



Holmer Green Senior School

Welcome to our
Year 12 Parents Information Evening
Thursday, 18th September 2025

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Our Aim:

**“We want to help our students
become the best version of
themselves and
unlock the future they want for
themselves”**

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HGSS Sixth Form Destinations 2025

Year 13 Class of 2025

University Destinations and subjects studied
Russell Group Universities in bold

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

Apprenticeships: A number of students successfully applied for degree and high level apprenticeships

University: Many of our students chose to go to university and take courses that offer a year in industry

- Bath Spa University: Cyber Security, Criminology
- Bournemouth University: Ecology and Wildlife Conservation
- Buckinghamshire New University: Film and Television Production, Global Security with Intelligence Analysis
- City (City St George's, University of London): Computer Science with Cyber Security
- **King's College London: Psychology, Digital Media and Culture**
- Lancaster University: Accounting and Finance
- Leeds Beckett University: Sport Marketing
- Liverpool John Moores University: Product Design Engineering
- Loughborough University: Fashion Design and Technology, Textile Design, Geography, Mechanical Engineering
- Middlesex University: Accounting and Finance
- Northumbria University, Newcastle: Law, Applied Sciences
- Oxford Brookes University: Business and Marketing Management, Law, Accounting and Finance, Computer Science for Cyber Security
- Royal Agricultural University: Rural Land Management
- SOAS University of London: Business, Management, Economics & Law

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University Destinations and subjects studied
Russell Group Universities in bold



- SP Jain London School of Management: Business Administration
- St Mary's University, Twickenham: Primary Education
- Swansea University: Mechanical Engineering
- The University of Law: Criminology, Law
- **University of Birmingham: Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery**
- University of Brighton: Economics
- University of Chichester: Musical Theatre (Film Acting)
- **University of Exeter: Accounting and Finance, Classical Studies and English, Law with Business**
- University of Hertfordshire: 3D Animation and Visual Effects, Physiotherapy, Psychology
- University of Huddersfield: Health Foundation Pathway leading to a BSc(Hons) Degree
- University of Kent: Business and Management, Accounting and Finance, Finance and Investment
- **University of Liverpool: International Management**
- **University of Nottingham: Law**
- University of Portsmouth: Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status
- University of Reading: Accounting and Business - Flying Start Degree Programme, Primary Education
- University of Salford: Sport Rehabilitation
- University of South Wales: Civil Engineering
- **University of Southampton: Aeronautics and Astronautics / Spacecraft Engineering**
- University of Staffordshire: Musical Theatre at Wilkes Academy of Performing arts
- University of Surrey: Biological Sciences, Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering, Economics and Finance
- University of Sussex: Law with Business and Management
- **University of Warwick: Mechanical Engineering**
- University of Winchester: Primary Education with QTS
- **University of York: Philosophy, Politics and Economics**

Sixth Form Destinations 2025

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Apprenticeships:

- PWC Flying Start Degree Apprenticeship
- Ernst & Young Consulting
- Pinewood Studios
- Simpson Engineering Degree Apprenticeship
- Nursery Nurse
- Quantity Surveying
- Electrician
- The Army

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The Aim of the Evening

- To put a face to a name
- To share with you our Expectations
- To support you to support them!
- So you can support us, to support them!

HGSS Sixth Form – Parent Links



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Introductions

Mrs Golding: Assistant Head teacher–Head of Sixth Form



Mr McMaster: Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Mrs Martin: KS5 Administrator/Pastoral Manager



Mrs Panayiotou: Sixth Form Learning Mentor



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The logo for HGSS (Holmer Grammar School Sixth Form) features the letters 'H', 'G', and 'S' in a stylized, overlapping font. The 'H' and 'G' are blue, while the 'S' is gold. The 'H' and 'G' are connected, and the 'S' is positioned to the right of the 'G'.

Important Contacts

6.1 Academic Tutor: Richard Ellis – Email: EllisR@holmer.org.uk

6.2 Academic Tutor: Pratima Sood – Email: SoodP@holmer.org.uk

6.3 Academic Tutor: Sarah Cockbill / Vicky Nicholls – Email: CockbillS@holmer.org.uk or nichollsv@holmer.org.uk

6.4 Academic Tutor: Michelle Visser – Email: VisserM@holmer.org.uk

6.5 Academic Tutor: Yusuf Adeoye – Email: AdeoyeY@holmer.org.uk

6.6 Academic Tutor: Michelle Haslett – Email: HaslettM@holmer.org.uk

6.7 Academic Tutor: Kirsty De Groot – DeGrootK@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
- Independent Learning: At least 5 hours – 8 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/DHOSF/HOSF/DH monitors progress
- Student Target review and Action Planning
- Subject contracts / reports / Action-plans
- Sixth Form Counsellor
- 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 testing: 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 and in registration at 8:50
- 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 SIMs and school communications**

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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.

