

Valence News



Belonging

At Valence School, our ethos is built around respect and passion. These values encourage us not only to treat one another with kindness and understanding, but also to challenge and support everyone to achieve their very best through a strong sense of belonging.

Belonging to the Valence community is important to us, and we are proud to celebrate the contribution that every student, family and member of staff makes to our school. Over the last week and in the weeks ahead, we have welcomed a number of new students to our community. We are delighted that you have joined us and hope that you quickly feel that you belong at Valence.

A special welcome to: Isaiah, Alexandra, Iris, Ella, Charlie, Zakrah, Bella, Jackson, Harry, Leon, Ava, Olivia, Leon, Reece, Jessica, Cohen and Thomas.

Student voice is a vital part of everything we do. Today, we are holding our annual "All About Me Day", where normal lessons pause to allow students to focus on the support, opportunities and aspirations that will help them succeed.

Throughout the day, students will take part in activities appropriate to their age and pathway, reviewing their support plans and sharing their views about how they are progressing and how they feel about the support they receive. Their thoughts and opinions help shape the provision we offer and ensure that every student remains at the centre of decision-making.

Support plans will be sent home today (with the exception of those for new students) for parents and carers to review, sign and return. Please keep an eye out for these in school bags. Your involvement in this process is greatly valued and plays an important role in helping us support each student effectively.

Belonging means including everyone, listening to every voice and ensuring that all members of our community feel valued and respected. Thank you for your continued support, and I wish all of our students, families and staff a happy and restful weekend.

Matthew Strange, B.Ed (Hons) NPQH | Principal

Education Update

We are now several weeks into the autumn term, and it has been wonderful to see students fully engaged in school life, reconnecting with friends and staff, and embracing the many opportunities available across Valence School.

We are especially pleased to be welcoming the final group of new students who are joining us this term. Starting at a new school can be both exciting and challenging, but we have been delighted by how positively these students have settled into the Valence community. They are building relationships, developing confidence within their new environment, and making excellent progress in their learning and personal development. We would like to thank families and staff for their support in ensuring such successful transitions.

Across the school, students have quickly established routines and are demonstrating the determination, resilience and enthusiasm that underpin success at Valence. It has been a pleasure to see classrooms buzzing with purposeful learning and students engaging in a wide range of activities both in and beyond the curriculum.

Education Leadership Team Updates

As part of our continued commitment to strengthening educational leadership across the school, there have been several changes within the Education Leadership Team.

We are delighted to share that Amy Glover has been successful in securing a fixed-term position as Pathway Lead for Primary and Keller. Amy has already made a significant contribution to the school and will continue to support both students and staff in driving high-quality outcomes across these pathways.

Ian Hayward has moved into the role of Simmonds Pathway Lead. Ian brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the position and will play a key role in the ongoing development of the pathway.

We are also pleased to announce that Tim Longthorne has taken on the position of Hawkings Pathway Lead. Tim's passion for education and dedication to student achievement will help ensure that students continue to thrive.

In addition, Jedd Lloyd has been appointed as Assistant Principal (Students). This role will strengthen our focus on student wellbeing, engagement and achievement, ensuring that every student is supported to reach their full potential and have a positive experience at school.

These appointments reflect the depth of talent within our staff team and our commitment to providing strong leadership that supports outstanding outcomes for all students.

As we move further into the term, we look forward to sharing more of the achievements, successes and memorable experiences of our students. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Valence School.

Kate Bayman—Vice Principal (Education)



FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER 2026

A Morning to Pause & Reconnect

10:00–11:30 am

The George & Dragon, Sevenoaks

IN AID OF VALENCE SCHOOL

£15 · Places are limited

Book through the link in bio

www.perfectlyimperfectme.co.uk?whats-on

This is a private event run by a parent to raise
money for Valence School



What your Friends of Valence raised last year



Total raised over
£55,000



Fireworks night
£980



Christmas fair
£3,000



Quiz and bingo
afternoon
£750



Festival of motoring
£11,000



Golf day
£4,000



Summer fair
£3,500



Sports day
£160



Easter raffle
£350



Channel swim
£32,000

But we are more than a fundraising group.

Look out for our next social event
where you can meet other parents
and their families and share the one thing
you have in common...

Valence School
— ♡ —



What your Friends of Valence raised last year



Total raised over
£55,000

What we bought ♥



Benches
and tables



Urns and
Electric Grill



Power Upgrade
Outside



Refurbished Swimming
Changing Rooms
and included Air Con



4 New style
Sumup Machines



Student Common
Room Makeover

What we contributed to ♥



Christmas Gifts
for the children



Christmas Trees



Decorations for
Santa's Grotto



The Leavers Prom



The Leavers
activities

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Valence School



Senior Staff On-call Rota from 18th September 2026

Matt Strange 07894 483673

Lisa Kavanagh 07912 124724

Kate Bayman 07827 961903

Jo Chivers 07896 905095

Date	Day	Time	DSL	DSL overnight
21/09/26	Monday	09:00 To midday	Matt Strange	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
22/09/26	Tuesday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Jo Chivers
		Midday to 4pm	Jo Chivers	
23/09/26	Wednesday	09:00 To midday	Jo Chivers	Kate Bayman
		Midday to 4pm	Kate Bayman	
24/09/26	Thursday	09:00 To midday	Kate Bayman	Lisa Kavanagh
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	
25/09/26	Friday	09:00 To midday	Lisa Kavanagh	Closed
		Midday to 4pm	Lisa Kavanagh	



4.11.26

Friends of Valence Fireworks Display

For Students, Staff & Families

Valence School - Wed 4th Nov 2026

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Glow Toys

Food and Drink

Kindly Sponsored by:

Westerham Heights Garden Centre

The Shampin - Westerham



VALENCE

COFFEE MORNING



Join us for coffee, cakes and friendly conversation and meet your fellow Valence families.



9.30-12.00

FRIDAY 25TH
SEPTEMBER

VALENCE SCHOOL, CHECK-
IN AT RECEPTION

Everyone welcome!

SAVE THE DATE