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Summer Term 2025

Update from the Head Teacher



Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

As we come to the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the past few months and share some of the exciting things happening at Sutton House Academy. Since joining as Interim Executive Headteacher in February, it has been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and welcoming school community. I have seen great progress, improved routines, and a growing sense of pride in our school.

We are especially proud to report an improvement in pupil attendance across the academy. This is a key area for success, and it's encouraging to see pupils arriving more regularly and ready to learn.

Looking ahead, we are investing in our school environment to make it even more engaging and supportive for pupils. Over the summer holidays, we will be installing a brand-new Astro turf pitch and outdoor gym equipment. These fantastic additions will be ready for use in September and will provide our pupils with exciting opportunities to stay active, build confidence and enjoy break times together in a healthier and more structured way.

We're also very excited to be introducing Cubbie to Sutton House Academy. Cubbie is a state-of-the-art sensory regulation system that helps pupils manage anxiety, improve focus, and feel calm and ready to learn. Some of our pupils have already had the chance to try it out and gave very positive feedback. From September, we will be using Cubbie more widely across the school as part of our commitment to supporting mental health and wellbeing.

I would also like to take a moment to wish our Year 11 pupils the very best of luck as they move on to the next stage of their lives. Whether they are starting college,

apprenticeships or new training opportunities, we are proud of their achievements and the progress they have made.

Thank you to all our staff for their continued hard work and commitment. Their dedication to our pupils through teaching, mentoring, support and care makes a real difference every day. Thank you also to all the families, carers and external partners we work with. Your support is vital, and we truly value your ongoing involvement in the life of our school.

I hope you all have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back in September to begin another exciting year at Sutton House Academy.

Warm regards,

Mr E. Muca (Landi)

Interim Executive Headteacher

Primary – Rainbow Class



This term in Rainbow, students have been developing their understanding of time through a range of scaffolded learning activities. We've focused on key concepts such as the days of the week, months of the year, and the number of days in a week and in each month. Using analogue clocks, students have begun to show understanding around o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to, as well as 5-minute intervals on the clock.

Through engaging lessons and practical activities, students have been learning to relate time to real-life situations. They've enjoyed estimating and discussing how long different activities take, helping them make meaningful connections to their everyday routines.

It's been wonderful to see the students grow in confidence as they share their understanding and participate in hands-on learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom.

In English, the focus has been understanding our reading, with a comprehension focus. For the students who struggle with their reading, they have had the opportunity to show their understanding with the texts being read with them. Their reading has been challenged with questions being answered with both verbal and written responses. It has been fantastic to see their confidence grow with both their reading and their English skills in general.

Primary – Star Class

Our Star Primary pupils have had an exciting and action-packed term filled with learning, creativity and adventure!

In Maths, the children have been developing their number skills by learning how to tell the time, explore decimals and fractions, and confidently add three-digit numbers. Their growing confidence with numbers has been fantastic to see!

In English, pupils have explored a range of poems and even had the chance to write their own. From rhyming verses to descriptive imagery, the children's creativity and imagination have truly shone through.



In Food Technology, the children have been busy in the kitchen, learning new skills and trying out delicious recipes. They have made fruit salad, apple crumble, brownies and cookies — and thoroughly enjoyed tasting their hard work too!

Beyond the classroom, pupils have loved their visits to the farm, where they helped care for the animals and even had the chance to ride horses. Another highlight was the exciting trip to Tropical Wings, where they explored the exotic animals and had lots of fun.



Well done to all our pupils for a brilliant term — we're proud of everything you've achieved!

Phonics

This term, our pupils have been making fantastic progress in their Read Write Inc and Fresh Start phonics lessons. They've been getting to know all their sounds, including Set 1, Set 2 and Set 3, and it's been wonderful to hear their reading fluency grow as a result.

We're particularly proud of the way pupils have been moving steadily through the steps of the programme, building confidence and accuracy in both their reading and writing. Those taking part in phonics interventions have also benefited from daily 1:1 session, which have made a real difference to their progress.

