



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

27th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this parent update finds you and your families well. Earlier in the week I sent out notification of school closure next Wednesday 1st February, due to the NEU (National Education Union) Teachers Strike. The letter, with more details can be found [here](#).

You will now be receiving merit milestone notifications (If you are using the app). Every time your child achieves 50 merits you will be notified, please be aware that we will be launching our new rewards system next term, where students will be able to use their merits to buy prizes from our in-school shop. In addition, we are looking to develop our ClassCharts merit notifications to inform parents when their child achieves a Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Badge. More on this to follow very soon.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our uniform standards. I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents/carers of our uniform expectations by clicking on the attached link <https://www.gordanoschool.org.uk/parents/uniform>. Can I specifically draw your attention to students not wearing socks over their tights, we would really appreciate your support on this by reminding your child of this specific expectation. We have had some queries about year 11's and their PE tracksuit bottoms/joggers. We understand that parents/carers of year 11 students may not wish to needlessly spend money on new navy joggers at this stage. However, it's important we maintain our uniform standards, therefore on PE days if students feel they need to cover their legs because of the colder weather, they should wear their school trousers rather than black joggers. In the event that your child does not have any part of their uniform (including PE kit) for any reason, please remind them to visit the Student Centre in the morning during tutor time.



Gordano School - Uniform

All students in Years 7 – 11 are required to wear School Uniform. Our school uniform is supplied by Price and Buckland and is available via two sources, either via Parents Online ordering service from Price & Buckland or from the Sports Shop, High Street, Portishead, BS20 6AA (Tel: 01275 842573) Shop opening times are Monday to Saturday 8.30am to 5.00pm.

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Reintroduction of biometric payment system in dining areas

The school will shortly be reintroducing biometric finger scan technology for purchases in the dining areas. This is a more secure way for your child to make payment than the current four-digit number system that was used on a temporary basis during Covid restrictions. You will need to inform us whether you do or do not give consent for your child's finger to be scanned to enable them to use this method of payment.

You will have recently received a Data Checking Sheet for 2022-23 by email asking you to check and confirm that the relevant data held by the school for your child is correct and up to date.

If you have responded to this request, then you will have already given/refused biometric consent as part of the detailed set of Permissions / Consent asked for on the online form. If you have not yet responded to the Data Checking request, then please use the link in the original email to give/refuse biometric consent, along with confirming the data we hold is correct or informing us of any necessary changes. Any permissions/consent previously given will be overwritten with this data.

We would be grateful for your response by 3rd February to enable us to start the registration process. More information on the biometric system is available [here](#).

Safeguarding Notice



[Fearless - information for Parents/Guardians](#)

Fearless is the dedicated youth service of the independent charity Crimestoppers. We give young people the power to report crime 100% anonymously. You can give information to us using our online form or by calling our freephone number, 0800 555 111. We cannot track your IP address or your phone number.
crimestoppers-uk.org

Term Dates for 2023 – 2024

The term dates for the 2023-24 academic year, including INSET days and bank holidays are now available on the website [here](#).

Avon & Somerset Police Young People's Independent Advisory Group

Avon & Somerset Police are looking for young people aged between 16 and 24 to join an independent advisory group to share their views on the way police work with young people. Please see the link below for more information.

[Avon & Somerset Constabulary YPIAG](#)

Volunteers wanted

Our second-hand uniform and equipment shop has proven to be very popular. Thank you for all your purchases and donations. Uploading uniform and processing orders is proving to be quite time-consuming. If there is anyone in our school community who could offer a few hours a fortnight, during the school day, to support with this, we would be very grateful. Please contact Laura Harding (lharding@gordanoschool.org.uk) if you might be able to support here.

Year 10 Work Experience

Just a reminder that paperwork for Work Experience should now have been returned to the Careers Office. Students can speak to their tutor or the Careers Team if they still need support finding a placement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Blundell', with a small flourish at the end.

Ms L Blundell
Headteacher