

GORDANO
S C H O O L



Parental Information Evening – September 2021

Please turn off video and mute your mics. Many thanks. We'll start at 6pm.

Welcome

Parental Information Evening – September 2021

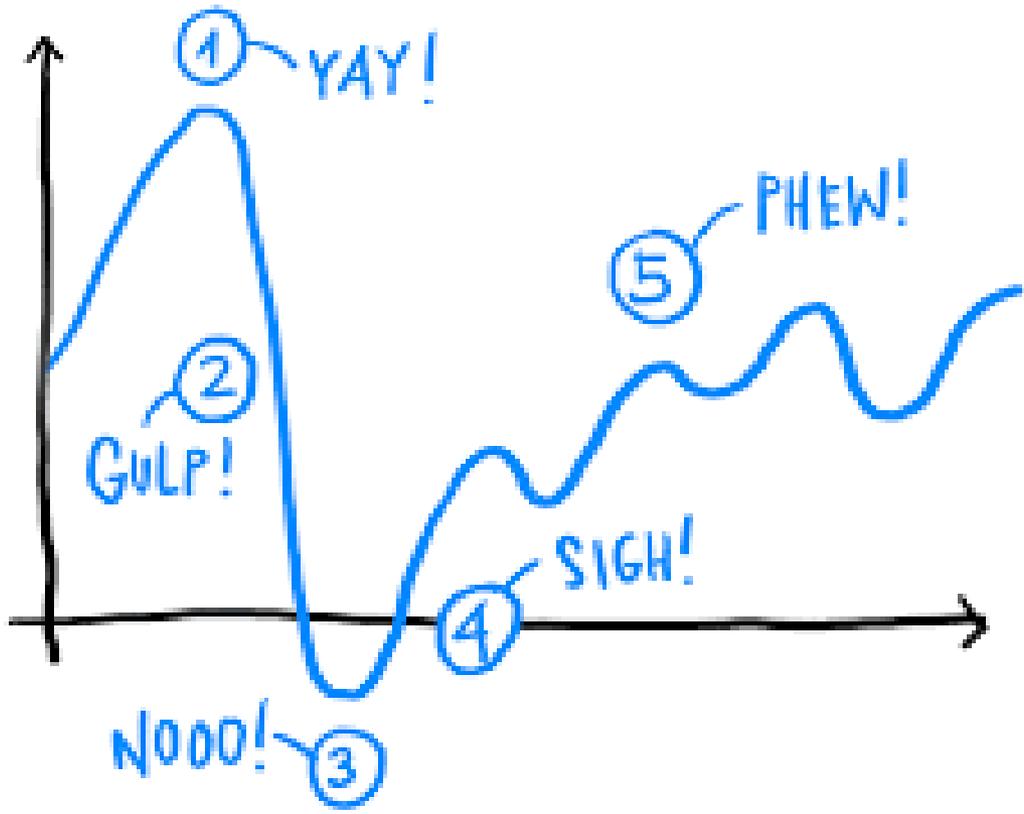
Thank you for turning off your video and muting your mic. We'll start at 6pm.
The presentation will be recorded and available after this evening.
Please use chat bar to highlight questions you would like answering

- Introductions
- Aims for the presentation:
 - Context
 - Support – pastoral, academic and technological
 - Key dates

Tonight's Audience

- 'Old hands'
- First timers
- Extended family
- Educational professionals

All of us are resetting for the next two years



Who's Who?

- Tutor – first port of call: they will share their email address
- Ms Fairs: Head of Sixth Form
- Mrs Ramsay: Head of Year 12
- Mr Heysham: Head of Year 13
- Dr Beer: Curriculum Careers Lead
- Mrs James: Sixth Form Office Manager
- Mrs Brooks: Sixth Form Attendance Officer
- Mrs Gardiner: Careers Adviser
- Mrs Ramsay (again!) - EPQ/Oxbridge/Academic Mentoring

Different Outcomes for our students

- Employment
- Internships
- Gap Years
- University
- Apprenticeships



How do we prepare our Sixth Formers?

- **Bridging Work**
- **Summer Work**
- **Study Skills**
- **Supervision of independent study**
- **Electives**
- **Pastoral programme and vertical tutoring**
- **Visiting speakers and events**
- **School leadership roles**
- **School learning platforms (Teams, Firefly)**
- **Reward and sanctions (Classcharts)**
- **Careers lessons and Unifrog support (Careers lessons from January), tea time networking, LSP collaboration (Oxbridge/HE+)**
- **Activities Week - July**

What has student voice told us?

- Quiet places
- Places to eat and study
- Timetable of empty classrooms
- Study areas outside school hours
- Wifi
- Year 12 and 13 designated study space
- Café
- Library
- Study sessions during the school day

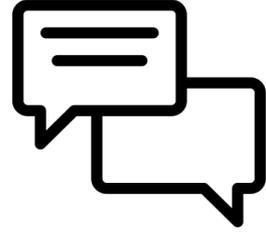
Zoned study areas and individual timetable

These take a while to bed in as we personalise over 400 timetables

- Study plus – supervised silent study on timetable (register taken)
- Teacher-less lessons – as we progress, Study Ratings allow students to apply to study off site if appropriate
- We try to mirror a university environment for independent study:
 - Learning Curve/Mini curve
 - Common Rooms
 - Access to canteen space
 - Access to department study rooms/studios when free
 - Access to the library
- We keep the Learning Curve open from 7.30 to 6.30 pm.



Treating Sixth Formers as young adults



- Student agreement i.e. dress code (hair colour, body art and piercings), IT use, attendance
- Phones and headphones – not around site, only in Sixth Form areas and at teacher discretion
- ID cards and lanyards worn at all times
- Sixth Form café open outside breaktime
- Leadership opportunities
- Acting as role models for our younger students

Useful to explode some 'myths'!

- Any home study needs authorisation
- Tutor times are compulsory - Thursday tutor times are 1:1, so often a student will start a little later
- We do have an attendance officer – we note subject and whole Sixth Form attendance on each progress check
- We encourage planned medical appointments to be booked outside lesson time where possible (planned absence forms can be collected from office)

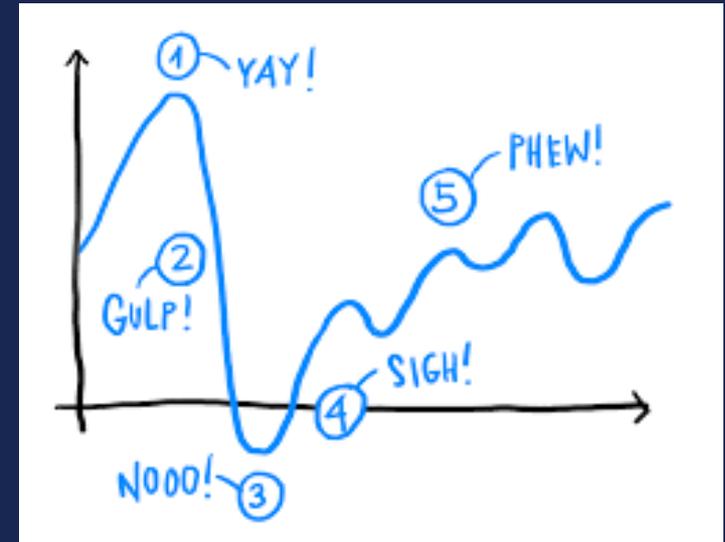
Driving lessons outside school hours please.

- Twilights are not optional!
- We still use classcharts – we still keep parents updated.
- In Year 12 we go right to the end of term 6 and mocks take place here (i.e. music festivals don't count for authorised absence!)
- We do insist that students take electives – all part of new experiences, giving back and wellbeing
- Progress Checks as in the lower school!



How can you support from home?

- Keep in contact – via office, tutor or Year Head
- Do share any context that will help us support your son or daughter
- Attend parent evenings (these will remain on line) and information evenings like this
- Keep a conversation going with us
- Covid safety – keep us updated so that we can update teachers -
Sixth Form can sometimes offer a hybrid remote learning offer alongside onsite provision.



School Communication



Microsoft Outlook

This is the main email platform in the school and is accessed by all staff and students. An app is available to download onto mobile devices, as well as the full Office suite eg. Word, Excel, PowerPoint for teachers. This is a professional email account and best used for communicating with staff, individual students and parents.



Firefly

This is the main learning platform in the school and is accessed by students, teachers and parents. An app is available to download onto mobile devices for students, parents, teachers and governors. This is best used for communicating with students, setting and monitoring homework, school reports, newsletters and emailing pre-defined groups of student and parents.



Classcharts

This is the default homepage of your internet browser. This pulls information from SIMS and allows seating plans to be created, along with accessing students information. An app is available to download onto mobile devices for students, parents and teachers. This is best used for monitoring behaviour and attendance.



ParentPay

This is the way money is transferred to the school via cashless payments. It also has a communication function. Login is via a browser on a computer or a mobile device. This is best used for transferring money, trips and general communication. To request communications to a wider group of parents using ParentPay a message should be sent to administration@gordanoschool.org.uk.



