offers the opportunity to contribute to strategic decision-making, support school leadership, and help shape the future of our pupils. No prior experience is necessary - just a willingness to learn, collaborate, and make a positive impact.

If you’re interested in applying or would like to learn more about what the role involves, please contact [HeadsPA@pakefield.org.uk](mailto:HeadsPA@pakefield.org.uk)



### **BMW PGA Championship Pro-Am at Wentworth Golf Club.**

On Wednesday, Mr Dowson took ten Pakefield students who enjoyed an unforgettable experience at the BMW PGA Championship Pro-Am at Wentworth Golf Club.



Pakefield Students had the chance to watch world-class golfers prepare for the upcoming tournament while also seeing a host of celebrity amateurs in action. The line-up included elite athletes such as Lando Norris and Andy Murray, alongside TV favourites Michael McIntyre and Alex Horne. While some made the game look easy, others relied on their professional partners to guide them around the course, adding plenty of entertainment to the day.

Despite the wet weather, our students' enthusiasm never faded. They embraced every moment—snapping selfies with Gareth Bale and Tom Grennan, collecting a sleeve of golf balls from Anna Halliday, and even securing a signed ball from Major Champion Patrick Reed.

It was truly a day to remember, offering our students a rare opportunity to be part of one of golf's most prestigious events.





## World Record Breaking Food Team

I don't know if you knew about our participation in a World Record Attempt organised by Jamie Oliver at the end of last term?

It was a fantastic day with amazingly dedicated students working at an incredible fast pace! Our students can now proudly call themselves a record-breaking food team.



## The Library

LIBRARY			
	Break	Lunch	
M	Wk1 OPEN	OPEN	🌈
	Wk2 OPEN	OPEN	
T	Wk1 OPEN	OPEN	🌸
	Wk2 OPEN	OPEN	
W	Wk1 OPEN	OPEN	💬
	Wk2 OPEN	OPEN	
T	Wk1 CLOSED	CLOSED	🌟
	Wk2 CLOSED	CLOSED	
F	CLOSED		

You can come to borrow and return books whenever the Library is open.

*Library Clubs*  
 Mon Games Club  
 Tue Crafty Tuesday  
 Wed Chess Club  
 Curious to know more? Check out our clubs posters or ask in the Library.

### Library Information

**Library & Clubs Update**

- You can borrow and return books anytime the library is open.
- Books can also be returned in the Returns box outside the library.
- If you borrowed any books before the summer, please return them as soon as possible.

**Computer Access**  
 Computers are available every lunchtime the library is open for homework/schoolwork only.

**Library Clubs**  
 Library clubs run every week!  
 Important: You must sign up at break before lunch on the day of the club.

**No sign-up = No club!**



## Extra-Curricular Activities and Club

Extra Curricular Clubs September - October 2025			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>Mr Allington</b> Retro Games Club  <b>Mr Bligh</b> Further Maths (Invite Only)  <b>Mr Bond</b> Dungeons and Dragons  <b>Mr Clarke</b> Retro Games Club  <b>Ms Grice</b> Pride	<b>Mr Agyapong</b> French Book Club <b>Mrs Hastings</b> Film & TV Series Club <b>Mr Herbert</b> Darts <b>Mr Hill</b> Fantasy NFL <b>Mrs S McHugh</b> Photoshop Club <b>Mr Osbourne</b> Urban Sketching <b>Miss Shank</b> Netball <b>Miss Simons</b> Drama/Showcase <b>Mr Wilson</b> Origami Club <b>Mr Anderson</b> Badminton <b>Mrs Tuttle</b> UNO/Card Games <b>Mrs McGovern</b> KS3 Send Homework Club	<b>Miss Bethell</b> Dance Club <b>Mr Dowson</b> Golf <b>Miss Dunnell</b> Dance Club <b>Mr Gibbons</b> Football <b>Miss Saunders</b> D of E (Enrolled students only) <b>Ms Shank</b> Basketball <b>Miss Simons</b> Drama/Showcase <b>Mrs Trigg</b> Dr Who <b>Mr Vaughan-Evans</b> STEM <b>Mrs McGovern</b> KS3 Send Homework Club	<b>Dr Bernthal</b> Latin Club  <b>Mrs Warren</b> Art Club (Commencing Sept. 20th)



## Attendance Matters

I know you will support us by ensuring that your child is arriving at Pakefield High School every day on time ready for an 8:30am start to Period 1 each school day.

## Student Absence & Health Procedures

- If a student is absent for three consecutive days, a home visit will be conducted, even if parents have notified us. If the student remains absent and no one answers the door during the initial visit, we will return the following day.



