

PDS Trip to County Hall

On Thursday 26th February, PDS students and staff enjoyed a memorable trip to County Hall to watch Agatha Christie's 'Witness for the Prosecution'. Set within the magnificent chamber of the former Greater London Council, the performance transforms the venue into a strikingly atmospheric recreation of the Old Bailey, immersing the audience directly into the heart of the courtroom drama.



Students were captivated by the play's suspenseful twists, sharp dialogue and unique staging, which placed them right at the centre of the action. For many, it was a rare opportunity to experience live theatre in such an unusual and historically significant setting.

This special outing was made possible thanks to the generosity of two PDS students, who chose to donate their Jack Petchey Award prize money to support the trip. Overall, it was a highly enjoyable and educational day that left staff and students inspired, entertained, and eager for the next adventure.

Mrs Patel- Head of PDS

PDS Poetry Workshop

On Thursday 5th March, PDS students had the privilege of taking part in a poetry workshop led by the award-winning deaf author Raymond Antrobus. Antrobus, whose published works include 'Can Bears Ski?' and 'Perseverance', brought a wealth of creativity, insight, and lived experience to the session, making it an unforgettable opportunity for our young people.



In addition to the creative activities, Raymond spoke openly about his journey as a young deaf person navigating education, identity and communication barriers. He shared the challenges he faced growing up, as well as the determination, resilience and support systems that enabled him to overcome these obstacles and build a successful career as a writer and educator.



His honesty and positivity resonated deeply with the students. Hearing from a successful deaf role model who has used his experiences to empower others was both inspiring and empowering. Many students left the workshop feeling more confident in their own aspirations and motivated to pursue their goals with renewed energy. Overall, the session was a powerful blend of creativity, representation and personal growth, leaving a lasting impact on all who attended.

Mrs Patel- Head of PDS

HARP Trip - Neurodiversity Week Event

To mark Neurodiversity Week, the Autism Advisory Service hosted a borough-wide social event on Friday 6th March at Church End Library for students from the various ARPs. The event brought together a wide age range of participants, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet new people and take part in a variety of engaging activities.



HARP Students explored a fascinating selection of animals on show and took part in a vibrant array of arts and crafts. The event also featured esports activities and a popular silent disco, offering something enjoyable for everyone.



Our students represented the school exceptionally well and were praised for their polite and respectful behaviour throughout. It was a positive and enriching experience that supported social development while celebrating neurodiversity.

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Mrs Williams - Head of HARP

Hendon School Supports Sustainability Through School Uniform Refuse Network Programme

Hendon School has been proudly working with the North London Waste Authority through The School Uniform Refuse Network programme, an initiative designed to reduce waste and promote the reuse of school clothing. As part of this project, we have been regularly sharing data about our second-hand uniform sales.

In return, The School Uniform Refuse Network provides us with valuable feedback showing the positive environmental impact our school community is making. This includes measurable reductions in CO₂ emissions and waste—direct results of families choosing pre-loved uniform instead of buying new. The programme also highlights how our efforts help support local families by making school uniforms more affordable and sustainable.

In November, we were delighted to welcome Jessie from the School Uniform Refuse Network into Hendon School. During her visit, she filmed Nethumi and Danilo, two of our enthusiastic student volunteers who help promote and run our pre-loved uniform shop. Their commitment plays an important role in encouraging students and families to make environmentally friendly choices.

Hendon School is proud to be part of this meaningful initiative and will continue working towards a more sustainable future for our school and wider community.

