



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

4th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have had a good week. I would like to start by thanking all our young people in Year 11 and their parents for attending our futures event on Thursday. I hope the conversations were useful in supporting the dialogue about next steps and future pathways for your child – we look forward to seeing many of our students at our Post 16 open evening on Thursday next week (further details below).

Homework

We place real value on homework at Gordano, understanding that it supports students in their self-development and self-discipline. Academic research tells us that students who complete homework regularly perform better at school and during exams but, just as importantly, learn broader life skills and associate hard work with long term rewards.

It is for these reasons that we want to get homework 'right' for students. Student voice and some parental contact has indicated that our current timetable, systems and tasks are not serving our students in the best way. With this in mind, we would invite you to participate in our homework survey so that your thoughts can form part of our review of the homework policy at Gordano ([LINK](#)).

We intend to launch a revised system in January. Whilst we plan this, for term 2, when your child has missed 3 or more pieces of homework in a fortnight, we will send an email home to let you know to enable you to open a dialogue with your child. The support below is available in school for your child and as part of your conversation with them, we would ask you to encourage their attendance.

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch (1.00pm – 1.30pm)	<u>English</u> all years, E4 <u>Social Sciences</u> all years, BS1	<u>Maths</u> all years, MA1 <u>Dance</u> all years, DA1	<u>MFL</u> all years, L3 <u>Design</u> <u>Technology & Computing</u> all years, DT8 <u>Humanities</u> all years, H1	<u>Drama</u> KS4, DR1/DR3 <u>Science</u> all years, MA8	
After School	<u>Year 7 and 8</u> (all subjects) L8 3.25 – 4.15 <u>Dance</u> Year 11 DA1	<u>Year 7 and 8</u> (all subjects) L8 3.25 – 4.15 <u>Art</u> Year 10 Mrs Warford, wk2, AR3 <u>Drama</u> KS4, DR1/DR3 <u>PE</u> Cam Nat and GCSE, B6	<u>Year 7 and 8</u> (all subjects) L8 3.25 – 4.15 <u>Music</u> Year 11 MU1 <u>Art</u> Year 11, Mrs Warford AR3 <u>Dance</u> Year 11 DA1	<u>Homework Club</u> Year 7+8 Ms Bailey LS3 <u>Homework Club</u> Years 9, 10 + 11 Mrs Broad LS5 <u>Photography</u> KS4, Mr Hill + Mr Lewis, Upper Library <u>Art</u> Year 11, Mrs Bradley + Ms Keane AR4/AR7	<u>Art</u> Year 11 Mrs Warford, wk1, AR3

Year 10 Work Experience

You will have noticed an email home regarding Y10's participating in their Work Experience week next Summer (3 – 7 July 2023). If you have not done so already, please complete the form via the online link below to confirm consent for your child to participate in the week-long activity.

[Work Experience Consent Form](#)

Sixth Form Open Evening 10th November 5 – 7.30 pm

All year 11 students will have received information about our Sixth Form Open Evening next week on Thursday 10th November. Our new Sixth Form prospectus will be available for collection on the night and applications open on Friday 11th November.

The evening comprises:

- Three identical Sixth Form talks to be held in the Sixth Form Hall (5.15pm, 6pm and 6.45pm respectively); please reserve places for one of the talks through Eventbrite [HERE](#)
- Subject marketplace in the Main Hall and Dining Hall (offering an opportunity to speak to current students and subject teachers)
- Post 18 Choices and Subject Advice, Electives and Pastoral Support in the Learning Curve
- Trips and other extra-curricular information in the Learning Curve
- Refreshments in the Learning Curve

Please note that school closes for all students at the end of P5 on Thursday to enable us to prepare for the Post 16 Open Evening.

Gordano Parent Network Thursday 17th November 2022

We have now held two successful parent networking sessions and would like to encourage more people to come along and get involved. The group is informal, and parent led, with the focus being on parents sharing tips and supporting each other, something that can diminish once children are in secondary school.

Our first session in term 6 of the last academic year focussed on social media, but this is a topic that has continued to come up as something parents would like to discuss more. The session on 17th November (in the Dining Hall) will therefore be on social media and friendship, and we would love to see lots of you there. If you plan on coming along, please complete this form so we can ensure there is enough tea and coffee to go round!

<https://forms.office.com/r/LVc41ynYFb>

Fake News and Disinformation Online Parent Factsheet

Please also find a link to parental guidance on how to help your child spot fake news and disinformation online. [Fake News Parent Factsheet](#)

Sanitary Products

Just a reminder that we have a large stock of sanitary products (both disposable and reusable) in school. If the cost-of-living crisis is having an impact and you would like access to these products, please do contact Mrs Thomas in confidence. cthomas@gordanoschool.org.uk .

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher