



# NEWSTEAD WOOD SCHOOL

*"creating opportunities for success"*

15 January 2026

Dear Year 10 students and parents/carers,

## Jack Petchey Speak Out! Challenge 2026

I am writing to let you know about an exciting opportunity for Year 10 students. For many years, we have worked with Speakers Trust, a charity which runs the Jack Petchey Speak Out! Challenge. This is a stimulating public speaking workshop for Year 10 students. This year, the event will be held on Friday 23 January 2026.

This will be a challenging day when students will receive intensive training in public speaking and end the day with a 'Speak Off', giving them the opportunity to compete against other Bromley schools. The day will develop students' communication skills, clarity of thinking and their use of language. It will also help students gain confidence ahead of the GCSE Spoken Language assessment at the end of Year 10.

The full cost of the workshop will be funded by the Jack Petchey foundation. Students will be in the workshop all day so will not be attending their usual timetabled lessons.

There are 30 places available for the workshop. Due to the limited spaces available, I will be sending an email to all Year 10 students asking them to apply for a place by writing 100 words explaining why they would like to participate. Please do encourage your daughter to apply. The deadline to enter is the end of the school day on **Friday 16 January**.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at: [emillbank@newsteadwood.co.uk](mailto:emillbank@newsteadwood.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,

E Millbank

**Miss E Millbank**  
**Teacher of English**

**Headteacher:** Mr Paul Norman MA, MSc, BSc (Hons), PGCE

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