

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Weekly family communication. Friday 18th September 2026

Dear Families,

As we come to the end of another successful week, I would like to thank our students, staff and families for their continued commitment and support. A particular highlight this week was our Year 11 Revision Evening. It was fantastic to see so many students and parents engaging positively with the event and demonstrating a real commitment to preparing for the challenges and opportunities ahead. The attendance was excellent, reflecting the determination of our students to achieve their very best. Further information and resources from the evening can be found within this communication, and I would encourage all Year 11 families to review these carefully.

It has also been wonderful to see the strong start to our extra-curricular clubs and activities. Student attendance and participation have been extremely encouraging, with a wide range of opportunities already proving popular. In particular, it is pleasing to see Year 11 students making the most of additional revision activities as they begin their examination preparations.

Around the school, there has been some excellent learning taking place. In English, students have been immersed in extended writing activities, demonstrating **resilience**, creativity and a growing confidence in expressing their ideas. The quality of work and engagement within lessons continues to be impressive.

In Year 8 Physical Education, students have been working collaboratively through competitive netball activities. It has been excellent to see such positive teamwork, sportsmanship and communication skills on display, with students challenging themselves while supporting one another.

The continued development of our school environment is also taking shape. New frames and Ramsey values led displays are now being installed around the school, helping to showcase the talents and achievements of our young people. These additions form part of our ongoing work to enhance the aesthetics of the school, creating an environment that students can be proud of and that celebrates their success.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. I hope you have a restful and enjoyable weekend, and I look forward to another positive and productive week ahead.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Year 11 Revision Evening

It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance at our Year 11 Revision Evening on Thursday. The evening consisted of a variety of presentations, all of which focused on supporting Year 11 students through the examination process that begins in a few weeks' time with their first set of mock exams. For those in attendance, as well as those who were unable to make it, all resources have been added to our website. They can be accessed by clicking [here](#). The next significant event will be the first parents' evening of the year, due to take place on Thursday 22nd October. Please ensure this date is reserved in your diary.

<https://www.ramseyacademy.com/Year-11/>

Year 11 Next Steps

It was a pleasure to welcome so many Year 11 students and parents to our Revision and Post-16 Information Evening on Thursday 17 September. As students begin this important academic year, now is the perfect time to research Post-16 options and prepare applications for colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship opportunities. We would like to remind families of the following key advice:

- Attend as many open events as you can
- Apply as early as possible to avoid missing out on courses, as some providers close applications once courses reach capacity.
- Apply to at least two different providers to ensure you have a back-up plan.
- Use a personal email address rather than your school email account when completing applications.
- T Levels and BTECs can lead to university as well as employment opportunities. More than 160 universities now accept these qualifications. Check entry requirements of universities to find out which ones accept these.

We look forward to supporting our Year 11 students as they explore their options and take the next exciting steps towards their future aspirations.



MID-ESSEX I T T
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



Student Council Launch

Last week, we were delighted to launch the Student Council at The Ramsey Academy. Building on the fantastic work of the Student Working Party earlier this year, the council will provide students from all year groups with a meaningful voice in shaping our school community. The Student Working Party played a key role in developing our new Ramsey values of **Resilience, Aspiration and Mutual Respect**, as well as contributing ideas for our rewards programme and house system. The Student Council will continue this important work, with students eventually taking on leadership roles such as Chair and Secretary.



During their first meeting, students approached discussions with impressive maturity, confidence and clarity, putting forward a range of thoughtful ideas for school improvement. Suggestions included creating clear signage on classroom doors to help Year 7 students navigate the school more easily, as well as organising a purple-themed hamper raffle for our first charity event. We are particularly pleased that students have already begun work on the classroom signage, demonstrating their enthusiasm and commitment to making a positive difference. Watch this space as these exciting proposals begin to become a reality!

Rewards

We are delighted to have launched our new rewards programme, which celebrates students' hard work, effort and positive contributions to school life. Through the programme, students can earn and accumulate House Points and Student of the Week awards, working towards badges, prizes and, ultimately, a rewards trip. It has been fantastic to see so many students striving to achieve these rewards and taking great pride in their successes. Form Captains who have earned badges will receive these during assemblies next week. Please note that, due to a temporary Arbor glitch, notifications relating to House Points and Student of the Week awards have not been sent to parents. We are aware of the issue and are working to resolve it as quickly as possible. Thank you for your patience and support.

ParentPay – Lunch Funds

Could we politely ask parents to check over the weekend that students have enough money in their account for lunches and/or snacks for the week ahead and top up the account if necessary.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Whole-School Attendance Competitions

From next week, we'll be launching our exciting whole-school attendance competitions and rewards programme to celebrate great attendance and encourage every student to be in school, on time, every day.

- 🏆 **Half-Termly Tutor Attendance Cup** for the tutor group with the best attendance.
- 📊 **Weekly Attendance League Table** shared with all tutor groups.
- 🎟️ **100%+ Attendance Raffle** – every student with attendance of 96% or above earns a place in the prize draw.
- ☀️ **Attendance Hero Awards** for students who show significant week-on-week improvement.
- 🎡 **Friday Attendance Wheel** – every student who is in school and on time on a Friday will qualify for our Wheel of Fortune prize draw!

Mr Hurst – Deputy Headteacher - <https://www.ramseyacademy.com/Attendance/>

Absence Reporting

If you wish to report your child's absence via email, could you please send the email to attendance@ramseyacademy.com.

National Study participation

Over the past two academic years, the school has participated in the 's national student study, **Teaching and Learning about the Holocaust 80 Years On: A Study of Student Knowledge and Understanding in England**.

We are delighted to share with parents and carers that participation has contributed to the publication of two research digests based on the findings of this important national study. These publications also explore changes and trends over time, drawing comparisons with the first national student study published in 2016.

We are incredibly proud that our students' views, knowledge, and experiences within taught lessons have helped inform nationally recognised research, contributing to a greater understanding of Holocaust education across England.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com

Headteacher: Mr C Appleford



Allergy / Anaphylaxis

We are writing to inform you about new statutory guidance regarding the management of allergies in schools. This guidance strengthens schools' responsibilities to support pupils with allergies and helps ensure that all children can learn in a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment.

At The Ramsey Academy, the health, safety, and wellbeing of our students remain our highest priority. We have reviewed our existing procedures and practices to ensure they fully align with the new requirements and reflect current best practice recommendations.

We recognise the importance of working closely with families to support students with allergies and to minimise risks wherever possible. Further information about our approach can be found in our Allergy Safety Policy and Supporting Students with Medical Needs Policy which are available on the school website:

<https://www.ramseyacademy.com/Policies/>

To help us meet these requirements and ensure that we can provide the best possible support for all students, we ask parents and carers to ensure that the school holds the most up-to-date information regarding their child's medical needs.

If your child has an allergy, please ensure that:

- The school has been informed of the allergy in writing.
- Any prescribed medication, including adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs), is provided to the school where required and remains within its expiry date.
- An up-to-date Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP), in line with our policy, has been completed, reviewed, and shared with the school.
- The school is notified immediately of any changes to your child's condition, treatment, medication, or medical advice.

By working together, we can help ensure that every student with allergies is supported effectively and can participate fully and safely in school life. Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support.

To further minimise risk, we ask families to avoid sending the following items into school wherever possible:

- Packaged nuts
- Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts
- Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts
- Peanut-based sauces, such as satay
- Sesame seeds and foods containing sesame seeds



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

We would also encourage families to discuss with their children the importance of:

- Not sharing food or drinks with others
- Never sharing medication
- Following guidance from school staff regarding allergy awareness and safety
- Showing consideration and respect for those who live with allergies.

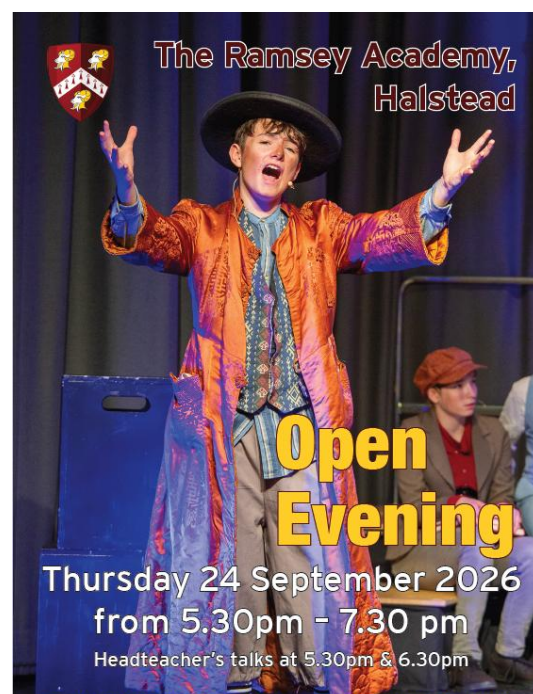
By working together, we can help create an environment where all members of our school community feel safe, supported and included. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's allergy needs, please contact Mr Hurst / Mrs Gerrard.

Year 6 to 7 secondary admission round for September 2027 (for those families with children in year 6)

As you may be aware, the secondary school admissions round has now opened for parents and carers of current Year 6 pupils applying for a Year 7 place for September 2027.

The national closing date for applications is **31 October 2026**, and we strongly encourage families to submit their applications before this deadline. Applications can be made online via the Essex County Council admissions website: www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. Last year, 99% of Essex parents chose to apply online, making it the quickest and easiest way to complete the process.

We look forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to our **Open Evening next week (Thursday 24 September, 5:30pm to 7:30pm)**, which will provide an excellent opportunity to explore our school, meet staff and students, and discover more about the opportunities available at **The Ramsey Academy**. We are excited to meet the next generation of Ramsey students and hope to see many current and prospective families at this special event.



Free School Meals

Please refer to email communications regarding the important change to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility which came into effect on the 1st September 2026. Thank you to those who have already submitted your application. Where eligibility is confirmed, the school has been notified, and our systems have been updated.



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).
Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

If your child received Free School Meals last academic year and you have not yet re-applied, their eligibility will now have ended. We therefore strongly encourage all families in receipt of Universal Credit (that have not done so already) to check eligibility online as soon as possible. Navigate to the - The Ramsey Academy - Pupil Premium webpage and scroll to the bottom of this page to find the link to check your eligibility (graphic below to support).

If you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our data manager kaskew@ramseyacademy.com.

<https://www.ramseyacademy.com/Pupil-Premium/>

Apply For Free School Meals

 [Free School Meals Application](#)

Travel Aid for Parents of Sick Children (TAPS)

TAPS are a Halstead based charity providing travel support for parents/carers of sick children who require ongoing or one-off medical treatment at a hospital in England. Applicants must live in the relevant catchment area and will need to complete an application form. Information can be found on Facebook – Travel Aid for Parents of Sick Children or contact them via email TAPSHalstead@hotmail.com

Braintree Youth Project Charity

BYPC provide a range of activities, programmes, discussions, trips and opportunities designed to support young peoples' personal, social and emotional development. They have a dedicated programme for young people aged 11 – 14 which focuses on developing important life skills, confidence, communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving and positive relationships with peers whilst ensuring that young people have fun and feel part of a supporting community.



MID-ESSEX I T T
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

Year 11 Careers Fair Visit to Chelmsford Racecourse - Wednesday 23rd September 9.50-12.30

As part of our commitment to developing students' aspirations and future pathways, all Year 11 students will be attending the Careers Fair at Chelmsford Racecourse. This exciting event provides a valuable opportunity



for students to meet employers, training providers, colleges, universities, and apprenticeship organisations, helping them to explore the wide range of options available after Year 11 and beyond.

Students will leave The Ramsey Academy at 9.50am and will return by 12.30pm, allowing them to continue with their normal lessons for the remainder of the school day.

Students are expected to attend in full school uniform and to represent The Ramsey Academy positively throughout the visit.

We encourage students to make the most of this opportunity by speaking to exhibitors, asking questions, and gathering information that will support them in making informed decisions about their future education and career choices.

If you have any questions regarding the visit, please contact Mrs Price at hprice@ramseyacademy.com.

We look forward to what promises to be an informative and inspiring experience for our Year 11 students.

Essex County Council -survey

Essex County Council would like to hear from parents and carers about youth vaping to help evaluate a recent campaign. This survey is for parents/carers of 9-14 year olds in Essex. The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. Your responses will be anonymous as we will not ask any personal information.

Please complete the survey by 1 October.

