



# EDWARD PEAKE

## APRIL NEWSLETTER

### THE PEAKE POST

'LIVE, LOVE, LEARN'

"I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO;  
I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU."

PSALM 32:8

# Headteacher Message

The new All Weather Pitch has been finished and is already being very well used. The PE team are delighted that the new facility has already hosted several PE lessons, clubs, and competitive matches, proving to be a fantastic addition to the school's sports program.

Football matches have been in full swing, with visiting schools praising the high-quality playing surface. The impact has been immediate, with Edward Peake already celebrating early victories on home turf.



We have now got a little while to wait until the new Sports Hall is ready, along with 6 brand-new classrooms supporting our KS4 Art, Photography, Graphics and Design Technology curriculum, on track to be delivered in October. It's very exciting to see the daily progress on our fantastic new facilities.

This term has been so busy with both year 7 and year 8 engaging in residential visits and packed full of curriculum experiences.

I hope you all have a fantastic Easter break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 23 April.


ZJ Linington


# Key Dates


23 April	Students return to school
24 April	Tealby House- Non School Uniform
07 May	Year 6 Wellbeing Workshops
09 May	Inclusion Coffee Morning
12-16 May	Year 6 SATs Week
16 May	MHST Parent Workshop
19 May	Year 6 KAPLAN
20 May	Careers fair 2-6pm
21 May	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
23 May	Last Day of term


## Term Dates 2024 - 2025

### Academic Calendar - 2024 /2025

School Holiday 

Bank Holiday 

Pupil Day 

Training Day 



September 2024		October 2024		November 2024		December 2024	
Mon	2 9 16 23 30	Mon	7 14 21 28	Mon	4 11 18 25	Mon	2 9 16 23 30
Tue	3 10 17 24	Tue	1 8 15 22 29	Tue	5 12 19 26	Tue	3 10 17 24 31
Wed	4 11 18 25	Wed	2 9 16 23 30	Wed	6 13 20 27	Wed	4 11 18 25
Thu	5 12 19 26	Thu	3 10 17 24 31	Thu	7 14 21 28	Thu	5 12 19 26
Fri	6 13 20 27	Fri	4 11 18 25	Fri	1 8 15 22 29	Fri	6 13 20 27
Sat	7 14 21 28	Sat	5 12 19 26	Sat	2 9 16 23 30	Sat	7 14 21 28
Sun	8 15 22 29	Sun	6 13 20 27	Sun	3 10 17 24	Sun	1 8 15 22 29
January 2025		February 2025		March 2025		April 2025	
Mon	6 13 20 27	Mon	3 10 17 24	Mon	3 10 17 24 31	Mon	7 14 21 28
Tue	7 14 21 28	Tue	4 11 18 25	Tue	4 11 18 25	Tue	1 8 15 22 29
Wed	1 8 15 22 29	Wed	5 12 19 26	Wed	5 12 19 26	Wed	2 9 16 23 30
Thu	2 9 16 23 30	Thu	6 13 20 27	Thu	6 13 20 27	Thu	3 10 17 24
Fri	3 10 17 24 31	Fri	7 14 21 28	Fri	7 14 21 28	Fri	4 11 18 25
Sat	4 11 18 25	Sat	1 8 15 22	Sat	1 8 15 22 29	Sat	5 12 19 26
Sun	5 12 19 26	Sun	2 9 26 23	Sun	2 9 16 23 30	Sun	6 13 20 27
May 2025		June 2025		July 2025		August 2025	
Mon	5 12 19 26	Mon	2 9 16 23 30	Mon	7 14 21 28	Mon	4 11 18 25
Tue	6 13 20 27	Tue	3 10 17 24	Tue	1 8 15 22 29	Tue	5 12 19 26
Wed	7 14 21 28	Wed	4 11 18 25	Wed	2 9 16 23 30	Wed	6 13 20 27
Thu	1 8 15 22 29	Thu	5 12 19 26	Thu	3 10 17 24 31	Thu	7 14 21 28
Fri	2 9 16 23 30	Fri	6 13 20 27	Fri	4 11 18 25	Fri	1 8 15 22 29
Sat	3 10 17 24 31	Sat	7 14 21 28	Sat	5 12 19 26	Sat	2 9 16 23 30
Sun	4 11 18 25	Sun	1 8 15 22 29	Sun	6 13 20 27	Sun	3 10 17 24 31

Autumn Term - 75 days

Spring Term - 60 days

Summer Term 60 days = 195 days

Pupil contact will amount to 190 of the 195 days. Schools will be closed on five of the 195 days. These five days will enable teacher training to take place in accordance with Teachers' Conditions of Service.

The law requires that a parent ensures that their child receives a full and efficient education. If you enroll your child at a school, then you must ensure that they attend regularly. Regular school attendances defined as being 'in accordance with the rules prescribed by the school' and means that if the school is open for 190 days, then this is what your child is expected to attend.

**Please note:** Academies and other own admission authority schools can set their own dates. You should contact these schools direct for term date queries.

# Staff News

At the end of term, it is always with mixed emotions that we say "Goodbye and thank you" to some of our staff as they move on, and "Welcome" or "Congratulations" to others as they join us or are promoted to new posts.

## ***Goodbye and thank you***

***to:***

Mrs Knight  
Mrs Proctor  
Miss Nicholson

## ***Hello and welcome to:***

Mrs Fomcenkova- our new Head of  
Science  
Miss Edwards- our new MFL teacher

# Requests

## **Message from the Textiles department:**

If you have any fabrics or wools that you no longer need they would be gratefully received.

## **Message from the PE department:**

If parents have any old football boots that they no longer need could we ask that you please donate them to the school in order to help our families in need. These need to be plastic studded boots.

## **Message from the Art department:**

We are looking for donations of compact cameras (with cables if possible) of any brand with 10 megapixels or above.

Another plea is for DSLRs (digital single-lens reflex camera). We are happy to look at donating some money for these and working to budget if you are looking to sell second hand or donate.

# EVENTS

## French Trip

Year 8 had a brilliant time in France last week experiencing a range of activities and broadening their understanding of French history and culture.

They have sampled the delicacies of French cuisine from frogs legs and snails in the chateau, goats cheese from the goat farm and chocolates from the chocolate factory. They have braved new flavours and learned a lot about the processes involved in creating these delicious treats.

As well as the goats farm being a big hit with the students, they also particularly enjoyed the Belgium visit, with one child even finding 2 relatives in the WW1 memorial in Ypres.

Residential trips are such a fantastic way to develop friendships, build self confidence and create lasting memories. Thank you to all the staff that made this such a success.



## Easter Service



The whole school attended our Easter services at St Andrews Church this week. The Edward Peake Choir sounded amazing and Mr Hill, Mr Harris and Harry performed fantastically in the band. Well done as well to all the students who gave the readings so beautifully.

Thank you to Revd. Liz for your thoughtful words and for having us.

# EVENTS

## Wellbeing Day

In March we held our annual Wellbeing Day—a day all about stepping away from the usual classroom schedule and focusing on activities that promote relaxation, fun, and creativity.

As well as teachers running classes based on their own skills and passions, from karate to art journaling, chess to wire flower-making; we also had a number of external companies offering activities that students would not typically have the chance to experience.

The School of Beatbox gave students a chance to explore the power of their own voices, and for those looking to get physical, VSteam's Break Dancing session got everyone moving to the beat.



Rob Horsman from Circus Allstars led a fun-filled circus skills workshop—juggling, balancing, and fun with peacock feathers. Ropa Event Hire Specialists provided a variety of giant games, including giant chess, go carts and basket ball games. Then for some much-needed relaxation, the CAMHS MHST team ran "Relax, Recharge, Reconnect" sessions



Another event, popular each year, was the exotic pets session with Safari Stu where students got to meet a range of fascinating animals and were encouraged to push their boundaries, overcome fears and build confidence as they held giant stick insects, snakes, lizards and other unusual creatures.

Wellbeing Day was a huge success. Thank you to Mrs Jeffs and everyone involved in making it such a great day.



# PE DEPARTMENT

The PE department is delighted with the successful launch of our new 4G pitch. It has been widely used for lessons and fixtures, receiving fantastic feedback from both students and staff.

As we prepare for the temporary loss of the sports hall after Easter, all PE lessons will take place outdoors. Students must come prepared with appropriate clothing and ensure they bring moulded boots to every lesson. The 4G pitch is used for a variety of sports beyond football and hockey, and boots will be required year-round. If purchasing boots presents a financial difficulty, please contact the school.

Our extra-curricular club timetable remains full of opportunities for all year groups. A revised schedule will be introduced after Easter to align with the curriculum and upcoming fixtures, while some of the most popular clubs will continue.

Recent weeks have been busy with netball and football fixtures, with students demonstrating excellent progress. For many, this has been their first opportunity to compete against other schools, and their enthusiasm has been fantastic to see. If your child is selected for a fixture, a permission form will be sent home in advance for confirmation.

Finally, we are excited to launch our new PE Instagram account! Follow us for updates on fixtures, clubs, and everything happening in the PE department. @EdwardPeake\_PE



# THANK YOU TO OUR KITCHEN STAFF

At Edward Peake, we are incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated and hardworking kitchen team who ensure that everyone who needs it is well-fed and cared for. We want to express our gratitude for everything they do to keep us nourished, happy and energized throughout the school day.



The kitchen team serves around 200 meals daily to our students and staff. Whether it's a hot, freshly prepared meal, a sandwich a hot bite from our hub selection or a comforting break time snack, they work tirelessly to ensure no one goes hungry—even those who forget their lunch or need a little extra support. They know most of the students by name and each meal is served with a warm smile and welcome.

We also love how they embrace school celebrations with such enthusiasm. With their Shrove Tuesday pancakes, Comic Relief cookies, Valentine's Day biscuits and Children in Need fundraising treats, the kitchen team helps make every occasion memorable and brings touches of joy to everyone.



Our school offers a rotating three-week menu that's freshly prepared and thoughtfully designed to offer variety and nutrition. For just £2.50 per meal, students can enjoy a range of tasty and healthy options that cater to a variety of tastes and dietary needs, bringing plenty of delicious choices to the table.

Meals can be booked in advance via the school gateway or ordered during morning registration.



To the entire kitchen team: thank you for everything you do. Your hard work, your care, and your kindness don't go unnoticed. We are incredibly lucky to have you as a part of our school community.



# STAFF & PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS



## Heidi

Well done to Heidi who performed at the National Theatre's Connections Festival in London.

The performance went very well and was attended by the playwright Ricki Beadle Blair MBE. He commented that it was "colossal" with fantastic acting. Heidi managed to meet him afterwards which was exciting.



## Cassie

Congratulations Cassie for Winning 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama. She competed in 3 classes - Yr 7-8 Dramatic Solo, Yr7 Verse Speaking and Yr7 Prepared Reading.

## Let us know!

We are always delighted to hear of our pupils' achievements outside of school. Please email [info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk) with any news you would like to update us on.

# VALUES WINNER

## February

In February, our value was **Empathy**

**Year 6 R Church** – For always considering others and how he can support them.

**Year 7 E Smith** – Eden always looks out for others in his community, a kind and caring member of Edward Peake.

**Year 8 S Waltham**– Stanley is always making sure everyone (staff and pupils) is ok and happy. He is caring and a great winner of this month's values certificate.

**Year 9 L Mavhatu** – For always showing care, kindness and compassion to those in her community.

**Staff – Mrs Pratt**– for being so considerate and understanding with both pupils and staff. She is always thoughtful in her approach to everyone she meets.

## March

In March, our value was **Forgiveness**

**Year 6 A Izzard Presland**– For always being able to forgive and forget when things happen and carry on with a lovely smile.

**Year 7 I Daniels** – For always living her values, she is always polite, hardworking, forgiving and kind.

**Year 8 E-L Bayman**– For always being Considerate & forgiving of others and working hard to achieve each day.

**Year 9 E Browne** – For being kind, considerate and forgiving of others, and always trying his best.

**Staff Mrs Whitby** – for always living all of our values. She leads by example when talking to students about letting things go with friendship issues and class issues with restorative conversations using forgiveness as a way of moving forward.



# BIG DRAW WINNERS

For every 20 positive points awarded, students are entered into the big draw raffle. The winners this term are:

**Year 6** - Harvey G

**Year 7** - Evie S

**Year 8** - Reyhaneh N

**Year 9** - Maya R

Thank you to everyone who donated towards comic Relief. Our non school uniform day raised £300 for the charity.

## Comic Relief Red Nose Winners.

Congratulations to the following students for their winning entries into the design a nose for comic relief. Well done to everyone who entered. It was a lot of fun choosing the winners.

D Logan, N Terry, C Lightfoot, E Blain, I Browne, R Giugno, J Jones, C Gumbo, P Brown, A King, K Glanville, K White.

# TIMETABLE CHANGES

With some staffing changes after the Easter holidays, it has been necessary to make some changes to pupil timetables. These changes will go live over the Easter holidays and the new timetables will be available in Class Charts from Wednesday 9 April.

Any changes to when your child has PE will be communicated via email so all pupils arrive with PE kit on the correct days.



# Arriving On Time

Parents are reminded that pupils need to arrive at school between 8:30am and 8:40am every day.

# Drop Off & Pickup

Parents are reminded that access to the school site at the beginning or the end of day is extremely limited. If you feel that there are special circumstances that mean you need to come on site at the beginning or the end of the day, please email [info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk). This will then be reviewed within three days.

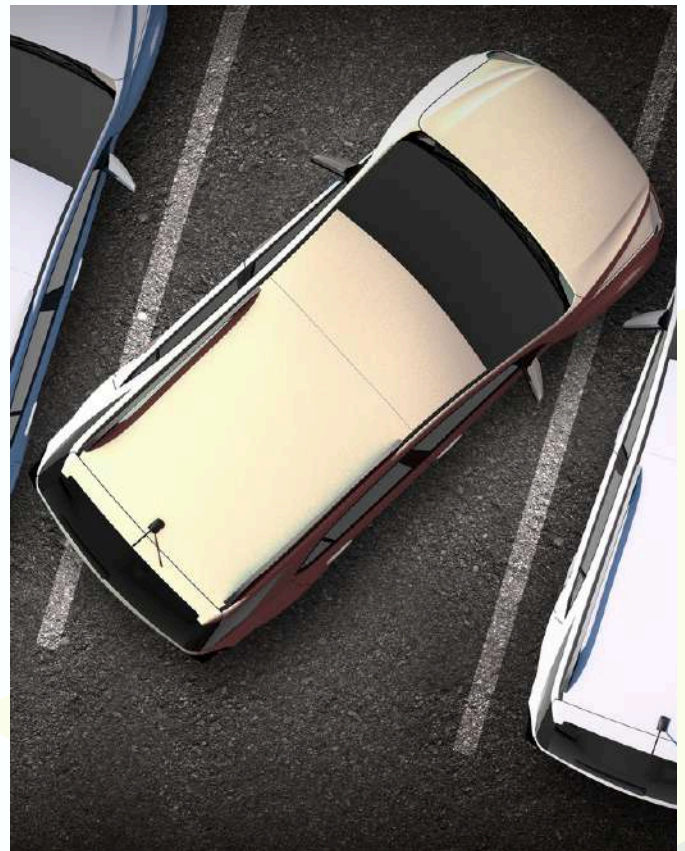
# Parking Off Site

As there is extremely limited parking on site, you will need to park your car on public roads when dropping off or collecting your child.

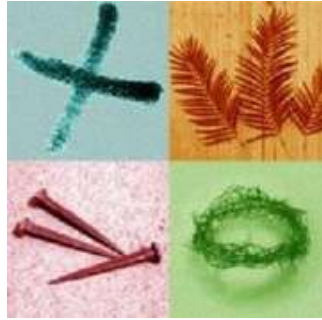
Please remember to always park safely and considerately and not to block driveways or to park on private roads.

# Scooters & Bikes

We have a large number of pupils that bike and scoot to school and many of these are the same brand and colour. Please ensure that you name these items so that in the event that they are mixed up we can reunite them with their owners.



