

Message from 26th September 2025

Mr O'Sullivan

Secondary school marks one of the most significant journeys in a young person's life. For students in the UK, the transition from primary school into Year 7 begins a formative period that lasts until the age of 16—and often beyond. During these years, students are not only

challenged academically but also encouraged to grow as individuals, building the skills, resilience, and character that will carry them into adulthood.

From the outset, secondary school provides a structured curriculum that broadens and deepens students' knowledge. In Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9), pupils are introduced to a wide range of subjects: English, mathematics, sciences, humanities, the arts, and modern languages. This breadth allows them to discover their strengths and passions while developing core literacy and numeracy skills.

As students progress into Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11), they begin to specialise by choosing GCSE subjects. This decision-making process is often a milestone in itself, encouraging pupils to reflect on their interests and aspirations. Academic growth during these years is not simply about mastering content; it is about learning how to learn—acquiring study habits, time management, and the resilience to tackle more demanding assessments.

Schools also play a vital role in ensuring that all students, regardless of background, are supported to achieve their potential; through targeted interventions, pastoral care, and enrichment opportunities, secondary education aims to narrow gaps in attainment and open doors to further study or employment.

The journey through secondary school is therefore about much more than academic achievement.

Alongside academic progress, secondary school is a place where young people develop their identity, values, and social confidence. They learn how to form friendships, resolve conflicts, and work collaboratively. Extra-curricular activities—sports teams, music groups, drama productions, and clubs—provide vital opportunities to explore interests, develop talents, and build self-esteem.

Pastoral systems ensure that students are supported not only in their studies but also in their emotional and social well-being. Assemblies, tutor time, and mentoring programmes reinforce values such as respect, responsibility, and resilience. Schools also encourage pupils to take on leadership roles—whether as prefects, peer mentors, or participants in student councils—helping them to find their voice and contribute positively to the school community.

By the time they leave secondary school, students are not the same people who walked nervously through the gates in Year 7. They leave as young adults, equipped with qualifications, but more importantly with the confidence, independence, and adaptability to face the challenges ahead.

The journey through secondary school is therefore about much more than academic achievement. It is about helping every student grow into a thoughtful, capable, and compassionate individual—ready to contribute to society and pursue their dreams.

As I walked around the school Harvey in Year 13 spoke to me about his latest piece of Artwork. I won't go into the inspiration behind it, but it did make me reflect on his educational journey. Some of you may remember a piece of his artwork from KS3 that we displayed in an old edition of our newsletter. Both pieces of work have their merits, but the grandness of his Year 13 piece is very reflective of his own development as a person. Well done, Harvey.

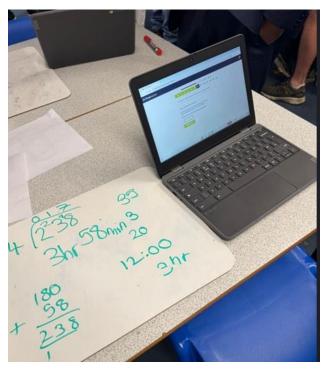


Open Evening - 25th September 2025

Last night's Open Evening was a resounding success, with over 1,000 parents and children visiting the school to explore everything we have to offer. Every department came together to showcase a vibrant array of interactive activities—from hands-on science experiments and creative arts displays to engaging language games and live performances. The sports hall was buzzing with energy as students and visitors took part in athletic challenges and demonstrations. The atmosphere throughout the evening was warm, welcoming, and full of excitement, reflecting the dedication of our staff and the enthusiasm of our guests. It was a fantastic celebration of our school community and the opportunities we provide.























Less technology, better attendance

We aim for every student's attendance to be at 96% or above!

We are sure that you are aware of the ongoing discussions across the country, and even within parliament, regarding students and their use of mobile phones. This is an important topic that affects our children's health and academic performance.

Our school attendance team, along with the PLUS team, has been engaging in regular discussions with students. Many of them have shared that they are on their mobile phones until late in the evening. This habit is leading to late bedtimes and poor-quality sleep, which in turn affects their focus and performance in lessons.

To help our students achieve better sleep and improve their focus in school, we encourage parents to take the following steps:

- 1. **Limit Screen Time:** Set a reasonable limit on the amount of time your child spends on their mobile phone each day.
- 2. **Create a Plan:** Work with your child to agree on a plan for mobile phone use, including specific times when they should put their phones away.

3. **No Charging in Bedrooms**: Do not allow mobile phones to be charged in bedrooms overnight. This simple step can significantly reduce the temptation to use devices late into the night.

By working together, we can help our students develop healthier habits that will benefit their sleep, focus, and overall well-being.