Read more about The School Uniform Refuse Network and watch our students here - [Home | SURN](#)

Mrs Stolk - Office Manager

Diary Dates	
❖ Friday 27 th March	Last day of Spring Term - Students dismissed at 11.55am Non uniform day
❖ Monday 30 th March - Friday 10 th April	Easter Holiday
❖ Monday 13 th April	First day of Summer Term
❖ Thursday 16 th April	Year 7 Student Progress Evening
❖ Tuesday 21 st April	INSET day - school closed to students
❖ Thursday 23 rd April	Year 10 Student Progress Evening
❖ Monday 4 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
❖ Thursday 7 th May	Local Government elections (school closed to students in Y7-10)
❖ Monday 25 th - Friday 29 th May	Half Term Holiday

A Visit We'll Never Forget: Our Trip to the Synagogue

Our recent school trip to the synagogue turned out to be one of the most meaningful experiences of the year. It wasn't just about seeing a religious building; it was about learning more deeply about Jewish history, traditions and the impact that the Holocaust had on millions of people. By the end of the day, most of us felt like we had gained a new understanding of a part of history that is still incredibly important today.

When we first arrived, we were split into small groups and sat at different tables. Each table had a collection of Jewish items that are used in different ceremonies and traditions. We got to look at them closely and learn what they meant and how they were used. It felt a bit like being detectives, trying to piece together how each object fit into Jewish life. After that, the staff introduced themselves and outlined all the activities planned for the day, which made everything feel very organised and welcoming.

One of the main parts of the visit was watching a series of short films about the Holocaust. Even though we've studied it in school, seeing real stories and images made it feel far more real and emotional. The films showed how Jewish communities across the world were affected, and it helped us understand that this wasn't something that happened to "people in history," but to families and individuals who lived lives not too different from ours.

Throughout the day, we also took part in group discussions and activities. These weren't just about learning facts- they made us think about big issues that still matter today. For example, we talked about what we should do if we see someone being bullied because of their race, identity, or appearance. Everyone shared thoughtful ideas, and it was interesting to hear how many of us agreed that small actions can make a big difference. We also discussed what we hope future generations will change to make the world more equal and fair.



The moment that stood out the most for many of us was meeting a World War Two survivor. Listening to him share his personal experiences of surviving the Holocaust was incredibly powerful. It's one thing to read about these events in textbooks, but hearing them from someone who actually lived through it is completely different. His story made history feel close and urgent, and it reminded us why remembering the past is so important.

By the end of the visit, we all realised just how valuable the trip had been. We didn't just learn about Jewish culture or the Holocaust - we learned why fighting antisemitism and all forms of discrimination still matters today. The experience encouraged us to think about how we treat others and how we can help create a more respectful and tolerant future.

Overall, the trip to the synagogue was eye opening, thought provoking and something we'll remember for a long time.

Kora - 9.6



Shakespeare's Stunning Story: Romeo and Juliet Live at the Globe Theatre!

Have you ever wanted to experience the sensation, thrill and excitement of seeing the Romeo and Juliet play, performed live, watching the actors embody the characters as though the story was real and creating the same emotional catharsis we feel when watching a powerful, impactful and insightful film? A few weeks ago, I got to experience this and the world of Shakespeare.

Three, Two, One... Action!

We arrived at the Globe Theatre in Central London with the heat hugging our faces. We waited patiently and eagerly for the staff to guide us inside. As we settled into our seats, an actor began doing impressive tricks and stunts with his bike. I was quite unsure what to expect as in my mind I was predicting to see a play that fit the era in which the story was conceived (such as large gowns and formal attire). Nevertheless, I watched with an open and optimistic mind. Abruptly, my thoughts began to clash with the sound of yelling and woe as the actors began to recite the prologue which cleverly foreshadows the tragic end of the two star crossed lovers. Instantly intrigued, I found myself listening far more attentively. As I began to observe the play more and more I realised the play wasn't at all ordinary as it held an extremely relatable aspect to it. The actors were clothed like normal people you'd walk past on the street. This made the play feel youthful as it captured emotions such as adolescence and nostalgia which made the centuries, decades old story feels surprisingly youthful.

