



# Holmer Green Senior School

**Year 12 Parents Information Evening**

Thursday, 21st September 2023

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## 2023 Summer Results

- 28% of grades A\*-A
  - 63% of grades A\*-B
  - 85% of grades A\*-C
- 
- 100% of students who applied through UCAS or for an Apprenticeship received a place at university or on their Apprenticeship



# Sixth Form Destinations 2023

Year 13 Class of 2023

University Destinations and subjects studied  
**Russell Group Universities in bold**

**GAP year:** Two students secured opportunities abroad, one in turtle conservation and the other to support in an orphanage in Nepal

**Employment:** A number of our students wanted to enter the world of full time employment

**Apprenticeship:** One student secured an apprenticeship with Stantec UK, one in Logistics at Heathrow airport

**Scholarships:** Two students were successful in securing football scholarships in America, one in Iowa and one in West Virginia

Arts University Bournemouth—Make-Up for Media and Performance

Bournemouth University – Product Design, Psychology, Economics

Buckinghamshire New University –Music Production and Performance

Cardiff Metropolitan University—Sport and Exercise Science

**Cardiff University—Civil Engineering, History**

Dancebox Studios and Theatre Works—Professional Dance and Musical Theatre

Loughborough University—Marketing and Management, Finance and Management

Nottingham Trent—Business Management and Marketing, Biological Sciences

Oxford Brookes University—Business and Management, Law with Business

**Queen Mary University of London—Politics and Sociology, Digital and Technology Solutions (Degree Apprenticeship)**

**Royal Holloway—Drama and Theatre Studies**

The Academy of Contemporary Music—Music Production

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Year 13 Class of 2023

University Destinations and subjects studied  
**Russell Group Universities in bold**

A faint, light grey map of the United Kingdom is visible in the background, spanning across the middle of the page.

University of the Arts London—Textile Design, Fashion Imaging and Illustration  
**University of Birmingham—Medicine, Biological Sciences, Business Management**  
University of Brighton—Fashion Communication with Business Studies  
University Campus of Football Business—International Football Business  
University of Derby—Sport and Education  
University of East Anglia—Marketing and Management  
University of Essex—Physiotherapy  
**University of Exeter—English and Film & Television Studies, Business and Management**  
University of Hertfordshire—Pharmacy  
University of Huddersfield—Science Extended Degree leading to a BSc (Hons) Degree  
University of Kent—Ancient, Medieval and Modern History  
University of Leicester—Psychology, Law  
**University of Nottingham—Aerospace Engineering, Computer Science**  
University of Plymouth—Law and Criminology  
University of Portsmouth —Nursing (Adult), Diagnostic Radiography and Medical Imaging, Accounting with Finance  
University of Reading—Modern Languages (German) and History, Business and Management (Marketing), Pharmacy  
University of Sheffield—Bioengineering, Data Science  
**University of Southampton—Aeronautics and Astronautics, Geography, Criminology**  
University of Sussex—Psychology  
University of Wales Trinity Saint David—Fine Art  
**University of Warwick—Mechanical Engineering**  
University of Westminster—Architecture, Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, Biomedical Science  
University of Winchester—Sport and Exercise Psychology  
**University of York—Biology**

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# **HGSS** Sixth Form – Parent Links



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# Introductions

**Mrs Golding:** Assistant Head teacher - Sixth Form



**Mr McMaster:** Head of Year 12



**Mr Stockton:** Head of Year 13



**Mrs Martin:** KS5 Administrator



**Mrs Panayiotou:** Sixth Form Learning Mentor



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# Important Contacts

**6.1 Academic Tutor:** Nadia Shahbazi – Email: [ShahbaziN@holmer.org.uk](mailto:ShahbaziN@holmer.org.uk)

**6.2 Academic Tutor:** Elaine Hill – Email: [HillE@holmer.org.uk](mailto:HillE@holmer.org.uk)

**6.3 Academic Tutor:** Sarah Cockbill / Kirsty de Groot – Email: [Cockbills@holmer.org.uk](mailto:Cockbills@holmer.org.uk) or [DeGrootK@holmer.org.uk](mailto:DeGrootK@holmer.org.uk)

**6.4 Academic Tutor:** Charlotte Lewin / Jen Digby – Email: [LewinC@holmer.org.uk](mailto:LewinC@holmer.org.uk) or [DigbyJ@holmer.org.uk](mailto:DigbyJ@holmer.org.uk)

**6.5 Academic Tutor:** Ian Moss – Email: [MossI@holmer.org.uk](mailto:MossI@holmer.org.uk)

**6.6 Academic Tutor:** Michelle Haslett / Vicky Nicholls – Email: [HaslettM@holmer.org.uk](mailto:HaslettM@holmer.org.uk) or [NichollsV@holmer.org.uk](mailto:NichollsV@holmer.org.uk)

**6.7 Academic Tutor:** Victoria Walden – [WaldenV@holmer.org.uk](mailto:WaldenV@holmer.org.uk)

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## **Pastoral Care**

### **Role of the Academic Tutor:**

- The first port of call for student's concerns and worries
- The first port of call for parental queries
- Monitor student progress and challenge underachievement
- Remove barriers to learning
- Liaise with teachers
- Monitor attendance and punctuality
- Provide guidance and present the Tutorial Programme
- To oversee student welfare





# Sixth Form: The Challenges ahead

## Sixth Form is a BIG step up!

- Independent Study
- Directed Study
- Independent Learning: At least 5 hours per subject per week
- “Reading around the subject”
- Study Skills: Note-taking, Organisation, Time Management, Revision techniques, Research
- Keeping motivated and avoiding procrastination
- Implications of Linear A Levels: 2 years assessed right at the end
- Stress Management
- Regular internal assessment

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## Support in School

- Very careful to make sure that students are on the most appropriate courses
- Smaller group teaching allows for more support and attention
- Interventions: Lunchtimes, after school
- Elevate: Study Skills consultants
- Academic Tutor/HOY/HOSF monitors progress
- Student Target review and Action Planning
- Subject contracts / reports / Action-plans
- Sixth Form Counsellor
- Rotary Club Grant
- Bursary Fund: If you need some financial support while your son / daughter is in the Sixth Form please do see Mrs Martin for a Student Financial Support / Bursary Form
- Lucid tasting: to ensure appropriate exam concessions are in place

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## How can you help us?

- Check they are dressed according to the Dress Code and are wearing their Identity Lanyard
- Book medical appointments and driving lessons out of school time
- Encourage them to be an active part of our Sixth Form!
- Make sure they arrive on time; they should be on site by 8:45
- Encourage full attendance and contact the school on the first day of their illness
- Please don't book term-time holidays
- Please sign up to and **monitor Satchel**

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# Attendance Matters (Sixth Form Target = 96%)

## Attendance over One School Year

*If a student had:*

*98% attendance = less than 4 days absent from school*

*95% attendance = 10 days absent from school (50 hours of learning to catch up)*

*90% attendance = 4 weeks absent from school (100 hours of learning to catch up)*

*85% attendance = 5 ½ weeks absent from school*

*80% attendance = 7 ½ weeks absent from school*

## Attendance over 2 years (Years 12 and 13) ...

*If a student had:*

*85% attendance = 11 weeks off; equivalent to a whole term!!!!*

*Could you catch up on a whole term of learning over the course of 2 years (+homework = a further 165 hours)????*

**95% attendance** means 10 days absence and 50 lessons lost where there are 5 lessons a day

**90% attendance or less** can reduce your chances of good outcomes by half

**Medical Appointments** When possible book them outside of Sixth Form hours.

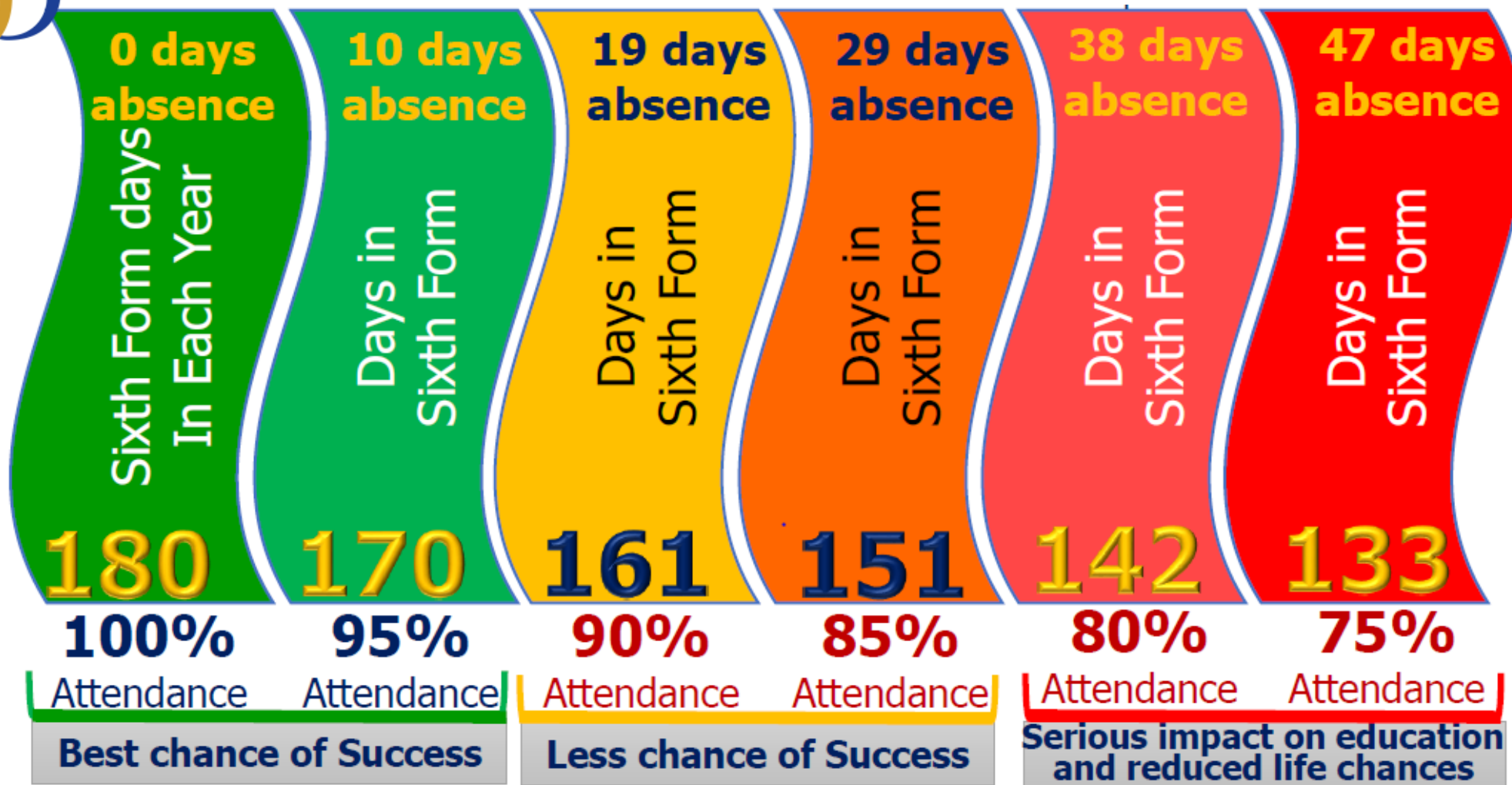
**Illness** Unless it's serious, come into Sixth Form, it's best to come in and try then decide you need to go home.