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- Please make sure you are familiar with these
- Guides are available for new parents (Firefly/Classcharts).

Support in School

- **Transition notes from Student Support, Heads of House**
- **Exam access arrangements**
- **Academic Mentoring appointments and targeted workshops**
- **Careers Advisor 1:1 and sessions**
- **Tutor time activities and working with older students**
- **Most students have an additional lesson on their timetable this year**
- **Bursary**
- **School Counsellor**
- **Sixth Form office**
- **Wellbeing sessions/Kooth/OfTheRecord**



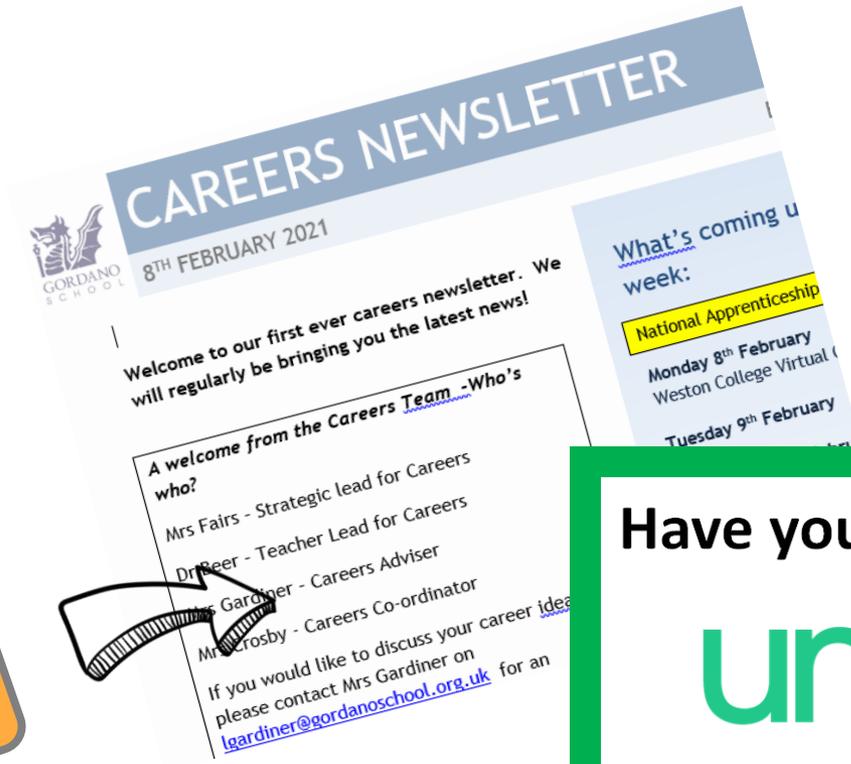
Coming soon

- Email address from tutor
- Calendar of Sixth Form key dates
- Published elective choice
- Extended Project sessions on timetable
- Whole Sixth Form trip offer (+ Borneo and Kenya in 2023)

- Ongoing:
Parent information sessions
- Careers events –
Apprenticeship/UCAS/Oxbridge
- Tea-time networking

Subject Support

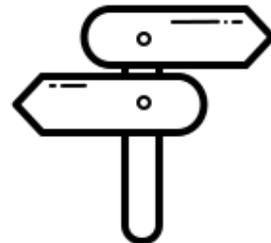
- **Course handbooks**
- **Firefly/Teams class folders**
- **Reading lists**
- **Timeline for the term**
- **Assessment schedule**
- **Opportunities to become subject representatives**
- **Wider reading initiatives**
- **Subject support offers (lunchtimes, drop ins, clubs etc)**
- **Subject specific information on Unifrog account**



Links on the Virtual School Website

Have you put it on...
unifrog

unifrog



Year 13 Progression / Bridging

+ Year 11 > Year 12
Year 13 > Onwards



Well Being
Stay happy and focused throughout your time at home.

Organisation
Plan to be effective and organise your time.

Next Steps
University, Apprenticeships & Employment all need your active involvement.

Year 11?
RESOURCES

Year 13?
RESOURCES

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) 

SUBJECT SPECIFIC RESOURCES 

Files 

Name ↑	Last Updated	
 Year 11 into Year 12 18 items	Jun 3, 2020	⋮
 Year 13 onto University 11 items	Apr 22, 2020	⋮



Access to Bristol University Scheme 2020/21

Guidance Presentation
Sixth Form Lecture Theatre Wed 22nd Sept 3.30 for students



<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/study/schools/a2b/>

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