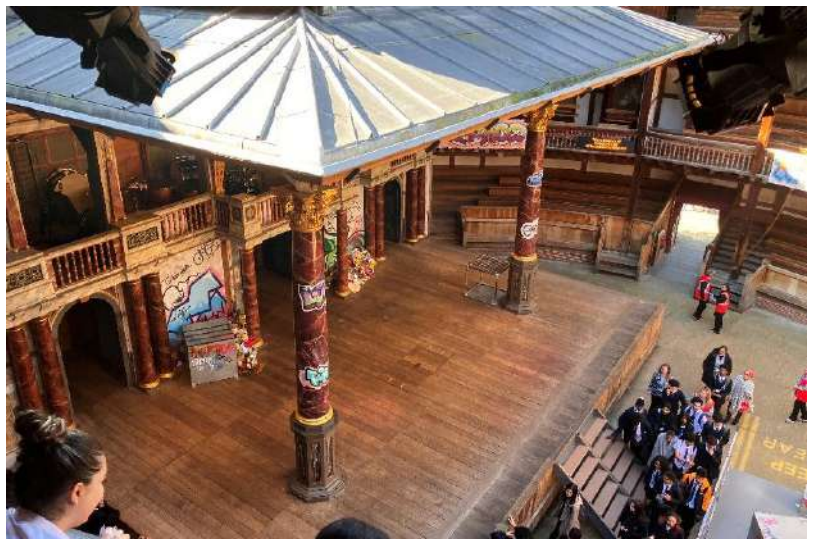


Chaos and Tragedy: Mercutio's Death

The story of Mercutio has to be one of the most heartbreaking, harrowing and unsettling scenes due to the knowledge that his death could have been avoided if it weren't for passionate and careless love. This creates a more stunning, compelling and emotional experience for the audience as it connotes that love can also destroy even those we love. When this scene played its part, the atmosphere in the theatre shifted like day turning to twilight. The space fell silent and Mercutio fell screaming in agonising pain, 'A plague o' both your houses!' This curse stung like nettles and struck like lightning as not only does this once again foreshadow the catastrophic end of the two lovers but it also holds both parties accountable for his suffering.

Clothes have Meaning

Costumes are the silent words that speak to us even when we don't notice them. Have you ever judged someone based on how they dress? In this production of Romeo and Juliet the characters weren't dressed in typical traditional historical costumes. Instead, their outfits had a more stylish, modern twist. Tybalt is well known for his scorching temper and barbaric personality. This play encapsulated his image perfectly by dressing Tybalt in a dark, stark puffer jacket as though his clothing itself symbolised his cold, prideful and violent nature. In contrast, Juliet was dressed in a pink tracksuit which alludes to her femininity, youth and her coming of age. This creates a more human and understandable perspective of the character Juliet, as the majority of the people watching the play were students.



Gasps, Laughter, Silence

The feeling inside the theatre buzzed like a crowd at a concert. It was electric. My heart raced in sync with the rest of the crowd as excitement and adrenaline surged through the audience. The actors even interacted with the audience which enhanced the play's creativity and filled the theatre with life and energy. The actors' emotions of rage, happiness and sorrow swept across the stage and touched the crowd with an impactful and sensational performance. It was a truly unforgettable performance performed by incredibly talented actors.



A Story That Still Breathes

When I was younger I never understood why anyone would like something written by William Shakespeare; after all, it can seem barely understandable at first. However, as I've grown and matured I've realised you don't need to understand every word or phrase which is uttered. Instead you can feel the emotions, you can see the pain, agony, happiness and excitement cast upon the actors' faces. You don't need to be a wealthy Elizabethan in order to relate to the story. I think that's probably the most magical part about Romeo and Juliet and perhaps the reason his stories still breathe today.



Harley - 11.2

PE News

From Tournament to Team: Inspiring the Next Generation of Girls' Footballers at Hendon

To celebrate International Women's Day, Hendon School hosted a fantastic Girls' Football Tournament for all female students in years 7-9. The event aimed to break down barriers and encourage more girls to take part in football, regardless of their experience or ability.



The day was filled with energy, teamwork and impressive performances, with many students playing competitive football for the first time. It was fantastic to see so many girls getting involved and enjoying the game, showing just how much enthusiasm there is for girls' football at Hendon.