# Holy Week and Easter 2025 - The Parish of St. Andrew, Biggleswade.



**Monday of Holy Week 14 April: 7.30 pm Compline** 2 Corinthians 4:7-10.

Preacher: Richard, Bishop of Bedford – ‘Fragility’ **Tuesday of Holy Week**

**15 April: 7.30 pm Compline** Psalm 13. Preacher: Bishop Richard –  
‘Absence’ **Wednesday of Holy Week 16 April: 7.30 pm Compline** Psalm  
22:1-11. Preacher: Bishop Richard – ‘Forsakenness’

**Maundy Thursday 17 April : 7.30 pm Holy Communion, Food Washing,  
and The Watch until midnight**

Exodus 12.1-4, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11. 23-26; John 13.1-17, 31b-35  
President and Preacher: Bishop Richard – ‘Resistance’

## **Good Friday 18 April**

10.30 am Churches Together in Biggleswade Walk of Witness,  
meeting at Dan Albone car park, Hill Road, SG18 0BQ

11.00 am Ecumenical Service, Biggleswade Market Square

1.30 pm Good Friday Liturgy including St John’s Passion Dramatized Reading  
Preacher: Bishop Richard - ‘It is finished’

1.30 – 3.00 pm. Activities for Good Friday in Chapter House:  
for children accompanied by parents / carers

## **Easter Eve Saturday 19 April**

8.00 pm Paschal Ceremony

## **EASTER DAY Sunday 20 April**

8.00am Holy Communion – Order Two Traditional

Preacher: Bishop Richard – ‘Hope’

10am Festival Parish Communion

President and Preacher: Richard, Bishop of Bedford – ‘Hope’



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION  
13+

WhatsApp is a free messaging service owned by Meta which allows users to send text and voice messages, make video calls, share multimedia – such as images, videos, documents and polls – and have group chats. WhatsApp messages are encrypted, meaning only you and the recipient can view what is sent. While this privacy may sound attractive on paper, this app unfortunately comes with several risks that must be considered – especially for younger users.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' and even cons where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then, posing as WhatsApp, call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access to your private messages and personal information.

### CHANNELS

Channels let users follow interests without sharing their phone numbers or sending direct messages, allowing only votes on polls and reacting to posts with emojis. However, fraudulent channels can impersonate legitimate organizations, tricking people into sharing personal data and even spreading misinformation or hate speech. Additionally, WhatsApp may collect details about followed channels and sell this information to third parties, raising data privacy concerns.

### FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original – and might not be entirely factual, either.

### CHAT LOCK

Another new feature named 'Chat Lock' allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. While this usually functions as intended, it can potentially be exploited by younger users to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of – such as the sharing of age-inappropriate material.

### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Disappearing messages are useful for sharing personal or sensitive information, but young people may have a false sense of privacy regarding the content they share. These messages disappear after anywhere from 24 hours to 90 days – depending on the user's preference – or can even be set to be viewed one time only. However, the recipient can 'keep' the message by bookmarking or screenshotting it, making them not as private as they may first appear.

### VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safety on the way home, for example. However, children are able to share their location with anyone in their contacts list or a mutual group – potentially letting strangers identify their live location.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution. Get them to consider, for example, whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know *never* to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

### ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. To do this, go to Privacy, then Groups. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except ... Additionally, if the child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

### THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content sent to one user to then be shared more widely, and even publicly on social media. Encourage them to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence. Real-life friendships are far more important than likes, after all.

### CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Have a conversation with youngsters about how they're using WhatsApp, emphasising that it's for their own safety. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of messages that are in there, who they're with and why a child might want to hide them. Also, if a young user has sent any 'view once' content, discuss their reasons for using this feature.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>

# THE LOCAL OFFER

This Local Offer sets out in one place what support and services are available for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The information will include how to access services and organisations for Children and Young People with SEND from birth to 25 years.

