

THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2026



We are incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of our Year 13 students following another outstanding set of A Level results at The Blue Coat School.

Behind every result lies a huge amount of hard work, determination and perseverance. Our students have approached their studies with ambition and commitment, achieving exceptional outcomes across a broad range of subjects and demonstrating the very high academic standards that characterise Blue Coat.

However, their contribution to our school cannot be measured by examination results alone.

Throughout their time at Blue Coat, this year group has contributed enormously to the wider life of the school.

Through leadership, Houses, sport, music, enrichment, volunteering, mentoring younger pupils and simply through the friendships and relationships they have built, they have helped shape our community.

In doing so, they have embodied our school motto, **Non Sibi Sed Omnibus** – “Not for Oneself, But for All.”

We want our students to leave Blue Coat not only with excellent qualifications, but also with the confidence, character and sense of responsibility to make a positive difference wherever their future takes them. The Class of 2026 has much to be proud of, and we hope they will always remember that they remain an important part of the Blue Coat community.

We also recognise the enormous contribution of our staff and families. The encouragement, guidance and support given to our students throughout their time at school has played an important part in their success.

As our leavers now begin the next stage of their lives – whether at university, through apprenticeships, employment or other exciting opportunities – we send them our warmest congratulations and very best wishes.

To the Class of 2026: thank you for everything you have contributed to Blue Coat. We are immensely proud of what you have achieved, and we look forward to hearing about all that you go on to accomplish.

Non Sibi Sed Omnibus.





WELCOMING OUR NEW YEAR 12

The start of a new academic year is always an exciting time at Blue Coat, and this September feels particularly special as we celebrate the achievements of our GCSE students and welcome our new Year 12 cohort into the Sixth Form.

Our students should be immensely proud of what they achieved this summer. The 2026 GCSE results once again reflected exceptionally strong achievement across a broad and ambitious curriculum, with success evident across the full range of subjects. These outcomes are the result of years of hard work, determination and commitment from our pupils, supported by their families and by staff across the school.

But September is about much more than looking back. It is also about new beginnings and new opportunities.

We are delighted that so many of our Year 11 pupils have chosen to continue their journey with us into the Sixth Form, and we extend an especially warm welcome to the many new students joining Blue Coat in Year 12 from other schools. They bring new experiences, ideas and talents to our community, and we are very pleased that they have chosen Blue Coat for the next stage of their education.

For all of our new Year 12 students, the next two years promise to be an exciting period of academic challenge, growing independence and opportunity. Sixth Form life is about achieving highly, but it is also about developing confidence, forming new friendships, taking on leadership roles, contributing to the wider life of the school and beginning to make important decisions about the future.

Our school motto, Non Sibi Sed Omnibus – “Not for Oneself, But for All”, will continue to be at the heart of that experience. We want every member of Year 12 to aspire to achieve their very best while also contributing positively to the community around them.

There is a great deal to look forward to. New subjects, new friendships, enrichment opportunities, leadership, university and careers preparation and, ultimately, the choices that will shape life beyond Blue Coat all lie ahead.

To our new Year 12: welcome to the Sixth Form. Whether you have been part of Blue Coat for many years or have just joined us this September, you are now part of one Year 12 community. We look forward to seeing everything you will achieve and contribute over the exciting two years ahead.





BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: BLUE COAT LAUNCHES AN EXCITING NEW ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE

A new academic year brings new opportunities, and this September we are delighted to launch the **Blue Coat Enrichment Experience** – an ambitious programme designed to ensure that every student has opportunities to discover new interests, develop their talents, build friendships and create memories that will last long after they leave school.

At Blue Coat, we believe that an exceptional education is about far more than examination results. Enrichment is not an optional extra; it is an important part of what makes belonging to our school special and helps young people develop the confidence, character, curiosity and ambition they need for the future.

Our new **Enrichment Experience Booklet** which we sent the link to all parents brings together the extraordinary range of opportunities available across the school. Students can take part in sport, music, drama and creative activities; academic clubs and national competitions; trips, exchanges and residential experiences; leadership and community service; careers and university opportunities; and talks and workshops from academics, professionals and former Blue Coat students.

The breadth of the programme is something we are particularly proud of. Whether it is performing with one of our musical ensembles, competing in national mathematics or sporting competitions, learning filmmaking through our Cinematography Club, travelling to CERN, Rome or Shanghai, participating in Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, representing a House or contributing to our community, there is something for every student to explore.

These experiences matter because they provide opportunities for young people to discover what excites them. They encourage students to take risks, try something new, develop independence, work alongside others and sometimes discover talents and ambitions they did not know they had.

They also bring our school motto, **Non Sibi Sed Omnibus – “Not for Oneself, But for All”**, to life. Enrichment at Blue Coat is not simply about individual achievement. It is about participation, service, teamwork and contribution: representing your House, supporting other students, engaging with the wider community and playing an active part in the life of the school.

Our ambition for 2026–27 is simple: **we want every Blue Coat student to get involved**. We are encouraging all students to take part in at least one enrichment activity this year, participate in House competitions and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

The pages of our new booklet demonstrate just how much happens beyond the classroom at Blue Coat – but, more importantly, they represent the experiences still waiting to happen this year.

Try something new. Get involved. Represent your House. Discover your passion.

This is the Blue Coat Enrichment Experience – and we cannot wait to see where it takes our students.



The Blue Coat School Enrichment Clubs

NOT FOR ONESELF, BUT FOR ALL
Weekly enrichment timetable

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WE DNES DAY	THURSDAY	FR IDAY
Basketball –Y8 & Y9 08:00–08:35 • Sports Hall	Chemistry Clinic Yr 12 & 13 Lunchtime • N11	Girls Basketball –All Years 08:00–08:35 • Sports Hall	Basketball –Y7 08:00–08:35 • Sports Hall	The Economics Society Lunchtime • S06
Year 12 Biology Clinic Lunchtime • N14	Sustainability Club Lunchtime • E01	Art Enrichment & Catch-up 12:30–13:20 • Art	Year 11 Biology Intervention Lunchtime • N11	Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lunchtime • C15
Chemistry Clinic Yr 11 Lunchtime • N11	Philosophy Club Lunchtime • W01	Year 13 Biology Clinic Lunchtime • N16	Chemistry Club –KS3 (Week 1) Lunchtime • N10	Chemistry Olympiad Yr 12 Lunchtime • C15
KS4 History Clinic Lunchtime • C13	GCSE Spanish Support Lunchtime • W13	Spanish A Level Club Lunchtime • W14	Chemistry Clinic Yr 12 & 13 Lunchtime • N11	Y7 & 8 Coding Club Lunchtime • S01
Junior History Club Lunchtime • C11	Yes oui can –KS3 French Club Lunchtime • W15	French A Level Club Lunchtime • W14	Year 7 Cookery Club (Week 1) Lunchtime • E02	Y9–11 Raspberry Pi Lunchtime • S03
GCSE French Support Lunchtime • W13	Netball –Y9 & Y10 Lunchtime • Sports Hall	Year 7 Choir Lunchtime • N18	Junior Debate Club Lunchtime • C13	Junior Strings –Grades 1–3 Lunchtime • N18
Junior Concert Band –Grades 1–3 Lunchtime • N17	Table Tennis –KS4 & KS5 Lunchtime • Dance Studio	Y8 & 9 Training Choir Lunchtime • N17	Senior Debate Club Lunchtime • C11	Basketball –Y8 & Y10 Lunchtime • Sports Hall
Y9–13 Chamber Choir Lunchtime • N18	Weights Room –6th Form Lunchtime • Weights Room	Basketball –U17/U19 Lunchtime • Sports Hall	Basketball –Y9 Lunchtime • Sports Hall	Yoga/Pilates –All Years Lunchtime • Dance Studio
Netball –Y7 & Y8 Lunchtime • Sports Hall	Table Tennis –KS4 & KS5 Lunchtime • Dance Studio	S&C ‘100’ Club –All Years Lunchtime • Dance Studio	Basketball –Y11 Lunchtime • Sports Hall	Weights Room –6th Form Lunchtime • Weights Room
Dance –Y7 & Y8 Lunchtime • Dance Studio	Handball –U13 & U15 Teams 15:30–16:30 • Sports Hall	Weights Room –6th Form Lunchtime • Weights Room	Girls’ Football –All Years Lunchtime • Astro	Basketball –Y10 & Y11 15:30–16:30 • Sports Hall
Weights Room –6th Form Lunchtime • Weights Room		Football –Y8 15:30–16:30 • School Field	Table Tennis –Y7, Y8 & 6th Form Lunchtime • Dance Studio	Football –Y7 15:30–16:30 • School Field
Football –Y9 15:30–16:30 • School Field		Football –Y10 15:30–16:30 • School Field	Weights Room –6th Form Lunchtime • Weights Room	Girls’ Football –All Years 15:30–16:30 • School Field
Football –Y11 15:30–16:30 • School Field		Football –U18s 15:30–16:30 • School Field	Basketball –Y10 & Y11 15:30–16:30 • Sports Hall	Senior Strings After School • N17
Dance –Y9 & Y10 15:30–16:30 • Dance Studio		Netball –Y7–Y10 15:30–16:30 • Outside Courts	Football –Y7 15:30–16:30 • School Field	Senior Concert & Jazz Band After School • N18
Badminton –All Years 15:30–16:30 • Sports Hall		Netball –Y11–Y13 15:30–16:30 • Indoors	Girls’ Football –All Years 15:30–16:30 • School Field	
GCSE Spanish Support After School • W14		Y8–13 Senior Choir After School • N17 & N18	Art Intervention 15:35–17:00 • Art	
Senior Strings After School • N17				
Senior Concert & Jazz Band After School • N18				

YOU SAID, WE LISTENED: PARENT SURVEY SHAPES OUR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES



A huge **thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent Parent Survey**. With almost 400 responses, the survey provides an important picture of what families value about Blue Coat and where you would like us to continue improving.

There was much to celebrate. Parents spoke very positively about pupils being **happy and safe at school**, the **high expectations** we have for students, their academic success and the breadth of subjects, clubs and opportunities available to them. The overwhelming majority of respondents would recommend Blue Coat to another family.

Just as importantly, you also told us where we can do better. A clear theme was the need for **stronger and more consistent communication with parents**, particularly around what students are learning, how they are progressing and how families can support learning at home.

We have listened carefully. The findings from the survey have been incorporated directly into our **School Improvement Plan for 2026–27**, with priorities including improving communication and consistency, developing curriculum and assessment information, strengthening inclusion and wellbeing, and continuing to widen opportunities for pupils beyond the classroom.

Over the coming weeks, we will be developing a new **Parent's Guide to the Curriculum** and enhancing the curriculum pages on our website, making it easier for parents to see what their child is learning and how their knowledge and skills develop over time. We are also continuing to expand our **Blue Coat Enrichment Experience**, with an even greater focus on participation, belonging and personal development.

Parent feedback matters to us. It helps us celebrate what is working well, but also ensures that our improvement priorities remain focused on the experiences of the pupils and families we serve.

Thank you for taking the time to share your views and for continuing to work in partnership with us as we make Blue Coat even better.



A MEMORABLE ORGAN EXPERIENCE AT LIVERPOOL ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL

During the summer holidays, a group of Blue Coat students enjoyed a truly inspiring day at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral as part of the Organ Experience Day, hosted in partnership with Organs for Schools.

The students had the opportunity to explore one of Liverpool's most iconic landmarks, learn about its magnificent organ and, most excitingly, experience playing the instrument themselves. For many, it was a rare chance to discover the power, complexity and beauty of one of the world's most impressive musical instruments.

A particular highlight of the day was meeting Professor Ian Tracey, Organist Titulaire at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. Students were privileged to hear his outstanding demonstration of the Cathedral organ before having the opportunity to play for such a distinguished musician themselves. It was an experience that will undoubtedly remain with them for years to come.

We are extremely grateful to Organs for Schools, Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, Professor Ian Tracey, and everyone involved in organising this fantastic event. Opportunities such as these provide invaluable musical inspiration and enrichment, and we are delighted that our students were able to take part in such a memorable day.





BUILDING ON SUCCESS: BLUE COAT EXPANDS EVERYMAN & PLAYHOUSE PARTNERSHIP

Following the tremendous success of last year's partnership with the **Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse**, we are delighted to be renewing and expanding this exciting programme for the new academic year. Last year, **360 students took part in professional Drama sessions every half-term**, while more than **180 students had the unforgettable opportunity to perform their own spoken-word poetry to an audience at the Liverpool Everyman**. It was a fantastic example of enrichment extending learning beyond the classroom and giving our students the confidence to perform, create and express themselves.

Building on that success, this year's programme will offer even more opportunities for our students. Alongside developing performance and communication skills, there will be a particular focus on **Greek tragedy, storytelling, chorus work and ensemble performance**. The emphasis on working together as a company of performers connects strongly with our whole-school focus on **belonging**, helping students understand the importance of collaboration, contribution and supporting one another.

We are particularly excited that our **new Year 7 and Year 12 students** will be able to benefit from the programme as they begin the next stage of their Blue Coat journey. Working alongside professional theatre practitioners and experiencing one of Liverpool's most celebrated cultural institutions is a rare and valuable opportunity. We look forward to seeing even more students getting involved, developing their creativity and confidence, and making the most of everything this partnership has to offer.



STRENGTHENING INCLUSION AT BLUE COAT

This year, we are continuing to strengthen our **Inclusion and Student Support provision** so that every pupil is known, understood and supported to succeed.

Our work includes improving SEND systems, making it easier for staff to raise concerns, strengthening support plans and providing staff with advice and coaching on inclusive classroom practice.

We are also working closely with specialist partners including **OSSME, SENISS and Merseyside Youth Association**, providing targeted support, specialist advice and additional mental health and wellbeing provision.

A further priority is stronger collaboration with parents and carers, ensuring clear communication and joined-up support.

At Blue Coat, inclusion means maintaining high expectations while making sure the right support is in place for every pupil.



DANCE TAKES CENTRE STAGE AT BLUE COAT

We are delighted to be introducing **GCSE Dance** as part of our expanding enrichment programme.

The new course has been developed **in response to pupil voice**, with students asking for more opportunities in dance. The **AQA GCSE Dance** course will develop performance, choreography and analytical skills, while building confidence, creativity, resilience and teamwork.

The GCSE course will run **every Monday from 3.30pm–5.00pm in the Dance Studio**, with an introductory workshop on **Monday 21 September**.

We are also pleased to be launching a new **Year 7 and Year 8 Dance Club**, taking place **every Monday lunchtime in the Dance Studio from 21 September**. This will give younger pupils the chance to get involved, develop their skills and enjoy dance in a fun and welcoming setting.

This is another exciting addition to the **Blue Coat Enrichment Experience**, helping more students discover new interests, develop their talents and flourish beyond the classroom.

We are excited to see Dance become an even bigger part of life at Blue Coat.

PERSONALISED ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR EVERY SIXTH FORM STUDENT

At Blue Coat, we want every Sixth Form student to feel well supported, academically ambitious and confident about their next steps.

All Sixth Form students are offered **two dedicated one-to-one appointments** with a member of our Academic Support Team. Staff work closely with an allocated group of students throughout the year, providing personalised guidance on academic progress, future aspirations and university or career applications.

The team includes **Mr Shipgood, Ms Holland, Mrs Elliot, Dr Lawell, Mrs McGain and Mrs Derringer**.

These meetings take place during form time and give students protected space to reflect on their progress, identify any barriers and agree clear next steps. Conversations may include study strategies, independent learning, university applications, admissions tests, interviews, super-curricular opportunities and preparation for particular courses or careers.

The aim is simple: **every student should leave knowing what they need to do next, and why it matters.**

By combining high expectations with personalised support, we want every Blue Coat Sixth Former to make ambitious, well-informed choices and be fully prepared for life beyond school.

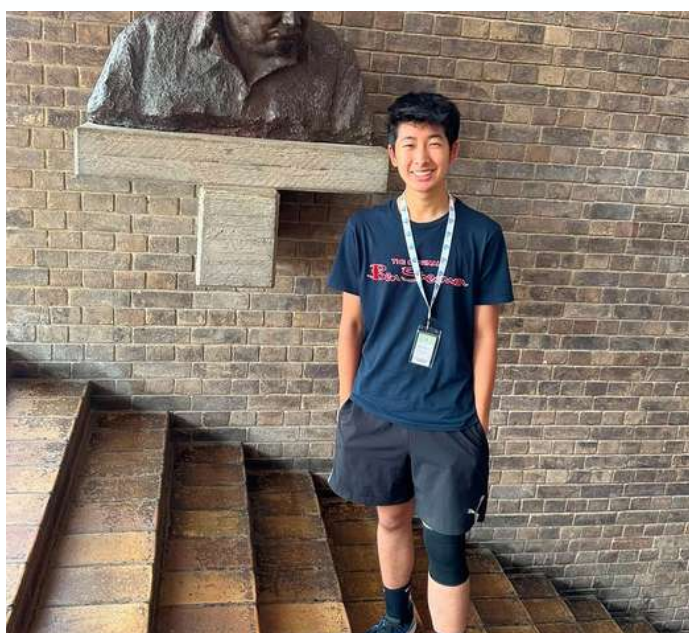


WILLIAM SHINES AT UKMT CAMBRIDGE OLYMPIAD CAMP

We are delighted to celebrate the success of **William**, who took part in the prestigious **UKMT British Mathematical Olympiad Cambridge Residential Camp** at Churchill College, Cambridge. The week-long programme brought together 40 of the country's most talented young mathematicians for an intensive programme of mathematical problem-solving and Olympiad-style challenges.

