20 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another productive week at Bury Church of England High School, our students have continued to show curiosity, compassion, and resilience across their learning. Through PSHE, Enrichment, and our careers programme, pupils have engaged thoughtfully with important issues that help shape their personal development and understanding of the wider world.

During PSHE, students developed their understanding of important social and emotional topics:

Year 7 learned how to stand up to negative pressure and influences, with a particular focus on recognising bullying. Students practised confident and safe ways to challenge unkind behaviour and support others, reinforcing our school values of respect and courage.

Year 8 explored the question "Should Britain support those seeking asylum in the UK?" Students developed their understanding of what asylum is, listened to different viewpoints, and considered whether the UK has a moral responsibility to support those fleeing danger. This encouraged thoughtful debate and compassionate reflection.

Year 9 examined how we deal with grief and loss. Students learned how grief can affect us in a variety of ways and explored healthy strategies for coping, along with where to seek support if they or someone they know is struggling.

Year 10 tackled an especially sensitive but important topic: recognising the signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. Students learned how to spot possible warning signs and, crucially, how to respond safely by seeking help for themselves or others. Their maturity and respect during these discussions have been commendable.

Year 11 considered why we should respect international laws and treaties, reflecting on how global agreements help protect human rights, promote peace, and support cooperation between nations.

Alongside this, our careers education has been a particular focus for Year 11 this week. We have worked closely with students to ensure they are fully prepared for their next steps, especially with college applications and interviews. Staff have delivered a range of one-to-one support sessions, and it has been wonderful to hear how confidently and successfully students have handled their interviews. Their hard work and determination have been a real credit to the school.

Next week, our whole-school Future Fridays careers focus will be on the role of the Apprenticeship Assessor. Students will discover what the job involves, the professional skills needed, and the qualifications required, helping them broaden their understanding of the world of work.

Our SHINE curriculum students have also been learning about ways they can become involved in social action projects over the festive period. They explored the work of food banks and discussed how communities can support those who are most vulnerable at this time of year. These sessions encourage students to live out our Christian values through compassion, service, and kindness.

As we approach the wellbeing long weekend, we wish all families a restful and restorative few days. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 25th November.

Kind regards,
Bury Church of England High School