Our Local Offer has been designed and developed by a range of professionals from both Children's and Adult services including:

**Education**  
**Health**  
**Social Care**  
**SNAP Parent Carer Forum (PCF)**  
**Voluntary and community groups**

The Local Offer will include information on services that are available to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) from birth to 25.

<https://localoffer.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/centralbedfordshire/directory/about.page>



Central Bedfordshire SEND Local Offer

## SAFEGUARDING

If you think a child you know is being harmed or at risk of being harmed, **please contact the Access and Referral Hub on 0300 300 8585**, who you can talk to about your concerns.

They will give you advice or may investigate the circumstances. All child protection calls are treated in confidence and you don't need to give your details.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect children from harm.

**Out of hours: 0300 300 8123**

**Email: [cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)**

Further support agencies can be found on our school website under the parents and pupil support section.

# THANK YOU

We hope you have enjoyed our newsletters #TeamPeake.

Check out our careers page to learn more about how we support our learners for the future



Edward Peake School  
Potton Road  
Biggleswade  
SG18 0EJ

T: 01767 314562

E: [careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)  
[twitter.com/@CareersEP](https://twitter.com/@CareersEP)

E: [info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)

Check out our curriculum pages to learn more about how we support our learners for the future



[www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](http://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)  
[twitter.com/@EdwardPeake](https://twitter.com/@EdwardPeake)







# EDWARD PEAKE CAREERS NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025

'LIVE, LOVE, LEARN'

"I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO;  
I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU."

PSALM 32:8

# Welcome

Welcome to our fourth careers newsletter of this academic year. This issue contains details on recent careers events as well as our upcoming careers fair. Our industry spotlight this half term is the rail industry.

Please do share this newsletter with your child as they will find helpful resources and information throughout.

## Key Contacts

Whilst you can always talk to any member of staff regarding careers and careers provision at the school, it is useful to be aware of those people in school with specific responsibility for careers. We are a small but expanding team and you will see this list grow as we develop.

Careers leader: K Rodgers, Assistant Headteacher

Careers link governor: P Giles, Governor

For specific information regarding curriculum areas and careers, please contact the relevant subject leader.

For careers specific information, advice, support or suggestions please email: [careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)

## Get Involved

We are always looking for volunteers to come in and speak to pupils about their experience of work and how they chose the career they did. If you would like to offer some time to come and speak to or work with pupils in school please email the school via:

[careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)

# Careers Events

Year 7 welcomed Jack Dove from MBDA in Stevenage. Jack is a senior engineer specialising in airborne systems. He shared with pupils the many different careers associated with space from those people who work on the ground to design, engineer and build spacecraft to those lucky enough to travel in space. He even shared how personal trainers, chefs, medical staff and teachers all have roles in shaping space travel for the future.

It was very inspiring to hear Jack share his personal experiences especially in his struggles as someone who is neuro-diverse. He explained that whilst this presented challenges, he has never let it hold him back or stopped him from seizing opportunities.



Alan Crist from hi-impact ran a workshop with Year 6 pupils where they learnt how to be engineers and built satellites that gathered data from the local environment. This workshop was run in conjunction with the RAF youth impact team who aim to encourage more young people to consider a future in engineering.

It was impressive to see such wonderful team work amongst the pupils who worked hard to achieve a great deal in short space of time.

# Careers Fair

On 20 May, we will be hosting our first ever careers fair. The fair will have a wide range of employers including the police, the NHS, Barclays bank and many local businesses. There will also be apprenticeship providers and post 16 training providers.

Year 9 pupils will have an opportunity to visit the fair during school hours but all pupils and their parents and carers will be invited to visit the fair after school and talk to the different exhibitors. The fair will run until 6pm.

If you are part of a company, business, further education college or training provider and would like to take part in our careers fair, please register your interest by completing our Google form:

<https://forms.gle/gpBf4wn7BjgDv2dA6>

or if you would like to find out more information, please email: [careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk)



# Careers Hub Survey

The South Midlands Careers Hub supports schools with developing their careers education. The work with schools, training providers and employers to ensure all children have access to an engaging curriculum with experiences of the workplace and are fully informed of the different routes available to them.

Below is a message from them with a request for your input to help them better understand your views and needs in helping guide your child in the future.