At the end of the week, students completed a demanding **four-and-a-half-hour assessment** comprising three International Mathematical Olympiad-style problems. William achieved an outstanding **15 out of 21**, placing him **among the top five students at the camp**. This is a remarkable achievement and reflects both his mathematical ability and the commitment and perseverance he has shown in developing his skills.

We are also delighted that, following the school's support and a recommendation from **Mr Fee**, William has been invited to join the **UKMT Olympiad Mentoring Scheme for 2026–27**. This will provide him with further opportunities to develop his mathematical thinking alongside other highly talented students. We congratulate William on his success and look forward to following his progress as he takes on the next stage of this exciting mathematical journey.



BLUE COAT STUDENTS REACH IMPERIAL SCIENCE IN MEDICINE FINAL

We are delighted to celebrate an outstanding achievement by **Sesandi M, Nekaa A, Eshaal J and Rachel D**, who have reached the final of the **Imperial Science in Medicine Schools Team Prize – Cardiovascular Prize**.

The competition attracted **89 entries**, judged by a panel of **27 academics and medical professionals**, with only the **top 10 teams** selected for the final.

Our students will now present their **original cardiovascular research** to the judging panel at the final event later this month, demonstrating their scientific understanding, research skills and ability to communicate complex ideas with confidence.

Reaching the final is a significant achievement and reflects the ambition, curiosity and hard work of the team.

We wish Sesandi, Nekaa, Eshaal and Rachel the very best of luck in the final.

Fingers crossed for the £3,000 prize, which would support further science-related activities at Blue Coat!

OLD BLUES RETURN TO BLUE COAT



We were delighted to welcome back a group of **10 Old Blues**, accompanied by **three of their wives**, for a special visit to the school.

Their collective journeys since leaving Blue Coat are remarkable. Between them, they have lived and worked across the world, including **Barbados, the USA, Belize, Afghanistan, Spain, China, Slovenia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Dubai**.

Their careers are equally varied and impressive, spanning **education and publishing, telecommunications and satellites, professional football, business leadership, law, construction and engineering**. One has worked internationally in football, including alongside Rafa Benítez at Liverpool FC, while others have gone on to lead businesses, support Liverpool's business community and build senior careers in specialist legal practice.

The visit was a wonderful reminder of the many different paths Blue Coat students go on to follow, and of the enduring connection so many Old Blues retain with the school.

We are especially pleased that a number of the group have expressed an interest in **returning to speak to current students about their careers and experiences**, helping to inspire the next generation.

It was a real pleasure to welcome them back, to hear their stories and to celebrate everything they have achieved since leaving Blue Coat.



BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that - whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun - you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private - so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you - but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online - by anyone, not just someone from school - talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met - and who might not be who they say - is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too - if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).

KEY DATES

Date	Event
Saturday 19th September 2026	Phase 2 Entrance Test
Thursday 24th September 2026	Year 12 Parent Information Evening
Thursday 08th October 2026	Year 12 & Year 13 'Death of a Salesman' (Liverpool Everyman Theatre)
Friday 09th October 2026 - Saturday 10th October 2026	Year 7 Residential Trip to Conway Centre
Thursday 15th October 2026	Year 7 Form Tutor Evening
Thursday 22nd October 2026	Ski Trip Parent Meeting at 6pm
Friday 23rd October 2026	Term Ends at 3.30pm
Monday 26th October 2026	Half Term Break
Monday 2nd November 2026	Students Return
Monday 09th November 2026 - Friday 13th November 2026	Y10 & Y12 Internal Assessment Week
Tuesday 10th November 2026	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 24th November 2026	Year 13 Parents' Evening
Monday 30th November 2026 - Friday 4th December 2026	Y11 Mock Exams Week
Tuesday 8th December 2026	Christmas Carol Concert
Friday 11th December 2026	Christmas Markets
Wednesday 16th December 2026	Term Ends for Students at 3.30pm