



Bankside College

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Newsletter: October 2025 (2)

Visible Consistency, Visible Kindness

Hello all, thank you so much to those that were able to participate in parents/carers evening – it is great to have you all on board with us and to keep that open communication. If you were unable to attend, please do get in touch with your students tutor (if you haven't already) to arrange a phone call update.

We have one more week left of this half term and it has been a busy one with students settling in, building rapports with staff and students and developing a sense of accomplishment. We have seen lesson attendance and engagement increase as students settle and understand the expectations of Bankside College.

We hope you all enjoy you're the half term and we look forward to welcoming the students back for the second half.

We hope you have a restful weekend.



Important Dates

Autumn Term

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

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

Friday 14th November: Children in Need; students are in the process of deciding what to do.

Please note that our TED day is the **21st of November not 28th November 2025.**

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

Just as a reminder we are a **NO NUT** College, we have a number of students who have allergies, this includes for some students, coconut allergy, please be mindful of students using sprays or body lotions as they can be sensitive to this.

Our Clinical Offer

Bankside College has access to in-house multi-professional support from the clinical team. Support is given at different levels in the OFG Clinical Pyramid. This differentiates the levels of clinical therapeutic support according to the strengths, differences, traits and needs profile of every individual.

- **All** individuals in our services receive support at the universal level as part of OFGs focus on creating holistic, therapeutic environments in which individuals can thrive and progress towards achieving their potential.
- **Groups** of individuals in our services may require more focussed support for a period of time to meet need.
- Some **individuals** in our services may require more specialist direct support for a period of time to meet need.

At the provision for all level at Bankside College, the Clinical Team work in the following ways:

- AAD and TIP clinical training, and other whole-college training that is specific to the cohort of the service, such as Language for Behaviour and Emotion, Comic Strip Conversations, Emotionally Based School (College) Avoidance, Supporting Bereavement in Education.
- Multi-modal communication approaches
- Adapted environments (sensory and inclusive communication friendly environments)
- Clinically informed policies, standards, guidance and procedures
- Gathering baseline information at admission and referral point (i.e. EHCP review, available records, parent/carers and Education Team views) and basic screening to identify clinical need, put general supports in place or to identify further group or individual involvement
- General clinical guidance and advice
- Clinically informed student documents (Communication Profile, My Sensory World)
- Collaboration with education team on goal & target setting for EHCP's
- Critical incident response around any whole school incident

As your young adult moves through their time at Bankside, they will likely access different levels of the clinical offer, and this will be communicated with you as this changes.



Safeguarding

Technology is an integral part of today's generation - it has transformed the way they learn, play, connect and communicate.

But these opportunities don't come without risk. People may [experience abuse online](#) and they may be [exposed to harmful content](#), and this can have a long-lasting impact on their wellbeing.

Every person deserves to be, and to feel, safe online. And we can all play a role in helping make online spaces safer for everyone by:

- Talking about anything worrying they experience online
- Recognising how important the online world is and talking about it
- Making sure online safety is an ongoing topic of conversation
- Setting expectation for the use of online platforms
- Helping people understand and manage their privacy settings online

Take a listen to hosts Chris Cloke and Gawain Griffiths (NSPCC) podcast where they discuss the issues and measures to put in place: [Podcast: enhancing online safety for children | NSPCC Learning](#)



If you have **any** concerns, no matter how small you may think they are, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our safeguarding team.

DSL: Kerry O'Brien

DDSL: Kate Jasper

TIP & AAD

A reminder for everyone that Bankside is a Trauma informed Practice, we focused on the three C's which are explained below:





Bankside also operate the Ask, Accept, Develop strategy. The main objective of the Autism Strategy is to strengthen and continually progress our approach to the provision of care, education and clinical services to autistic individuals in an environment which is conducive to their strengths and needs. More information on this can be found here: [Autism Strategy AAD Leaflet v2.pdf](#)

Updates

Pedro the Scarecrow 1st place!

Scare Crow Festival; Pedro won 1st place at the St. Johns church Scare Crow Festival, he will arrive back at Bankside soon!



UK Plans to Ban Energy Drink Sales to Under-16s: What Students Need to Know:

Although our students are over 16, it is important to bring to your attention that the government is planning a new ban that would stop shops and online retailers from selling high-caffeine energy drinks to anyone under the age of 16.

This decision follows growing concerns from health experts about how these drinks affect young people's sleep, focus, behaviour, and even long-term health, more information can be found [here!](#)

These energy drinks include: Monster, Red Bull, Relentless and Prime (not the caffeine-free version) – anything with more than 150 mg of caffeine per litre would be included in the ban. This does not include tea, coffee, or regular fizzy drinks like Coke.

Important facts:

- Some people consume too much caffeine without realising it.
- High levels of caffeine are linked to poor sleep, increased anxiety, and concentration problems.
- Some energy drinks contain more caffeine than three cans of Coke — in just one serving!
- Over time, too many sugary drinks can also lead to obesity, diabetes, and dental problems.