**Family Holidays** You have 175 days a year where you're not in Sixth Form. A one-week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can get is 97%

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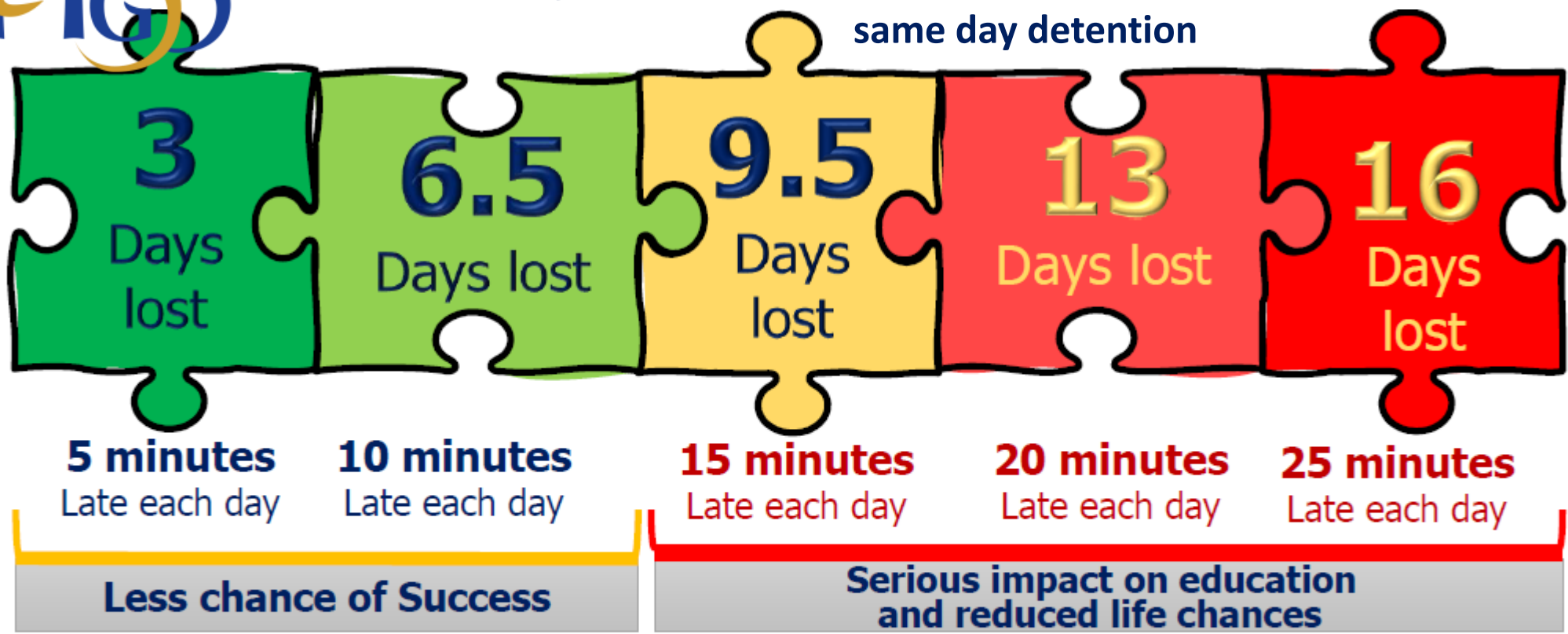


## Attendance Matters: 185 non-term days for personal commitments



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# HGSS Punctuality Counts: 5 minutes late to registration or a lesson = same day detention



! Average learning hours per day is **5 hours**.  
If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed **2 full weeks** of Sixth form in one year!

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Attend all registrations at 8:50 (on site by 8:45)



## Dress Code: “Styled for Business”

### Permitted:

- Suit Jacket and tie
- Smart Jacket
- Tailored trousers / trouser suit
- Shirt with a stiff collar / blouse or smart top
- Smart jumper or cardigan
- Skirt or dress of reasonable length ('a smart school length')
- Smart, plain, leather shoes or boots
- One discrete nose stud

If help is needed to purchase items suitable please see Mrs Martin to apply for a Bursary

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# Dress Code: “Styled for Business”

## Never permitted

- Jeans or denim, leather or leather-look
- Leggings, Lycra, shorts
- Tops that show a bare midriff or are revealing, low cut or see-through
- Leisure/sportswear/trainers
- Canvas shoes or Flip flops
- Hoodies / T shirts
- Hair of unnatural colour

## If you wouldn't see it in:

- An Accountant's Office
- A Solicitor's Office
- A Bank
- An Estate Agents
- John Lewis!



