



6th October 2026



WELCOME TO YEAR 10

Year Leader: Mr Bundock

Deputy Year Leader: Miss Allen



School vision

...to develop knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world.



Whole school priorities

A caring, open-minded and principled community

High quality teaching

A rich curriculum

Life-transforming outcomes & destinations

Very high levels of student attendance



Attendance

24.21% of secondary school students missed 10% or more of school, compared to 13.90% in primary schools

Missing just **10 days of school in Year 11 halves the likelihood** of a student achieving a Grade 5 in both English and Maths compared to peers with **95%+ attendance**

90% attendance across 5 years of secondary school = 1/2 an academic year of missed learning

The overall absence rate in state-funded secondary schools reached **8.57%** in 2025/2026

In 2022/2023, 60% of pupils who missed a day in week 1 of the academic year went on to be PA (for the year) – **absence sticks**



Attendance in year 10

Current attendance

94.1%

25/26 attendance

93.5%

7-10 attendance 25/26

94.2%

7-11 attendance T1-5 25/26

94% with 13.8% PA



Supporting your child's attendance

Build a consistent routine

- Treat school days as being non-negotiable (avoid term-time holidays and try to limit medical appointments during the school day)
- Encourage your child to get organised the night before (uniform, bag packed)
- Sleep, exercise and time away from screens

Use support systems early (teachers, mentor, year leader and safeguarding staff)

- If your child is finding attendance difficult, don't wait - let the school know

Keep motivation high

- Celebrate good attendance and progress



Priorities in year 10

Settling in to Key Stage 4 - Increase in personal agency and decision making

Attendance in lessons

Work on the idea that brains are open to development - and that we can change the way our minds work



Curriculum in year 10

Languages: Mastering **complex communication** across identity, culture, and future aspirations while refining spontaneous speech, extended writing, and translation skills.

Maths: Building mastery across advanced algebra, quadratic functions, vectors, circle theorems, compound measures, and multi-step problem solving.

English: Analysing set GCSE literature texts, including 'An Inspector Calls', poetry and 'A Christmas Carol', while **refining critical essay writing, transactional writing and language analysis skills.**



Curriculum in year 10

Humanities: Analysing key historical eras and international relations in History, conducting physical and human fieldwork in Geography, and evaluating complex ethical and philosophical worldviews in RE.

Sciences: Exploring cell biology, bioenergetics, and infection in Biology; quantitative chemistry, chemical bonding, and energy changes in Chemistry; and electricity, particle models of matter, and atomic structure in Physics.

Practical Subjects: Mastering anatomy, exercise physiology, sports psychology and practical performance assessments in PE; developing a multi-disciplinary rotational portfolio in Art; analysing set works from classical to modern genres alongside composing original ensemble pieces in Music; and exploring naturalism, physical theatre and Theatre in Education (TIE) in Drama.

WELCOME TO YEAR 10



PSHE Curriculum

Term 1 Mental Health and Wellbeing	Term 2 Citizenship	Term 3 Intimate Relationships
Term 4 Careers and Living in the Wider World	Term 5 Extremism and Radicalisation	Term 6 Living in the Wider World
External Speakers: Sexual Health talks from the NHS, Kent Sexual Assault & Abuse Service, Tracey Moon - Knife Crime		



Trips and events in year 10

Pastoral trip - more information to follow in due course
Y10 Work Experience (+Forensic Days and Discovery
Park)

Last year...

- 75.4 % of students from year 7-12 attended a school trip.
- 68.1% whole school attended extra curricular activities in school

**Please encourage your young people to consider their
extra-curricular and super curricular offer.**

unifrog

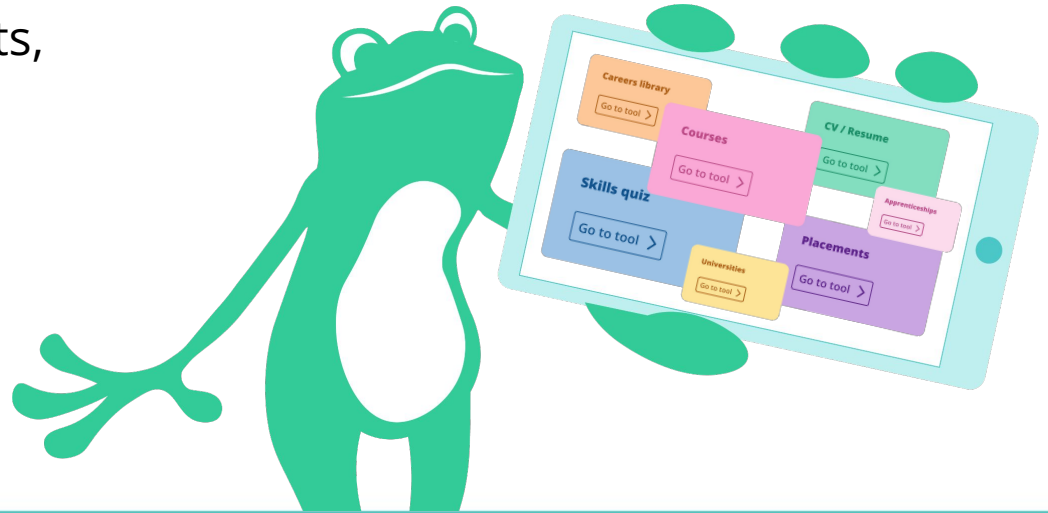


Unifrog and the Y10 Work Experience Placements tool - Info for parents

What is Unifrog?

Unifrog is an **online careers platform** used by over half of the secondary schools and colleges in the UK. The platform has various tools to help students research careers and future pathways, draft CVs and personal statements, and manage work experience.

[2 min overview of Unifrog as a whole](#)



Using the Unifrog Placements tool

Unifrog's Placements tool **helps schools, students, parents and employers with the admin behind work experience.**

More than **2,500** schools use this tool to organise work experience, and **500,000+** placements have been processed through the tool!

[2 min overview of the Placements tool](#)

Placements

Go to tool >

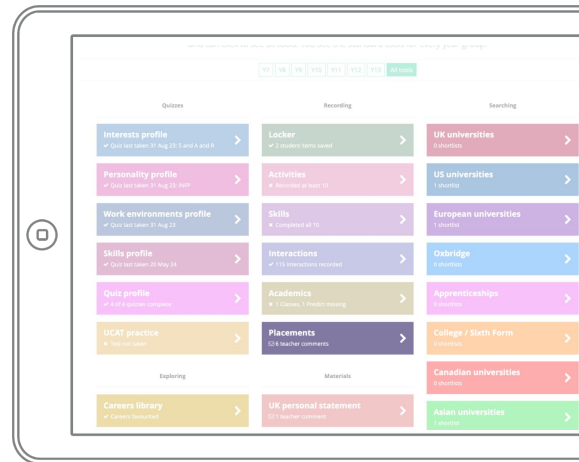
Using the Unifrog Placements tool

After the student has agreed a placement with an employer, **AND** received written/email confirmation of the placement, they need to log into their Unifrog account to log the Placement.

This starts off a chain of forms.

After the student completes the first form:

- The system emails the employer to complete their form
- The parent/guardian form comes next
- The school/college completes their permission form



[Here's](#) what parents/guardians need to know about placements forms.

Next steps

Students

- ✓ Students have been sent Unifrog logins to their DC email account and are in the process of logging into their Unifrog account during mentoring.
- ✓ Agree a placement with an employer **AND** has written/email confirmation of this.
- ✓ Log the information on the Unifrog placements tool.

Parents/caregivers

- ✓ Support your child to source a placement. Encourage them to log it on Unifrog.
- ✓ Ensure written/email confirmation is received from the employer. Look out for an email from Unifrog once the student and the employer have completed their forms.

Questions?



More info

- 1 Unifrog have created **a set of guides about placements** [here](#).
- 2 [This](#) is the best guide to start with
(it includes **a short animation of how the whole process works**).
- 3 Next, we recommend looking at [this guide](#)
(it's all about **how to help your child to find a placement**).



*Scan the QR to
see all guides*

Pro tip: check out the apprenticeships tool on Unifrog to research local employers who may be open to hosting a placement.

Apprenticeships

You have 10 shortlists

[Go to tool >](#)



**Student
ambassadors**

Students now in year 11

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Parent App

DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP



Messages: our primary tool for direct updates.



Newsfeed: stories, achievements and updates



Student timetables: view your child's daily schedule



Absence Reporting: easily report student absences



Parent App

The Dane Court Grammar School app can easily be found on the app store and is ready to download.

How We Are Using the App

- **Messages (Push Notifications):** This is our primary tool for direct updates. Please ensure notifications are enabled on your phone so you receive immediate alerts when a message is sent.
- **Absence Reporting:** You can now report student absences directly through the app. As a reminder, we require daily notifications for any ongoing absence. If you are picking your child up early for an appointment, please include the collection time and the reason in your message.
- **Student Timetables:** Easily view your child's daily schedule.
- **Newsfeed:** Check this tab regularly for celebratory stories, student achievements, and general school news. *(Note: Newsfeed updates do not trigger push notifications, so be sure to browse it periodically!)*

We look forward to rolling out even more features on the app throughout the coming year.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



The deadline for applying for Free School Meals has been extended to **2nd November**. All children from households in receipt of Universal Credit are entitled to receive free school meals.

If your household receives Universal Credit, you could save up to £495 per year per child on school lunches. For families with multiple children, these savings can make a substantial difference to household budgets.

Beyond the financial benefits, this programme ensures children receive nutritious meals during school hours, which supports their learning and concentration in the classroom, physical health and development and overall wellbeing.

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals





Dane Court website

Mental Health and Wellbeing Page

<https://www.danecourt.kent.sch.uk/wellbeing>



Family Support Page

<https://www.danecourt.kent.sch.uk/familysupport>





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Mentoring



Mentoring curriculum

Mondays - Academic Mentoring - an opportunity to develop skills needed for success

Tuesdays - Cultural Capital and Extended Mentoring - discussing topics relevant to student's lives, before a 1-1 mentor conversation with student

Wednesdays - Thought for the week and Extended Mentoring - A follow up to Monday's session, before a 1-1 mentor conversation with student

Thursdays - Assembly

Fridays - Soft Mentoring - Building relationships



Ask the mentor

What does it mean to be a student in this form?

What we do during mentor times?

What do we need to improve on as a mentor group?

What opportunities are there for students in this form to get involved in the wider school community?

How do we review effort with your child after reporting data points?

Day	Name of club	When	Where	Year group
Monday				
	Boys Football	Lunchtime 1:45		8 & 10
	Debating	After school	N3	all
	Dungeons & Dragons	3:20pm - 4:20pm	B9 (+B3,4,5,7)	all
Tuesday				
	Model UN	Afterschool	N Plaza	10-13
	Art club	3:20-4:20	Art Dep	all years
	Board Game Club	1.30-2.10	LIB	7-13
	Boys Football	Lunchtime 1:45		7 & 9

Wednesday	RSC Club	3:30-4:30	H1	KS3, Y10, Y12
	Biodiversity	3:30-4:30	D5	KS4 & KS5
	Senior Choir	1:35 - 2:15	H7	9-13
	Sax Group	1:40 - 2:10pm	H8	all
	Woodwind Ensemble	3:30pm -4pm	H8	All
	Running club	3:30-4:20	meet in heart	KS4&KS5
Thursday	Maths Hub	13:45	S4	7-11
	Craft club	3.20-4.20	LIB	7-13
	Film intervention	3:20-4:30	M1	Y13
	Badminton Club	Lunchtime 1:45		GCSE PE
	Climbing	Afterschool		GCSE PE
	Netball	Afterschool		7-11
	Jazz Band (Grade 2+)	1:35-2:15	H7	Any
	Music Tech Club	1:35-2:15	H8	Any
	Scholars & Apprentices	Afterschool	H7	Yr 8-13 (audition only)
	Sustainable Development Goals Club	13:45	D5	Any
	Hip-Hop Club	15:30-16:20	H1	Any

Friday				
	Anti-Social Social Club	1.30-2.10	LIB	7-13
	Girls Football	Lunchtime 1:45		All Years
	Chess Club	Afterschool	Library	All Years

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Contact the mentor

10B: Ms Radix radix@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

10D: Ms Sabic & Mrs Brissenden

msabic@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

brissenden@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

10H: Ms Klein yklein@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

10N: Mr Sunderland sunderland@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

10S: Ms Ambos zambos@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

10T: Mr Spillett & Mr Holliday

spillet@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

bholliday@danecourt.kent.sch.uk