Tournament Results

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Cup Winner – Brazil	Cup Winner – Argentina	Cup Winner – Portugal
Cup Runner Up – Germany	Cup Runner Up – Germany	Cup Runner Up – Spain
Plate Winner – England	Plate Winner – Spain	Plate Winner – Argentina
Plate Runner Up – Spain	Plate Runner Up – France	Plate Runner Up – Japan



Partnership with Barnet Panthers Girls' Football Club

We were delighted to run the event in partnership with Barnet Panthers FC, whose coaches attended the tournament and interacted with the girls throughout the day. They were extremely impressed by the talent and enthusiasm on display and awarded over 50 scout cards.

Following the success of the event, Barnet Panthers are now running football sessions specifically for Hendon girls, giving students a fantastic opportunity to continue their football journey beyond of school.

Football Training at Hendon

Girls can also continue playing football at school through our new clubs.

- ⚽ Lunchtime Club - Every Monday
- ⚽ After School Club - Wednesdays (Starting April 29th)



League Champions and Rising Teams: A Strong Season for Hendon Netball



As the netball season draws to a close, it has been fantastic to see so many students representing Hendon School with commitment, teamwork and determination across all year groups.

Our Year 7 team, led by Mr Chaudhry, have shown great enthusiasm throughout their first season of school netball. While the results did not always go their way, the team has grown in confidence and numbers as the season progressed. With new players joining and developing their understanding of the game, the team has built a strong foundation and shows real potential heading into next season.

The Year 8 team, led by Mrs Basra, have also worked hard throughout the season and competed in a challenging league. As we look ahead to next year, the focus will be on recruiting more players to strengthen the squad, with opportunities to get involved through summer training sessions to help build a larger and more competitive team.



Our Year 9 team, led by Miss Bool, enjoyed their most successful season to date, winning three out of their four fixtures.

Unfortunately, scheduling difficulties meant their final match could not take place, but the team should be extremely proud of their performances and the progress they have made this season.



For Year 10, led by Miss Downing, the season was unfortunately shortened due to scheduling challenges, with the team only able to play one of their three scheduled fixtures. Despite this, the players remained committed and demonstrated great teamwork, and we look forward to seeing them return next year ready for a fuller season.



Both our Year 11 team and Senior Netball Team, led by Miss Downing, have had outstanding seasons. Each team won their respective leagues and have progressed to the league finals. This is a fantastic achievement for both squads and reflects the dedication, teamwork and high standard of netball they have shown throughout the season.

Although the competitive season is coming to a close, netball at Hendon will continue. Training will run every Thursday after school, allowing the girls to continue developing their skills, teamwork and match play during the off-season. We also hope to arrange friendly fixtures where possible, giving players further opportunities to gain experience and continue building towards another strong season next year.

We also have several exciting upcoming fixtures and tournament opportunities:

- ❖ Year 7 Tournament - Wednesday 15th April
- ❖ Year 9B Tournament - Tuesday 28th April



Well done to all students who have represented Hendon this season. We look forward to building on this year's progress and seeing even more students involved in netball next year.

Hendon School - Upcoming Sports events

Get ready, Hendon – Athletics Season is almost here! We're incredibly excited to kick off another term of determination, teamwork, and outstanding performances. Our annual athletics meets at Stone X Stadium will be returning soon. Dates are not yet released, but we'll share them as soon as they become available. In the meantime, Athletics Club will run every Wednesday after school on the school field and is open to all year groups. Whether you're a seasoned athlete or trying something new, we'd love to see you there!

We're also thrilled to announce that Sports Day will take place at Willesden Sports Centre on **Wednesday 17th June**, bringing together all KS3 students for a full day of competition, fun, and house pride. It's always one of the highlights of the school year!

To wrap up an amazing season, our annual Sports Awards Evening will be held on **Friday 10th July** in the Main Hall. This special event celebrates the dedication, progress, and achievements of our incredible student-athletes across every sport.

Ms Downing - Head of PE

EPQ Class Trip to University of Southampton

On Tuesday 3rd March, the EPQ class went on a trip to University of Southampton. The trip was designed to help us with our EPQ projects and improve our research skills. It was also a good chance to experience a real university environment and understand how students work at a higher level.