**We shouldn't see it in our Sixth Form!!!**

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# Reporting & Assessment

## Monitoring student progress

	Reports Issued	Form of Assessment
<b>Autumn 1:</b> Baseline reports & AtL	Week beginning: October 16 <sup>th</sup>	Targets Issued & Attitude to Learning
<b>Sixth Form Parents Evening 1: October 19<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Autumn 2:</b> (AP1) & AtL	Week beginning: December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Summative grades, formative feedback & Attitude to Learning
<b>Spring 1:</b> AtL	Week beginning: February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Attitude to Learning only
<b>Sixth Form Parents Evening 2: March 14<sup>th</sup></b>		
<b>Spring 2:</b> (AP2) & AtL	Week beginning: March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Summative grades, formative feedback
<b>Summer 1:</b> AtL	Week beginning: May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Attitude to Learning only
<b>Summer 2:</b> End of Year 12 Final Examinations (AP3) & AtL	Week beginning: July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Summative grades & Attitude to Learning

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# Attitude to Learning

**What does an Exemplary student look like?**

**What do they do? They are “Uni-ready”**

To be classed as an “Exemplary student”: a **Grade 1**

<b>1</b> <b>Exemplary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You register and start work promptly without being reminded</li><li>• You carefully organise your time and meticulously self-check your work</li><li>• You work independently throughout the lesson without any distraction or distracting others</li><li>• You only use your mobile phone for educational purposes</li><li>• You consistently demonstrate self-motivation and initiative when aiming beyond your best, and always read around the topic and are an independent worker</li><li>• You are always a role-model for your peers and use time productively</li></ul>
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# Independent Study

Independent study allows our students to take responsibility for their studies and gives the opportunity to further research their current topics in their studies.

Depending on the students ATL this will determine how much supervision will be given in this independent time.

Those with an ATL score of 3 will be in an area with constant supervision so that they are able to be kept on task at all times.

Those with an ATL score of 2 will be able to be in the purple study room under Head of Year supervision but this will be periodic supervision.

Those with an ATL score of 1 will be able to use the Coffee Lounge which has no supervision and gives students complete autonomy of their studies.

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# Consequences for unacceptable conduct in Independent Study Behaviour Ladder

1	<b>Green</b>	<p>This is your warning.</p> <p>When you have been placed on here we <b>expect no further disruptive behaviour.</b></p>
2	<b>Amber</b>	<p>If you are placed on amber, you will be given a <b>behaviour point</b></p> <p>Your name will be written on the board to <b>help</b> as a reminder</p>
3	<b>Red</b>	<p>If you are placed on red, you will be issued a <b>green detention.</b></p> <p>Green detentions take place centrally on the same day.</p>
4	<b>Removal</b>	<p>You will be <b>removed from Independent Study by a Duty Leader</b>, to the Head of Sixth Form or your Head of Year.</p> <p>If you have repeated removals in a day, <b>you will be placed in the RIG for the rest of the day.</b> You will be set an Amber detention.</p>



## The Coffee Lounge

If a student:

- Gains all 1 for Attitude to Learning in their Autumn 1 reports
- Is in line to meet their targets
- Meets our expectations for Dress, Behaviour, Attendance, Punctuality, Attitude, Commitment etc.

They will earn the right to study in the Coffee Lounge that we have been granted by the school exclusively for our sixth form students.

However, If concerns are raised, or at any point their efforts / performance deteriorates, this privilege will be revoked.

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## The “Right to Roam”

If a student:

- Gains all 1 and 2s for Attitude to Learning in their Autumn 1 reports
- Is in line to meet their targets
- Meets our expectations for Dress, Behaviour, Attendance, Punctuality, Attitude, Commitment etc.

