



Year 9 Parental Information Evening

Monday 14 September 2026

Thank you for joining us this evening.
The presentation will cover the following areas:

1. The Year Ahead
2. Key Dates 2026-7
3. Getting involved: Activities week/Gordano Extra
4. Who we are: Kindness, Resilience, Belonging
5. Attendance, punctuality and expectations
6. Safeguarding and Pastoral care
7. Reading to succeed
8. Year 9 Curriculum, Homework and Options

Mrs Tipler: Deputy Headteacher

Mr Snow: Assistant Headteacher: Director of Key Stage 3

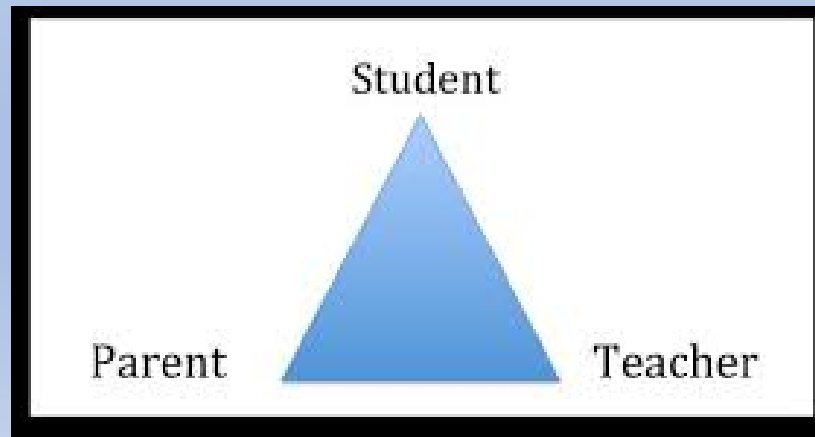
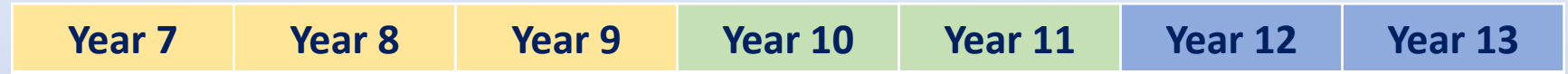
Mrs Luton: Assistant Headteacher: Key Stage 3 Inclusion



Mrs Tipler
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum and Learning



The Journey Ahead

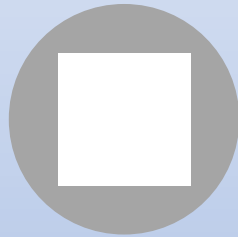




Year 9 The year ahead



FINAL YEAR OF KS3
STUDIES BEFORE
IMPORTANT DECISIONS
ARE MADE



NEW CLASSES



NEW TEACHERS



**HIGH
EXPECTATIONS**



**IT IS AN
IMPORTANT YEAR**



Dream Big

Do Your Best

Give Back

KINDNESS



RESILIENCE



Working together to create a sense of **belonging for everyone**





Mr Snow
Assistant Headteacher
Director of Key Stage 3



A great start for Year 9 so far

- Over 5000 merits in the first week
- Lowest number of behaviour points

Dream Big

Do Your Best

Give Back





Key dates for Year 9

Thursday 1 October	Careers Convention: 6pm
Thursday 8 October	Tutor Reviews
Thursday 7 January	Options Evening
February	Year 9 Achievement Review 1 issued
Thursday 18 March	Year 9 Progress Evening
July	Year 9 Achievement Review 2 issued



Other Dates of Interest

21 September (6pm-7pm)	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh info evening
8 - 9 December	Christmas Music Concert
June	House Celebration Evenings
Friday 18 June	Inter-House Swimming Gala
28 June – 2 July	Activities Week
Thursday 8 July	Sports Day



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expeditions

Monday 21 September	Parent Information Evening 6-7pm
Friday 9 October	Deadline for enrolment
Saturday 13 March	Bronze Training Day in school
Tue 11 – Fri 14 May	Bronze Practice Expeditions
Tue 25 – Fri 28 May	Bronze Qualifying Expeditions





Year 9 Activities Week 2027

Monday 28th June – Friday 2nd July 2027

We're thrilled to announce an exciting week of residential activities for our Y9 students including:

London 4 days/3 nights in London, 2 theatre shows, London Eye, Thames River Cruise, lots of sight seeing and museums (£650-£750 includes accommodation and meals)

Falmouth 5 days/4 nights in Cornwall, Surfing, paddle boarding, adventure sports, seal sanctuary and beach BBQs (£600-£650 includes accommodation and meals)

Isle of Wight 5 days/4 nights at UKSA in Isle of Wight. Kayaking, wind surfing, dinghy Sailing, SUP and crabbing. (£680-£700 includes accommodation and meals)

North Wales 5 days/4 nights in Llandudno. White water rafting, canoeing, zip world/safari, bounce below, caving, visit to Snowdon. (£870-£899 includes accommodation / meals)

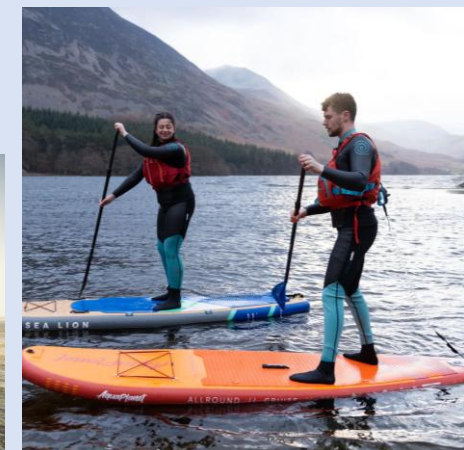
West Midlands 5 days/4 nights staying in Chester, Go Ape, Drayton Manor, Alton Towers, Snowdome, Chester Zoo. (£670-£750 includes accommodation and meals)

Bushcraft 5 days/4 nights staying in Badminton Woods, Gloucestershire. Fire making, wild cooking, camouflaging, shelter building, archery, tomahawk throwing, exploring the great outdoors. (£400-£450 includes accommodation and meals)

Football Academy – onsite: A week of football skills with Priority Football (£100-£150)

Y9 Activities Week Brochure: Coming soon – includes full details and booking instructions.

FREE onsite programme For students not wanting to attend a residential trip, we offer a FREE onsite programme with teacher-led activities designed to be fun and engaging, which may include: Writing in Mandarin, Cook your own lunch, Make your own stop-motion video, design and print your own t-shirt, Martial arts, Chess tournament, Lego: wonders of the world, Multi-sports, Macramé friendship bracelets, Board games, Scavenger hunts, Silly sports day, Friday afternoon movie and more. Year 7 - 9 students are mixed for these activities across the school site.





GORDANO EXTRA



A student and parent guide to the
Gordano Extra Curricular offer

CONTENTS

<u>3D Printing</u>	<u>Album</u>
<u>Art</u>	<u>Chess</u>
<u>Christian</u>	<u>Cipher Club</u>
<u>Craft</u>	<u>Culture Club</u>
<u>Dance</u>	<u>D&D</u>
<u>Duke of Edinburgh</u>	<u>Flying Start</u>
<u>Games</u>	<u>History</u>
<u>Karate</u>	<u>Library</u>
<u>LGBTQ+</u>	<u>Model United Nations</u>
<u>Music</u>	<u>Philosophy</u>
<u>Photography</u> GCSE Support	<u>Photography</u> KS3
<u>Sport</u>	<u>STEM</u>
<u>Task Master</u>	

For further information about each club please click
the name above to navigate directly to that page



Expectations: to support learning and belonging

- **Classroom expectations:** shared with students every term and revisited through Monday broadcasts: consistency of routines, calm and focused learning environments
- **Community expectations:** respect for one another, safe social behaviour, care for the school environment
- **Rewards:** valuing effort, resilience, kindness (all linked to school values)
- **House Championships:** attendance, punctuality, charity events, faculty competitions, representation
- **Behaviour system:** no changes from Year 7/8
- **Phone free school:** Yondr pouches with phones (or a note) every day
- **Uniform:** no change. New uniform consultation underway.





Mrs Luton
Assistant Headteacher
Key Stage 3 Inclusion



Keeping You Safe

☰

Explore Student Concern and Well-being

○

Student Concern and Well-being

•

Book a well-being chat

Create

Student Concern and Well-being

Immersive Reader

Student Concern and Well-being



Year 7



Biscay



Cromarty



Fitzroy



Lundy



Portland



Shannon

Book a well-being chat [LINK TO FORM](#)



+ safe spaces and staff wearing High Visibility jackets at break times.

No recommendations [Recommend Page](#)

Our Specialist Safeguarding Team



Ms J Fairs
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs N Austen



Mr J Boulton



Ms M Georgiou



Ms K Grierson



Mrs K Hayden



Mr T Heysham



Miss K Hodge



Mr J Mailey
Strategic Safeguarding
Lead



Miss H Holt



Miss C Hooper



Mr G Horner



Mrs B Lufon



Mrs K Mata



Mrs C McKenzie



Mrs L Rigby



Mrs D Sherring
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs J Snailum



Mrs Sperring



Mr S Swift



Mrs C Thomas



Mr M Tipler



Mrs H Wills





Attendance and Punctuality

- Students should be on site **by 8.35am** and at tutor bases ready for **8.40am**
- Students should aim for attendance of **96% and above**
- **Good attendance and punctuality lead to stronger academic progress, disruption-free learning for all and build a strong foundation for life beyond school**
- We ask parents to work with the school where there are issues with attendance
- We follow the LSP attendance policy (this can be found on our website)
- Term-time holiday can be approved only in extremely exceptional circumstances



Free School Meals

Qualifying benefits for Free School Meals

- Your child will be entitled to free school meals if you get any of these benefits:
 - Universal credit
 - Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Changes this year:
 - From **September 2026**, the previous earnings threshold for families receiving Universal Credit has been removed. All children in households receiving Universal Credit can now access Free School Meals.
 - Families should still **apply/register** for Free School Meals, even if their child already receives a meal entitlement. Registration may also help schools receive additional funding through the **Pupil Premium** where applicable.
- If in doubt, apply!
- [Gordano School - Free School Meals & Pupil Premium](#)



Gordano is a NUT-AWARE School



- Please do not allow your child to bring any nuts or products which may contain traces of nuts into school.
- We have students and staff with nut allergies who could be seriously affected, so we appreciate your co-operation and understanding.





- **Reading** is one of the strongest predictors of **academic success**.
- Reading ability is **linked to success in every GCSE subject**, not just English. Students who struggle to read are at a disadvantage in every exam they take. 1 in 4 fifteen-year-olds has a reading age of 12 or below, putting them at risk in every GCSE subject.
- **Regular readers achieve more**. Children who read daily have significantly higher reading attainment scores than those who do not read daily.
- Reading boosts progress across all subjects. The Education Endowment Foundation found that **effective reading comprehension** strategies can lead to 7 months of **additional progress**.
- **Literacy impacts GCSE success**. Around 1 in 4 children do not reach the expected reading standard by age 11, making it harder to access the GCSE curriculum in every subject.
- **Reading develops more than academic skills**. Young people who read for pleasure report benefits including improved learning, confidence, wellbeing and empathy
- **Gordano 'Read to Succeed' evening Wednesday September 31st for KS3 Students**





Mrs Tipler

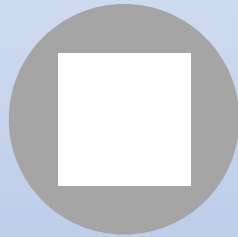


Year 9

The year ahead



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The Year 9 Curriculum

- The year 9 curriculum builds on learning from years 7 and 8 but is about setting **strong foundations for Key Stage 4 study**: knowledge, skills and learning habits
- Success will look different for different students; the curriculum is carefully adapted therefore to meet the needs of all learners, through both support and challenge
- The options process also recognises that different pathways will be appropriate for different learners



The Year 9 Curriculum

Gordano school website- About us- Curriculum

The screenshot shows the Gordano School website. The navigation bar includes links for HOME, NEWS & EVENTS, ABOUT US, PARENTS, STUDENTS, SIXTH FORM, and VACANCIES. The 'ABOUT US' dropdown menu is open, displaying a grid of links. The 'Curriculum' link is highlighted, and a yellow arrow points to it from the text 'Gordano school website- About us- Curriculum'. Another yellow arrow points to the 'ABOUT US' link in the navigation bar.

Prospectus	A Video Introduction to our School
Transition from Year 6	In Year Admissions (Years 7 - 11)
Why Choose Gordano	Our Vision
Pastoral & House System	Policies & Statutory Documents
Curriculum	SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)
Senior Leadership Team	Governors
Information for Visitors and Contractors	Lighthouse Schools Partnership Multi-Academy Trust

DREAM BIG



The Year 9 Curriculum

Scroll down this page until you reach the sections below

HOME NEWS & EVENTS ABOUT US PARENTS STUDENTS SIXTH FORM VACANCIES COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE CONTACT US

HOME ► ABOUT US ► CURRICULUM

Curriculum

This area of the website is currently being updated. We're working hard to bring you the latest information and updates. Thank you for your patience

At Gordano school, we are ambitious for all students to experience, develop and secure the knowledge, skills and attitudes that will allow them to progress with curiosity and confidence through school and beyond. Our aim with both the classroom and wider curriculum is to develop lifelong learners, with the agency and desire to positively contribute to the various communities to which they belong.

We are proud of our broad curriculum, extensive extra-curricular offer and expert, dedicated teachers.

Click on the sections below to explore our curriculum by key stage and subject.

If you have any questions about our curriculum in the meantime, please contact Mrs Carolyn Tipler, Deputy Headteacher using the mailbox address.

To access the government guidelines on 16 to 19 study programmes follow this [link](#).

Whole School Curriculum Rationale

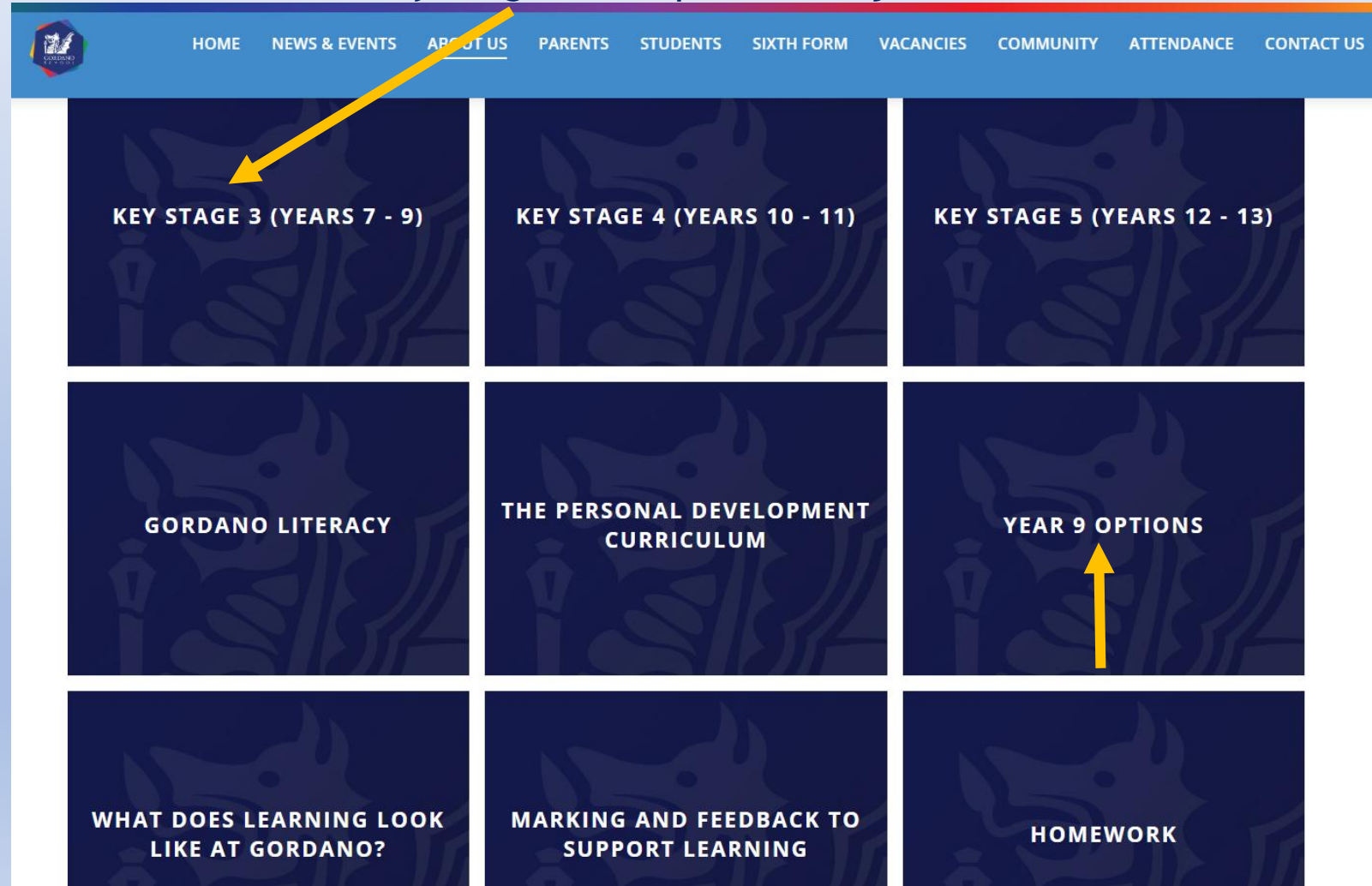
[Click here](#) to find out more about our curriculum thinking and ambition