One of the main parts of the trip was a session on academic research. We were introduced to Google Scholar and shown how to use it properly. The assistant teacher explained how to search for reliable articles and how to choose useful sources for our projects. This was very helpful, as it made research feel clearer and more organised. To give us better understanding of student life, we had lunch and were given time to walk around the campus. The university area was very large, and it was interesting to explore different buildings and spaces. This helped us get a better idea of what studying at university might be like in the future.



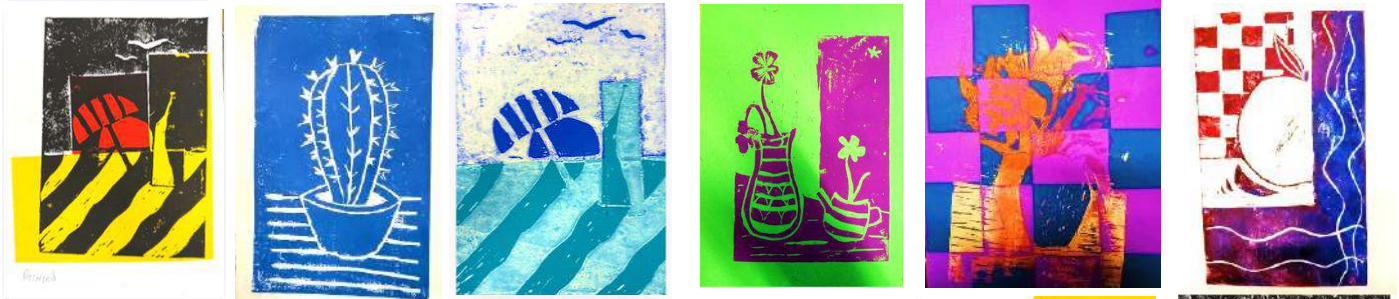
Finally, we visited the university library. We were shown how to find information in books and how to use the library system. The library had a wide range of resources, including many old and detailed books. I found several interesting and useful books related to my topic, which is Orthodox Christianity. This will help me develop my project further and use more reliable sources. The trip was a very valuable experience. It helped us improve our research skills and gave us more confidence in working on our EPQ projects.

Ivan - 12.3

Art and Photography News

Year 10 Lino Printing

Year 10 Art students have been learning about lino cutting and printing processes. This year, the time spent developing their own ideas has been extended in the project and the mix of different ideas show a high level of personal development from each student. They began with research, a drawing idea of their own, then developed their ideas into cutting, printing first in black and white, then exploring different colour variations and combining them with coloured paper, cut or torn in various ways to create new outcomes.



Well done to: Masha Karcha, Desmond Ng, Natalia Kieczka, Deema Ma-Albared, Zuzia Jankowska, Erin-Rose Lyons and Liliana Rodrigues.



Self Portrait paintings inspired by Chris Ofili, African Masks and Cultural patterns by class 8.3



Year 9 Di Chirico Paintings

Students created surreal paintings inspired by Giorgio Di Chirico to study perspective and improve their painting skills. Well done to: Vlera, Helena, Renushian, Artemis, Farmanullah, Darlene, Victoria and Taha.



Year 8 Photography Extension Group

Year 8 students from the Photography Extension group explored studio portraiture using lighting and flowers as props to create these stunning photographs. Well done for their impressive teamwork and expert camera skills.



Thank you to Rawan, Sana, Lina, Demi, Isabelle, Adela, Mayena, Salma and Mehran for modelling and photographing.

HS6 Autograph Gallery Trip

A Level Photography students loved investigating the exciting artists on show at East End's Autograph gallery exhibition on Wednesday 25th February 2026.

Students were inspired to photograph Brick Lane graffiti street scenes to develop their projects. Whitechapel Gallery had a retrospective by British Caribbean photographer Joy Gregory on display and we discussed printing techniques such as liquid light and cyanotypes:

<https://www.whitechapelgallery.org/exhibitions/joy-gregory-catching-flies-with-honey>



Year 12 Photography Collages

A level Photography students produced fantastic collages in response to the Autograph gallery's exhibition artists. They combined street photography to create a personal creative montage to communicate their experiences of East End neighbourhoods. Well done to Marcus, Tom and Abdulaziz!