They will earn the right to sign out at the end of Lesson 4 to go home to study (except Wednesdays), however, if concerns are raised, or at any point their efforts / performance deteriorates, this privilege will be revoked and students will be required to carry out additional / catch up work with Mrs Panayiotou during Lesson 5

The logo for HGSS, featuring the letters 'H', 'G', and 'S' in a stylized, overlapping font. The 'H' and 'G' are blue, and the 'S' is gold. The 'H' and 'G' are connected, and the 'S' is positioned to the right of the 'G'.

# Our Aims as a Sixth Form

To nurture and support our students to:

- Achieve their targets for academic results which will enable them to follow their aspirational career
- Be well rounded, ambitious individuals
- Be strong competitive candidates for University, Apprenticeship, Employment
- Demonstrate that they are willing to get involved, to take responsibility, and go the extra mile!

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What will make them stand out?

**RESULTS**

**BBB**

**Enjoys:**

- **Gaming**
- **Watching Love Island**
- **The Gym**

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## What will make them stand out?

**RESULTS**

**BBB**

- Duke of Edinburgh Gold
- Level 2 Qualification in Community Sports leadership
- Community Service: Supporting PE teaching
- Work Experience: Primary School (Professional reference supplied)
- Part time work; High Wycombe Sports centre (Professional reference supplied)
- St Johns Ambulance volunteer (3 years)

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## Work Experience

Work Experience will be the week beginning **8th July 2024**

Students will be responsible for arranging their own placement

Students taking DofE Gold will be recommended to find a placement in the Summer holidays

Placements should be in line with their **Career Aspirations** and not just about experiencing the world of work

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## Work Experience

The common principles of a high quality work experience placement are that it:

- is purposeful, substantial, offers challenge and is relevant to the young person's study programme and career aspirations;
- is managed under the direction of a supervisor to ensure the young person obtains a genuine learning experience suited to their needs;
- has a structured plan for the duration of the placement which provides tangible outcomes for the student and employer;
- focuses on the skills required for that occupational sector;
- has clear roles, responsibilities and expectations for the student and employer;
- is followed by some form of reference or feedback from the employer based on the young person's performance.

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# HGSS Work Experience

It is very important that the student obtains a positive reference, so that their tutor can refer to it in:

- the UCAS Reference
- Other future professional references  
e.g. Apprenticeships or Employment

**Year 12 have an Assembly on Monday to go through  
How to find a Work experience placement**



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# Work Experience

## Past Year 12 students:

- Law (law firms and shadowing High Court Judge)
- Bucks Fire & Rescue Service
- Car mechanics
- Accountancy / finance
- Sports physio in a fitness gym
- Civil engineering firm
- Robotics
- Bucks County Council, Business & Finance
- Nursery
- Car dealership
- Management consultancy
- Asset management in City of London
- Graphic Design studio
- Events & PR agencies
- School assistants
- RAF (Police, HR)
- Digital Marketing
- IT
- Theatres
- Hairdresser
- Aeronautical engineering
- Youth activity centre
- Photography studio

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# Work Experience – How?

How to go about finding your placement:

- Consider what employment sector or type of work you are interested in and start doing some **research** into local organisations and business in related fields
- **Ask around family and friends** who might know about local companies and organisations that you could contact
- **Talk to Year 13s** who might have similar career interests and aspirations as you, and find out what Work Experience they have done
- **Talk to subject teachers** who might have some useful ideas and suggestions to research
- When you have tried all that; ask for support: **Mrs Selleck Careers Advisor**

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# Work Experience – When?

