



19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you again for attending our information evenings if you were able to this week. It is lovely to see parents face to face during these sessions, and I do hope you have found them helpful. The presentations from the information evenings that have taken place so far are available to view by following the links below:

[Year 7](#)  
[Year 9](#)  
[Year 10](#)  
[Year 12](#)  
[Year 13](#)

You can book your place at one of the final two information evenings using the links below. All sessions start at 6pm.

Information Evenings		
Year 8	29 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	<a href="#">Book here</a>
Year 11	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	<a href="#">Book here</a>

### Open Evening Arrangements

Just a reminder that our annual Open Evening takes place this Thursday, 25th September, and the school will close early for students on the day to enable staff to set up for the evening ahead. Following an early lunch, students will be released from school at approximately 1.10pm. If your child would like to be a student helper at the event, we would love to see them take part. Please complete the Open Evening Parental Permission Form if you haven't already done so - this can be found on the parent page of the school website, using [this link](#).

### INSET Day

Just a reminder that Friday next week (26th September) is an INSET Day.

### Keeping in Touch Surgeries

Term 5 saw the successful launch of our Keeping in Touch Surgeries; these sessions offer the opportunity for parents and carers within our school community to meet individually with a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and discuss any individual questions and concerns that may arise throughout the school year.

The Keeping in Touch Surgeries will be running every Wednesday this term from 4pm until 5pm as 15-minute slots with a member of SLT and can be booked via SchoolCloud [here](#).

These sessions are for specific individual concerns, and our Gordano Mailbox is still the first point of contact for any immediate queries. Please mark your email for the attention of the relevant member of staff (where known) and send to [mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk).

**Headteacher: Ms L Blundell, BA**

Gordano School, St Mary's Road, Portishead, North Somerset, BS20 7QR

Tel: 01275 842606 Email: [mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk) [www.gordanoschool.org.uk](http://www.gordanoschool.org.uk)

Lighthouse Schools Partnership. Registered address: St Mary's Road, Portishead, North Somerset, BS20 7QR  
A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (Company Number: 07662102)



### **Gordano School Careers Convention - Thursday 2nd October, 6-8pm**

Students and parents are invited to our Careers Convention, featuring a wide range of employers, universities, colleges, and training providers. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore future pathways, ask questions, and discover what skills and qualifications are needed in different sectors.

**Year 10 students:** a great chance to find out about potential work experience opportunities.

**Years 9-13:** Talks on Apprenticeships, College, and University will be held in the Sixth Form Hall (more details to follow).

The event takes place across the Main Hall and Dining Hall - make sure to visit both.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mrs Gardiner and Ms Jones

### **New Chair of the school's governing body**

At the Local Governing Body meeting on 8th September the board appointed a new Chair, Helen Hall. Please see Helen's letter introducing herself as the new Chair [here](#).

### **Gordano School awarded grant to support Music Education**

Gordano School is delighted to announce that it has received another generous grant from the Rosemary Bugden Charitable Trust. This vital funding will enable the school to continue running its choir, string, brass, and woodwind groups, as well as provide one-to-one peripatetic lessons for all Pupil Premium students studying GCSE Music. Read the full story on our website [here](#).

### **Flu Vaccinations - Years 7-11**

The flu vaccinations will be taking place on 5th and 6th November. If you have not already done so, please provide consent via [this link](#) as soon as possible. Please complete this form even if you do not wish your child to have the vaccine, to assist Sirona with the planning and vaccine ordering for these sessions.

### **Sixth Form Electives**

This week, our Year 12 and 13 students have been busy selecting their Electives from an exciting range of 24 options. These Electives offer a fantastic opportunity for students to explore new skills, pursue personal interests, and make meaningful contributions to both the school and the wider community. To view the full list of opportunities available, please visit our website using the link provided:

[Electives Brochure - Terms 1 & 2 2025/2026](#)

### **16-19 Bursary Fund**

If your child is in Year 12 or 13 and requires financial assistance, they are eligible to apply for support through the 16-19 Bursary Fund. To apply, please complete and submit the [16-19 Bursary Form for 2025/26](#) by 30th September 2025. Find more information on the school's website [here](#) or contact the sixth form directly at [sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:sixthform@gordanoschool.org.uk).