Year 11 Autograph Gallery Trip

On Wednesday 11th March 2026, the Year 11 GCSE Photography class went to East London to visit the Autograph gallery's exhibition '*I still dream of Lost Vocabularies*' which shows international photcollage artists curated by a former Hendon School student Bindi Vora: <https://autograph.org.uk/exhibitions/i-still-dream-of-lost-vocabularies>

We had an introduction to the amazing work on display which provided students with inspiration for their current exam projects. The streets of Shoreditch and Bishopsgate provided them with exciting opportunities to photograph Victorian buildings in contrast to modern glass architecture, which the group thoroughly enjoyed and made use of. A big thank you to our HARP staff, Ms Browne and Learning Hub teacher Mr Kehou, who were amazing with the students.



Year 12 & 13 Trip to Tate Modern and Saatchi Gallery

On Wednesday 25th February, Year 12 and 13 A Level Art students went on a study trip to the Tate Modern and the Saatchi Gallery where they sourced ideas for their current projects.



Whilst in the Saatchi gallery, they attended a short workshop where they were asked to create collages in the style of their given artist. All students were very motivated and produced some interesting pieces.

Ms Schmid, Mr Keller and Ms Cowles - Art & Photography Department

World Book Day 5th March

Our Library organised a wide range of World Book Day activities all week:

- Monday: Five Nights at Freddy's Book Club
- Tuesday: Manga & Anime Themed Jenga Tournament
- Wednesday: Arts & Crafts station
- Thursday: World Book Day
 - World Book Day Library Market - cupcake decorating, bookmark crafting competition, book displays, etc.
 - World Book Day "Footy & Booky Quiz" for Year 7 students.
- Friday: Werewolves Card Game Tournament



We had a fantastic turnout and excitement from students all week long, with LOTS of prizes up for grabs. A massive thank-you shout out to our fantastic Library Ambassadors volunteers for helping out with all the events!



Carnegie's Book Award Shortlist Launch - 10th March

The Carnegie awards is the UK's most prestigious book awards for children and young people, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration, and uniquely judged by children's librarians. A key feature is the "Shadows' choice" where young people "shadow" the judging process, meaning they prepare a live presentation and vote for their own winner in a shadowing ceremony on June 15th (with the bonus point of meeting the shortlisted authors!).

- Discussions and shadowing preparations on the writing shortlist will take place every Monday Period 4 in the library - a fantastic opportunity to be a part of a national book award and meet published authors. Limited availability; students must register their interest.
- Discussions on the illustration shortlist will take place every Wednesday Period 4 in the library - everyone is welcome to participate.



Interested in taking part? Come and talk to us!

National Reading Champions Quiz - 17th March

Huge congratulations to our Year 8 and Year 9 reading champions! Students were quizzed on their book knowledge in a fun, regional heat competition and did brilliantly on all eight rounds. They received personal certificates of achievement, as well as an upcoming mystery prize. Well done all!

- Nethumi 9.7
- Vlera 9.7
- Koto 9.3
- Yana 9.3
- Rey 8.5
- Brandon 8.5
- Ksenia 8.6
- Matilda 8.6



Young City Poets live performance at Saint Paul's Cathedral - 19th March

The Young City Poets programme reached its conclusion with our selected Year 9 students performing their original poetry in front of a live audience at St Paul's Cathedral. This programme was organised in collaboration with our Library team, the National Literacy Trust and the English department. The St Paul closing event was hosted by musicians and poets Simon Mole, Gecko, Paul Cree and Zohab Zee Khan. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet artists and be celebrated for their work and confidence. We hope they remain inspired to write, read and create. Congratulations everyone!

