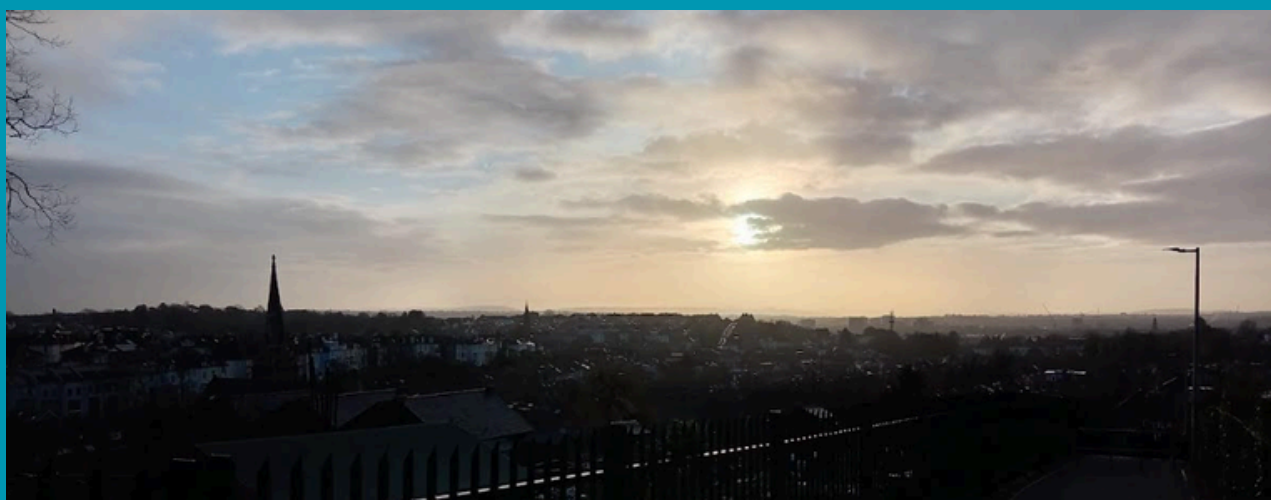


TERM 3 AT RGS 2026



A short but busy (and rainy!) term - please see below for a round-up of everything that has happened at Redland Green Learning Community since the beginning of January.



TRIPS, VISITS AND WIDER OPPORTUNITIES

This term, Year 12 students have enjoyed a rich and varied programme of educational trips, designed to extend learning beyond the classroom and support both academic and personal development.

The term began with the A Level London Galleries Trip on Thursday 15 January 2026, where Art students explored the Tate Modern and the V & A Museum. Seeing original artworks first-hand deepened their understanding of artistic movements, while also giving valuable insight into how ideas are presented in professional exhibition spaces.

On Monday 19 January, Year 12 Geographers undertook a field trip to St Pauls and the Harbourside, carrying out urban fieldwork. Students collected primary data, examined regeneration, inequality and land use, and practised essential geographical enquiry skills required for their A Level coursework.

Students then turned their focus to future pathways at the Bristol HE+ Launch Conference on Friday 30 January. The session introduced students to the programme and the opportunities it offers to explore academic interests, develop key skills and prepare for competitive university applications. It was a valuable starting point for students considering this pathway.

Intellectual debate continued on Tuesday 3 February, when members of the Philosophy Society visited Redmaids' High School. Engaging in discussion with peers from another school, students explored challenging philosophical questions - this time focused on questions around life after death.

Finally, mathematically minded students represented the school at the Post-16 Inter-Schools Mathematics Competition at Bristol Grammar School on Tuesday 10 February. Working collaboratively under time pressure, they tackled demanding problems that stretched logical thinking and teamwork, with two of our teams finishing in the top 10!





University
of Exeter



FUTURES - NEXT STEPS

Careers guidance continues to be a strong focus across Post 16. Tutor time has included sessions on apprenticeships, helping students understand how to search and apply for opportunities. Further guidance and resources are available via the RGS Student Hub, alongside external platforms such as UCAS and Amazing Apprenticeships.

We welcomed KPMG, who visited during the final week of term to speak to students about apprenticeships. The session provided valuable insight into alternative post-18 pathways, the application process, and the skills and attributes employers look for. Students asked insightful questions and gained a clearer understanding of how apprenticeships can offer a high-quality route into professional careers.

We were also pleased to host Davis Hobbs from Bevan Brittan earlier for a lunchtime talk with Post 16 students about careers in Law. Davis shared his journey, explained different training routes, and highlighted the importance of enrichment, responsibility and work experience in building transferable skills.

We also welcomed visitors from higher education, including a representative from the University of Exeter, who worked with Year 12 students to prepare for the upcoming UCAS Convention and spoke to Year 13 students about student finance. An online webinar for parents on the topic of student finance will be offered later in March - full details will be sent in the new term.

Huge congratulations to Year 13 students who sent off their UCAS applications earlier in the term - we sent a record breaking number this year! Students who are still thinking about their next steps are reminded that one-to-one appointments with our careers coach remain available for personalised guidance (bookable via Post 16 reception).

Up to date careers opportunities are shared regularly [here](#).

ASSEMBLIES, TALKS AND ENRICHMENT

Year 12 students attended an important assembly on consent, delivered by Dr Claire-Michelle Smyth (Associate Professor of Law). The session encouraged thoughtful discussion around respect, communication and personal responsibility, reinforcing key messages around healthy relationships and wellbeing.

In addition, a group of Year 12 students visited UWE Bristol for the Raise the Bar conference, gaining valuable insight into student life and post-18 opportunities. Meanwhile, our first participation in Oxford Debating Online saw students competing against schools from across the country, debating motions on social comparison and celebrity influence. For more information about debating in school see below for an article written by Ridha in Year 12.

