

CULTURAL EXPERIENCES



Pool Hayes
Academy



FROM SEPT 2025



INTRODUCTION



At Pool Hayes Academy, we believe education should open doors not only to knowledge, but to experiences that inspire curiosity, confidence and ambition.

This Cultural Experience Programme outlines the opportunities available to our students throughout the academic year. From trips and performances to workshops, competitions and community events, these experiences are designed to broaden horizons and enrich learning beyond the classroom.

By the time our students leave us at the end of Year 11, we want them to have more than excellent academic knowledge. We want them to have explored new places, discovered new interests and built the confidence to thrive in the wider world.

These moments help shape character, spark ambition and ensure every student has the opportunity to grow as part of the #PHAmily.

At Pool Hayes Academy, we believe every student should experience learning beyond the classroom. Our Cultural Experience Programme offers a wide range of trips, activities and opportunities designed to broaden horizons, build confidence and support personal growth.

Access for everyone

Every student will have the opportunity to take part in a range of cultural experiences throughout their time at Pool Hayes Academy.

Opportunities throughout the year

Some activities have limited places and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Where possible, opportunities will be repeated across the year so more students can take part.

Inclusive experiences

Lunch time and after school clubs are provided by staff and are free of charge, although some sessions may have limits on numbers.



These experiences help our students grow both academically and personally by developing the core values of Pool Hayes Academy:

Aspiration – discovering new opportunities and aiming high

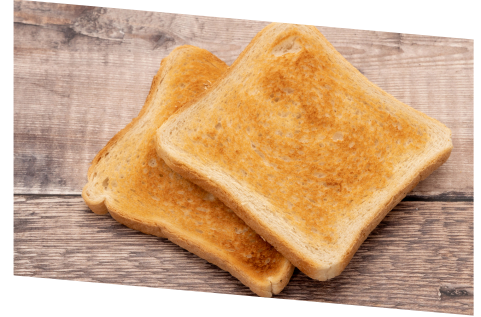
Respect – valuing others and understanding different perspectives

Excellence – striving to achieve their best

Resilience – building confidence and perseverance through new experiences

Through these opportunities, we aim for every student to leave Pool Hayes Academy not only with strong academic knowledge, but with the experiences, confidence and character to thrive in the wider world.

BREAKFAST CLUB



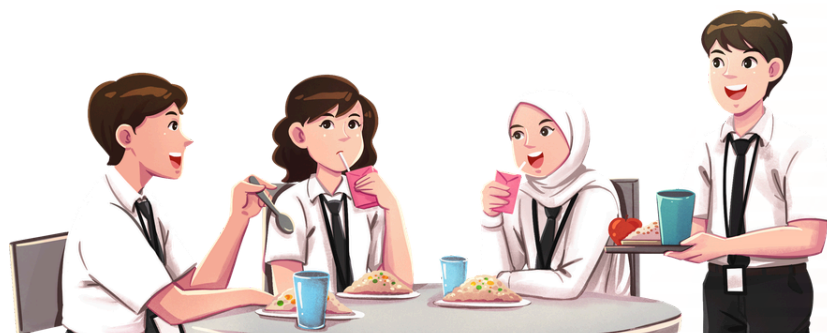
Our Breakfast Club is open to all students and runs every morning from 8:00am in the Main Hall.

Run by our fantastic kitchen team, students can enjoy a range of hot and cold breakfast options to help them start the day ready to learn.

Why attend Breakfast Club?

- Open to all students
- A welcoming space to spend time with friends before school
- A variety of hot and cold breakfast choices
- A warm, safe environment with staff present
- Helps students feel energised and ready to focus in lessons

No booking is required - students can simply arrive from 8:10am and enjoy breakfast before the school day begins.



LUNCH ACTIVITIES



The Library

A quiet space for reading, studying or enjoying a book during lunchtime.

Badminton

Students can take part in friendly badminton games while developing their skills and fitness.

Basketball

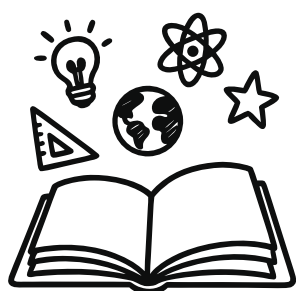
A chance to stay active and enjoy basketball with friends during lunchtime.

Science Club

Students interested in science can explore experiments, ideas and activities beyond the classroom.

Chess Club

Develop strategy, concentration and problem solving skills through friendly chess matches.



Music Club

An opportunity for students to practise music and develop their musical interests.

Dance Club

Students can develop their dance skills, learn routines and express creativity through movement.

Senior Vocal Group

A singing group for students who enjoy performing and developing their vocal abilities.

Drama Ambassador Meetings

Students involved in drama leadership roles meet to support performances and events.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Sports Activities

Students can take part in a variety of sports including football, basketball, badminton and netball, helping to develop teamwork, fitness and confidence.

Fitness Centre

Students can use the fitness centre to stay active and improve their physical wellbeing.

Dance Club

Students can develop their dance skills, learn routines and enjoy expressing themselves through movement.

Art and Craft Club

A creative space for students to explore different artistic techniques and express their creativity.

STEM Club

Students interested in science, technology, engineering and maths can take part in activities and challenges that explore ideas beyond the classroom.

Music and Choir

Students can develop their musical talents through choir groups and music clubs.

Drama and Musical Rehearsals

Students involved in performances have the opportunity to rehearse and prepare for school productions.

Library Study Space

The library is open after school on selected days, offering a quiet place for reading, study and homework.

MyTutor Support (Year 11)

Additional academic support is available for Year 11 students preparing for their examinations.

These opportunities help students build confidence, discover new interests and make the most of their time at Pool Hayes Academy.

EDUCATIONAL DAY TRIPS



At Pool Hayes Academy, our educational day trips are designed to bring learning to life beyond the classroom.

From exploring historical landmarks to experiencing science, geography and the arts in real-world settings, these opportunities deepen understanding, spark curiosity and create lasting memories.

Each trip is carefully planned to support our curriculum while also building confidence, independence and cultural awareness.

Why Educational Trips Matter

Educational visits are a key part of our commitment to providing a broad and ambitious curriculum. They support students to:

- Apply their learning in real-life contexts
- Develop confidence and independence
- Build cultural capital and wider experiences
- Strengthen friendships and teamwork
- Create memories that stay with them beyond school

We are proud to offer a wide and varied programme of trips throughout the year, ensuring that all students have access to meaningful experiences that enrich their education.

EDUCATIONAL DAY TRIPS



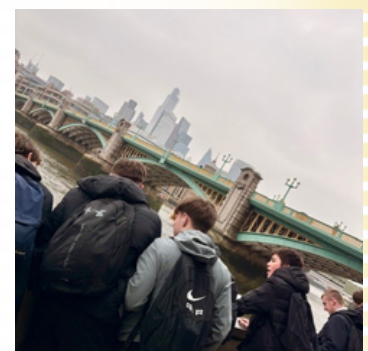
Carding Mill Valley

Our students visit Carding Mill Valley to experience geography in action. Through hands-on fieldwork, they explore river formations, landscapes and environmental processes, developing practical skills while enjoying the natural environment.

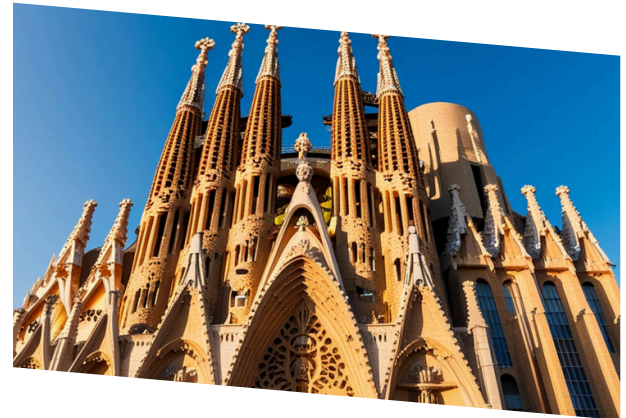
London Cultural Visits

Trips to London give students the opportunity to explore iconic landmarks and immerse themselves in history and the arts. Visits such as the Globe Theatre and surrounding sites help bring subjects to life in a powerful and memorable way.

These experiences are just a recent glimpse of what we offer, with many more trips taking place throughout the year to support learning, build confidence and create lasting memories.



RESIDENTIAL TRIPS



A World of Experiences

Students can take part in a range of incredible residential trips, including visits to New York, Spanish trips to Barcelona, drama trips to Athens and outdoor experiences at Bryntysilio. Each experience offers something unique, from exploring global cities and historical landmarks to taking part in outdoor and team-building activities.

Growing in Confidence

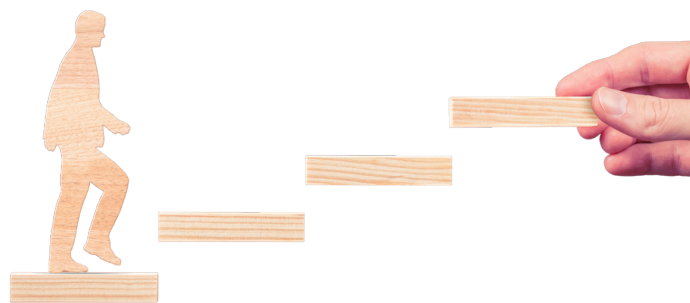
Time away from home allows students to develop independence, resilience and confidence. They learn to adapt to new environments, work together and support one another, strengthening the sense of community that defines our #PHamily.

Memories That Last

Residential trips create moments students never forget. Whether it's discovering a new place, stepping out of their comfort zone or sharing experiences with friends, these opportunities help shape confident, well-rounded young people.

