

19th November 2025



INSIDE, WE ALSO TALK ABOUT:

Upcoming Events and Key Dates

A day in the life: Making Options Choices

Exam Success and Top Flight Sixth Form

Debate Mate

Academy of Real Assets

Key Dates

Safeguarding: Staying Safe

After a well-earned half-term break, we return with fresh energy and a packed calendar of opportunities ahead. The second half of the Autumn Term promises to be just as dynamic and rewarding as the first.

Students in exam years are now concluding their first round of mock examinations. Over the coming weeks, they'll receive valuable feedback to help sharpen their focus and guide their next steps in preparation for the summer. Meanwhile, students in the lower school will begin the important journey of exploring GCSE option choices and gathering evidence for their Being Bow diploma—an exciting chance to reflect on their achievements and aspirations.

Beyond the classroom, Bow students will continue to immerse themselves in a wide range of extracurricular clubs, enrichment activities, and leadership programmes. From debating and creative arts to sports and STEM, these experiences are central to our commitment to personal development and uncovering talent.

And of course, anticipation is building as we begin the selection process for our much-anticipated trip to China later this academic year. With so many strong applicants, choosing the final group will be no easy task!

Let's embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead with ambition, curiosity, and community spirit. Here's to a purposeful and inspiring half-term at Bow School.

Mr. Lye - Headteacher



Right now, I'm standing at a pretty big crossroads. As a Year 9 student at Bow School, I've started thinking seriously about which GCSE subjects I want to study next year. It's exciting—but also kind of daunting. These choices aren't just about what I enjoy or what I'm good at. They're about shaping my future and making sure I'm ready for the world beyond school.

At Bow, we talk a lot about being world ready and career ready. That's not just a slogan—it's something I see in action every day. Whether it's through our Personal Development Days, guest speakers, visits to universities and industry, or trips like the one to China that some students are applying for, we're constantly being encouraged to think bigger and aim higher.

So when I sit down to look at the GCSE options, I won't just ask myself, "What do I like?", I'll ask, "What will help me grow?" and "What will open doors for me later on?"

I know I want to keep studying science because I'm curious about how things work—and I've been inspired by our STEM club and the careers we've explored in lessons. I'm also considering geography because it helps me understand the world and the challenges we face globally.

That feels important if I want to be world ready. And I'm definitely choosing computer science. With all the tech around us, it feels like a smart move for the future.

But I'm also thinking about balance. I want subjects that challenge me, but also ones that let me express myself. That's why I'm leaning toward art or drama. Creativity is a big part of who I am, and Bow has shown me that being career ready doesn't mean giving up on passion—it means finding ways to turn it into something powerful.

I've still got questions, and I'll be talking to my teachers, family, and older students to get advice. But I feel lucky to be at a school that doesn't just prepare us for exams—it prepares us for life. Whatever I choose, I know Bow will help me make it count.

Here's to the next step—and to becoming the best version of myself.



BOWGIVESBACK - WRAP UP

We are delighted to announce that, as part of our focus on giving back, members of the school community have been supporting a drive to aid those who are homeless, refugees, living in poverty or fleeing domestic violence as part of campaign to donate and re-use unwanted winter coats. As we all know, a warm coat can make all the difference in the cold winter months. Thanks to all those who donated items - the charity "Wrap-Up" were amazed by the generosity of the school community!

In addition, later this term, school staff will be settling off in the early hours of a crisp December morning to staff the counter at the Whitechapel Mission, cooking and serving breakfast to those who are homeless.



Personal Development Day - 18.11.25

The first of this year's Personal Development Day, an eagerly anticipated event, has just taken place, designed to broaden the horizons of students and enrich their educational journey beyond the classroom.

Students across the school were engaged in everything from Geography fieldwork at Epping Forest, to pétanque and crepe-making, to social action business planning, CEIAG, and outdoor pursuits. We had a large number of external visitors (50+ working with our students yesterday), and all were impressed with the attitude, conduct and ideas expressed by our young people.

.Adding a motivational spark to the day, seminars with the dynamic 'Action Jackson' encouraged students to unleash their potential and embrace a positive mindset.

To round off the day, a careers fair and workshops focused on preparing for post-16 study equipped students with the insights to navigate the next stage of their academic journey confidently.



Safeguarding - Staying Safe - An Update from Mr Emin

As we move through the school year, I wanted to take a moment to share some key safeguarding themes that are emerging nationally and locally – and offer some practical advice on how we can work together to keep our children safe, supported, and thriving.

Online Safety: Beyond Screen Time

While screen time remains a concern, the bigger issue is what children are doing online. We're seeing increased exposure to harmful content, anonymous messaging apps, and online challenges that can affect wellbeing and behaviour.

What you can do:

- Talk regularly with your child about their online life – not just rules, but experiences.
- Use parental controls and privacy settings, but also model healthy digital habits.
- Encourage critical thinking: ask “Would you say that in real life?” or “How do you know that’s true?”

Mental Health and Peer Relationships

Many young people are navigating complex emotions, friendship dynamics, and pressures – often silently. We're seeing more students struggling with anxiety, low mood, and social withdrawal.

What you can do:

- Create space for open conversations – even if your child doesn't always engage, knowing you're available matters.
- Watch for changes in behaviour, sleep, or appetite – these can be early signs of distress.
- Remind your child that seeking help is a strength, not a weakness. Our pastoral and inclusion teams are here to support.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour and Consent Education

National safeguarding reports continue to highlight the need for clear, age-appropriate education around consent, boundaries, and respectful relationships. We're committed to this work in school, but it's most powerful when reinforced at home.

What you can do:

- Use everyday moments (TV, news, social media) to discuss respect, boundaries, and empathy.
- Avoid shaming language – instead, focus on values and understanding.
- Encourage your child to speak up if something makes them uncomfortable, and reassure them they'll be listened to.

Attendance and Safeguarding

Attendance isn't just about learning – it's a safeguarding issue. When children are absent, they can become vulnerable to isolation, exploitation, or falling behind socially and emotionally.

What you can do:

- Prioritise attendance and punctuality – even small improvements make a big difference.
- Let us know if there are barriers to attendance. We'll work with you to find solutions.
- Celebrate progress – every day in school is a step forward..

Upcoming Dates and Events

18.11.25 Personal Development Day

03.12.25 Y11 Parents' Evening

17.12.25 6F Parents' Evening

18.12.25 Y6-7 Graduation Event

19.12.25 End of Autumn Term*

**school closes early for all students - timing TBC*