- **Autumn Term:**
  - Consider career interests and aspirations
  - Research related industries and organisations in the local area
  - Talk to family and friends
  - Check in with our careers advisor: **Mrs Selleck**
- **Spring Term:**
  - Approach potential employers to request placement
  - Complete paperwork to authorise the placement with school, employer & parents
- **Summer Term:**
  - Research employer/industry and get prepared
  - Work Experience Week: **8 -12 July 2024**
  - Review/reflect: w/c 15 July and complete Skills Booklet





# Work Experience

## Year 12 Futures Programme

We use Enrichment time during the second half of the Summer Term to focus our Year 12 students on making plans for after they leave school, so that they can return for their last year with us able to make the best preparations they can for future success.

The Futures Programme has involved workshops on Why go to University?, on how to write a CV, how to prepare for an interview and what to expect, inspiration on Gap Years, getting registered on the UCAS platform for university application and a whole day focusing on Student Finance. We have a dedicated week for work experience, and our students really took advantage of this opportunity to participate in some exciting experiences linked to their own individual career aspiration. We had students visiting the local Law courts to better understand how the legal system works; spending a week with a costumer and creating their own prom dress; and a week with the Engineering team at RAF Benson which culminated in a flight on a chinook!



Two students spent a week with Allign on the HS2 site at Maple Cross. This is Europe's biggest infrastructure project, so whatever you may feel about the merits of HS2, for aspiring engineers it was an amazing opportunity to see cutting edge construction engineering in action, and understand the range of job opportunities it can offer to young people in our area.



Last week, with 2 full days off timetable, students listened to a presentation from the Bucks Skills Hub on the Labour Market, then participated in a lively speed networking event with over 30 employers sharing inspiration and advice on a range of industries including Healthcare, Engineering, Accountancy, Law, Community Welfare, IT, Marketing, Psychology, Fitness & Physio and the Services.

We then put the students through their paces using the CVs they had prepared in one to one interviews. Despite some nerves beforehand, all students seemed to come out smiling and feeling a lot more confident about themselves and what an interview involves. "It was like having a really good conversation!" said one: testament to the preparation beforehand, and our team of wonderful interviewers from Civil Service, Travelodge and CAL Recruitment (including some great parent support: thanks!) who rolled through 75 students between them, providing expert counsel on CVs, the value of using positive language, and the importance of eye contact.



We finished the day by welcoming back some of recent, inspiring alumni: it is so important for our current students to hear insight and experiences of others who have been through the same decisions and situations, who gave great advice and reassurance to our current cohort that they will all find their way in time and to just go for it! And of course, it always make for very proud teachers seeing these lovely young people again!



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## Enrichment

- It is our aim as a Sixth Form to give all students the opportunities that will demonstrate to Higher Education and future employers that they are well-rounded individuals who are willing to go beyond expectations in order to excel.
- In order to do this we offer a wide range of enrichment activities which will challenge and allow them to demonstrate personal qualities and transferable skills which go far beyond the classroom.



# Opportunities: Wednesday afternoon Enrichment

**Autumn 1:** “The Sixth Form Toolbox”: A range of seminars which aim to help students be “Sixth Form ready” including, Study Skills, Time Management, Memory Mnemonics, How to Ace Exams, Self Awareness, Resilience, Well-being and Career-pilot

**Autumn 2 onwards:** Students will have a choice from numerous, sporting, fitness, creative, Life-Skill, and Enterprise activities including:

- Self Defence Classes
- Sports / Fitness
- Use of the Multi-Gym
- Wellbeing / Meditation / Yoga / Pilates / Mindfulness
- Cooking: preparation for student life
- British Sign Language qualification
- Team building
- MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses)
- Fashion Drawing / Photoshop / Origami

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## Opportunities

In order to strengthen student's future applications, students need to choose from a wide range of enrichment activities:

- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award
- Sports Leaders
- Sixth Form Leadership team (Year 12 representatives)
- Sixth Form Student Working Party
- MIND volunteer mentor
- SUSU
- PYN (Pride Youth Network)
- The Employability programme / Community Service (Mandatory)
- Volunteering
- NCS – Workshops / Residential

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## Questions

Thank you for coming to our Year 12 Meet and Greet Evening.

Please stay a while, join us for a tour of the facilities and if you have any questions, feel free to ask!

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