We hope this message finds you well!

We are reaching out to ask for your valuable input through a short 5-minute survey. Your feedback will help us better understand your views and support needs regarding future options for your child.

As a key influencer in your child's decision-making journey, your insights are crucial. We want to ensure you feel confident in guiding your child to explore the many opportunities available beyond school.

This survey is being conducted by Amazing Apprenticeships on behalf of South Midlands Careers Hub. Rest assured, all responses will be kept confidential and used solely to plan support services in your school and local area. Your details or individual responses will not be shared with any other parties.

Click here to start the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/p-edward-peake-cofe-vc-school-25>

Thank you for your support and participation!

**South Midlands**  
CAREERS HUB

THE **CAREERS &  
ENTERPRISE**  
COMPANY

# Industry Spotlight: Rail Industry



As a town with a major rail network station, a career in the rail industry might seem particularly appealing. The UK as a whole is hugely dependent on its railways with millions of people using the network every day. With the growing desire to tackle climate change, rail is a very green form of transport so investment into the system will continue to grow. This means that the sector will continue to grow. The rail industry has a wide number of job roles so it's not just all about being a train driver. Below we explore just some of the different roles available within the rail industry.

## Rail Engineer

### Role overview:

Engineers help design, construct, maintain and improve railway systems. They ensure that trains can operate safely and efficiently. They work on tracks, signals and the trains themselves.

### Qualification Routes:

- Degree: Civil, mechanical, electrical or other related engineering degree.
- Apprenticeships: Level 3: Rail Engineering Technician  
Level 6: Rail and Rail Systems Engineering
- T Levels: Engineering and Manufacturing
- BTECs: Rail Engineering Technician Specialist

### Salary

Average: £30,016

### Skills Needed:

- Communication
- Good understanding of health and safety
- Teamwork

## Railway Station Employee

### Role overview:

Working on railways platform or in railway offices with a strong emphasis on customer service. Employees greet passengers and help with enquiries. The role is varied from helping to sell tickets, to making passenger announcements and answering general queries.

### Qualification Routes:

- No specific qualifications are required for this role but employers will expect a good standard of English and maths and may value previous customer service or retail experience.

### Salary

Entry-Level Salary: £24,000

Experienced Salary: £40,000+

### Skills Needed:

- Excellent communication
- Calm under pressure
- Adaptability

## Train Conductor

### Role overview:

Ensures safe and comfortable passenger journeys by checking tickets, answering questions, making announcements, and ensuring the train is ready for departure, while also dealing with any issues that arise during the trip.

### Qualification Routes:

- While there are no specific, mandatory entry qualifications to become a train conductor in the UK, employers generally expect a good standard of English and maths, and may test communication and customer service skills during the interview process.

### Salary

Entry-Level Salary: £23,000

Experienced Salary: £36,000+

### Skills Needed:

- Strong customer service
- Excellent communication
- Calm under pressure

## Railway Operations

### Role overview:

Encompasses a wide array of roles and activities necessary to ensure the safe and efficient movement of trains and rail traffic, including infrastructure maintenance, signalling, control, and customer service.

### Qualification Routes:

- Degree: BSc Railway Operations Management
- Apprenticeships: Level 3: Railway Infrastructure Operations

### Salary

Entry-Level Salary: £24,000

Experienced Salary: £48,000-£50,000+

### Skills Needed:

- Problem solving
- Attention to detail
- Adaptability

## Train Driver

### Role overview:

Primary responsibility is to safely and efficiently operate a train, following routes, schedules, and regulations, while ensuring passenger safety and comfort.

### Qualification Routes:

- You do not need a specific academic qualification but will be expected to have a good standard of English and maths at GCSE level. You will need to pass extensive training to be able to drive a train but to also understand the industry regulations. You will also need to take and pass medical and psychometric tests.

### Salary

Entry-Level Salary: £30,000

Experienced Salary: £65,000+

### Skills Needed:

- Focus and concentration
- Attention to detail
- Calm under pressure



# THANK YOU

We hope you have enjoyed this half term's careers newsletter  
#TeamPeake.

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