- Danilo 9.3
- Nethumi 9.7
- Rhea 9.6
- Carmen 9.5
- Summer 9.5
- Koto 9.3
- Rebecca 9.5
- Anowshka 9.6



Dan Freedman Author visit - 25th March



We were delighted to welcome New York Times best-selling author Dan Freedman to deliver a presentation on his remarkable career journey. Dan inspired 250 of our Year 8-10 students with stories on how he turned his passion for football into a range of careers. Before becoming an author, Dan was managing editor for the Football Association. He interviewed the likes of Messi and Ronaldo, and travelled to two World Cups as the first ever in-house journalist embedded with the English Team. His mission is to make reading and writing “cool”. His latest non-fiction book, “50 Ways Into Football”, explores all the ways in which young people can make a career in the Football industry. He is a fantastic role model, showing how a dedication to your passion can open up so many doors for everyone. A massive thank you to Dan for coming!

Ms Ledeme & Mrs Indran

A-Level Geographers Explore Brick Lane: A Day of Discovery with Queen Mary University

“Experiencing a different side of London was amazing – it really helped me revise for my ‘Diverse Place’ module.”

“Our group leader, Kate Amis, had so much local knowledge. She was informative, interesting, and made everything come alive.”

“The campus was amazing, and the geography department was so friendly!”

These student reflections set the tone for what became an amazing A Level Geography fieldtrip with Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) – a day packed with first hand investigation, rich urban geography, and powerful links to both the Edexcel Diverse Places module and students’ NEA fieldwork skills.

Led by the exceptionally knowledgeable Kate Amis, students explored the dynamic landscape of Brick Lane and Spitalfields, an area renowned for its cultural layers and rapid urban transformation.

One of the day’s core themes was change over time, a vital concept in both the A Level specification and NEA methodology. Using historical photographs and paintings, students compared past and present, developing techniques for visual analysis and qualitative data collection.



Kate guided students through the Huguenot, Jewish, and Bangladeshi migration histories that shaped the area, highlighting how successive waves of people have imprinted their identities on the neighbourhood.

Bangla Town vs. North Brick Lane: A Living Case Study in Gentrification

Walking through Banglatown, students observed a landscape that has undergone minimal regeneration, retaining strong cultural markers such as:

- Bangladeshi motifs and murals
- Ethnic food shops and restaurants
- Remittance services and community-owned banks

These features acted as real world examples of place identity, community continuity, and global connections – all central ideas in students' 'Diverse Places' revision.

Moving northwards, however, the contrast was striking. Students saw first-hand the signs of gentrification:

- Hipster cafés
- Artisan bakeries
- “Experience shops” selling novelty items (including clay broccoli florets – surprisingly profitable!)
- Trendy pop ups and boutique studios

Using a GOAD map, students annotated land use changes and discovered that around 80% of shops on the northern end of Brick Lane have changed in the past decade which is a powerful statistic illustrating the scale and speed of urban transformation.

Spitalfields: The Epitome of Regeneration

The fieldtrip concluded in Spitalfields, a polished, highly regenerated urban space. Here, students reflected on:

- the economic and social conflicts between long standing Bangladeshi communities and incoming higher income groups
- the tensions between preserving cultural heritage and urban redevelopment
- how place meaning shifts when demographics and land use evolve

These insights feed directly into high level exam responses for Edexcel Paper 2 and provide invaluable contextual examples for students' NEA investigations into urban change.

Strengthening Academic Links with Queen Mary University

The visit also deepened the school's relationship with Queen Mary University's Geography Department, offering students:

- exposure to university-style geographic inquiry
- access to expert knowledge
- insight into studying geography at degree level
- encouragement from friendly, welcoming staff

Miss Lawy even secured her salt-beef bagel while the boys grabbed their Pepes – a perfect end to a full-on day of research, walking, and academic adventure.

An Annual Tradition in the Making

Given the richness of the experience – academically, culturally, and personally – this trip will now become an annual fixture in the A Level Geography calendar.

It enriched students' understanding of urban processes, sharpened their NEA investigation skills, and provided unforgettable, real-world context for one of their most important exam modules.

A day in the field with Queen Mary University didn't just support students' learning – it brought geography alive.

Dr Lawy - Head of Geography