### **Free School Meals & Pupil Premium - Support for Your Child's Education**

We'd like to let you know that if you're receiving certain benefits, your child may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). This not only ensures they have access to a nutritious lunch each day but also helps the school receive additional funding called Pupil Premium (PP). Even if your child doesn't take the free meals, applying still benefits them as the funding helps us provide extra support in core subjects, subsidise trips, offer resources, and much more. Please see the letter [here](#) for further details, if your child is already in receipt of FSM there is no need to reapply.

### **Safer Together knife crime awareness event**

You are warmly invited to an online event introducing *Safer Together*, a new film and conversation resource created by young people in Bristol, designed to help families and communities talk about the realities and risks of knife crime, and how to move from these concerns towards hope and change.

#### **About *Safer Together*:**

In the wake of devastating losses in our local community and across the country, young people have come together through creativity and film to share their feelings, fears and hopes. The *Safer Together* film is a powerful piece created by young people, for young people, and aims to open up honest, informed conversations at home and in the community.

#### **Session details:**

Tuesday 14th October

Online - 12.30-13.15

Open to parents, carers and guardians of young people

This supportive and informative session will:

- Introduce the film and accompanying conversation resource
- Offer ideas for how to speak with your child about knife crime in a trauma-informed way
- Signpost helpful organisations such as Crimestoppers and Fearless

If you would like to attend you can register for your space [here](#).

Any questions you may have about the event please feel free to contact [jenni@uniquevoice.org](mailto:jenni@uniquevoice.org).

### **Support for parents and carers in North Somerset**

Qwell are offering free, safe and anonymous mental health and wellbeing support in North Somerset for all parents and carers. To access online support from this NHS-funded service or to find advice and wellbeing tools, see the [poster](#) for more information or visit the [Qwell website](#).

### **Social Media, Self-esteem and Mental Wellbeing Event - 20th October**

St. Peter's Church, Portishead, is hosting an evening event on 20th October looking at Social Media, Self-esteem and Mental Wellbeing. The guest speaker will be Katharine Hill - Director of Care for the Family, Speaker, Broadcaster and Author. This will be of particular interest to parents and anyone working with children and young people. You can find full details of the event on our News & Events webpage [here](#).

### **Shine Netball Training Camp**

Alongside their Holiday Clubs for primary aged children this October Half Term, Shine are also offering a Netball Training Camp for children in Years 7-10 here at Gordano School. See the [poster](#) for more information and booking details.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Ms L Blundell**  
**Headteacher**

## Key Dates for Term 1

Monday 22 September	6pm Bronze DofE Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 23 September	6pm Silver DofE Parent Information Evening
Thursday 25 September	European Day of Languages
Thursday 25 September	Year 6 Open Evening (school ends at 1.10pm)
Friday 26 September	<b>INSET Day</b>
Sunday 28 September	7pm Open Mic Gordano 3 - Workmens Club Sports Bar
Monday 29 September	School Photographs for Year 11
Monday 29 September	6pm Year 8 Parental Information Evening
Tuesday 30 September	Senior Maths Challenge
Tuesday 30 September	6pm Year 11 Parental Information Evening
Thursday 2 October	6pm - 8pm Gordano Careers Convention
Friday 3 October	9.45am - 11am Year 6 Open Morning
Monday 6 October	Year 10 River Holford Geography Trip 1
Monday 6, Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 October	Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day
Tuesday 7 October	Year 10 River Holford Geography Trip 2
Tuesday 7 October	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 8 October	Year 10 River Holford Geography Trip 3
Thursday 9 October	World Mental Health Day
Friday 10 October	Hello Yellow Day
Monday 13 October	Year 13 Design & Technology Amalgam modelling trip
Tuesday 14 and Wednesday 15 October	Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam
Wednesday 15 October	Year 11 Weston College Visit (Learning Hub)
Thursday 16 October	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip to Minehead
Tuesday 21 October	Year 11 GCSE Art Mock Exam
Tuesday 21 October	Year 11 Futures Evening
Wednesday 22 October	SEND Evening
Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 October	Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam
Thursday 23 October	Year 11 BTEC Trip - Geography
Friday 24 October	Year 10/11 photo mop up session
Monday 27 to Friday 31 October inclusive	Holiday