

Headteacher's Bulletin

Friday 21st March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Student voice and leadership is an important part of Ivanhoe's vision and this week we were in a for a treat when MP Amanda Hack visited. I am always proud of our students, but today more than ever as they put Amanda through her paces with a series of excellent questions getting to the heart of current education challenges. See more detail below.

Also, this week, year 7 students met with employer volunteers to play a game of 20 questions. Students had to ask questions with only yes and no answers to guess the volunteer's job. Our visitors were so impressed. They said, "Your students were curious, enthusiastic and acted with professionalism at all times".

More excitement was seen as the hunt for a new Headteacher of Ivanhoe begins. I have spent this week taking groups of prospective candidates around the school showing off our students and their accomplishments. Students are very invested in the decision making around a new Headteacher and have been carefully watching those candidates who have been coming for tours. Let's hope that they all apply for the post.

The candidates who visited were particularly impressed with our Year 9 students who were delivering MVP lessons (Mentors in Violence Prevention) to younger students. This is part of the work we do on tackling toxic masculinity. The importance of this education work has been highlighted in recent weeks in programmes such as Stephen Graham's recent film Adolescence and Gareth Southgate's David Dimbleby lecture [The Richard Dimbleby Lecture - Sir Gareth Southgate - BBC iPlayer](#) Schools and communities need to work together to protect our young people from negative outside influences.

Amanda Hack Visit– Labour MP for NWLDC



MP Amanda Hack faced tough questions about education funding and curriculum changes from students across all year groups. Our Head students opened with questions relating to SEND funding, mental health and GCSE exam pressure. Amanda also shared a range of information about government plans to support schools. Students were also interested in an MP's job and what a typical day looked like in parliament.

A particularly tough question from Talia about CAHMS waiting lists and the time it currently takes to get mental health support for young people really hit home for the whole room and Amanda assured us that this is a government priority.



Comic Relief – Bake Sale



The school hall was crammed today in support of Comic Relief. For red nose day, Ivanhoe ran an interhouse competition to see which house could raise the most money at their cake stands. It was a close call but the results are in ... Earth House the winner!

Air	51.50
Earth	59.10
Fire	51.00
Water	51.10



Ashton – A rising star from Ivanhoe leading England

We are thrilled to announce that Ashton, a former pupil at Ivanhoe School, has once again been selected to represent England in the Six Nations! Her first match is scheduled for 11th April, showcasing her incredible talent.

Following this exciting tournament, Ashton will travel to Japan on 25th April to captain England in the prestigious 7's Sanix World Rugby Tournament. We wish her the best of luck as she takes on these fantastic challenges! 🏉 ✨



School places available



We have a few places available for next year's Year 7 and 8 available. So please, spread the word.

Do you know anyone who has recently moved to the area or is unhappy with their allocated school. There has never been a better time to come to Ivanhoe and see the great work that we do.

Please contact a.gray@ivanhoe.co.uk to book a school tour or contact me directly on a.allford@ivanhoe.co.uk

Recent feedback from a parent this week – “At the last parent evening, we were bowled over with the lovely comments from all the teachers ...”
You won't meet a better staff team.

Year 8 Girls and Boys HPV Vaccinations – Friday 4th April

To sign your child's consent for this important vaccination that protects against a virus that can cause some cancers click here: www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk and use school code **LE138350**.

Maths Equipment

In Year 9, 10 & 11 Maths classes, we will require students to have a scientific calculator for use in their Maths lessons. Y10 & Y11 students will also need to have their own scientific calculator to use in their upcoming Trial exams (Y10) and GCSE's (Y11).

A scientific calculator is an essential tool for students taking GCSE examinations, offering numerous benefits that can enhance their learning and exam performance. These calculators are designed to handle complex mathematical functions which are all part of the GCSE syllabus. Two of the three Maths exams allow the use of a calculator.

By using a scientific calculator, students can solve challenging problems more efficiently, reduce errors in calculations, and save valuable time during exams. Moreover, regular use helps them become familiar with the calculator's functions, boosting confidence, and allowing them to focus more on problem-solving strategies rather than manual computation. Encouraging your child to practice with a scientific calculator not only strengthens their understanding of key concepts but also prepares them for the demands of the exam environment.

Whilst we do not require students to use a specific make/model of scientific calculator, we do request that they have the following functionality.

- four rules and square
- square root
- reciprocal and power function
- brackets
- a memory facility
- appropriate exponential, trigonometric and statistical functions

Casio calculators are preferred and are extremely popular. (Casio FX-83GTCW Black Scientific Calculator : [Amazon.co.uk: Electronics & Photo](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Electronics-Photo/))

However there are range of options from as little as £6.00 (ASDA Scientific Calculator - ASDA Groceries / Tesco Scientific Calculator Black & White Assortment), with retailers like Amazon typically having devices available for around £10.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, they may claim a Scientific Calculator through WisePay.

Should you have any questions about a specific make/model please reach out to your child's Maths teacher.

The other equipment that each students taking a Maths exam must have with them:

- Black pen
- Pencil & rubber
- Ruler (measuring in cm & mm)
- Protractor
- Pair of compasses



PSHRE and Wider Personal Development

Please find below information about next week's topics for PSHRE. If you have any queries regarding these, please contact our subject leader Claire Gee on c.gee@ivanhoe.co.uk. The curriculum resources for these all lessons are available for parents on request.



	PSHRE Topic	RE Topic
Year 7	Careers Lesson 5	Careers Lesson 6
Year 8	Careers Lesson 5	Careers Lesson 6
Year 9	What is FGM	What is Lent? (seasonal lessons)
Year 10	Risks of unsafe sex	Careers Lesson 1
Year 11	Banking and Saving Money	What is reincarnation?

Ivanhoe Way Focus

Throughout the year in form time, we look at practical ways that the 'Ivanhoe Way' can be applied to help students achieve and be happy learners. Next week we will be focussing on:

Be on time for school and lessons

Reminder – 2pm Finish for Professional Development of School Staff

All LiFE MAT schools will be finishing early on the following dates to facilitate Cross- MAT professional learning opportunities for our staff.

• 08/05/2025

• 26/06/2025

Finishing the school day at 2 pm offers significant benefits for teachers by providing dedicated time for professional learning that includes both subject-specific training and career development.

What's Coming Up

27 th -29 th March	Year 7 Campout Trip
Friday 4 th April	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Tuesday 8 th April	Golden Ticket Rewards Event
Friday 11 th April	Last Day of Term

That's all for this week. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Allford – Headteacher

Community News

Family Bursary for Inspire Youth Collective – Ashby Hub



Bursary Scheme

In this area we provide information on the Ashby Youth Centre's Bursary Scheme, which is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties.

The Ashby Youth Centre is a community hub for young people in the area. It provides a safe space for young people to socialize, learn, and grow. The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties.

The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. It is a one-time payment of £100 per month for one young person.

The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. It is a one-time payment of £100 per month for one young person.

The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. It is a one-time payment of £100 per month for one young person.

The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. It is a one-time payment of £100 per month for one young person.

The Bursary Scheme is a financial support for young people who are experiencing financial difficulties. It is a one-time payment of £100 per month for one young person.

BECOME A SPONSOR

Why Sponsor?

Support Local Families: Your contribution helps relieve financial burdens for young people.

Empower Young People: Provide access to workshops, games, and social opportunities.

Strengthen Your Club: Show your company's commitment to community and youth development.

How Sponsorship Works: Your company contributes a set amount to the Inspire Youth Bursary Fund, which we use to support eligible families.

Options include:

- £100 per month: Covers membership for one young person.
- £200 per month: Supports multiple memberships or buy-in for your business.
- Custom Amount: Tailor your sponsorship to your company's budget.

Your support is used exclusively to fund membership fees for young people in need. Your impact:

- Sponsor a young person to attend creative workshops, fitness sessions, and more.
- Help them grow confidence and build lasting friendships.
- Be recognized as a champion of youth development in the community.

The new Ashby youth centre is pleased to announce that it is introducing a bursary scheme for families experiencing financial difficulties.

Full details and an application form can be found on our website:

[Ashby Youth Centre- Bursary Applications | Ivanhoe School](#)

They are also looking for more businesses or organisations that would like to sponsor a place for a child to be able to access this great resource.

Again, further information can be found on our website.