The dedication and enthusiasm shown by the children has been brilliant, and we look forward to seeing them continue to thrive in their phonics learning next year!

Primary – Enrichment Program



As part of our enrichment program, students have continued to enjoy regular visits to the farm—an experience that has been both educational and rewarding. During these sessions, students have had the opportunity to wash, prepare, and ride horses, gaining hands-on experience and confidence around animals.

In addition to their work with the horses, students have also built valuable knowledge around animal welfare, learning how to care for sheep, tortoises, goats, and rabbits. These practical experiences have deepened their understanding of animal needs and behaviours.

Student behaviour during the visits has been consistently positive, with high levels of engagement and participation. These farm sessions have not only enhanced learning but also fostered a strong sense of responsibility and empathy towards animals.



SEND



This year has been an exciting one at our school, with lots of new pupils joining us and even more

new starters due to begin in September. All our new children have now completed their transitions, and we are looking forward to officially welcoming them into our school community. We're sure you will all join us in giving them a warm welcome!

We've also had some exciting new developments and opportunities this year. One of these has been the introduction of Verbo, a fantastic tool that enables staff to screen pupils for speech and language needs. This helps us identify children who may benefit from additional support. From September, we will be launching targeted interventions to help those pupils, ensuring their individual needs are met.

Another exciting addition to our school is the installation of The Cubbie – a sensory pod designed to provide a calming, immersive environment for pupils who may need a break from the busy classroom. The Cubbie uses sound, light and visuals to create a personalised sensory experience to help pupils self-regulate and refocus. We will soon be scheduling regular sessions to ensure this vital piece of equipment is well utilised, supporting pupils' well-being and, in turn, their learning.



We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers who have attended their child's EHCP annual review this year. It has been a pleasure to talk about the progress and achievements of your children, and we truly value your input and collaboration.

As always, we continue to build strong foundations and support every pupil who attends our school. We are so proud of everything they have achieved this year and would like to celebrate their positive attitude, resilience and growth.

Here's to another fantastic year ahead!

Reach Class

Reach had had a fabulous summer term with a range of learning and enrichment opportunities!

In English, we have been exploring the book 'A Monster Calls' where we looked at characters, settings and the emotions of the main character Conor – we even tried some tricky exam style questions and did amazing! In Maths, we've been wrapping up our knowledge with lessons on time, money and statistics – ready to learn new skills and build on our current one's next year.



In Science we got incredibly invested in our experiments, especially when we tested the effects of acids on enamel, using eggs! The class were amazed at how the eggs turned out and discussed their scientific reasoning with enthusiasm! In Art we made sculptures from a range of materials and in Geography, we learned about habitats and natural disasters. This led to a lesson of intense focus and collaboration in which we made our amazing dioramas of the Amazon Rainforest!



We've also enjoyed regular trips to Combat Academy learning about Boxing and fitness with their wonderful coaches!

Reach Out



Reach Out has had a fabulous Summer Term with lots of learning and exciting enrichment opportunities, such as Combat where they learnt fitness skills and visiting the Beach where the PE ball tried to

escape across the estuary but was rescued! Our pupils were respectful and polite and represented Sutton House Academy with pride.

In English, we developed our fictional writing skills by including a wide variety of language devices in our descriptive writing. We looked at an image of a mysterious place for inspiration to write an extract about an event that cannot be explained. We also revisited varied punctuation to enhance writing.



This supported us with Non-Fiction writing as we prepared for GCSE and Functional Skills exams. In Maths we revised different methods to solve problems using all 4 operations. We made digital clocks to practise reading the time accurately, and to convert time between analogue and digital clocks. We also practised for the Year 11 GCSE and Year 10 Functional skills exams by visiting previous papers.



Humanities: In Art, pupils researched their favourite artist. Pupils presented their work to the class. Artists varied from singers and digital artists to famous actors and composers. In

Geography, Reach Out went on a visual tour from Land's End to John O'Groats. Each pupil had to understand and use numerical data, described the landscapes from photos in their research, use maps and include facts and historical information about different cities to participate in the 'journey'. It was wonderful to hear about some of the fun things to do and experience, and see beautiful, varied landscapes of the British Isles.

In Activity Passport, we researched different types of fossils and made Fathers' Day bracelets with fossils that are over 157 million years old! We also investigated what a plant needs to grow, what happens in the different stages e.g. germination and the meaning of the abbreviation MRS NERG: The characteristics of living things. We planted a variety of seeds, from vegetables to edible flowers and even avocado tree pips! We are sure to enjoy caring for our lovely Reach Out garden.



At King Pins, we had a great time as we celebrated our continuous hard work. We also wished our Year 11 pupils from Reach out good luck with their future. Well done to Alex St who had an impressive highest pupils' score! We said goodbye to them enjoying a double chocolate cake with double chocolate sprinkles, decorated with double chocolates! The pupils of Reach Out are true superstars!

Reach Plus

This half term Reach plus have been focusing on a range of engaging activities which include groupwork, paired activities and making some tasty treats in Food Technology.



In Maths the students worked in pairs to analyse some 3D shape models, count the edges, vertices and faces then compare each type and group them to show their similarities and differences. Students then used their models to draw and add colour to a range of cuboids.

In English students have enjoyed the Royal family topic where they have written a Royal menu, produced a fact page and carried out an activity which involved reading some detailed step by step instructions to make a Red Arrows game to share with the rest of the class.

Reach Plus have been fortunate enough to visit the local combat centre where they had a chance to use a range of fitness machines then participate in some great combat activities which involved using the punching bag, working as a team and having fun together whilst learning about the importance of fitness and a healthy lifestyle.

In Food Technology students followed a recipe and made meringues topped with fruit of their choice. They had the opportunity to whisk and use the piping bag to make a shape and then bake in the oven and enjoy!



English

Year 11 – A Fond Farewell

This term, we've said a heartfelt goodbye to our wonderful Year 11s, a cohort that has been both hard-working and deeply cherished. They finished on a high note, with every student successfully completing and passing their Speaking and Listening module. Most also sat both English Language Papers 1 and 2, and we were thrilled to see the vast majority attempting all questions with confidence. We now eagerly await results and remain hopeful for a fantastic set of outcomes that reflect their effort and resilience.

Key Stage 4 – Exploring Climate and Communication

This term's theme across KS4 has been Ecology and Climate Change—a powerful and thought-provoking topic that has sparked some excellent discussion and analysis. Students explored a range of non-fiction texts, including websites, newspaper articles, and speeches, examining how language is used to inform, persuade, and provoke action. They've also crafted their own responses, building skills in writing and critical thinking. These activities have played a key role in preparing them for their Functional Skills Reading and Writing exams at Level 1 or 2. All Year 10 students sat these



exams in late June, and we're now eagerly awaiting the results.

Key Stage 3 – Journeys Around the World

KS3 students have been travelling the globe—through reading! This term's focus was World Travel, a theme chosen to broaden horizons and spark curiosity about different cultures, traditions, and ways of life. Through stories, travel writing, and comprehension tasks, students have developed their reading fluency and understanding of diverse texts. The unit has also provided a meaningful context for spelling and vocabulary work, as learners encountered new and exciting words from across the world. By exploring travel and discovery, students have not only improved their literacy skills but have also begun to see reading as a window into the wider world.

Maths

The summer term has been a busy and productive one for maths at Sutton House Academy. Our Year 11 students showed real determination as they focused on revision and gave their best efforts in their exams. We're incredibly proud of their hard work and look forward to celebrating their achievements on Results Day, Thursday 21st August 2025.

In Key Stage 3, KS3A have been working on a range of individual topics, including fractions, measures, and statistics. They've shown great focus and perseverance in completing their tasks. Meanwhile, KS3B took on the challenge of algebra this half term. Although many



were initially nervous, their confidence quickly grew, and they soon began working independently—an impressive achievement for the group.

Our KS4 groups have been tackling some challenging maths topics this term, including standard form, operations, and equations involving directed numbers. These areas can be tricky, but pupils have shown outstanding dedication and resilience in their learning. We're also proud to share that several Year 10 pupils recently sat their Functional Skills Maths exams at both Level 1 and Level 2. While we await the results, we are already incredibly proud of their effort, commitment, and the progress they have made.



Art

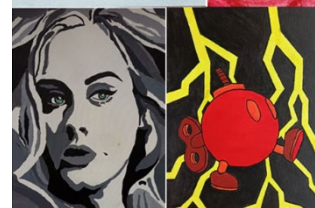
Primary

The primary pupils have enjoyed practicing their fine motor skills in art; they have used different materials to create sculptures. They all decided that modelling a 3-dimensional head was the hardest thing to do.



Secondary

This half term secondary pupils have been working hard on their brush skills while completing their large-scale canvas paintings. It was a long process for them but they each showed resilience by returning to it repeatedly until their pieces reached a level, they felt proud of.



Food Technology

Flour, Fire & Flavour – A Tasty Year in Food Tech!



It's been a deliciously busy year in Food Technology, and our pupils have truly cooked up a storm! Across all year groups, we've explored a wide range of culinary techniques, nutritional concepts, and cultural cuisines. Here's a round-up of the exciting lessons and tasty projects that took place in the Food Tech room this year:

Our KS3 started their food tech journey by learning essential kitchen skills – from knife safety to how to read a recipe. They impressed us with their ability to

make fruit salads, pasta dishes, and healthy fast-food alternatives. By the end of the term, they were confidently preparing their own dishes, and altering the recipes to suit their own food choices, they do love a little bit of chilli.

NCFE level 1 and 2 Food Preparation & Nutrition and B Tec pupils

Our NCFE and B Tec pupils took their culinary knowledge to the next level. They tackled complex dishes, practiced plating skills, and investigated topics such as food provenance, special diets, and food safety.



A major milestone this year was their EA (Exam Assessment) Practical Exam, where students showcased their skills in a timed two or three-course meal challenge. From perfectly cooked pizzas and lasagne to braised lamb and roast chicken dinners to elegant cheesecakes and stunning strawberry shortcakes and mouth-watering chocolate brownies, the results were nothing short of outstanding.

Teacher shoutout: "Their creativity, precision, and passion were on full display."

End of Term Trips



This term, our students have had the chance to take part in a fantastic range of reward trips, including Adventure Island, Colchester Zoo, Call of the Wild outdoor adventure, Beach Day & Bowling trips.

These trips have not only rewarded hard work but have also given students the opportunity to build confidence, social skills, and resilience in new environments.

Rewards and Recognition

We've continued our weekly trips to Oxygen Jump for the top 10 pupils on Sleuth across the school. The excitement and motivation around this reward remain high, and students continue to work hard for their chance to attend.

Additionally, we introduced a new £5 voucher reward system this term—each week, one pupil from Primary, REACH, KS3, and KS4 are selected for going above and

beyond. These small tokens of recognition have made a big impact, encouraging students across all key stages to consistently strive for their best.

Enrichment

Combat Academy (Boxing)



Our long-standing Combat Academy boxing sessions have continued to support pupils in Primary, REACH and Secondary. As always, the sessions have helped students improve focus, discipline, and emotional regulation, with many demonstrating greater

resilience and determination both in and out of the ring.

Nuclear Races

Our pupils have taken on even greater challenges this term as part of the Nuclear Races programme, especially with the warmer weather allowing for more water-based activities.



From muddy obstacle courses to wild water slide, students have pushed themselves physically and mentally, showing brilliant teamwork, courage, and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

Celebrating Year 11



To mark the end of their journey at Sutton House Academy, our Year 11 Secondary pupils were treated to a special leavers' meal at Miller and Carter. This celebration recognised the effort, resilience, and positive behaviour they've shown over their time with us.