The Year 9 Curriculum

Information about what learning looks like at Gordano.

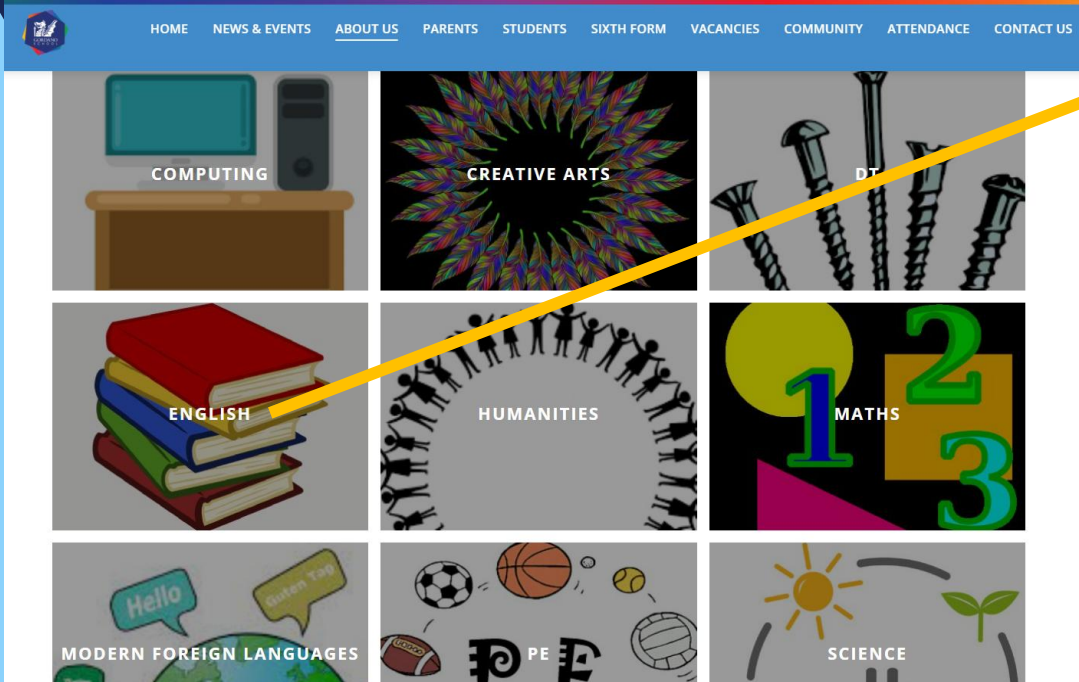
Click on Key Stage 3 for specific subject overviews





The Year 9 Curriculum

	Terms 1-2	Terms 3-4	Terms 5-6
Year 7	Describing Worlds	The Art of Storytelling <i>A Monster Calls</i>	Love Through Time <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
Year 8	Gothic Fears <i>Dracula</i>	War and Conflict <i>The Bone Sparrow</i>	Our Natural World
Year 9	Representation & Identity <i>Pigeon English</i>	Character and Genre <i>Shakespearean characters</i>	Empower and Inspire <i>various poems</i>

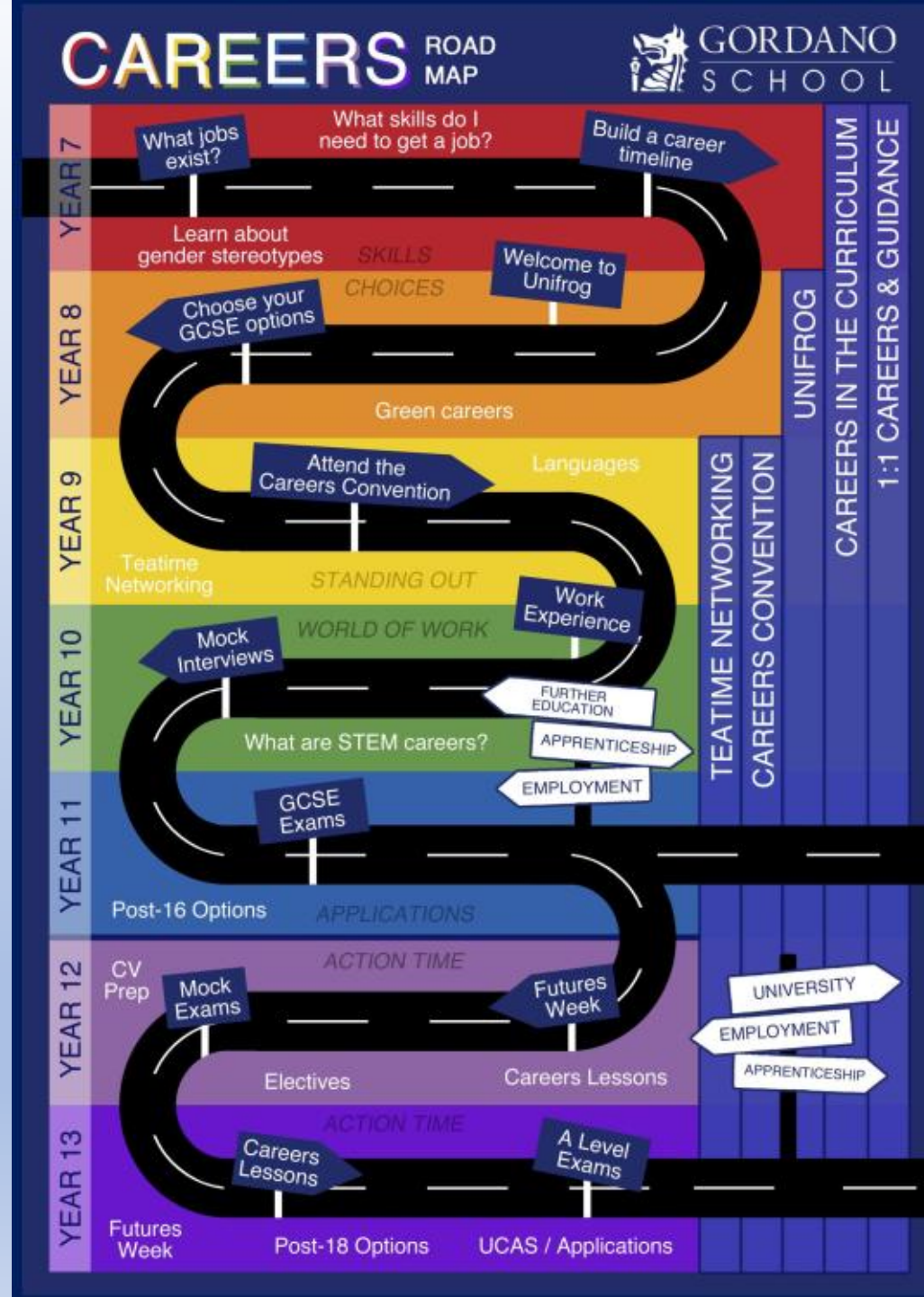


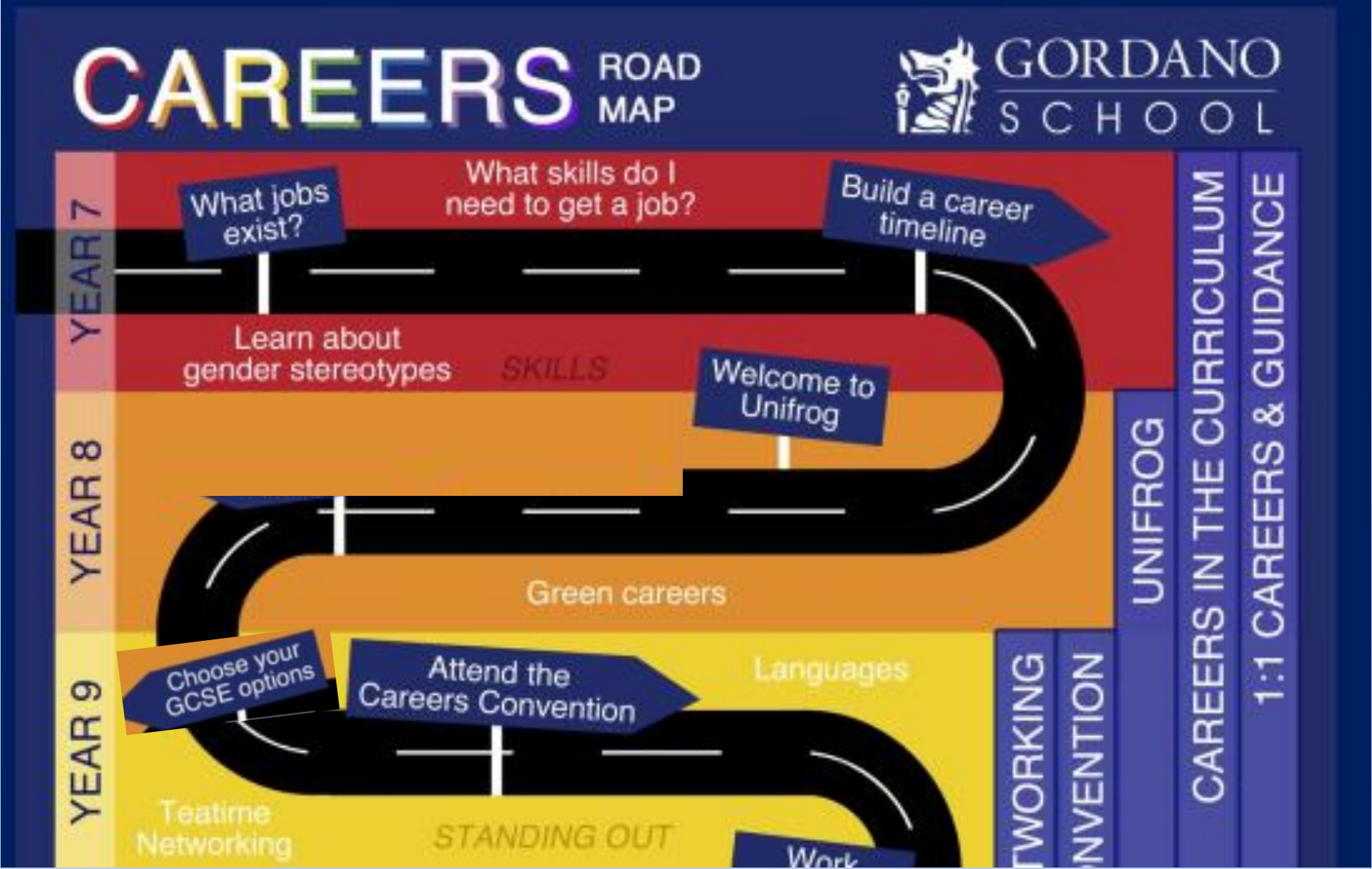
Year 9			
UNIT:	1. Representation & Identity	2. Character & Genre	3. Writing to Empower & Inspire
Big Question	How do writers explore themes of identity and representation in the modern world?	What trends and patterns are used by writers to explore character and genre?	How do writers use language and characters to inspire and empower?
Literature	<u>Pigeon English</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To explore the themes of identity and representation within the context of modern British culture. - To be able to analyse how the writer uses language and structure to present differing viewpoints. Milestone: How does Kelman present the community that Harrison has joined? Final: How does Kelman present the life of a teenager in Pigeon English?	<u>Shakespearean Characters</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To be able to identify different character types and typical traits of these. - To analyse characters as a writer's method and how they are used for specific purposes. Milestone: How does Shakespeare present the witches? (Macbeth: A1, Sc 3). Final: Compare how Shakespeare presents non-archetypal (not typical) Elizabethan women.	<u>Run Rebel</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To analyse the characterisation of young, inspirational characters. - To analyse the effect of the poetic form.
Language	<u>Representation in the Media</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To analyse how factors of identity are represented across a range of media texts. - To understand how to write informatively and evaluatively. Milestone: Write an informative paragraph about the importance and impact of representation in the media, referring to an example we have studied. Final: Write an informative article about the importance and impact of representation in the media.	<u>Genre Study</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To understand the typical features of a range of key genres. - To be able to identify genre conventions in unseen texts. - To evaluate how writers use genre conventions to create specific effects. Milestone: Evaluate how the writer creates mystery and tension in <i>The Adventure of the Speckled Band</i>. Final: Evaluate how the writer creates a threatening and dangerous world in <i>The Hunger Games</i>.	<u>Inspirational Poetry</u> <u>LOs:</u> - To be able to explain the wider message behind a poem. - To explain and analyse how poetic techniques link to the poet's message. Milestone: How does the poem <i>Hope</i> by Emily Dickinson use poetic techniques to create an inspirational message? With marks for annotations. Final:



Year 9 Homework

- Set every two weeks on Tuesdays of Week 2.
- All homework will be set on  **ClassCharts**
- Subject deadlines will vary over the fortnight (no less than 7 days to complete)
- A homework task should normally take **30-40 minutes** to complete
- Homework support for 2+ missed homeworks: Wednesday after school







Year 9 Options 2027

The Options process **starts on January 7th: Options evening**

Students have a Core Curriculum in Year 10

- English
- Maths
- Science (Combined)
- French or Spanish (for most learners)

- PE
- Ethics / PSHE

Choices

- **Humanities** – History, Geography, Religious Studies, Citizenship, Travel & Tourism
- **Choice 1**
- **Choice 2**

Note Triple Science will be in one of the 'Option' choices



Year 9 Options 2027

Subjects available for free choice

GCSE Subjects

Humanities (core choice and free choice):

- Citizenship
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies

Languages (core and free choice):

- French
- Spanish

Creative Arts:

- Art
- Photography
- Dance
- Drama
- Music

DT and Computing:

- Computing
- Product Design
- Graphic Design
- Food and Nutrition
- Textiles

➤ PE

- Triple Science
(Physics, Chemistry,
Biology)

Social Sciences:

- Business Studies
- Psychology

Vocational Subjects

Cambridge National:

- Health and Social Care
- Sports Studies

BTEC:

- Travel and Tourism



Options Key Dates 2027

Date	Event
5 th January	Subject guidance begins
6 th January	Options launch assembly for students
7th January	Options Information Evening
8 th /15 th January	Friday Tutor Time taster session for new subjects at KS4
8th February	Deadline for submissions of choices
Term 3	Subject checking with Faculty Teams
Term 4	Confirmation of subject allocations



Parental Communication

Student related queries

Please use our central email address for student related queries mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk. This mailbox will be monitored during normal school hours, and we aim to respond within 3 working days, during term-time.

To help us deal with your query as efficiently as possible, please include the full name of the student, tutor group and the name of the staff member you wish to contact (if known).

We would also like to remind you that key parental communications and information relating to term dates, uniform, catering etc can be found on the [school website](#).

SEND:

To contact the SEND/Student Support Team please email SEND@gordanoschool.org.uk



Parental Communication

Updating student contact and medical information

If you need to update your contact details that we hold for you or your child, or their medical information, please contact the data team by email on datateam@gordanoschool.org.uk

Please note that we are unable to make updates over the phone.

Attendance

Please email attendanceteam@gordanoschool.org.uk **no later than 9.00am on each day of your child's absence** and include the following information:

- Student name
- Tutor Group
- Detailed reason for absence



Year 9 Parental Information Evening

Thursday 14th September 2026

Thank you for joining us this evening.

This presentation will soon be available on the website and Ms
Blundell will send a link in our Friday Parent comms