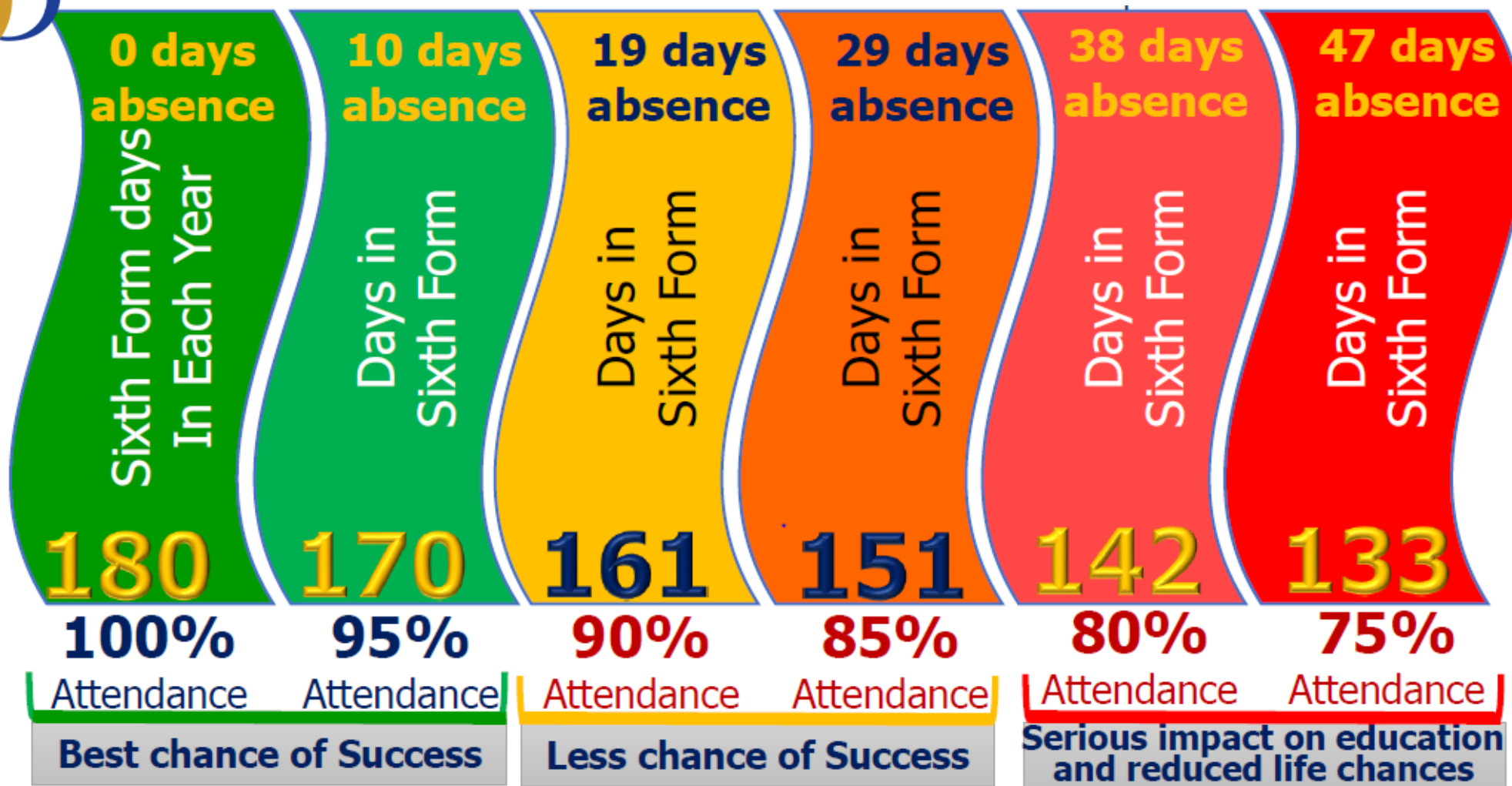
Illness Unless it's serious, come into Sixth Form, it's best to come in and try then decide you need to go home.

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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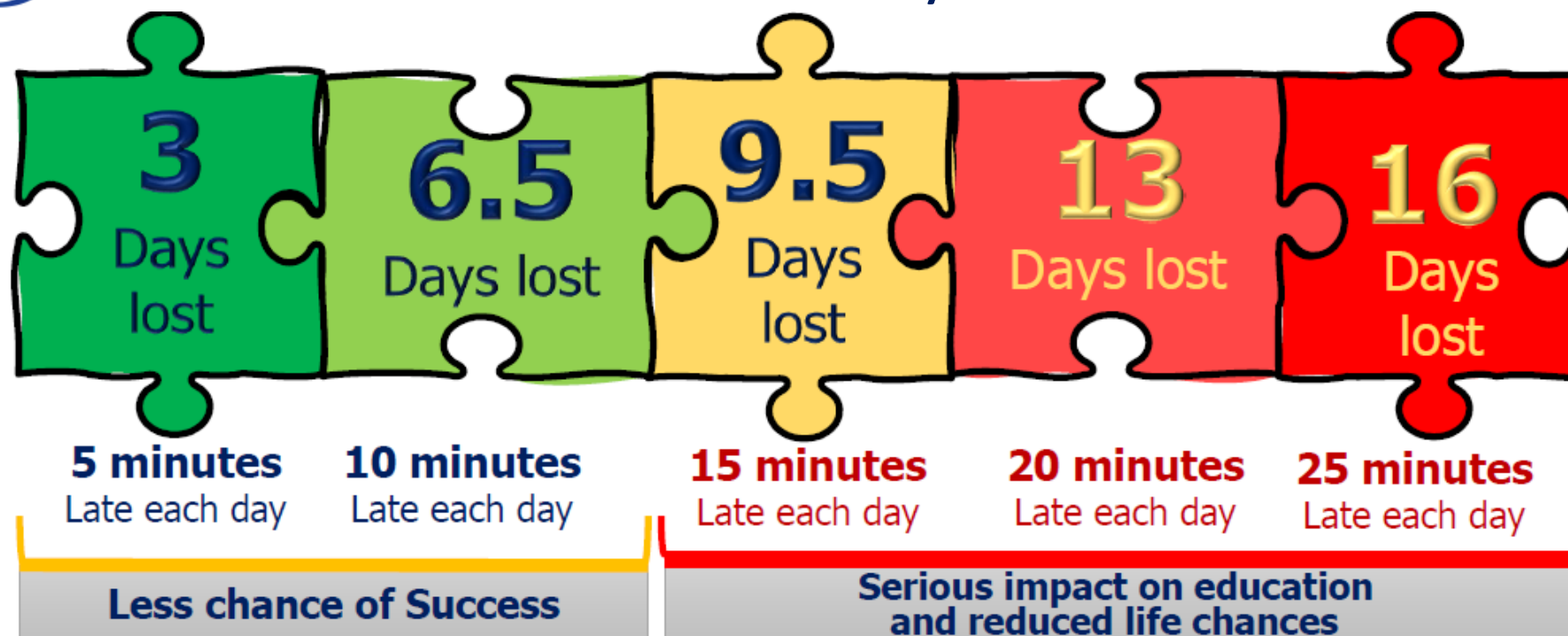
Attendance Matters: 185 non-term days for personal commitments



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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 Golding 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, Uggs or Flip flops
- Hoodies / T shirts

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
Autumn 1: Course suitability & AtL reports issued	Friday 17 th October	Course suitability confirmation, Targets set & Attitude to Learning
Autumn 2: AtL	Friday 19 th December	Attitude to Learning
Spring 1: AtL & AP1	Friday February 13 th	AP1 grades and Attitude to Learning
Spring 2: AtL	Friday March 27 th	Attitude to Learning
Year 12 Parents Evening: April 30th (In person)		
Summer 1: AtL	Friday May 22 nd	Attitude to Learning
Summer 2: End of Year 12 Final Examinations (AP2) & AtL	Friday July 17 th	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**

1 Exemplary	• You register and start work promptly without being reminded • You carefully organise your time and meticulously self-check your work • You work independently throughout the lesson without any distraction or distracting others • You do not use your mobile phone • You consistently demonstrate self-motivation and initiative when aiming beyond your best, and always read around the topic and are an independent worker • You are always a role-model for your peers and use time productively
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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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If conduct in Independent Study falls below Expectations

- **First incident:** The Learning Mentor / supervising staff will - Issue a verbal warning and write student's name on the whiteboard
- **Second Incident:** The Learning Mentor / supervising staff will -Issue a reminder, move student name up the whiteboard and issue a Behaviour Point
- **Third Incident:** The learning mentor / supervising staff will – Issue a further reminder, move student name up the whiteboard and issue a 30-minute same day detention
- **Fourth Incident:** The learning mentor / supervising staff will issue a final reminder, but this time, a Duty Leader will be called, and the student will be removed to the Focus room
- **3 Behaviour points or 1 removal in a Half Term** will lead to the student losing their **Right to Roam** and going on DHOSF report



“With Privilege comes Responsibility” - "Right to Roam"

Has to be earned; as a Sixth Former you are a **Role Model**

Full Right to Roam: where, if you haven't got a taught lesson, lesson 5, you can sign out to **work from home**, will be issued based on the results of the **Autumn 1 reports**.

You need to:

- Earn 1 or 2 Grades for **Attitude to Learning**
- Meet the Sixth Form **Attendance** Target of **96%**
- Be in line to **meet your Academic targets**

Demonstrate you are a **responsible** and an **Independent Learner and student**

- Have less than 3 **lates** in the previous Half Term
- **Dress** according to the Sixth Form Dress code
- Wear your **Identity lanyard** at all times
- Study **productively** in all Independent Study lessons (AtL 1or 2)
- Tap in / Tap out **AT ALL TIMES**

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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	RESULTS BBB	RESULTS BBB	RESULTS BBB
RESULTS BBB	RESULTS BBB	RESULTS BBB	RESULTS BBB



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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 **6th July 2026**

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 will have an Assembly 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 they 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 they could contact
- **Talk to Year 13s** who might have similar career interests and aspirations as them, and find out what Work Experience they have done
- **Talk to subject teachers** who might have some useful ideas and suggestions to research
- When they have tried all that; ask for support: **Mrs Matthews Careers Advisor**

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Work Experience



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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 Unifrog

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, Baking
- British Sign Language qualification
- 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 Parent Information 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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