



GATEACRE SCHOOL

# GATEACRE BULLETIN

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GATEACRE SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER

A FORTNIGHTLY PUBLICATION FOR  
PARENTS AND CARERS OF STUDENTS  
AT GATEACRE SCHOOL

## A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW YEAR 7S: TRANSITION DAY SUCCESS!

On Wednesday **2nd July**, we were thrilled to welcome 240 Year 6 students from over 40 different primary schools for our annual Transition Day! Designed to give them a vibrant taste of secondary school life, the day was packed with opportunities. Students met their new teachers and peers, experienced four engaging lessons, and enjoyed our exciting new lunchtime menu. They also began to familiarise themselves with our daily routines, including assembly, morning line-up, moving between lessons, and form time.

The day kicked off with an inspiring assembly from our Principal, Mr. Jamil, who focused on three core messages: **work hard, try your best, and be respectful**. Students were then introduced to their Year 7 pastoral team, including form teachers and Pastoral Leader Mr. Backhouse, before practising their morning routine in their new forms.

Lesson highlights included:

- Geography: Teamwork to respond to a tectonic hazard, creating a hazard risk map.
- History: Investigating who was truly to blame for the sinking of the 'unsinkable' Titanic.
- Science: Creating animal labels, explaining features for survival in chosen environments.
- Spanish: Exploring vibrant Spanish festivals and cultural traditions like La Tomatina.

Lunchtime was a hit, with many students complementing our delicious new menu and thanking our kitchen staff. A special thank you goes to our fantastic Year 7 and Year 12 student leaders, who demonstrated true excellence and teamwork by guiding and supporting our Year 6 visitors throughout the day.

Looking ahead, we will welcome students back for CATs, and our transition teams continue primary school visits. We are also excited to host over 100 students at our Transition Summer School during the holidays – full details have been sent via EduLink to all who expressed interest.

## YEAR 10: INSPIRING WOMEN IN STEM

On **Wednesday 2nd July**, our Year 10 girls participated in an inspiring **Women in STEM event** at the Liverpool Maths School. Students had the invaluable opportunity to hear from pioneering female representatives from STEM-based careers at **PlayStation and BAE**.

The engaging Q&A sessions with these strong female role models highlighted the diverse career pathways available, shared insightful individual journeys, and showcased the integral contributions women make across a wide range of STEM roles. Our students were challenged to apply their own **teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills** by competing in challenges based on game creation and submarine engineering.

Working with such inspiring female role models was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 10 students, who, in turn, were excellent representatives of Gateacre School.



## ENHANCING HOMEWORK AT GATEACRE: YOUR FEEDBACK IN ACTION!

At Gateacre, we believe that regular, thoughtful, and challenging homework is crucial for every pupil's learning journey and helps them reach their full potential. A strong home-school partnership is essential for consolidating skills and preparing students for future academic and professional demands.

This term, we invited our school community – pupils, parents, and staff – to contribute to the development and improvement of homework at Gateacre. We extend a sincere thank you to everyone who provided valuable feedback and constructive comments.

### You Said, We Did!

- **You Said:** You wanted a single platform for homework communication, with clear details and deadlines.
- **We Did:** From September 2025, we will introduce a dedicated homework function on EduLink. All staff will record homework details here, making it easy for pupils and parents to view tasks, deadlines, and instructions.
- **You Said:** Many pupils wanted to complete homework at school with support and IT access; parents agreed.
- **We Did:** We are expanding our Homework Club provision. From September, after-school Homework Clubs will be available every evening, offering pupils access to IT facilities and a quiet, supportive environment.
- **You Said:** You want students to be recognised and rewarded for their hard work.
- **We Did:** From September, students will earn an achievement point for every completed piece of homework. These points will accumulate towards reward milestones and exciting school celebrations.
- **You Said:** While homework is valued, 70% were unsatisfied with the current quality and quantity.
- **We Did:** From September 2025, we will introduce a homework timetable. This weekly guide will outline tasks and allocated time from subject areas. Core subjects (Maths, English, Science) will have a carefully selected weekly task, with other subjects alternating within the schedule.

We are incredibly excited about these developments and confident they will significantly support our pupils' learning journey. Thank you once again to everyone who contributed!