



# Bankside College

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## Newsletter: 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

We are absolutely delighted to welcome you back to Bankside College after what we hope was a restful and joyful summer break. Whether you're returning for another exciting year or joining us for the first time, we're thrilled to have you as part of our vibrant College community.

This new academic year brings fresh opportunities to learn, grow, and shine. Our classrooms are ready, our teachers are eager, and our corridors are buzzing with anticipation. We know that each of you brings something unique to our college, and we can't wait to see the creativity, curiosity, and courage you'll share with us this year.

As we begin this journey together, remember: every challenge is a chance to grow, every lesson is a step forward, and every day is a new beginning. Let's support one another, celebrate our successes, and make this year one to remember.

Welcome back, Bankside – let's make it brilliant!

Kate and all the Bankside Team

### Important Dates

#### **Autumn Term**

**Autumn Term:** 3rd September 2025 – 19th December 2025

**Half Term:** 27th October 2025 – 31st October 2025

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October:** Parents Evening

Please note that our TED day is the **21<sup>st</sup> of November**

[COLLEGE-TERM-DATES-25-26.pdf](#)

## 5 Dangers of Online Gaming



**Keeping Safe While Playing Online Games:** Online gaming has become increasingly popular among young people, offering a platform for entertainment, socialising, and skill development. However, it's essential to be aware of potential risks and take necessary precautions to ensure a safe gaming experience. Here are a few tips to share with your young person:

- 1) *Choose age-appropriate games:* Encourage your young person to play games suitable for their age group, as they often have content and interactions tailored to their level of maturity.
- 2) *Understand the game's features:* Familiarise yourself with the game your young person is playing. Some games may include chat functions or in-app purchases, so make sure you are aware of these features and set appropriate boundaries.
- 3) Encourage your young person to come to you if they encounter any uncomfortable situations, cyberbullying, or inappropriate content while gaming. Establishing trust and open communication will help them seek support when needed.

**2. Managing Screen Time Effectively:** With the proliferation of digital devices, managing screen time has become a concern for many families. Striking a balance between online activities and other aspects of life is essential for the wellbeing of our young people. Here are a few strategies you can implement:

- 1) *Set clear guidelines:* Establish clear rules regarding screen time, such as time limits for gaming, homework priorities, and device-free zones, such as meal times and bedtime. Consistency and communication are key.
- 2) *Encourage alternative activities:* Encourage your young person to participate in a variety of offline activities, such as sports, hobbies, reading, or spending time with friends and family. Help them discover other interests beyond the digital world.
- 3) *Use parental control tools:* Utilize parental control features on devices and gaming platforms to limit access to age-inappropriate content and manage screen time effectively. These tools can be valuable in maintaining a healthy digital balance.

*We will also share some guidance posters to help you understand the risks of online gaming and communications and how to set up parental controls on your young person's Apple and Android devices.*

## Parent Communication.

Emails will continue to be sent via outlook or iSams. iSams emails are still having a tendency to appear in junk folders so please check these periodically. We still request we are made aware of any absences by emailing [info@banksidecollege.co.uk](mailto:info@banksidecollege.co.uk) or by calling 01684 649722 before 9am.

# JO'S FUNDRAISER FOR W.B.H.U

## CAN YOU ELP ME RAISE 1K?

This summer I am stepping right out of my comfort zone and taking part in some personal challenges to raise money for the Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven, a fantastic charity that has given me much needed and invaluable support over the past year.

I am going to be taking part in a Skydive at Hinton Airfield in Oxford, hiking the Yorkshire 3 peaks in 12 hours and running in the Worcester 10k city run.

Every penny raised will go directly to the Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven a local charity that relies entirely on public donations and provides practical and emotional support for Breast Cancer Patients across Worcestershire in addition to running vital support groups and funding physical activities to assist with the recovery from Breast Cancer. Every donation goes towards making sure no one faces Breast Cancer alone.

Donations/sponsorship can be made by scanning the QR code below which will take you to my Just Giving page.



Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven  
Supporting breast cancer patients in Worcestershire

### CHALLENGE YOURSELF WITH OUR SKY DIVE

**SUNDAY 11 MAY & SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER\***

RAISE £500 FOR OUR CHARITY & WE WILL PAY FOR YOUR SKYDIVE (£230PP) OR SELF FUND AND SET YOUR OWN FUNDRAISING TARGET.

\*OTHER DATES CAN BE BOOKED.

EMAIL [CLARE.STOKES3@NHS.NET](mailto:CLARE.STOKES3@NHS.NET) FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK.

All donations big or small gratefully received. Thank you for your support.



SCAN ME



Alternative link if you can't scan the QR code

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/jojoanne-martin-1?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/jojoanne-martin-1?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

## Options Autism Podcast – Autism Unpacked

There are now 9 episodes available to watch/listen to discussing different topics around Autism. Please follow the link and you can see what each episode covers.

[Autism Unpacked Podcast - Options Autism](#)