## Illness Policy

- Unlike primary schools, we do not enforce a 48-hour exclusion period following sickness. Students may return the next day as long as they do not have a temperature or an upset stomach.

## Medication (Paracetamol and Others)

- From this academic year, school will no longer provide medication. Parents must supply any required medication (e.g., paracetamol) in its original packaging, which we will store for future use. If medication is needed and we do not have any on-site, parents will be contacted to bring it in.

## Reporting Absences

- Absences must be reported via one of the following methods:
  - Absence voicemail
  - Class Charts

Please do not contact the front office for absence notifications. Messages sent there can experience delays, which can lead to unnecessary follow-up calls.

## Free School Meals – Check Your Eligibility

If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals, you can apply online and receive an immediate response and confirmation email.

Children who have received free school meals since 1 April 2018 will continue to receive them until the end of the 2025/2026 school year, regardless of changes in income.

Use this link to check and [Apply for free school meals](#)

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll also qualify for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme. [More information from Suffolk County Council is available here](#)

## Year 10 and 11

Lowestoft Sixth Form College and East Coast College will be leading assemblies on the below dates. Have a think about any questions that you might have for them.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – Year 11 (East Coast College)

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Year 10 (East Coast College)

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Year 11 (Lowestoft Sixth Form College)

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September – Year 10 (Lowestoft Sixth Form College)







## East Suffolk Youth Council

### Make a Difference!



#### Stand for East Suffolk Youth Council

- Represent your school and community
- Help make real decisions
- Learn new skills
- Make new friends

#### Why should we take part?

Being a Member of the East Suffolk Youth Council allows young people to discuss local and national issues and concerns with their peers and identify potential projects to tackle these issues in the district.

Young people also benefit from Youth Councils in many ways, such as:

- Increased self-esteem.
  - Development of leadership and other soft skills.
  - Make new friends and gain confidence.
  - Better understanding of local policies, politics and governance .
- Be able to represent the views of others, even when they are not your own.
- Be able to work as part of a team.



This is open to all students and would look fantastic on College/University/Job applications. (we are allowed 2 representatives) If you are interested or would like more information, please see Mrs Moore.

**759 (Beccles) Squadron  
Royal Air Force Air Cadets**

**Open  
Evening  
2025**





**Friday 12th  
September**

**Doors Open  
7:15pm**



The Drill Hall, Pedders Lane,  
Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 9UE

[www.becclesrafac.co.uk](http://www.becclesrafac.co.uk)  
[facebook.com/becclesrafac](https://facebook.com/becclesrafac)



**Explore life as a student athlete**

## ACADEMY DAY

BASKETBALL FOOTBALL NETBALL ATHLETICS

Join us and experience life in one of our **Sports Academies!** Try out for your sport, tour the campus, and meet current student-athletes!

**TRAIN. LEARN. SUCCEED.**

- Tryouts & Training
- Campus Tours
- Academic Course Info
- Q&A with Students & Alumni

**OPEN TO YEAR 10-13 STUDENTS**

**Oct Half Term** Fri 31 Oct 2025  
**Feb Half Term** Fri 20 Feb 2026

**10 AM - 2 PM**

**BOOK YOUR FREE PLACE NOW AT**  
<http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eastnorfolksixthformcollege>

Head of School: Mr P Dougherty  
London Road  
Pakefield  
Lowestoft, NR33 7AQ  
Tel: 01502 530750  
Email: [info@pakefield.org.uk](mailto:info@pakefield.org.uk)  
Online: [www.pakefield.org.uk](http://www.pakefield.org.uk)  
Follow us on X: @PakefieldSchool

  
**CLARION CORVUS  
TRUST**

Part of Clarion Corvus Trust  
Registered Office: Kittens Lane, Loddon, NR14 6JU  
Registered Number: 8347874



## School Events

Week Beginning	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
15/09/2025					
22/09/2025				Year 9 Men ACWY Vaccines 08.30 – 15.00	
29/09/2025				Flu Vaccine 08.30 – 15.00  Year 11 – Parents Evening (1)  Year 11 Reports	
06/10/2025				Year 6 Open Evening 18.00 – 20.30	
13/10/2025	SEND Parents Evening - ONLINE	Flu Vaccine 08.30 – 15.00			
20/10/2025	School photos  Year 10 Raising achievement evening			Years 7,8,9 & 10 reports	

Thank you for your continued support. It has been a busy and productive week at Pakefield High School, and I wish you a restful and revitalising weekend.

Warm regards,

Mr P Dougherty  
Head of School