Stay Connected – Follow us on Instagram

We'd love our families to stay connected and celebrate student life at Turing House. Follow our four official Instagram accounts for updates, achievements, and everyday moments from across the school:

- · @turinghouse
- @humanities ths
- @performing_ths
- @sport ths

Join us online and be part of the Turing House story!



Action Breaks Silence workshop

Last year, we worked closely with the educational charity Action Breaks Silence (learn more here: <u>Action Breaks Silence UK | Educational Charity - London</u>) who came into school to deliver excellent workshops to all girls from Year 9 to Year 13 on Empowerment Through Self-Defence.

We're excited to share that they will be running a free workshop at Turing House School on **Sunday 12th October 2025, from 10am-2pm**, for mothers/carers and daughters to attend together. The workshop aims to prevent abusive and violent behaviour against women and girls, by breaking down myths around 'stranger danger' and building confidence in individual capacity. The feedback we received from all our students who took part in the workshop last year was incredibly positive, with girls speaking about feeling safer and more confident; having attended their workshop personally, I can also vouch for how interesting, effective and fun it was.

Due to our close connection to the charity, they have reserved spaces for Turing House students in Years 7 and 8, for mothers and daughters to attend the workshop together. If you would like to attend the workshop as a mother-daughter pair, please use this link to complete a booking form to let us know, so we can ensure you have a space reserved:

https://forms.office.com/e/70zHnPAcxd

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Mrs Collins



Year 8 Maths Trip to Bletchley Park

We're thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for all Year 8 students to visit the historic Bletchley Park – the home of British codebreaking during WWII! Students will explore the famous Codebreaking Huts and discover how mathematics helped shape history.

This enriching curriculum trip promises hands-on learning, historical intrigue, and a chance to test out some codebreaking skills of their own!

Departing: 8:15am

Approx. 4:00pm

Payment: £32 via ParentPay by Monday 29th September

We can't wait for our Year 8s to enjoy this fantastic day!



Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge



Last week, some Year 10 students took part in the **Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge**, the UK's largest public speaking programme for young people. Delivered by **Speakers Trust** and supported by the **Jack Petchey Foundation**, the initiative empowers students to find their voice, build confidence, and speak passionately on issues that matter to them.

After a dynamic and jam-packed in-school workshop, each student delivered a speech about a topic they feel particularly passionate about. Students will then be selected to represent our school at the **regional final**, joining peers from across London and Essex. The event showcases powerful speeches on identity, resilience, and social change. A huge shoutout to the following students for their outstanding and passionate delivery: Eva, Ilyas, Jameson, Reyansh, Lucian, Daisy, Holly, Christian, Caoimhe, and Florence. Well done, all!

TFL travel for Life Gold Level Accreditation

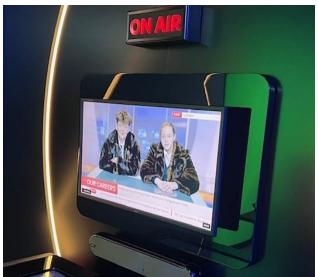


Turing House School are proud to announce that we have retained TfL Travel for Life Gold Level Accreditation. All credit must go towards our TfL Pioneer Ambassadors who were passionate about making a difference to our school and community. If you haven't already seen, check out our new website page 'Travelling to Turing House School' which gives you a glimpse into the work they have done this year, and how this leadership role provides them with key skills such as leadership, communication, team work, and public speaking.

The King's Trust

This week the King's Trust groups had an amazing 'World of Work' day at Sky. They toured their incredible 'village' with 7,000 employees, 18 restaurants, fitness facilities, supermarket and so many different studios and workstations. Sky News was being filmed live in the glass studio above our heads, and we saw people arriving to watch a film in their onsite cinema! We took part in a workshop where the students all had different roles putting together a news broadcast - Director, Producer, Presenters, Camera person, Editor, Voice over artist. They decided on the content, green screen, entered details into the teleprompter, chose the wardrobe (not sure why our Director was in a pink wig!), rehearsed and then filmed their content. It was edited together with 3 other groups' work and then we watched the whole news report back. We then took part in a Careers challenge workshop learning about the enormous variety of roles at Sky, the skills needed for them and thought about what skills we could bring to a role at Sky. The morning ended with lunch and an interesting Q&A with the Head of Internal Communications learning about her career path and role at Sky. It was an inspiring trip!







Free dental check ups for children

Free dental check ups for children at Perfect Smile Ham

We're pleased to share that Perfect Smile Ham is offering free NHS dental appointments for children under 16 years old as part of a new NHS dental pilot.