It was a well-deserved opportunity for them to reflect on their achievements, enjoy a memorable experience with peers and staff, and look ahead to the next exciting chapter in their lives. Well done to all of our Year 11s—we're proud of everything you've accomplished.

Behaviour

This summer term has seen a strong focus on positive behaviour and engagement across the academy. Pupils have responded well to our structured rewards systems, with the Sleuth Points, weekly vouchers, and enrichment trips all helping to reinforce high expectations and celebrate individual successes.

From everyday classroom conduct to participating in challenging activities like Nuclear Races and Combat Academy, students have shown increased self-regulation, resilience, and respect. Staff have consistently noted improvements in attitude, effort, and cooperation.

We're proud of the progress pupils have made and look forward to building on this positive momentum in the new academic year.

Science

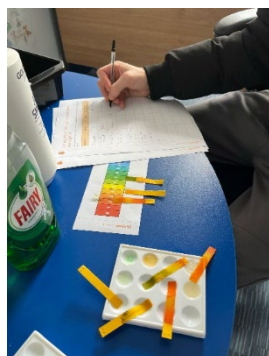


This term, students have been diving into the world of Physics, with a particular focus on exploring forces and developing their understanding of key equations. From classroom discussions to hands-on problem-solving, students have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity.

We've looked closely at the equations for calculating speed, distance travelled, and time—core concepts that help us understand motion in everyday life. Many students have demonstrated a solid grasp of these relationships and applied them confidently in class activities.

It's been encouraging to see students actively participating, asking insightful questions, and engaging in thoughtful discussions. Their willingness to explore ideas and challenge their thinking is a testament to their growing scientific understanding.

The Year 11's have worked through their coursework units with maturity, with a balance of teacher input and independent research, it has been a pleasure to watch their knowledge grow across the three core areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. With Science being



reintroduced only this year, students have engaged well with the qualification and we look forward to seeing their achievements in the Summer.

Pupil Voice



This term pupil voice has had a meeting with Neve and Jess to sit down and help go through every pupil's idea for bronze silver and gold points scheme which will start in September.

They looked through everyone's ideas and helped put them into categories of bronze silver and gold making sure everyone's ideas and what they would like mattered.

Pupil voice also commented about how the behaviour and the leadership in the school had improved and were happy with the changes.

Finally, this term they said goodbye to 2 of our long pupil voice members Alex and Corey where they said their goodbyes and wished them all the best in the future and said thank you for being part of pupil voice.

Sports Science

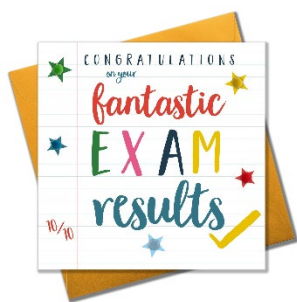
This term has been an incredible journey for our Sport Science students across all year groups, who have demonstrated outstanding hard work, focus, and dedication. Students have consistently shown enthusiasm and commitment to their learning. A particular highlight has been their in-depth work on the world of sports business—students have engaged in learning how a sports business is run, developed creative ideas for their own start-ups, and explored what it takes to succeed in the industry. Their teamwork, critical thinking, and entrepreneurial spirit have truly shone through. Well done to all for such a successful term!

PE

This term in PE, students have been getting stuck into a range of athletics-based sports, building their skills in running, sprinting, throwing, relay, and long jump. It's been great to see so many pupils giving their best effort and showing real improvement each week. A big hit this term has been a brand-new game called Pac Man, created by our very own PE coaches. The game has been a fun and energetic way to build agility and teamwork—and it's safe to say it's become a fan

favourite! Well done to all students for their hard work and enthusiasm this term.

Functional Skills & Exams



As everyone knows, the summer term means that exam season is among us. The Year 11's showed a mature attitude towards their GCSE exams and we were really pleased with their overall efforts. We

wish them the best of luck for their results that will be available on Thursday 21st August from the main school entrance.