<https://research.potentia-insight.co.uk/survey/selfserve/53b/260910#>

Healthy Schools Team -Essex Child & Family Wellbeing Services



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

October Half Term Bikeability Courses

Essex Bikeability has a range of cycling courses available, including:

- Bikeability Level 1
- Bikeability Level 1 & 2
- Learn to Ride
- Child Bike Workshop & Learn

These courses are designed to help children develop confidence, improve their cycling skills and learn how to ride safely in a fun and supportive environment.

 **Venues:** Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow and Witham

 **Book online:** essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking

Please note there is a **£15 non-refundable booking fee**. Places are limited, so early booking is recommended.

Local Parent Support Hub

Team Dandelion is a local parent support hub offering support to parents and carers of neurodivergent, fostered, and adopted children. They provide free coffee afternoons where parents can come together to access support, advice, a listening ear, and a sense of community.

A range of local professionals and organisations also attend these sessions, including Essex Family Forum, Families in Focus, and the MAZE Group.

The **Halstead Coffee Hub** takes place on the second Tuesday of every month, and the **Braintree Coffee Hub** is held on the third Tuesday of each month. Both sessions run from **1.00–2.30pm**.

HALSTEAD

St Andrews Church Hall, Parsonage Street, Halstead, CO9 2LD

- Tuesday 13 October
- Tuesday 10th November
- Tuesday 8th December

BRAINTREE - Braintree Baptist Church, Swan Side, Braintree, CM7 3DA

- Tuesday 20th October
- Tuesday 17th November
- Tuesday 15th December



TEAM DANDELION
A PARENT SUPPORT HUB

Do you support a child with additional needs?

Join us for a coffee, cake and a listening ear

Support from professionals, parents, grandparents & carers with lived experiences

PARENT HUBS
1.00-2.30PM

EVERY 2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL
HALSTEAD CO9 2LD

EVERY 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
BRAINTREE BAPTIST CHURCH
SWAN SIDE, CM7 3DA

Join with other parents and invited professionals to learn more about your child's neurodivergent needs. We support families with fostered, SOO and adopted children too.

For more information, please call Suzanne or Rachel on:

07843027046

Team Dandelion - A Parent Support Hub

TeamDandelion123

In collaboration with The MAZE Group and supported by Families InFocus

MAZE Group

Families InFocus Essex

community grants

COMMUNITY FUND



MID-ESSEX I T T
INITIAL TEACHER TRAINING



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES

The Ramsey Academy, Halstead

Colne Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 2HR. T: 01787 472481 F: 01787 474267
E: office@ramseyacademy.com W: www.ramseyacademy.com



Headteacher: Mr C Appleford

RAF Air Cadets

Interested in joining 1163 (Colne Valley) Squadron RAF Air Cadets?

As they prepare to reopen this September, they are now inviting prospective cadets to register their interest. Their Open Evening will take place at 1930 hrs on Wednesday 23 September 2026, at the Squadron. Please do go along, meet the team, see the Squadron and find out more about the opportunities available as an RAF Air Cadet if your child has an interest in this area. You can register your interest using the link <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/JqzQWmJEvs?origin=lprLink>

Careers

Labour Market Information: Does your child's career ambition link with employment opportunities?

Labour Market Information (LMI) is information about jobs, employment trends, skills, salaries and future workforce needs. It is important for both students and parents because it helps families make informed choices about subjects, qualifications and next steps, linking education to real career opportunities and future employment prospects. Understanding LMI helps students plan realistically and confidently, and enables you as parents to better support and guide your child's career decisions.

- **Local – Braintree and Halstead:** For example, strong opportunities in construction, health and social care, logistics, retail, and local apprenticeships with employers in and around the district.
- **Regional – East Anglia:** Growing sectors such as agriculture and agri-tech, renewable energy, digital technologies, engineering and healthcare, reflecting the wider regional economy.
- **National – UK:** National trends including increasing demand for digital and IT skills, healthcare professionals, green energy jobs, engineering, and roles requiring flexibility and transferable skills across sectors.

Using LMI allows students to see how today's learning connects to tomorrow's careers and helps families understand where opportunities are growing both locally and beyond. We will be using this information to tailor our careers provision to meet the needs of our young people.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Mr. C Appleford
Headteacher



The Ramsey Academy, Halstead is an academy within the Bridge Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (company number 07663795).

Registered office: Community Building, Bridge Academy Trust, Brian Close, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9ES