Good oral health is essential for children's overall health, confidence, and development. Regular dental check-ups help to prevent problems early and encourage positive dental habits from a young age.

To book your child's free check up and find out more information, please contact the practice on 020 8948 4085

Five tips for overcoming your fear of the dentist.



Turing House Friends

Turing House Friends: join us!

We know that as your children get older, it can sometimes feel like there are fewer ways to stay involved in their school lives. Turing House Friends (THF) is here to help with that!



Who are Turing House Friends?

We're parents and other supporters who share ideas and volunteer to bring something special to school life. We meet every half term to plan activities and chat. Every parent is welcome to join our meetings—whether you want to volunteer or have questions about school life or simply want to meet other parents.

You may already know us:

- The state of the present the present the present the present the state of the state
- 🎭 If you bought a drink before the THS Drama production of Bugsy Malone
- 🌭 If you had a hot dog or mulled cider at Teddington Lights Up last November
- If you've seen the new table tennis table and wall art around the school

...that was us!

Why Your Involvement Matters

While your child is gaining independence, your connection to the school is still important. By getting involved, you help create positive experiences and provide essential funding that makes a real difference in their education. It's also a fantastic way to meet other parents, get to know the school from a different perspective, and have a direct voice in how we support our students.

Please join us at our first meeting of the year:

Date: Wednesday 1st October

• Time: 6-7 pm

· Location: At the school

Stay in touch with THF

If you have any question please email us at thf@turinghouseschool.org.uk Everyone is welcome to join our THF WhatsApp Group. Our ideas, discussion and projects are born here - you can become part of Turing House bright school life

PE notices

Year 9 Girls Netball v Teddington

The Year 9 girls took to the netball court last week for their first game of the season. They hosted Teddington, a strong side who were equally as eager to get their hands on the ball. The Turing team were not willing to give up possession easily, however, and a close battle played out over four quarters. The visitors managed to edge their way into the lead, which was taken once more by THS, but it wasn't long until Teddington got themselves ahead with only a few minutes of play remaining which was enough to take a narrow win. Netball club runs every Monday and the girls will look to develop their skills and drills throughout the term and showcase them in competitive matches. Well done to all involved!



Year 10/11 Girls Netball v Teddington

As the Year 9 girls were playing their match, the Year 10 and 11 girls also took on Teddington at home. Hoping to get their Richmond league campaign off to a winning start, the Turing team gave their all and pushed the opposition in offensive areas of the court. With just one substitute, the girls did a great job at keeping themselves in the match but the demanding strain this had on the team understandably started to show as Teddington began to run away with the match. THS continued to do what they could to stay in the fight but too big a margin on the scoreboard had opened up and the visitors claimed this first win of the season. The girls will be back in action next week when they take on Twickenham. Well done to all involved!



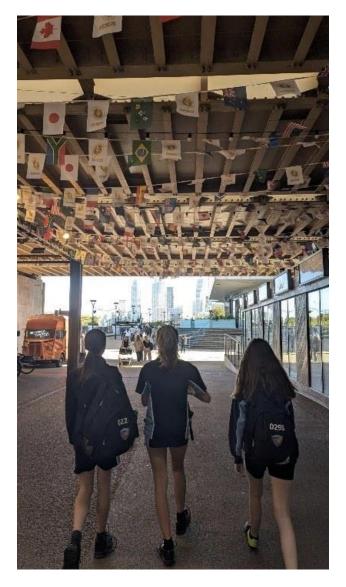
Girls T1 Rugby at the Women's Rugby World Cup Fan Zone

A team of Year 8 and 9 girls travelled to Battersea Power Station on Thursday for an afternoon of T1 rugby, which is a version of touch rugby. The tournament was run by rugby organisers from the London Youth Games and used the Women's Rugby World Cup Fan Zone at the power station as the venue. The Turing team played brilliantly. The Women's World Cup final takes place at Twickenham on Saturday, which features England who take on Canada. The Red Roses are hoping to be crowned world champions for the first time since they last won it in 2014, and the first time ever on home soil.









Year 11 Boys Football v Richmond Park Academy

The Year 11 boys began their Richmond league this week as they hosted Richmond Park Academy on the football pitch. These two teams are well acquainted by now and both sides looked to make the better start. Neither was willing to allow the other into the game, until the visitors took a lead late on in the first half. The Turing team scored to make it level again, raising hopes of finding a winner before full time. RPA were the ones who came out on top, however, as they scooped up a loose ball and capitalised with a goal to take a 2-1 win. The boys will be back in action next week for their next game against St Richard Reynolds. Well done to all involved!

Homelink donations