These are just a glimpse of the opportunities available, with many more residential experiences offered throughout the year to ensure every student has the chance to be part of something truly special and leave Pool Hayes Academy feeling #PHAProud.

At Pool Hayes Academy, students are supported to explore their interests, understand their options and plan for their future.



Understanding Aspirations Early

Students begin exploring future pathways from Year 7 through Health and Wellbeing, where they challenge stereotypes and begin to think about their interests and ambitions. Platforms such as Unifrog are introduced early, helping students to explore careers and pathways in an engaging and accessible way.

Student Voice Shaping Opportunities

Every year group takes part in the Big Future Survey, where students share their interests, ambitions and career ideas. This insight allows us to shape our careers programme, ensuring workshops, visitors and opportunities are relevant, meaningful and tailored to our students.

Key Milestones Along the Journey

- Pathways Week in Year 9 supports students in making informed choices about their GCSE options, linking subjects to future careers.
- Turbo Week in Year 11 prepares students for life beyond school, focusing on next steps such as further education, apprenticeships and employment.

Preparing for the Future

Our careers programme is designed to evolve with our students. By combining early exploration, personalised guidance and key milestone experiences, we ensure every student is supported in discovering their potential and planning for a successful future.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award offers students the opportunity to build confidence, develop new skills and take on exciting challenges. It encourages independence, teamwork and resilience, helping students discover strengths they may not have known they had.

What is the Bronze Award?

Students work towards completing four key sections, each designed to support personal growth and development both in and out of school.

- **Volunteering**

Giving time to support others, the community or the environment.

- **Physical**

Taking part in sport, fitness or physical activity to build health and wellbeing.

- **Skills**

Developing a personal interest or learning something new.

- **Expedition**

Planning and completing an outdoor adventure, including both a practice and final expedition.

Commitment & Progression

Students take part in each section over a period of time, working consistently towards their goals. The award encourages dedication, independence and personal achievement.

The Expedition Experience

The expedition is a key highlight of the award, where students work as part of a team to navigate, camp and complete their journey. This experience builds confidence, resilience and teamwork in a real-world setting.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a rewarding experience that helps students grow in confidence, develop life skills and create lasting memories as part of our #PHamily.

CHARITY & SOCIAL ACTION



At Pool Hayes Academy, we believe in giving back and supporting our community. Students are encouraged to take part in a range of charitable activities, helping others while developing empathy, responsibility and a sense of purpose.



Supporting Our Community

Throughout the year, students take part in a variety of fundraising and community initiatives. From charity events to local outreach, these opportunities allow students to make a real difference while working together as part of our #PHamily.

Fundraising for Important Causes

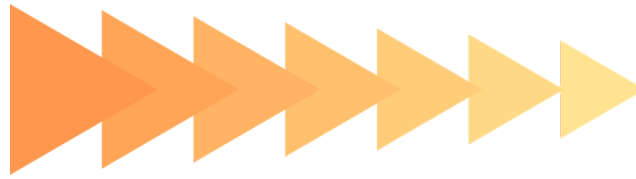
Students and staff come together to support national charities through events such as Macmillan coffee mornings, where cakes and treats are donated and sold to raise money for a meaningful cause.

Events That Make a Difference
From charity quiz nights supporting organisations such as the Teenage Cancer Trust to student-led initiatives, there are many opportunities for our school community to get involved and give back.

Spreading Joy at Christmas
During the festive season, our school choir visits a local care home to perform Christmas carols, bringing joy and connection to residents and celebrating the spirit of giving.



A snapshot of the many ways our students give back, supporting both local and national causes while developing compassion, community spirit and a sense of what it means to be #PHAProud.



At Pool Hayes Academy, we support students at every stage of their journey, from joining us in Year 7 to moving on to their next steps beyond Year 11.

JOINING US IN YEAR 7

We work closely with primary schools to ensure a smooth and positive transition into secondary school.

- **Year 6 Visits to Pool Hayes**

Students are welcomed into school to explore the environment, meet staff and begin to feel part of the #PHamily.

- **Transition Days**

Students take part in dedicated transition days where they experience lessons, meet their tutors and get to know their new surroundings.

- **Getting to Know You**

Information is shared to help us understand each student's needs, strengths and interests, ensuring the right support is in place from the start.

MOVING ON FROM YEAR 11

We support students in preparing for life beyond Pool Hayes Academy, helping them make confident and informed decisions about their future.

- **Sixth Form at Pool Hayes**

Many students choose to continue their journey with us, studying a range of academic and vocational courses in a familiar, supportive environment.

- **Careers Guidance**

Students are supported in exploring next steps, including further education, apprenticeships and training.

- **Applications & Next Steps**

Guidance is provided to help students secure places in sixth form, college or apprenticeships.

- **Ongoing Support**

Support continues beyond Year 11 to ensure students feel confident as they move on.