Other enrichment opportunities continue, including basketball on Wednesday afternoons, current affairs discussion club, student run medical and STEM societies, and an after school Traitors session. As well of this we have more students than ever offering their time to support teachers and younger students in their lessons and enrichment sessions.



YEAR 13 PARENTS' SURVEY

Thank you to all Year 13 parents who took the time to complete our recent survey. We are very grateful for your feedback.

Overall, the responses are extremely positive and show that confidence in our Post-16 provision remains strong and consistent over time. Parents continue to report high levels of satisfaction with student wellbeing, safety, academic progress and preparation for life beyond school. Where parents suggested areas for improvement, these focused mainly on communication and awareness, rather than on the quality of education or support provided.

What parents feel is working well

Wellbeing and safety

Almost all parents told us that their son or daughter feels safe, happy and well supported at NBP16. These results remain exceptionally strong and reflect the calm, respectful and supportive environment we work hard to maintain.

Academic outcomes and next steps

Over 90% of parents agree that students achieve well and are well prepared for their next steps after Post-16. Confidence in academic standards and outcomes continues to be high and in line with previous surveys.

Independence and responsibility

Helping students develop independence and take responsibility for themselves continues to be one of the greatest strengths of the Post-16 experience. This has been the strongest area of agreement year after year.

Curriculum

Parents are very positive about the range of subjects available, and 99% said they would recommend NBP16 to another parent. This level of confidence and endorsement is extremely encouraging.

Staff support and care

Many parents commented on the dedication and care shown by staff, particularly in relation to wellbeing, mentoring and SEND support. There is also strong confidence in leadership and the overall direction of NBP16.

Areas we are continuing to develop

Communication with parents

Although feedback about communication is still positive, this remains an area we always want to strengthen. Parents are mainly asking for clearer and more consistent information, rather than more frequent contact. This has improved since earlier surveys, but quality communication remains a key focus for us.

Personal development and enrichment

Some questions about personal development, equality and enrichment received positive feedback, but also a higher number of "Don't know" responses. As part of our ongoing review of communications we will be looking at how we can better publicise this side of school life.

Continuity during staffing changes

A small number of parents raised concerns about disruption to learning linked to staff absence or changes. We recognise the importance of continuity and will continue to prioritise this, aiming to always keep disruption to a minimum.

Overall picture

The survey clearly confirms that NBP16 is a highly effective and well-regarded Post-16 provision. Our next steps focus on improving communication and making our wider offer more visible, while continuing to protect the strong outcomes, positive culture and student independence that parents consistently value. Thank you again for your support and feedback - a similar survey for Year 12 parents will follow during term 4.

Debate Club

(Written by Ridha Munir Y12)

Debate Club brings together Post-16 students every week to explore thought provoking topics, share perspectives, and take part in structured debates. The club welcomes students from all backgrounds, creating a supportive and non judgmental space where every voice is valued.

The aim of the club is to encourage students to step outside their comfort zone, develop confidence, and strengthen essential skills such as critical thinking, public speaking . Through regular discussions and debates, students learn how to express their ideas clearly, listen actively, and respond thoughtfully to opposing viewpoints.

These skills benefit students far beyond the debate room. Students often find themselves more confident in class discussions, more willing to ask questions, and better prepared for future opportunities such as job interviews, presentations, and higher education pathways. Debate Club not only builds communication skills but also promotes a sense of community.



"I enjoy debate club because it helps me express my opinions confidently and hearing different viewpoints. It makes me feel more confident speaking in front of people. Also debate club focuses on real discussions instead of activities or games." - a debate club member



ACADEMIC PREPARATION AND STUDY SUPPORT

Year 13 students have been concentrating on mock examinations, using the experience to reflect on revision strategies and identify next steps. Academic Mentors remain available to support students who would benefit from additional guidance. For Year 12 students next term will be spent preparing for mock exams just before the Easter holiday. For both year groups tutor time will focus on reviewing performance, setting SMART revision goals and planning effectively for the weeks ahead. Additional support is available from tutors and Upgrade as usual - and all students are very welcome to visit 2F1 or the Academic Mentor Office to discuss what can be done to help.

WELLBEING AND SUPPORT

Student wellbeing remains a central focus within Post 16. Recent wellbeing guidance has included advice about mental health and social media, opening up as part of “time to talk” day and information about how to access help from our Post 16 counsellor Freya.

Information and support resources continue to be shared through tutor time, assemblies and student emails.

If you need urgent support during the half term break, we can recommend the following services:

- Kooth – real-time, online support An online counselling platform for young people aged 11-18.
- Childline – 0800 1111. 7:30am – 3.30am Helpline and webchat where you can talk about anything that’s on your mind.
- CAMHS Crisis Line - 0800 953 9599. Open 24/7 365 days a year Immediate emotional and practical telephone support for young people aged 17 and under.
- Shout – text 85258. Open 24/7 365 days a year text support for young people in crisis.

As ever if a student has any worries about themselves or one of their peers, or have experienced or witnessed any form of discrimination in school they should pass this on to a member of our safeguarding team or use Whisper - our anonymous reporting tool. Safeguarding concerns can also be sent to safeguardingalert@redlandgreen.bristol.sch.uk

REMINDERS AND KEY DATES...

- Students should wear their identification lanyards at all times when on site
- Term 4 begins on Monday 23rd February 2026. It will be **week B** when we return
- Year 12 mock exams will be held from Friday 27th March - Thursday 2nd April. We will be able to give personalised advice about preparation at our parents' evening on Thursday 19th March (details will follow at the start of next term)

We wish all students and parents a very restful break, and our best wishes for a peaceful Ramadan to those who will be observing the holy month.

