



May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 8 - University of Hertfordshire Challenge Day

As part of our Computer Science Careers programme, we have arranged for 20 Year 8 students to take part in a Science and Technology Challenge Day on Tuesday 3 June, which will be held at the University of Hertfordshire. This will be an all-day event starting at 9.30am and ending at 3.00pm. The students will be able to take part in several challenges to deepen their understanding in real-world scenarios and get a broader understanding of Computer Science and STEM-related subjects in general.

This event is a valuable opportunity for students to engage in these challenges specifically designed to allow students to think about their future careers alongside developing high level problem-solving skills, teamwork and critical thinking skills. These exciting challenges will provide students with hands-on activities such as robotic programming, forensic facial recognition, vehicle design and medical diagnostics, all of which link directly to STEM subjects and future career paths.

As we are only able to secure 20 places these will be allocated via a ballot process. If you would like your child to be entered into the ballot, please complete an online Expression of Interest form [here](#) by Tuesday 13 May. We will inform you if your child has been successful on Wednesday 14 May. Please be aware that payment for the trip needs to be made by ParentPay by **Thursday 22 May** at the latest.

The cost of this trip is £31 per student. Please note that the school's policy is that trips and other activities outside the normal teaching program should be self-funded. Contributions are voluntary but if contributions are insufficient the trip may have to be cancelled. No student will be denied participation because of difficulty in meeting the cost. For those facing genuine financial hardship, please contact Ms Stringer in the Finance Office, in confidence.

Students will be registered in the **Chapel at 8.10am**. We plan to return around 4.30pm depending on traffic. Please arrange for your child to be collected from school at this later time if necessary.

Students are required to wear school uniforms, phones will need to be in their phone pouches and students will need a packed lunch as there is no opportunity for them to purchase food.

Yours sincerely

Mr H Valli
Computer Science Department