Functional Skills have also been attempted this half term for the Year 10's who are preparing for their final year of school. Functional Skills offer staff the opportunity to see the pathway required for all students as Functional Skills 1 are equivalent to a Grade 1-3 GCSE, and Functional Skills Level 2 are equivalent to a Grade 4 at GCSE. If Functional Skills are not achieved, then Entry Level qualifications can be attempted in both English (Reading and Writing) and Maths.

A number of our Year 10 students have attempted exams for the first time to build their understanding around exam expectations and attempting to achieve qualifications prior to starting in Year 11. By accomplishing Functional Skills in Year 10, this allows Year 11 to have a main focus on GCSE qualifications and coursework throughout the year.

To all our students who have undertaken exams this half term, we wish them the best of luck and congratulate them on building the skills and knowledge to attempt exams, which for some is a huge achievement.

Quality of Education

Curriculum

Our curriculum design has been embedded since the spring term and pupils have adapted well to the new lessons and daily structure. At Sutton House Academy, we are excited to share some updates about our curriculum this year. This autumn term, we are introducing ICT (Information and Communication Technology) across all year groups, giving students the opportunity to develop essential digital skills that will support their learning across subjects and prepare them for the future. We are also pleased to announce that science is now a key part of the curriculum for all

year groups, offering hands-on, engaging lessons that encourage curiosity, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of the world around us. These developments reflect our commitment to providing a broad, balanced, and forward-looking education for every pupil. Pupils will spend the last two weeks of this academic year trialling the new timetable in their new groups to ensure it runs smoothly in September. If you have any questions about the timetable, please discuss this with your child's tutor.

Work Scrutiny

This year at Sutton House Academy, our work scrutiny process continues to play a vital role in maintaining high standards of teaching and learning. Organised on a rota basis, staff regularly share and review each other's workbooks to promote collaboration and the sharing of effective practice. The focus of scrutiny remains on key areas that support pupil progress. Scrutiny results have been consistently strong throughout the year being good to outstanding in most subjects. This proforma will continue into next academic year.

Safeguarding

This term, our school has placed a renewed focus on safeguarding and attendance—two crucial pillars of student success and wellbeing. With the full support of staff, pupils, and families, we have already seen significant progress in both areas, reflecting our ongoing commitment to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment for every child.

Safeguarding continues to be at the heart of our school ethos. We are proud to report that staff have been proactive in identifying and addressing potential concerns, while also creating open channels of communication for students to speak freely about their wellbeing. Regular training updates and policy reviews

have ensured that our procedures remain robust and effective.



A highlight this term was the successful Two Johns workshop, attended by both staff and pupils. The Two Johns—nationally respected experts in online safety and child exploitation awareness—delivered a series of engaging sessions tailored to different age groups, as well as a professional development session for staff.



Pupils responded positively, praising the workshops for being eye-opening, relevant, and approachable. They gained practical knowledge about online safety, the importance of healthy relationships, and how to navigate the digital world responsibly. Staff also

valued the clear and current insight into online risks and how to better support children in today's complex online environment.

The Two Johns workshop was a timely and powerful reminder that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility—and with a united approach, we can ensure every student is safe, present, and thriving.

Improved Attendance and Punctuality

We've seen a real improvement in attendance this term, and that's something to celebrate! This has been possible thanks to early support—working closely with the Local Authority—and keeping



communication open and supportive with families. We've been holding family meetings to help understand any challenges that might be affecting attendance and to make sure that students feel heard and involved in the decisions being made to help them.

Across the school, we've been reminding students (and each other!) just how important it is to be here every day, on time and ready to learn.

To help encourage this, we've introduced some new reward systems. Students can now earn vouchers to spend in a range of stores, receive certificates for personal achievements, and even join in on special off-site reward trips. These positive steps are already making a difference—with more students arriving on time, every day, and taking part in all that school life has to offer.

Key Dates:

Last Day of Summer Term

Thursday, 24th July 2025.

Summer Holidays

Friday 25th July 2025 to Tuesday, 2nd September 2025.

First day of Academic Year 2024/2025

Wednesday, 3rd September 2025.