



9th June 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

This week we had the pleasure of hosting 300 of our Year 6 students for a day of wonderful music making. It was fantastic to see so many future students on site and to see the quality of performance they gave to their parents at the end of the day. I would like to thank all our students involved in supporting the day and supporting our Year 6 students who joined us and the Music staff for hosting this event.

I would also like to wish our Year 9 students completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition on the Mendips this weekend good luck. I know there has been a lot of preparation to get to this point and know that they will all rise to the challenge. We wish you all the very best over the weekend.

Well done to our Year 11 and Year 13 students for their continued hard work and effort throughout their exam season. There is no doubt that this is a challenging time, but they have managed the season brilliantly. Below are just a few reminders as we go into the last period of exams.

- Please ensure students are prepared for longer exams and use the toilet beforehand. Students going to the toilet during an exam is a big distraction in the venues and we want to avoid this where possible.
- If we could also ask you to remind your child to listen carefully to the information prior to each exam regarding the guidelines for external assessments. Any breach of these guidelines will result in a sanction from the exam board, and this will be a written warning, cancellation of paper, cancellation of qualification or full disqualification, which we obviously want to avoid at all costs.

Activities Week

Behind the scenes at the school, we have been doing a significant amount of work in the final phase of planning for Activities Week 2023. Year 9 residential information will be coming out to parents shortly. Information letters will include the itinerary for each trip, parent information evening dates and details of the trip leaders as well as any required kit list.

Year 10 WEX

We still have some students without a placement for Activities Week – we cannot authorise these placements at the last minute as all placements need to be Health & Safety checked. This is a last call for any missing paperwork to be returned to Mrs Crosby in the Careers office, or dcrosby@gordanoschool.org.uk.

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LIGHTHOUSE
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Students **without** a placement will be expected to complete an in-school employability programme in an IT suite.

We know that this is such an informative week for students, and that post-Covid, students have grown in confidence when they are allowed to experience out of school opportunities; we welcome your support as we make final arrangements for this important week.

School locker bookings 2023-24

You can now book your child's locker ready for the start of the new school year in September via the [ILS website](#). More information on the booking process is available [here](#). If your child is entitled to Free School Meals/Pupil Premium please email administration@gordanoschool.org.uk to request a code to use when booking your locker.

Reporting Absence Years 7-11

Thank you to those parents / carers who are using the new form to report their child as absent. Whilst we do appreciate that this may take parents a short while longer than telephoning, it is having a very positive impact on the attendance team. This allows us to ensure attendance is completed earlier each morning, thereby improving safeguarding for our students, which I am sure you will agree is of paramount importance. From September, this will become the sole method of reporting absences, so we would like to encourage parents / carers to move over to this method during term 6. The link to the form is [here](#) and is also on the homepage of the school website.

Year 9 HPV vaccination catch-up clinics

HPV vaccination catch-up clinics are available for Year 9 students who did not receive their vaccination at school. Please book an appointment [here](#). If you have any queries, please contact the Immunisation Team directly on 0300 124 5515 or email sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net.

We wish you a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher