



## Headteacher's Comment

It has been another extremely positive and busy week at Chase High School, with many opportunities for pupils to reflect, plan and succeed. It was wonderful to welcome so many families into school for the Year 9 Options Evening yesterday; the level of engagement and thoughtful discussion demonstrated a real commitment to choosing the right pathways for success as pupils move into Year 10. Alongside this, our Year 9 Careers Day workshops supported pupils in understanding how their interests and strengths link to future aspirations. This week's assemblies marked Holocaust Memorial Day, providing pupils with time to reflect on our shared duty to remember and learn from history. We are also incredibly proud of the continued sporting achievements across all year groups, with pupils demonstrating teamwork, **resilience** and **ambition**.

#ProudtobeChase



## Holocaust Memorial Assembly

The focus for this week's Assembly has been Holocaust Memorial Day, which takes place on Tuesday 27 January and marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945. Pupils listened to the causes of the Holocaust and why we all have moral duty to bridge the gap between generations and ensure that the victims are never forgotten.



## Year 11 Sixth Form Applications

There is still time for Year 11 pupils to apply to our Sixth Form to start in September 2026! We are offering new courses this year, including Economics, Child Care, Travel & Tourism, and Public Services.

**Please CLICK HERE to create an account and complete an application.**

If you have any questions or need support with your application, please email [sixthform@chasehigh.org](mailto:sixthform@chasehigh.org). If your child has any questions about Sixth Form, they are always welcome to visit during lunchtime and speak with Mrs Mulford or Mr Sturge.



## Year 9 Careers Day

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Year 9 pupils attended workshops in small groups with our Careers Advisors. Throughout the sessions, pupils considered their interests, skills and subject strengths to assist with the Options selection process. This ran alongside an Options Information Assembly on Tuesday and the Options Evening on Thursday. Pupils were able to find out more on linking subject choices to future pathways and could reflect on their own personalities and discuss ideas with others if they wished to. The sessions were well received by pupils who engaged well and gave session feedback.



# Year 8 Parents' Evening – Change of Date – 12 March 2026

Please note the above change of date. For further details, please see the letter attached.



## Sports Round Up!

Last week, 44 pupils from Years 7–10 travelled to the University of West London for a basketball coaching clinic. The school was invited by the National Basketball Association. The clinic saw pupils coached at a range of stations focusing on developing their passing, shooting, and dribbling skills. Pupils commented that it was a brilliant experience, and we have already seen them using these skills in games this week.

A huge well done to Dexter in Year 9, who came 22nd out of 130 runners representing the Borough of Southend at the County Schools Cross Country Championships. He is currently on the reserve list for the county team competing in the national finals.

There have been a number of fixtures this week. The Year 7 netball team drew with Cecil Jones Academy, with Erica named Player of the Match. The Year 8 netball team beat Cecil Jones Academy 11–1, with Bella awarded Player of the Match.

The Year 7 boys' football B team drew 1–1 with Cecil Jones Academy's B team, with Kyle named Player of the Match. The Year 8 girls' netball team beat Belfairs Academy 9–6, with Peyton named Player of the Match. Year 7 also secured their first netball win against Belfairs Academy – brilliant effort, girls! Players of the Match were Lucy and Isla.

The Year 9 boys' basketball team lost 82–70 to a strong Shoeburyness High School side, with Elliot receiving the Player of the Match award.

The Year 11 boys' basketball team lost narrowly, 28–26, to Cecil Jones Academy. Player of the Match was awarded to Tzeison.

The Year 10 boys' basketball team won 53–28 against Cecil Jones Academy, with Morgan named Player of the Match. Our Year 7 boys' basketball team also had a fantastic win, beating Belfairs Academy 39–6. Player of the Match was Noah.



## Dates for your Diary:

**04.02.26** Year 7 Take your Child to Work Day

**16.02.26 – 20.02.26** Half Term

**12.02.26** Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening Face to Face

**12.03.26** Year 8 Parents' Evening (New Date)



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**Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff**

Chase High School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust



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**CHASE HIGH SCHOOL**  
AMBITION - RESILIENCE - KINDNESS

**Headteacher:**  
Mr Matthew Suttwood  
BSc(Hons), NPQH

**Tel:** 01702 354441

Ref: KDO

22 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

**Re: Year 8 Parents' Evening – New date – Thursday 12 March 2026**

As you may be aware, at the start of the spring term, many pupils saw a timetable change. For some, this resulted in different classes and different teachers. In order to give our teachers the best opportunity to get to know your child, we have decided to postpone the Year 8 Parents' Evening scheduled for Thursday 5 February 2026.

Our Year 8 Parents' Evening will now take place on **Thursday 12 March 2026 16.00 – 19.00**. This event will remain online and bookings will go live on Friday 27 February 2026. Please refer to previous correspondence with details of how to make appointments.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs Diallo**  
**Year 8 Year Leader**



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# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

## A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of user-created experiences rather than a fixed set of developer-produced content. Each experience is self-rated by its creator rather than independently age-rated in advance, as is the case with PEGI-rated games. With millions of user-created experiences, moderation is largely automated which means that inappropriate content may reach younger players and have a harmful effect.

## MATURE CONTENT

With much of Roblox's moderation automated through AI and creators self-certifying suitability, inappropriate content frequently appears on the platform. Some experiences may include content intended for older players. While Roblox has tools to restrict access based on age settings, these systems are not always perfect. Younger players are likely to encounter content you may deem unsuitable.

## IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences and cosmetics include optional purchases using Robux, the platform's virtual currency, to get advantages in games. This business model is common across online games, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

## RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short tasks, rewards, and progression systems that can prompt users to keep playing for longer periods of time. Some games also use reminders, daily rewards, or timed events to encourage frequent logins. These designs can make it difficult to stop playing. Spending long periods online may affect sleep, schoolwork, or other activities if boundaries are not in place.

## COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS

Roblox includes text and voice features that allow players to chat in shared game spaces. While the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools, media investigations have found that inappropriate and potentially harmful messages can still get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by groomers. In response, Roblox has announced changes to how chat works. The platform plans to use facial age-estimation technology to restrict chat access between adults and children they do not know.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult account allows parents to apply spending controls, limit communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

### CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox is introducing tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely for younger children. Children can still play games while communicating with friends they know through other supervised platforms.

### PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how monetisation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something feels wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its self-rating nature.

### ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age appropriate, and for many children, the platform is an important way to socialise with friends. Rather than banning it outright, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, spending, and how to respond to inappropriate behaviour.

## Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, The Telegraph, The Evening Standard, The Guardian and The New Statesman.



The National College



# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.



## OPPORTUNITIES

BAE Systems have now opened applications for their apprenticeship programmes. “Be a pioneer, fast-tracking the future of BAE Systems through innovative technology and next-generation engineering feats to tackle complex problems, making a real difference for your career, and the world. With our apprenticeships you’ll earn while you learn and receive job-specific training, experience and recognised qualifications that will shape your career.”

Google's First Step for Year 7-9 | Wed 28th Jan | 4.30pm. You can take part in a 45-minute Google briefing on using data to grow a YouTube channel, complete a self-paced career challenge, and receive a certificate upon completion.

Google's Next Step for Year 10-13 | Thurs 29th Jan | 5pm. A 45-minute virtual briefing with the Google team on the Pixel 10 launch with Gen Z creators, complete a self-paced career challenge, and receive a certificate upon completion.

IBM, Apprenticeship Application Masterclass | Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Feb | 10am – 11.30am. This event is for students in Year 13/ Final Year College or recently completed School or College with interest in careers and apprenticeships in technology and business innovation. IBM are one of the biggest technology and consulting employers. By attending this Application Masterclass, you'll practise key parts of an application with help and support from IBM professionals. By the end of the session, you'll be confident about applying for an apprenticeship or job with IBM.

British Airways work experience opens THIS MONTH! “Your work experience journey starts here. At British Airways, we’re here to help you explore what your future career could look like. From online learning and live chats with our mentors to real-life experiences behind the scenes, students have plenty of ways to discover the variety of roles in aviation.”

Launching Monday, 9th February 2026, to kick off National Apprenticeship Week, ERIC are launching a “Netflix-style” series of talks about different creative careers.

## JOB OF THE WEEK



Pet Behaviourist

Pet Behaviourists are a specialist who diagnoses and treats complex behavioral problems in animals (like dogs, cats, birds) by identifying underlying emotional causes (fear, anxiety) and creating custom, science-based modification plans, working on veterinary referral to help pets feel and behave better, often acting like a “pet psychiatrist”.

## LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Healthcare dominates the UK employment growth story, with an estimated 70,000 new roles expected in the sector and projections suggesting nearly one million additional jobs could be created over the next 20 years.

Source

If you have any questions or need support, please email [careers@chasehigh.org](mailto:careers@chasehigh.org)

# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

## OPPORTUNITIES

The [latest edition of the Soldier Magazine](#), the UK Army's official publication for students, is now available. Notable articles include; London Guards hone skills in Gibraltar, Exclusive interview with ace Ukrainian drone pilot and Infanteers tear up top urban complex.



National recruitment has now begun for people wishing to become a [Royal Military Police Soldier](#). "Policing is a very important job in the Armed Forces. The Royal Military Police (RMP) uphold law within the Army, in the UK and abroad. As a member of the Army's policing team, you'll get to travel the world and support operations. It all starts with first-class training – first as a soldier and then in policing. When you finish, you'll be promoted to Lance Corporal. You'll know how to gather evidence and look after detainees. What's more, you can take specialist courses and qualifications. These are recognised by the civilian police."



Ahead of NAW 2026, [join our webinar](#) with the British Army to learn about the 40+ different apprenticeship opportunities available, from engineering to healthcare, and hear directly from apprentices about their training, experiences and what Army life is really like. Perfect for young people and those supporting them. Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 16:00 - 17:00.



Are you thinking of applying to Medical School in the future? Royal College of General Practitioners are offering a [GP work experience](#) to school and college pupils aged 16+ who are interested in studying medicine. This will provide you with top tips for obtaining GP work experience and how to make the most of a work experience placement in general practice.



You have probably heard of accountancy and advisory services before. Think you know what professionals in this field really do? Embark on [this virtual work experience](#) to explore the world of accountancy and advisory services with BDO! Springpod and BDO will introduce you to the sector and the different career paths that are available. You'll hear from experts, see career stories, and explore career pathways.



[This session](#) is designed to help parents and carers feel confident supporting the young people in their lives as they explore Apprenticeships.



## EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Whether you've always wanted to work in health or have never thought about it before, the huge range of careers in the NHS will amaze you!

There are clinical and non-clinical careers available. You could work on the front line on a ward or never see a patient and still make a difference to people's lives.

Find out more [here](#).

## UNI SPOTLIGHT

"At Cardiff University, you can choose from over 300 degree programmes. We offer flexibility so you can tailor some components of your degree to suit your own interests and career ambitions. We work with our students to make their education the best it can be, not just for their own benefit, but for the good of our communities and planet."

Read more [here](#).

If you have any questions or need support, please email [careers@chasehigh.org](mailto:careers@chasehigh.org)